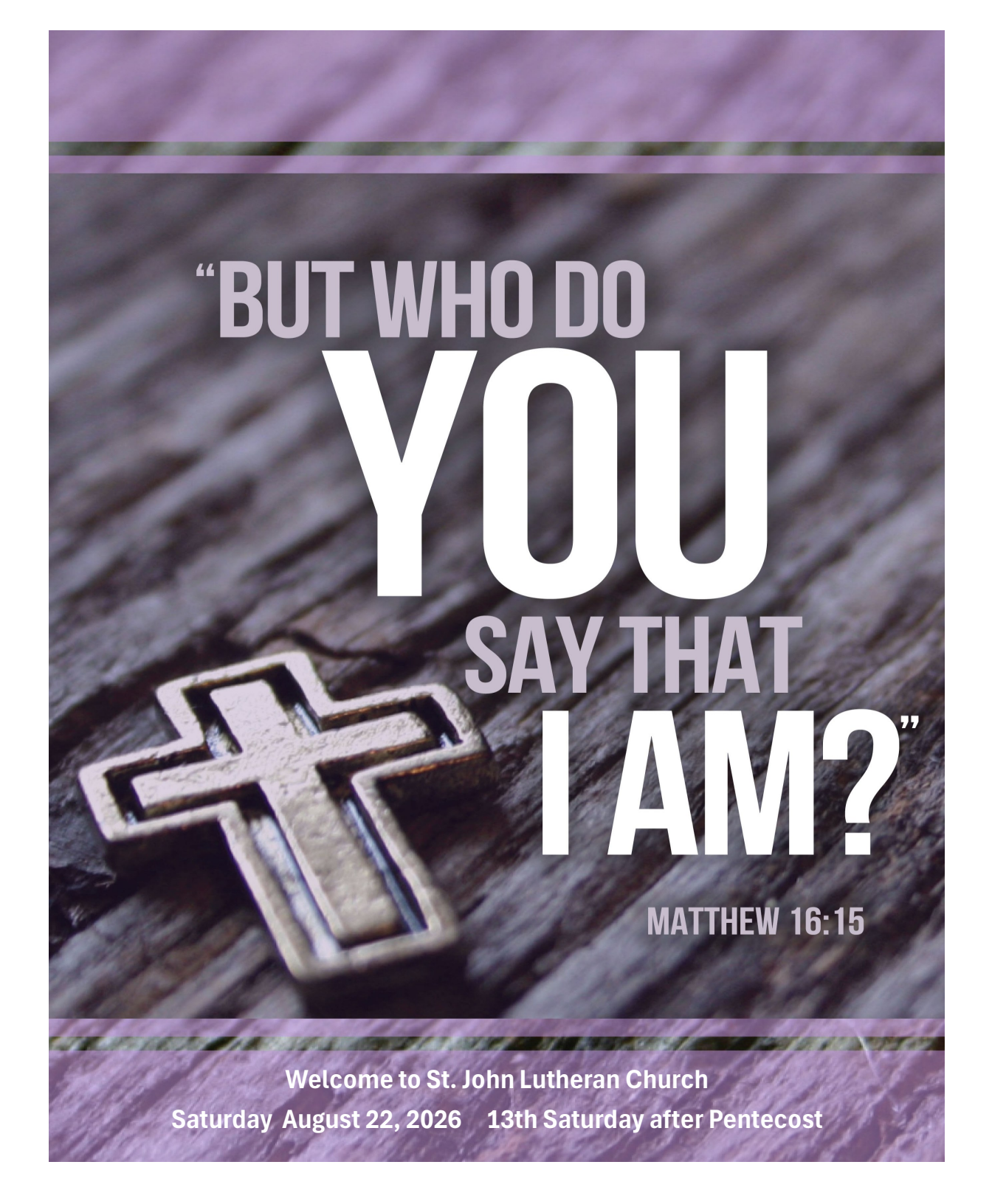




**“BUT WHO DO
YOU
SAY THAT
I AM?”**

MATTHEW 16:15

**Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church
Saturday August 22, 2026 13th Saturday after Pentecost**

Saturday August 22, 2026 5:00 PM Pentecost 13

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

With All Faith

Press into the heart of the Father, Hold fast to the grace received,
Breathe in ... the life of the Spirit and with all faith believe,
And with all faith believe. **(Repeat)**

Believe on this ... The Word of Life ...
The Lord the Christ, has come to save us.
Receive by faith ... His blood sup-plied ... And the power of sin be cursed,
And the Father, be glorified.

