

St. John's Lutheran Church

ELCA

PO Box 55, 1253 County J
Little Suamico, WI 54141
920-826-7785

Emergency Contact# 906-202-4415 (text ok)

Pastor Kim Swenson



Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
August 16th, 2026

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am - 1 pm
Call for an appointment with Pastor Stacy

Email - Pastor Stacy: pastor@stjohnlittlesuamico.org
Office: stjohnsls@stjohnlittlesuamico.org



Our worship services are live broadcasted and available for future viewing via YouTube. In-person attendance implies consent to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

Meditation

During the prelude, we invite you into a time of reflection. The main doors of the sanctuary will remain closed prior to worship so those who wish may have a time of centering and reflection of the past week, our community, our world, and God's sacrificial and redeeming love for us all.

Church Year Information~ Season: Pentecost • Color: Green

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Pg. 94)

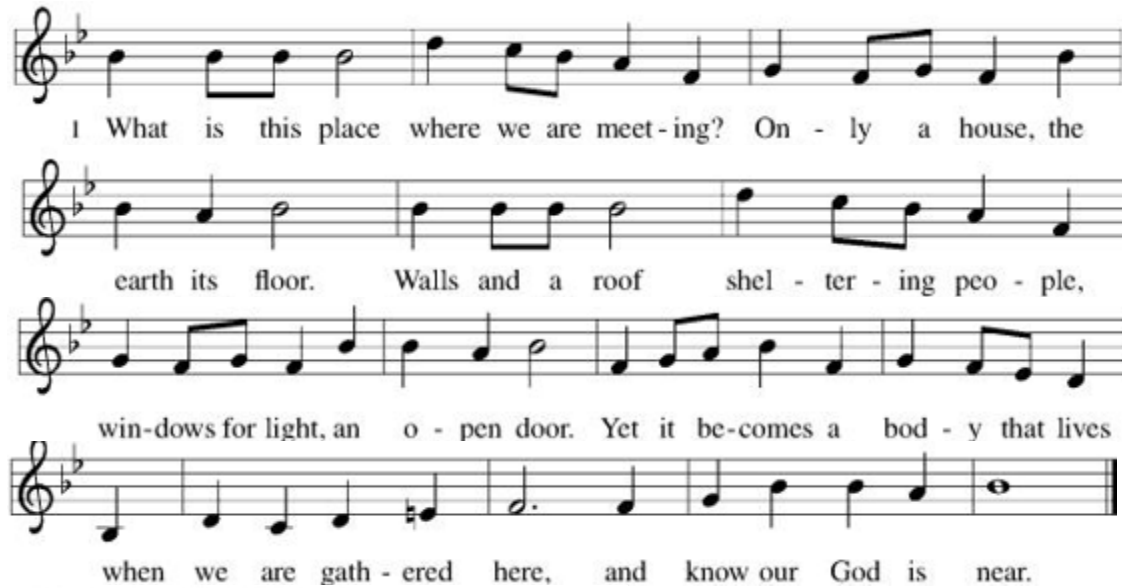
GATHERING HYMN: All Are Welcome (ELW 641)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.



HYMN OF PRAISE: *What is this Place*



Text: Haub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933
Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626
Text © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved.
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

SCRIPTURE: Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Let My Heart Be Good Soil*



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson
Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 15: [10-20], 21-28

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹⁰ [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³ He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶ Then he said, "Are

you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

NOISY OFFERING: Disaster Relief for the Fox Valley

MESSAGE by Pastor Kim Swenson

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Build a Longer Table* (See Page 10)

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day, he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God has offered us our lives and bestowed us with mercy, grace, and love. Let us now respond to God's offering to us by returning to God in part what is God's in whole. (based on Exodus 32:7-14)

OFFERTORY

Thank you for your ongoing financial support of St. John's Ministries.



Offerings may be given in the following ways:

- Use the QR code to the right to make a gift.
- Place your offering in the plate when it is passed.
- Enroll in Simply Giving for automatic giving from a bank account or credit card.

OFFERING OF SERVICE

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: TAKE MY LIFE, THAT I MAY BE (ELW 685 V.1&4)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

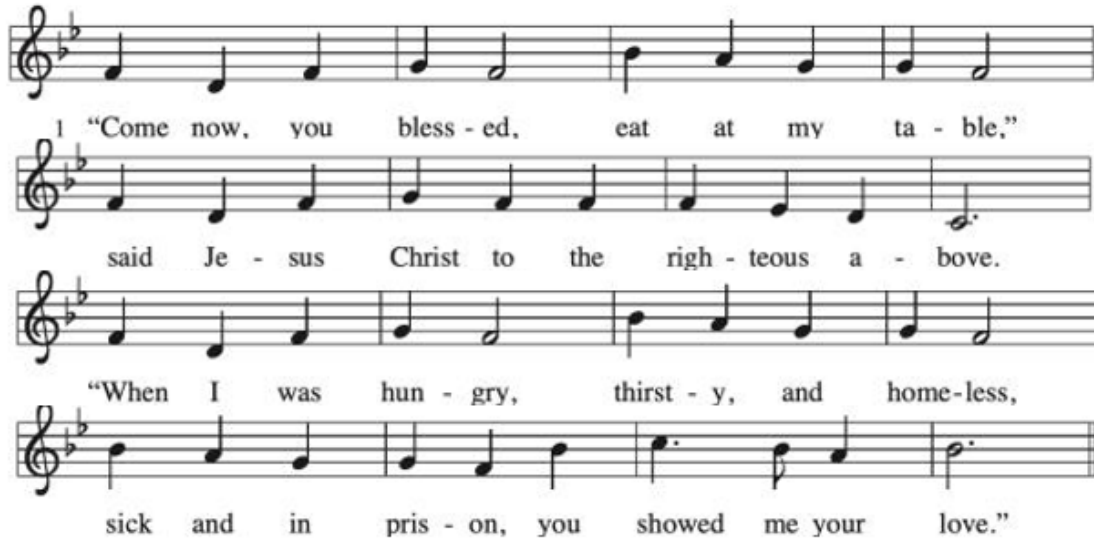
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER: (ELW Page 191)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Gluten free wafers and grape juice are offered.

