

NINTH

SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 2026



Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
48 Greene Avenue
Sayville, New York 11782
SUNDAY 9:30 AM

Welcome to Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rejoice in God's grace. Live as disciples. Love one another.

Our Purpose

The family of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, gathered around Word and Sacrament, enhanced by liturgy and music, exists to encourage its members in a life of discipleship in Christ Jesus and fellowship with one another.

Utilizing the gifts that God has entrusted to us, we engage in acts of mercy, attending to the spiritual and physical needs within our congregation and community.

We bear witness to the Grace of God through living in His Word thus demonstrating the love Christ has shown us.

To Those Visiting with Us Today

We welcome you among us as we gather in God's presence to receive his benefits towards us. If this is your first time visiting, please introduce yourself to the Pastor on the way out. We pray God's blessings upon you in this time, and invite you to continue to join us in the future. Please contact the Pastor if you have any needs or questions about St. John's and the work for which he has called us.

A Guide to the Symbols in the Service

P = Pastor; **L** = Lector; **C** = Congregation

Anywhere the symbol ✝ appears, the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism. Please move in and out of the sanctuary at places marked with an asterisk (*).

As We Gather

Today we find one of the greatest statements of the Gospel in all of Scripture. There is not a single thing in all of creation that can pull us away from God. On account of Christ, we always belong to the Lord, and when life catches up to us in the end, we are promised a life that knows neither pain nor end. So whatever circumstances we may be facing, we always have reason to hope in this life because we know that we have the kingdom. We are more than conquerors, Paul says. Christ has overcome for us, so that we may live eternally with Him.

Today in the Church Year

The season of Pentecost is a time of growth. Just as the world around us is turning greener and greener as the warm days yield nature's bounty, so in the Church does the seed planted of God's Word yield its bounty in lives of faith. Throughout this season, we will hear of the teachings and miracles of Jesus. By the grace of God in His Spirit, we shall be encouraged by the work our Lord has done for us, and sent out to live lives of faith, mercy, and love. The green on the altar during this long season reminds us of the growth which the Lord provides through His Word and Sacraments. In our receiving of those gifts, we grow more and more into the likeness of Christ until that glorious day when we shall see him face to face!

✠ IN NOMINE JESU - IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

A Prayer upon Entering Church

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Opening Voluntary: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

setting: Robert A. Hobby

Announcements & Sharing of the Peace

✠ Service of Preparation ✠

*Opening Hymn: Christ Is Our Cornerstone

LSB 912

Tune: DARWALL'S 148TH

*Baptism: Nora Nicole Luman

(Turn to pg. 268 for the Rite of Holy Baptism. After the Baptism, the service continues with the readings. To our guests today: please read our communion statement before receiving the Sacrament)

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 7:6-9

L The Old Testament Reading for The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost is taken from Deuteronomy, the seventh chapter.

⁶“For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

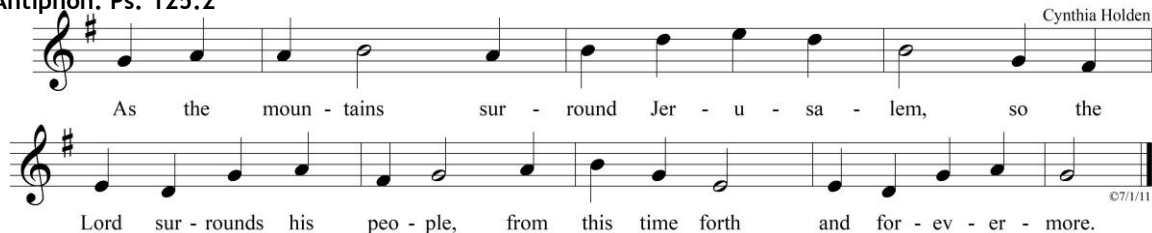
⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***Psalm 125** *(The Cantor introduces the antiphon, the Congregation repeats the antiphon and sings the bolded verses and antiphon as indicated)*

Antiphon: Ps. 125:2



¹ Those who trust in the LORD are | like Mount Zion,*
which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.

