

Keep awake, therefore,
for you know
neither the
day nor the hour.

Matthew 1:13 nrsv

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church

Saturday November 7, 2026 Pentecost 24

St. John Lutheran Church
Williston, Ohio

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PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS
OPENING SONG **Lift Up Your Heads**

Lift up your heads, **(lift up your heads)**
oh you gates **(oh you gates)**
Swing open wide, **(Swing open wide)**
you ancient doors **(you ancient doors)**
Let the King of kings **(Let the King of kings)**
take His rightful place **(take His rightful place)**
Make room, make way **(make room, make way)**
for the King of grace **(for the King of grace)**

Lift up your hands, **(lift up your hands)**
open up your hearts **(open your hearts)**
His victory over sin **(His victory over sin)**
and death is ours **(and death is ours)**
Let the King of kings **(let the King of kings)**
take his rightful place **(take His rightful place**)
Make room, make way **(Make room make way)**
for our King of grace **(for our King of grace)**

Who is this King of glory, Lord of power?
His name is Jesus, our risen King
Who is this King so mighty, Lord of strength?
His name is Jesus, our risen King

Repeat First Verse

King of glory, Lord of power King of glory, Lord of power
King of glory, Lord of power King of glory, Lord of power

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

ALL: Amen.

First Reading **Amos 5:18-24**

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the
Lord? It is darkness, not light, 19 as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a
bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten
by a snake.
Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in
it?
21 I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn
assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing
stream.

Second Reading **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who
have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since
we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring
with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord,
that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means
precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with
the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven,
and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be
caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we
will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

THE GOSPEL READING **Matthew 25:1-13**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten
young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them
were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no
oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom
was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a
shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young
women got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some
of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be
enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for
yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who
were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later
the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied,
'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither
the day nor the hour."

SERMON **Rev. Shawn O'Brien**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in one God - Creator of the cosmos,
the One who whispered galaxies into being,
who paints the sky with stars and calls each one by name.
God is love, deeper than oceans, closer than breath.
We believe in Jesus Christ - God made visible,
the Word walking among us.
Betrayed and broken, he carried the weight of the world to the cross.
He died - but death did not win.
On the third day, he rose again, love still scarred, but alive.
He reigns in glory and promises to return to make all things new.
We believe in the Holy Spirit - God with us, now and always.
The Spirit breathes in us, stirs us to courage,
gathers us into community, and leads us into truth.
We believe in grace that never runs dry,
in hope that will not let go, in life that breaks through death.
Amen.

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

P: God in Your Mercy, **ALL: Hear our prayer.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P: 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 thumbs up, a fist bump or simply a smile…)

OFFERING SONG **The Lord is My Light**

The Lord is my light and my salvation, I will never be afraid.
The Lord protects me from all danger, I will never be afraid.
When evil attacks and tries to kill me, I will never be afraid.
Even if whole armies surround me, I will never be afraid.

In times of trouble he gives me shelter, I will never be afraid.
God will keep me from all danger, I will never be afraid.
He prepares the path before me, I will never be afraid.
I will live to see God's glory, I will never be afraid. I will never be afraid.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Eternal God,
C: our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION LITANY
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Responding to the command of our Lord and desiring the life-giving presence of Christ, we come to the table.
All: The love of God is a gift that we receive by grace.

P: Giving thanks for the life-giving presence of Christ, we share his body and blood.
All: We come with our wounds and faults, ready and willing to be refreshed with the true presence of Christ among us.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

THE DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Holy God,

C: we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly.
Now send us out, awake to your presence,
now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Holy Trinity, Father †, Son and Holy Spirit bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

C: Amen

SENDING SONG **May You Run and Not Be Weary**

May you run and not be weary. May your heart be filled with song.
And may the love of God continue to give you hope and keep you strong.
And may you run and not be weary. May your life be filled with joy!
And may the road you travel always bring you home.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Welcome!

St. John practices "open communion". All who are baptized and instructed are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us today. Starting with the right side of the church, followed by the left when they are finished, the Pastor will distribute the bread and the communion assistant will serve the wine. We will also have pre-sealed elements available for those who would prefer the more hygienic option (or those who wish to receive grape juice instead of wine). Indicate to the Pastor that you would like pre-sealed elements and skip the wine server. Those who wish to receive a blessing should indicate their wishes to the Pastor by crossing their arms over their chest.

St. John Lutheran Church
Williston, Ohio

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Pastor Shawn O'Brien (419) 378-1112

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

LisaAnne Gregg, Office Administrator

Church Office Hours: M-T-W 9am—3 pm

*Thurs. hours may vary * Office closed Friday Email: office@stjohnwilliston.org*

Worship & Learn with us this weekend!

Contemporary Worship: Sat 5:00 p

Sun. School and Confirmation 8:30 AM

Sunday School– age 3 and up 9:00 AM

Traditional Worship: Sunday 9:45 AM