Divine Service For

LWML SUNDAY

10:00 AM October 5, 2025



Saint John's Lutheran Church

---- Missouri Synod ----

60 Broad Street, Westfield, MA (413)568-1417

Website: stjohnswestfield.org E-mail: info@stjohnswestfield.org Radio Broadcast at 7:30 AM on WHYN 560 AM

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WELCOME IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD and SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST!

If you are a visitor or the guest of someone, please sign our Guest Book at the round table in the Foyer. Requests for prayers in this morning's service may be made by writing them on the Prayer Request form in the entryway of the church. A Nursery for infants and toddlers is available in Room 4 on this level.

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is the official women's auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Since 1942, the LWML has affirmed each woman's identity as a child of God and her relationship with Jesus Christ. As Christians, our faith propels us all into God's mission and gives us confidence that God's amazing grace will supply our needs and move His mission forward. As God's children, we rest in the assurance that He loves us and sent His Son to redeem us. God is our rock and salvation. That firm foundation enables us to reach out into a changing world in need of the Gospel.

 Φ PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. f 826: "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying"



4 Let none hear you i - dly say - ing, "There is noth-ing I can do,"



Fields are white and har-vests wait-ing— Who will bear the sheaves a-way?" You can tell the love of Je-sus, You can say He died for all. Point-ing out the path to heav-en, Of-fring life and peace to all, While the mul-ti-tudes are dy-ing And the Mas-ter calls for you.



Loud and long the Mas-ter call-eth; Rich re-ward He of-fers thee. If you can - not rouse the wick-ed With the judg-ment's dread a - larms, With your prayers and with your boun-ties You can do what God com-mands; Take the task He gives you glad-ly, Let His work your plea-sure be;



Who will an-swer, glad-ly say-ing, "Here am I, send me, send me"? You can lead the lit-tle chil-dren To the Sav-ior's wait-ing arms. You can be like faith-ful Aar-on, Hold-ing up the proph-et's hands. An-swer quick-ly when He call-eth, "Here am I, send me, send me!"

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

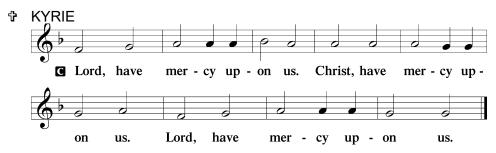
P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

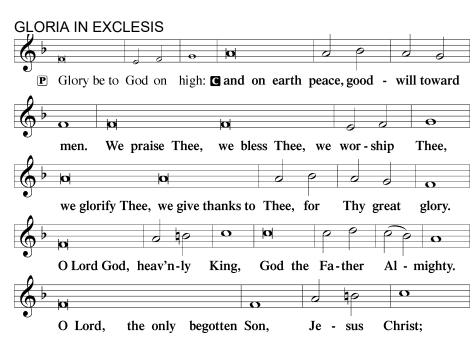
C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

- P: O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.







- ⊕ SALUTATION and COLLECT
- P: The Lord be with you.



P: Let us pray. Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



(Be Seated)

When Pharaoh's horses, chariots and horsemen went into the sea, the LORD brought the waters of the sea back over them, but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground. Then Miriam the prophet, Aaron's sister, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women followed her, with timbrels and dancing. Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)



- ⊕ HOLY GOSPEL: John 20:1-18
- P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.



Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went

straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

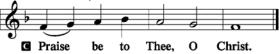
Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



- ☆ GOSPEL RECESSIONAL

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, Begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead whose kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped

and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Be Seated)

- ☆ CHILDREN'S SERMON
- → HYMN of the DAY No. 855: "For All the Faithful Women"



- We praise Your name for Miriam Who sang triumphantly
 While Pharaoh's vaunted army Lay drowned beneath the sea.
 As Israel marched to freedom, Her chains of bondage gone,
 So may we reach the kingdom Your mighty arm has won.
- 3. Lord, hear our thanks for Dorcas,
 Who served the sick and poor.
 Her hands were cups of kindness,
 Her heart an open door.
 Send us, O Christ, Your Body,
 Where people cry in pain,
 And touch them with compassion
 To make them whole again.