² **As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD sur- | rounds his people,*
from this time forth and for- | evermore.**

³ For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land al- | lotted to the righteous,*
lest the righteous stretch out their | hands to do wrong.

Antiphon

⁴ Do good, O LORD, to | those who are good,*
and to those who are | upright in their hearts!

⁵ **But those who turn aside to their crooked ways
the LORD will lead away with | evil-doers!***
Peace be upon | Israel!

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spīrit;
as it was in the be- | gīnning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Ämen. Antiphon**

Epistle

Romans 8:28-39

L The Epistle is from Romans, the eighth chapter.

²⁸ We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

*“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

***Alleluia and Verse** (John 20:31)





Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

***Hymn of the Day: What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

LSB 770

Tune: CONVERSE

Sermon: Christ's treasured possession

***Offering: All Things Work Together for Good (Romans 8:28)**

John Carter

All things work together for good to those who love the Lord,
To those who are called according to his purpose.

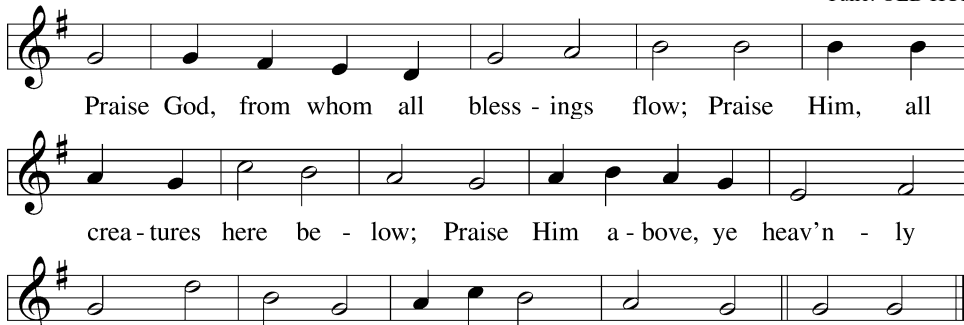
(Please fill out the green attendance card in the pew, and then hand it to the usher on the way forward for communion.)

Stand

***Offertory: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

LSB 805

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH



The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, the second staff the second line, and the third staff the third line, ending with a double bar line.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Prayer of the Church *(1 Timothy 2:1-4)*

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
(after each petition)
- P** Lord, in Your mercy...
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** ...one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface *(2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

- 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.

The Words of Our Lord *(Matt.26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25)*

- P** *Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

Pax Domini *(John 20:19)*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei *(John 1:29)*

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

Please read what Saint John's believes concerning the Sacrament of the Altar:

As Lutherans, we believe, teach, and confess that in the Holy Supper all receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ with their mouth. Believers feed on Christ for the assurance of salvation and the strengthening of their faith.

To assure that our Lord's great gifts are received in a beneficial way, Holy Scripture says in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29 ***"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."*** Self examination includes:

- 1) The confession that we are sinful and in need of God's forgiveness. (Ps 51; Romans 3: 9-28)
- 2) The faith that Jesus Christ is truly and actually present in the Sacrament, offering His very Body and Blood for all to eat, so that our sins are forgiven. (Mt 26: 26-28; 1 Cor 10: 16-21)
- 3) The sincere resolve, with the Holy Spirit's help, to amend what is sinful in our life by actively belonging to a body of believers where these Scriptural truths are preached and taught. (Acts 2: 42; Ephesians 2: 8-10)

If this reflects your belief and you are a baptized member in good standing, not under discipline, at a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or a church body with which we are in fellowship, we welcome you to the Lord's Table and pray that His Body and Blood will be for your soul the highest good. If you are not sure, or do not understand, we ask that you speak with the Pastor, at your earliest convenience, prior to communing. If you would like to come to the altar and receive a personal blessing instead of the Eucharist, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign to the pastor.

Distribution will take place around the altar. Both sides of the church will be ushered forward up the center aisle at the same time with the first person in line starting at the center, and the rest fanning out along the sides. Once everyone has come forward, you will be invited to kneel, if able, to receive the Sacrament. Once all have received, and the pastor announces the dismissal, you may stand and the two people in the middle will turn and start back to their seats, with both sides following and returning via the side aisles.

