

St. John's Lutheran Church

ELCA

PO Box 55, 1253 County J
Little Suamico, WI 54141
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Pastor Kim Swenson

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20th, 2026
~Rally Sunday~

Altar flowers generously given by
St. John's WELCA.

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am - 1 pm

Email - 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

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Color: Green

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS (ELW Page 94)

GATHERING HYMN: Take My Life (ELW 583)

GREETING (ELW Page 98)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN: Shall We Gather at the River (ELW 423, vs.1)

BAPTISM: (ELW Page 227)

Jozie Mae DeBauche – Godparents: Jaelyn Dequaine & Brett Dequaine

HYMN: Shall We Gather at the River (ELW 423, vs.4)

WORD

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:10—4:11

¹⁰ When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the

beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴ And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹ But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰ Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:21-30

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in

faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Let My Heart Be Good Soil (ELW 512)



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.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 20: 1-16

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: There's a Wilderness (ELW 588)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord 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



I Take my life. that I may be con - se - crat - ed. Lord. to thee:



take my mo-ments and my days; let them flow in cease-less praise.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

1 "Come now, you bless - ed, eat at my ta - ble,"
said Je - sus Christ to the righ - teous a - bove.
"When I was hun - gry, thirst - y, and home - less,
sick and in pris - on, you showed me your love."

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "1 'Come now, you bless - ed, eat at my ta - ble,'" followed by "said Je - sus Christ to the righ - teous a - bove." The second staff continues with "When I was hun - gry, thirst - y, and home - less," and the third staff concludes with "sick and in pris - on, you showed me your love." The score ends with a double bar line.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: MATTHEW 25, Emily R. Brink, b. 1940

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COMMUNION HYMN: In the Garden (See Page 11)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: Lord of All Hopefulness (ELW 765)

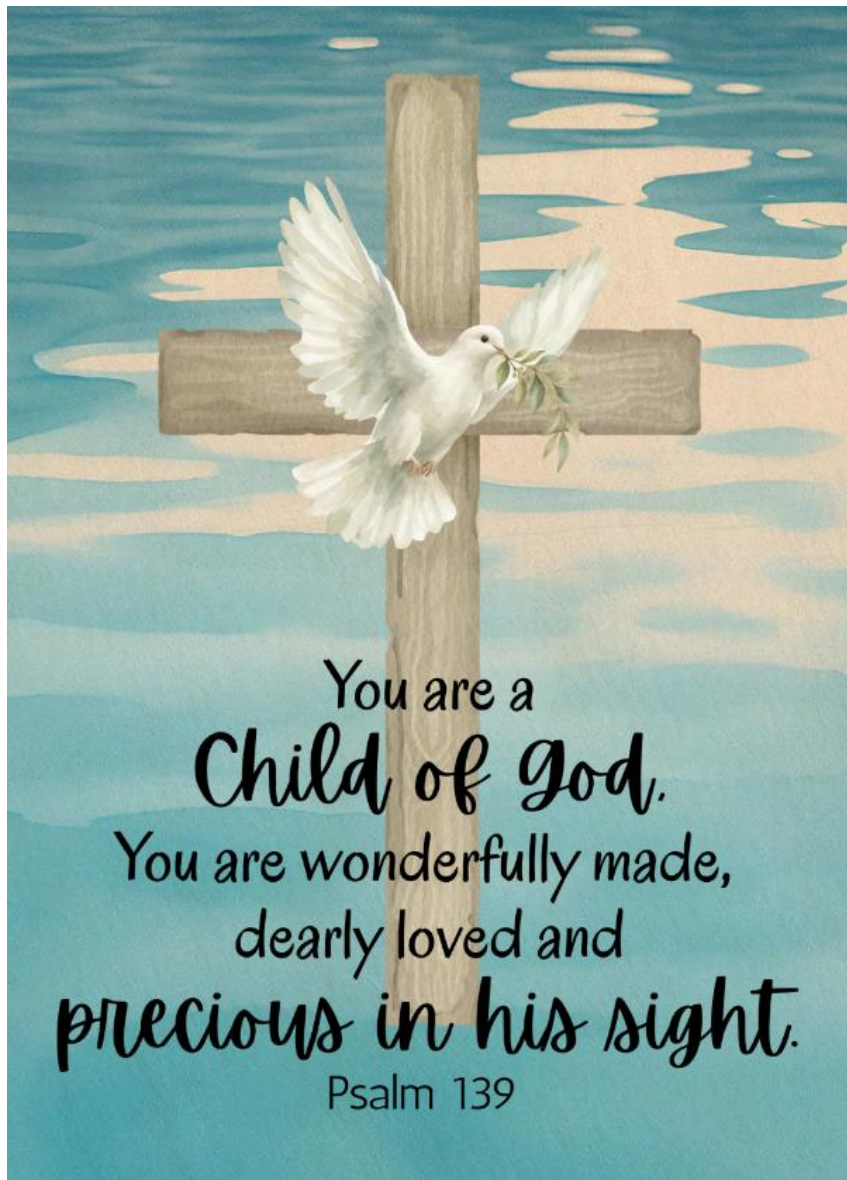
DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near.

Gather, Give, Grow and **Go with God!**

POSTLUDE

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Through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, we welcome into the family of Christ and into membership at St. John's:

Jozie Mae DeBauche, daughter of Jasey & Kyle DeBauche

We Pray that God's covenant of grace will sustain and guide Jozie in her life.



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 mourn:

The family of Geraldine [Gerri] Coleman (Aunt of Tim Peters)

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)
John & Shirley Tramontin (Parents of Tess Smith)

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)
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)

Those who are serving in the Military:

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)

WORDS: C. Austin Miles, 1912

MUSIC: C. Austin Miles, 1912

GARDEN

Irregular with Refrain

1. I come to the gar - den a - lone, while the dew is
 2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the
 3. I'd stay in the gar - den with Him though the night a -

still on the ros - es; and the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear,
 birds hush their sing - ing, and the mel - o - dy that He gave to me
 round me is fall - ing, but He bids me go; through the voice of woe,

the Son of God dis - clos - es.
 with - in my heart is ring - ing. And He walks with me, and He
 His voice to me is call - ing.

talks with me, and He tells me I am His own; and the joy we

share as we tar - ry there, none oth - er has ev - er known.

<i>This Week at St. John's</i>			
Sun, Sept 20	Mon, Sept 21	Tues, Sept 22	Wed, Sept 23
9:00am, Worship 10:15am, Fellowship, Faith Finders!, LYO Bible Study, WELCA Meeting, Y&E Team Meeting	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	
Thurs, Sept 24	Fri, Sept 25	Sat, Sept 26	Sun, Sept 27
		6:00pm, AA Mtg	9:00am, Worship 10:15am, Fellowship, Faith Finders!

	<i>Sunday September 20th</i>	<i>Sunday September 27th</i>
<i>Welcome Center</i>	Pat Rosenberg	Beth Wentz
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	Needed	Needed
<i>Communion Steward</i>	Needed	Lorna Koch
<i>Greeters</i>	Nancy Valentine	2 Needed
<i>Technology Team</i>	Needed	Nikki Urbaniak
<i>Scripture Readers</i>	Needed	Nancy Valentine
<i>Scrip Volunteers</i>	Steve & Angie Larsen	Steve & Angie Larsen
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Barb Dorn Dave & Ginny Burkart	John Warren Kelly Stellmacher
<i>Ushers</i>	Tracey Krumrei Pat & Shellie Virtues	Jerry & Michelle Cooper Family