

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**Conover, NC**  
**August 16, 2026**  
**The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

*Fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing! Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all. Psalm 34:9, 19*

**\*Opening Hymn** LSB # 549 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

**Invocation**

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

**C: Amen.**

**Confession of Sins**

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.

P: 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.**

**Kyrie** LSB p. 186



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**Gloria in Excelsis** LSB p. 187



**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward

\*please rise on last verse

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,  
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
 O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.  
 O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;  
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.  
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.  
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-  
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.  
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,  
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

### **Collect**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## Readings

*Isaiah 56:1, 6–8*

Thus says the Lord: “Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my righteousness be revealed. “And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.” The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, “I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered.”

P: This is the Word of God.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32*

1I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. 2God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. . . . 13Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry 14in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. 15For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? . . . 28As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. 29For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. 30Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, 31so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. 32For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

P: This is the Word of God.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord!**

*Matthew 15:21–28*

21Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” 23But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” 24He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” 25But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” 26And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” 27She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” 28Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Children’s Message** 8:00

**Sermon Hymn** LSB # 615 “*When in the Hour of Deepest Need*”

**Sermon** “*The Crumbs from the Table*” based on Matthew 15:21-28

**Apostles’ Creed** 8:00 creeds found on inside back cover of hymnal

**Nicene Creed** 10:30

# **Gathering of Our Offerings to God**

[stjohnsconover.com/donate](http://stjohnsconover.com/donate)

## **The Special Music**

**Offertory** pg. 192

## **Prayer of the Church**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

## **Sacrament of Holy Communion** 10:30 svc

*Everyone is welcome to come to the Altar. Members of St. John's and sister LCMS congregations may receive the Lord's body and blood. Visitors may receive a blessing indicated by crossing their arms. Please refer to the Communion Statement found in bulletin.*

**Preface** LSB 194

**Sanctus** LSB 195

## **The Words of Our Lord**

**Pax Domini** LSB 197

**Agnus Dei** LSB 198

## **Distribution Hymns**

*LSB # 624 "The Infant Priest Was Holy Born"*

*LSB # 642 "O Living Bread From Heaven"*

*LSB # 633 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"*

**Nunc Dimittis** LSB 199

**Post Communion Collect** LSB 201

## **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 give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn** LSB #941 *"We Praise You and Acknowledge You"*

**Silent Prayer**

**Postlude**

# **ST. JOHN'S EAGLE**

August 16, 2026

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

The flowers are given to the Glory of God.

**EAGLE** – Deadline is Thursday by noon

**September NEWSLETTER** Deadline is August 24

## **BIRTHDAY WISHES: Aug. 16 - 23**

Aug. 16 Melinda Sigmon

Becky Elander

M. Dwayne Sigmon

Glenda Cline

Jaxson Holland

Aug. 17 Paige Whitener

Aug. 18 Kathy Smith

Ryan Spleet

Wylona Saylor

Aug. 19 Rebekah Drum

Anissa Eckard

Liam Baker

Lincoln Good

Aug. 20 Harold Baker

Amanda Garrett

Frank Propst

Keith Uzzell

Karen Jolly

Aug. 21 Gina Perkins

Bryanna Sigmon

Aug. 22 Tyler Hatley

Morgan Bassett

Stephen Wilson

Keith Poerschke

Aug. 23 Graham Humphrey

Josh Walker

## **COMMUNION STATEMENT**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His Table those who trust His words, repent of all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because Holy Communion is a public witness of our oneness in the faith and teaching, which is confessed at this Altar, we respectfully request that only Communicant members of congregations of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or of congregations in Altar and Pulpit Fellowship participate in the Sacrament. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or visitors desiring to commune for the first time are asked to speak with the Pastor prior to the service. If you will be partaking of Holy Communion today, you may wish to read Luther's "Questions with their Answers" on pages 329-330 of the LSB to help you prepare for the Sacrament. There are also prayers for before and after communion in the inside cover of the LSB. *Adults and children who are not confirmed, may come to the altar for a blessing – please cross your arms over your chest at the altar to indicate your desire for a blessing.*

We **WELCOME ALL GUESTS AND VISITORS** to our worship service today! We are glad to have you join us and pray that you will be blessed during our time together. Please sign our guest book in the narthex before leaving. Please come and join us again!

## **NURSERY HELPERS**

16<sup>th</sup> Juanita Propst

23<sup>rd</sup> Leigh Ann Trent

30<sup>th</sup> Rylie Moose

**USHERS** 8:00 Jerry Icenhour 10:30 Darrow, Jake, & Keith Mann, Charles Poovey Jason Sigmon, Bryan Smith

**ACOLYTES** 8:00 Allen O'Keefe 10:30 Jenna Sain & Kaylee Lagoutine

**ELDERS FOR COMMUNION** 8:00 Michael Tripp 10:30 Scott Hollo

The **NURSERY IS AVAILABLE** for the 10:30 service. Please feel free to bring your small children to it so that you can return to and enjoy the service.

**SHARING CENTER** – Tuesdays - 2:00-4:00 (disabled & 65 and older) & 5:00-7:00 for everyone

**QUILTER'S GROUP** - Thursdays 10am - 1pm in the Good Shepherd Room.

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS** are located to the left of the usher's table. Please return bags so each Sunday bags will be available.

