



WHEN THE  
SON OF MAN COMES,  
WILL HE FIND FAITH  
ON EARTH?

LUKE 18:8

Welcome  
to St John  
Lutheran  
Church

Saturday  
October 18,  
2025

19th  
Saturday  
after  
Pentecost





# St. John Lutheran Church

[www.stjohnwilliston.org](http://www.stjohnwilliston.org)

419-836-5514

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19th Saturday after Pentecost

October 18, 2025

## GATHERING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SONG

### **Spirit Touching Spirit**

In our worship we find new communion.  
In our worship our spirits join in union.  
In our worship our voices sing praise  
To the Father above for his wonderful love.  
It's his Spirit touching spirit that I love.  
It's his Spirit touching spirit that changes my heart.  
When our spirits combine, his love becomes mine,  
and his Spirit can live in my heart.

## 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**

## **Genesis 32:22-31**

<sup>22</sup> The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup> He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup> Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup> Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup> So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup> Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup> The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

## **SECOND READING**

## **2 Timothy 3:14-4:5**

<sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it <sup>15</sup> and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

<sup>4:1</sup> In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup> proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup> For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires <sup>4</sup> and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup> As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

## **GOSPEL READING**

**Luke 18:1-8**

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup> He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup> In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' <sup>4</sup> For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup> yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " <sup>6</sup> And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup> And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

## **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**

### **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**

**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.**

## **COMMUNION LITANY**

L: Welcome to the celebration! God provides for our every need and gives us this meal to share.

**All: God, we thank you for the bread of life.**

L: We come to the table, acknowledging our shortcomings and our need to experience Christ's presence in bread and wine.

**All: God, we thank you for the cup of salvation.**

L: 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**

**C: 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**

L: Jesus invites you to his table. Come, eat and live.

**All: Amen**

### ***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.

## THE DISTRIBUTION



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **ALL: 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

### May the Lord Mighty Lord

May the Lord, Mighty Lord, Bless and keep you forever.  
Grant us peace, perfect peace, Courage in every endeavor.  
Lift...your eyes and see His Face, And His Grace forever.  
May the Lord, Mighty Lord, Bless and keep you forever.

## 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)

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