A Prayer before Communing

Lord God, we worship you, a Trinity of persons, one eternal God. May our faith and the sacrament we receive bring us health of mind and body. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Distribution Hymn: Amazing Grace

LSB 744

Tune: NEW BRITAIN

*Distribution Voluntary: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Robert Hobby

A Prayer after Receiving the Sacrament

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis (Luke 2:29-32)



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray... We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus (*Psalm 103:1*)

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction (*Numbers 6:24-26*)

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: The Church's One Foundation

LSB 644

Tune: AURELIA

Closing Voluntary: The Church's One Foundation

Samuel S. Wesley (1820-1876), setting: Charles W. Ore

A Prayer for Departure

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

☩ SOLI DEO GLORIA - TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY ☩

† Look Ahead for next week:

The 10th Sunday after Pentecost: Isaiah 55:1-5; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

Daily Devotions for Home and Family are available on the way out and online

SAINT JOHN'S IN ACTION

Sun 7/26	The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Coffee Hour Hosted by Church Council 7:45am Divine Service 9:30am Divine Service
Mon 7/27	5:00pm Basketball 7:00pm LIT
Tue 7/28	7:00pm Judo/Women's 12 Step
Wed 7/29	5:00pm Basketball
Thu 7/30	6:00pm Basketball 7:00pm Book Club 7:00pm Judo
Fri 7/31	6:00pm Basketball
Sun 8/2	The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 9:30am Divine Service



Want to give an offering but forgot cash or a checkbook? Now you can give securely online! Simply scan the QR Code on your mobile device and you will be directed to St. John's Donation page.

General Fund - In memory of Timothy Emmel from Elizabeth & Ernie Gaiser & Cynthia and Christopher Smith.

Ferry Bake Sale - The Mary Martha Guild will be selling breakfast-type pastries at the ferry in Sayville on **Friday afternoon, August 14, 2026**. We would appreciate any of your homemade Banana Bread, Date Nut Bread, Muffins, Coffee Cake, or other breakfast-type pastries for our event, even cookies. If anything contains nuts, label accordingly. Please wrap the items with clear wrap and label them so we know what they are. *Your baked goods should be brought to the church no later than 11:00am on Friday, August 14th.* Donations from this sale will go to help support our missions here at St. John's. For more information, call Pam Kennard at 678-3246.

Mahjongg Social Club - Deanna Suckow is looking to put together a social club here at St. John's playing the game of Mahjongg. Open to all ages! If interested, please reach out to Deanna Suckow at deannasuckow@yahoo.com or 631-316-0447 for more information.

Golf Outing - St. John's Golf Outing is around the corner, and sponsorship opportunities are still available! Brochures for registration and/or sponsorship information can be found in the Narthex. All materials are also available on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Giacoia or Kristin Noack, Golf Committee Chairs.

Tag Sale: Item Collection Dates - We will be collecting items for the Treasure & Tag Sale beginning on Sunday, ***August 2nd***. Additional collection days and times are as follows: ***Wednesday, August 5th, Thursday, August 6th, and Friday, August 7th between the hours of 9:30am-2:30pm.*** Setup for the sale will take place on Friday, August 7 starting at 2pm and help is needed and appreciated. Help is also needed on the day of the sale, August 8. If you can give an hour or two during the day, or help with cleanup afterward, come on down and lend a hand. Please call the Church office with any questions: 631-589-3202.

Communion Stewards: Charlie Erb (7:45); Al Coppola (9:30); **Ushers:** Steve & Janet Lindfors (7:45); Kristin Noack & Barbara Dahlgren (9:30am); **Readers:** Pastor (7:45) & (9:30); **Musicians:** Summer Choir (9:30); **Counters:** Gene & Lisa Giacoia

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Karen Paul, Bookkeeper

E-mail: bookkeeper@stjohnsayville.org

Tom Keller & Steve Lindfors

Facilities Management

Saint John's Divine Service Schedule:

Sunday 7:45am & 9:30am

Church Summer Office Hours:

Wednesday - Friday: 9:30am-2:30pm

Bookkeeper Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11am-3pm

A congregation of

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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