LAMB OF GOD: Come Now, You Blessed



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
Music: MATTHEW 25, Emily R. Brink, b. 1940
Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.
Music © 1994 Faith Alive Christian Resources

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

COMMUNION HYMN: *Beautiful Saviour* (ELW 838)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: *My Faith Looks Up* (ELW 759)

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by
permission under: Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS027913
CCLI Copyright License #21523921 One License #A-725213
Some liturgy adapted from © Presbyterian Outlook.



Please remember these people in your prayers.

There are **Prayer Cards** in the Narthex between the nametags and the pews. If you have a prayer request, please complete the form and place it in the offering plate or the office mailbox. Your prayer will then be added to the prayer list for **3 weeks**. If you wish to have the person's name included longer, you must notify the church office in writing on a prayer card or by email. Please be sure to let us know when a person can be removed from the prayer list as well. If any questions, please contact Aymee in the office.

Those who are home bound:

Arlene Matuszewski Fran Koski Arlene Giese
Edwin Kazik (Father of Karie Peters) Ron & Diana Sefcik
Yvonne Virtues (Mother of Pat Virtues)
Donna Ward (Sister of Lorna Koch)
Bud & Ann Wardecke (Parents of Barb Dorn)

Those who are ill/recovering/ have special needs or concerns:

Ron Koch Doris Fleck Joe Kozlovsky John Demney
Susan (Cahoon) Olson Marie Zirbel Meyer (Aunt of Janet Francies)
Mark Heisel (Friend of Greg & Tammy Yager) Al Reimer (Friend of Pam Giese)
Mike Killian (Friend of Tim & Karie Peters) Jason Heider (Son of Janet Heider)
Peggy Foltz (Sister of Beth Wentz) Erin Culbertson (Friend of Doris Fleck)
Kerry Pranica (Friend of Doris Fleck) Brian Giese (Brother of Pam Giese)
Helen Mohan (Daughter of Tess Smith)
Carol Barker (Mother of Beth Wentz)
Ashley Rogers (Friend of Tim & Karie Peters)
Mike & Carmen Peters (Parents of Tim Peters)
Carla Hedtke (Mother of Shellie Virtues)
Kelly Havlik Lacera (Friend of Desiree Kozlovsky)
Nick Carter (Friend of Duayne & Pat Rosenberg)
Sharon Hanson (Sister/Sister-in-law of Doug & Helen Malueg)
Sophia Franda (Granddaughter of Dawn Demeny)
Dave Hansen (Nephew of Doug & Helen Malueg)
Chris Johnson (Brother-in-law of Tammy Yager)
William Allen (Cousin of Sara Beth Holman)

Those who are serving in the Military:

Josh & Cheyenne Perrault- Air Force
Gage Boyd- Air Force (Grandson of Tracey & Pamela Krumrei)
Alex Culbertson-Wisconsin National Guard (Grandson of Dave & Ginny Burkart)
Sam Cooper-Captain, Army Reserves (Son of Jerry & Michelle Cooper)

Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

Upcoming at St. John's



Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday AUGUST 30th

THE LOCKER



Located at
1253 County
Road J
Little Suamico,
WI 54141



"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." -
Matthew 35:25

St. John's Outreach is excited to offer **The Locker**, a community resource available to anyone.

Inside The Locker:

- Meal kits with recipes
- Personal Hygiene Products

How to support The Locker?

Please visit the table setup in the Narthex where you'll find plastic bags containing a recipe. Simply take the bag home and return it with the needed ingredients.

We also gratefully accept personal hygiene products & donations to help towards purchasing supplies & replenishing meal kit items.

Thank you all for your continued kindness, generosity, and support as we serve our community together!

<i>This Week at St. John's</i>			
Sun, Aug 16	Mon, Aug 17	Tues, Aug 18	Wed, Aug 19
9:00am, Worship 10:15am, Fellowship Worship Team WELCA			
Thurs, Aug 20	Fri, Aug 21	Sat, Aug 22	Sun, Aug 23
	<u>Office Closed</u>	6:00pm, AA Mtg	9:00am, Worship 10:15am, Fellowship

	<i>Sunday August 16</i>	<i>Sunday August 23</i>
<i>Welcome Center</i>	Pat Rosenberg	Beth Wentz
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	<i>Four Needed</i>	<i>Four Needed</i>
<i>Communion Steward</i>	Ginny Burkart	Ginny Burkart
<i>Greeters</i>	The Kissinger's	Nancy Valentine <i>1 Needed</i>
<i>Technology Team</i>	Sara Beth Holman	<i>Needed</i>
<i>Scripture Readers</i>	Bev Possley	Amy Spaude
<i>Scrip Volunteers</i>	Steve & Angie Larsen	Steve & Angie Larsen
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Barb Dorn Rob & Nancy Gleffe	Barb Dorn Dave & Ginny Burkart
<i>Ushers</i>	Tracey Krumrei Pat & Shellie Virtues	Jerry & Michelle Cooper Family