(Continued)

- 4. We sing Your praise for Mary,
 Who came at Easter dawn
 To look for Jesus' body
 And found her Lord was gone.
 But, as with joy she saw Him
 In resurrection light,
 May we by faith behold Him,
 The Day who ends our night!
- 5 O God, for saints and servants, Those named and those unknown In whom through all the ages Your light of glory shone, We offer glad thanksgiving And fervent prayer we raise That, faithful in Your service, Our lives may sing Your praise.
- ▲ 6 All praise to God the Father!

 All praise to Christ the Son!

 All praise the Holy Spirit,

 Who binds the Church in one!

 With saints who went before us,

 With saints who witness still,

 We sing glad Alleluias

 And strive to do Your will.
- ⊕ SERMON

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- ⊕ CHOIR ANTHEM: "Here, I Am, Lord" Dan Schutter
 - OFFERTORY

 C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re
 new a right spir-it with in me. Cast me not a
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it



- ₱ RECOGNITION of LWML WinGS (Women in God's Service)
- P: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, these women have served our Lord faithfully as members of LWML: WinGS. Hear what Holy Scripture has to say about those who serve in the Church.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

P: Let us pray. Gracious Father, You direct Your people to use their gifts in service to others. Receive our thanks and praise for the faithful service of these women. Bless them with wisdom and patience, and with love and faithfulness to Your Word, that they_may continue to serve with gladness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P Go in the name of the Lord. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. The almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

- ⊕ HYMN: "Lutheran Women. One and All"
 - Lutheran women, one and all, We have heard the Gospel call.
 We by faith have seen our Lord Crucified and then restored.
 We have seen Him pay the price, For our sins a sacrifice.
 Him we Lord and Christ acclaim And unite to praise His Name.
 - 2. Lutheran women, young and old, Well we know His challenge bold:
 Help to take the Gospel light To a world in darkest night,
 By example in the home, By inviting those who roam,
 By our prayers for sinners lost, By our gifts for missions' cost.
 - 3. Lutheran women, coast to coast, In the Lord a mighty host,
 Let us all united be In the Holy Trinity,
 One in faith, in hope, and love, Working for the Lord above,
 Till, our earthly labors done, We in heaven shall all be one.

(Please Stand)

- PRAYER of the CHURCH
 PRAYER OF TH
- P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Father in heaven, You give to Your people a spirit not of fear, but of power and self-control. Bless Your people with winsomeness and wisdom, that they might confidently speak Your Word in faith and love to all who will hear. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Almighty God, remember our pastors whom You have called to a holy calling. Embolden them in their testimony concerning our Lord Jesus, and strengthen them by Your power to suffer courageously for the Gospel and guard the good deposit entrusted to them. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Everlasting Father, guide husbands and wives to love and forgive each other, and strengthen them in their life together. Help parents to be faithful examples for their children, and grant that orphans may know the joy of a home to call their own. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: O Lord, hear us on behalf of those who exercise authority over us, who order us according to our laws, who execute justice and who defend us against our enemies. Bless our president; Congress; governor; legislature; and all who make, administer and judge our laws. Lord, in Your mercy.
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: God, our Rock, grant faith, perseverance and, if it is for their good, healing to those who are suffering from the effects of sin in their bodies or minds [especially _______]. Be their refuge so they are not shaken even in times of trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.

- P: Merciful Lord, Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us. This day we rejoice that our sins are forgiven in the washing of Baptism, the declaration of absolution, and the eating and drinking of the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Continually strengthen our faith through Your Word, and prepare our hearts to faithfully receive this divine gift, which brings the immortal body and blood of Jesus to our very lips. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Faithful God, strengthen us against all temptation and guard our steps, that in our weakness or in our liberty, we do not cause others to sin. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Almighty and everlasting God, deliver us from temptation and the powers of evil, that we may be faithful unto death and receive from Your hand the crown of everlasting life. Whether we live or die, we belong to You. Comfort us with this promise, that we may join the company of the saints on Your appointed day and enter into the heavenly places to worship at Your throne on high; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.
- C: Amen.

Service of the Sacrament



P: Lift up your hearts.



