



Pursue  
*righteousness, godliness,*  
FAITH, love, *and gentleness.*

1 Timothy 6:11 NRSV

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church  
16th Saturday after Pentecost\* September 27, 2025



**www.stjohnwilliston.org**

**419-836-5514**

**16th Saturday after Pentecost**

**September 27, 2025**

**GATHERING  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
SONG**

Celebrate Love

**Refrain**

**Celebrate love, love, love ... Celebrate love, love, love  
Celebrate love ... so amazing, He's creating, his wonderful love in you.**

We can celebrate his love today ... Jesus loves ev-'ryone  
We can celebrate his love today ... Jesus loves ev-'ryone

**Refrain**

We can sing about his love today ... Jesus loves ev-'ryone  
He is living here inside of us ... Jesus loves ev-'ryone

**Refrain**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

L: Trusting God's mercy and grace, let us lay down our burdens,  
naming our sin before God and one another.

*(Silence for reflection.)*

L: God of love,

**All: we admit we fall short. We are stubborn. We ignore those in need.  
We envy your kindness toward others. We look away from suffering.  
Forgive us, heal us, and bring us home to you.  
Amen.**

L: Hear the good news: God's faithfulness never runs dry. Christ came to bring  
forgiveness, hope, and life. In his name, you are forgiven and set free.

**ALL: Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Amos 6:1a,4-7

<sup>1a</sup>Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.

<sup>4</sup>Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and lounge on their couches and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the stall,

<sup>5</sup>who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp

and like David improvise on instruments of music, <sup>6</sup>who drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

<sup>7</sup>Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

## SECOND READING

1 Timothy 6:6-19

<sup>6</sup>Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, <sup>7</sup>for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, <sup>8</sup>but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup>But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

<sup>11</sup>But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. <sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup>In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup>to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup>which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. <sup>16</sup>It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

<sup>17</sup>As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup>They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup>thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 16:19-31

[Jesus said:] <sup>19</sup>“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham.

The rich man also died and was buried.

In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.

He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ <sup>25</sup> But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ <sup>27</sup> He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ <sup>29</sup> Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ <sup>30</sup> He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ <sup>31</sup> He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”



## SERMON

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**ALL: We believe in God, the source of all life  
who created the universe, who loves us like a parent,  
and who invites us into relationship.  
We believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son, our Savior.  
He was born fully human and fully divine,  
lived among us with compassion and truth,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
On the third day, he rose again,  
defeating the powers of sin and death.  
He ascended into heaven, and he will come again to bring justice,  
healing, hope and new life.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the presence of God with us now—  
our comforter, guide, and strength.  
The Spirit speaks through Scripture, moves through the Church,  
and renews the world.  
We believe in one Church, united across time and space,  
called to love, serve, and live out God's grace.  
We trust in the forgiveness of sin,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the promise of life in the age to come.  
Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**L:** God of Grace

**C:** Receive our Prayer

## SHARING THE PEACE

**L:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

*(Please offer those around you a sign of peace as you are comfortable.  
This can be a handshake, a fist bump or simply a smile....)*



## **OFFERING SONG**

Create In Me

### **Refrain**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.**

Cast me not away from your presence,  
O Lord, And take not your Holy Spirit from me,  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,  
And renew a right spirit within me.

**(Repeat Refrain)**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**All: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you  
have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of  
riches, but on you, who richly provides for us.  
Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and  
in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**ALL: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

L: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## **CLOSING SONG**

All Day Song

Love him in the mornin' when you see the sun-a-risin;  
Love him in the evenin' cause he took you through the day.

And in the in between times when you feel the pressure comin'  
Remember that he loves you and he promises to stay.

When you think you have to worry 'cause it seems the thing to do,  
Remember he's not in a hurry, He's always got time for you.

Love him in the mornin' when you see the sun-a-risin;  
Love him in the evenin' cause he took you through the day.

And in the in between times when you feel the pressure comin'  
Remember that he loves you and he promises to stay.

## **SENDING**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**All: Thanks be to God!**



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Visit our website for information/calendars/updates  
[www.stjohnwilliston.org](http://www.stjohnwilliston.org)

***We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church.  
We are... "creating and nurturing life changing relationships  
based on the love of God in Jesus Christ, so that we may grow in  
faith, serve God, and serve our neighbor."***

Church office hours: LisaAnne Gregg/Office Administrator  
M-T-W 9 AM to 3 PM 419-836-5514  
(Thurs. hours may vary) Email: [office@stjohnwilliston.org](mailto:office@stjohnwilliston.org)

Worship: Saturday 5:00 PM  
Confirmation Classes-Sunday 8:30 AM  
Sunday School- Ages 3 through 5th Grade 9:00 AM  
Sunday Worship 9:45 AM

#### Seven Faith Practices

I will strive to...

1. PRAY daily
2. WORSHIP weekly
3. READ and study the Bible
4. SERVE at and beyond St. John
5. INVITE others into a loving relationship with Jesus
6. GIVE of my time, talents, and resources
7. ENCOURAGE spiritual growth in others