Press into the heart of the Father, Hold fast to the grace received,
Breathe in ... the life of the Spirit and with all faith believe,
And with all faith believe.

Believe on this ... The Word of Life ...
The Lord the Christ, has come to save us.
Receive by faith ... His blood supplied ... And the power of sin be cursed,
And the Father, be glorified.

WE CONFESS OUR NEED FOR GOD'S SPIRIT

**ALL: God of spirit and truth, we confess we are sinful and unclean.
Our spirits are dry and we need to be refreshed by your Spirit.
We have tried to live life on our own terms but we have failed.
Our days run together and we lack adventure and motivation in our
lives. God of spirit and truth, forgive our sin and refresh us with your
Spirit.**

THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S SPIRIT

L: God created the world out of powerful love and continues to bless us. God, in Jesus, went to the cross in powerful love to take the sin of the world to himself, so our sin would no longer weigh us down. God, in the Holy Spirit, continues to demonstrate powerful love as we experience God's life-changing power each day of our lives. Once we were powerless; now we have God's power. Praise God for the power to change lives.

ALL: Amen.

First Reading:

Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Second Reading:

Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

SERMON

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**All: God is love, and in God is the source
of all goodness and truth.
God is the creator of the universe and continues to recreate
a community of compassion for all humankind.
Jesus is God's Son.
Jesus was born of Mary and lived a life of kindness and concern.
Jesus died a cruel death on an executioner's
cross and was raised to new life on the third day.
Now I can live a life of kindness and concern.
Now I can die and be raised to new life.
Now I can live as a forgiven sinner,
confident in my place in eternity.
The Holy Spirit is alive and at work,
establishing and building the church of God on this earth.
The Spirit of God leads me into the true faith,
guides me through the difficult choices of life,
and comforts me when I feel as if I cannot go on.
God is with me, living inside of me,
through the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

P: Merciful God,

ALL: Receive 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

Heart of Worship

When the music fades...and all is stripped away.
And I simply come....Longing just to bring...
Something that's of worth...that will bless your heart.
I'll bring You more than a song...for a song in itself.
Is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within...through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart.

Chorus

**I'm coming back to the heart..of..wor-ship.
And it's all about You...all about You, Je-sus.
I'm sorry Lord for the thing..I've..made..it.
When it's all about You...all about You Je-sus.**

King of endless worth...no one could express.
How much You deserve.
Though I'm weak and poor...all I have is Yours...
Every single breath.

I'll bring You more than a song...for a song in itself.
Is not what You have required.You search much deeper within...through
the way things appear.
You're looking into my heart.

Chorus

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Loving God,

C: we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that
all creation can taste your abundance.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit
abiding with us now and forever. Amen.**

Holy Communion



COMMUNION LITANY

P: Jesus invites us to gather for this holy meal.

All: In response to the call of God, the command of Christ, and the bond of our common faith, we come to the table.

P: Our Lord, Jesus, on the night of his betrayal, in a quiet room with his disciples, took bread, gave thanks and when he had blessed it, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat, this is my body."

And then he took a cup and when he had given thanks he gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

Do this in remembrance of me.

All: Gracious God, we are thankful for these gifts of love and sacrifice. In this meal may we know your presence, be assured of your forgiveness, and may your love fill us with power to share your grace with the world around us. 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**

THE DISTRIBUTION



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Compassionate God,

C: through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

ALL: Amen

SENDING SONG

Great is the Lord

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just. By his power we trust in his love.
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true. By his mercy he proves he is love.
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory. Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord, I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice.
Great is the Lord great is the Lord
(Repeat)

DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God. **ALL: Amen.**

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.