P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary... evermore praising You and singing:



P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

→ WORDS of INSTITUTION

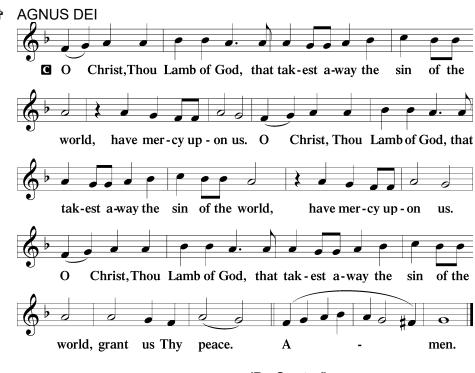
P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



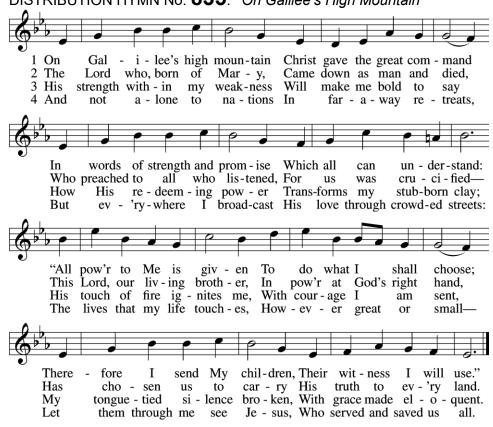


(Be Seated)

Regarding the Reception of the Lord's Supper

At Saint John's we believe, teach, and confess according to Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions that in the Lord's Supper we receive not merely bread and wine, but the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. This Holy Supper is not only a gift of Christ, but also a confession of the faith and doctrine confessed at this altar. Because Holy Scripture warns that those who eat and drink unworthily do so to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), and because communing together is also an expression of unity in doctrine and confession, we joyfully invite to the Lord's Table all confirmed members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) who are in good standing with their home congregation, who have been instructed and who publicly confess this faith. If you are not a confirmed member of an LCMS congregation, we are thankful for your presence today and warmly invite you to come forward for a blessing, indicating this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor approaches. Following the service and in the coming week, our pastors would be glad to speak with you about the Lord's Supper and to share more about what we believe, teach, and confess in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

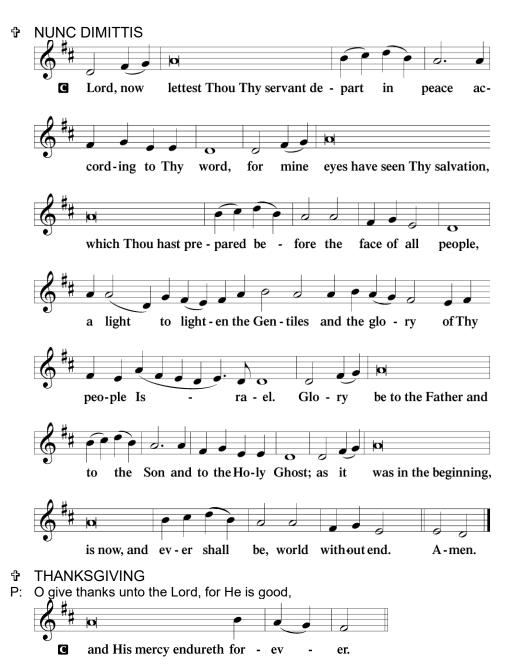




5 That ev'ryone He chooses,
For reasons of His own,
Will find in Christ his calling
To live His love alone.
His presence always leads us
Till time no more shall be;
Christ's strength, His love, His comfort
Give us His victory.

▲ 6 Lord, gather all Your children,
Wherever they may be,
And lead them on to heaven
To live eternally
With You, our loving Father,
And Christ, our brother dear,
Whose Spirit guards and gives us
The joy to persevere.

(Please Stand)



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 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.



- → SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS
- P: The Lord be with you,



P: Bless we the Lord.



- → BENEDICTION
- P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.



- → RECESSIONAL HYMN: "Serve the Lord with Gladness"
 - "Serve the Lord with gladness!" It is He alone Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace, Will at last in glory Meet us face to face. Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
 "Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name.
 - 2. "Serve the Lord with gladness!" He gave us command To proclaim His Gospel Now in every land So that fellow sinners May, like us, be blest. Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him best. Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim: "Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name!
 - 3. "Serve the Lord with gladness!" There's no greater joy Than to serve the Master, Work in His employ.
 As we build His kingdom Angels, too, rejoice Over every sinner Brought to hear His voice.
 Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
 "Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name!