**COMBINED SERVICE** on Sun. August 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

## **LISTENING TO THE STORYTELLER: SUMMER FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Join us the Joy Room at 9:30am on Sundays as we study together the parables of Jesus! Parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren all learning with each other! Smaller families and individuals can be paired at tables together. Come join us even if you've missed weeks for vacation! Adult Sunday School will still be going on in the Chapel.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE** will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm in the library.

**BOARD OF PLANNING** will meet Wednesday, Sept 9<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in secretary's workroom.

**BLAST** - There is a sign-up sheet for BLAST that *starts on Wed, September 23* for families to join. *Dinner begins at 5:45pm*. This year our lesson for BLAST will be done around the dinner table. After the lesson introduction, parents will lead the kids in discussion time. Then the kids will have music and activities while parents will have the opportunity to join a Bible study.

**PREK-5TH GRADE SEPTEMBER EVENT** - A sign-up sheet for our preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade kids for Apple picking at Perry Lowe Orchards on *Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 2pm* is in the Parish Hall. Kids are free. Parents cost is \$5. Sign up by Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS HELP NEEDED** - We are looking for Sunday School teachers for this fall. This year we would like to have a rotating group of teachers to ease the yearlong commitment of teaching! The number of volunteers will help to determine how often the teachers rotate, but ideally teachers will either serve on a specific Sunday of each month (example: serving the 1 Sunday each month), or on a month-by-month basis (example: serving the month of September, then being off for October.) The curriculum is easy to use and to follow along. Next to the signups we have provided a lesson plan for you to look over. We will have a Sunday School Teacher Orientation on Sunday, August 30 at 12:30pm (following the lunch after the combined service.)

**CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION** - *Any families* wishing to start or continue in confirmation this school year will have a meeting on *Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:30pm* in the Chapel. If you have questions about if your child is ready to start Confirmation, please talk to one of the Pastors or Matt!

### **NEW WOMEN'S EXERCISE CLASS - Starting Fall 2026**

I would like to start a once-a-week exercise class for women beginning in September. The class will last for 30 minutes and will be designed for women of all fitness levels. It will involve kickboxing, drumsticks, and other fun types of movement. No prior experience is required. You'll just need to bring a mat or towel, water, and a whole lot of joy. There is no cost. We'll finish each session with a short devotion. I'm trying to schedule this around existing church activities so the class will probably be Tuesday or Thursday night from 6:00-6:35. If there is enough interest, we could do the same class during the day. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall to see if there is enough interest and to see what day and time works for the most people. If anyone would like to help lead this, please let me know. Dana Drum (contact church office)

The **MAMA BIBLE STUDY GROUP** will meet *Friday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, 8-10pm* (Place TBD). Join us for fellowship, prayer, and time in the Word. If you're able, bring an appetizer to share. Contact Dani Self ((contact church office) or Megan Baker ((contact church office) with questions

There will be a new **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP** starting in July called the Sons of Solomon. No one hands you a manual on how to navigate life. Whether you are building a career, trying to figure out marriage, or trying to raise the next generation, you don't have to do it alone. King Solomon wrote Proverbs as a common sense survival guide for young men. We're getting together to study this book of wisdom, to share personal wisdom and see how we can apply it to our everyday life. We will be meeting the fourth Friday of every month at 8:00 pm, starting on *August 28<sup>th</sup>* at Pastor Self's house. If you have any questions or would like to join, contact Pastor Self at ((contact church office).

**LIFELIGHT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**- Come join us on *Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>* as we begin a 9 week study on the book of Luke. Each week we will have 5 days of in-depth personal study and then meet Wednesday morning from 9:30 to 11:00 in the Good Shepherd Room for group discussion and teaching from our Pastors and DCE. Books for the class are \$13. To register, please contact Lisa Sain at [jlsain@bellsouth.net](mailto:jlsain@bellsouth.net) or by phone/text at ((contact church office)).

### **CALL TO MINISTRY**

Born into a Lutheran farming family in Mooresville, NC, in 2004, *Ben Starnes* felt a steady call to ministry throughout his high school years. In 2024, he found his home in the LCMS at St. John's. This fall, Ben will begin his journey toward the pastorate at Concordia Theological Seminary. During his years at the Seminary, St. John's will be supporting Ben through prayer and with financial gifts. If you would like to know how you can help support Ben please talk to Pastor Self.

If you would like to serve as a **SUNSHINE LADY**, please contact *Leigh Ann Trent* ((contact church office)).

The **PRESCHOOL** will be doing prayer partners again. Being a prayer partner means that you will get a picture of a child with their first name. You put it somewhere all year where you remember to pray for them! If you are interested in being a prayer partner for a child in one of our classes, please call or text Megan at (contact church office). We also will be doing a pottery program where students get to listen to a story and paint pottery relating to that story each month. I hope to get enough people to sponsor the students so they do not have to worry about an extra cost for the year. If you would be interested in sponsoring a child for this program, please reach out to Megan for more details. Thank you for all your support as a congregation for this amazing mission of Preschool!

**SHARING CENTER** is **IN NEED** of *children's clothing (all sizes), toys (new and in good condition), diapers (sizes 3, 4, & 5), teenagers clothing, hygiene items (especially deodorant)*. If you are able to help, please leave items in the shopping cart in the parish hall. Thank you in advance.

*Mission Team* is **NEEDING VOLUNTEERS** to help make biscuits. If you are able to help, please contact Rickelle Robertson (contact church office), Linda Travis 312-8277 or Dana Drum 244-0487.

**HELP NEEDED in Sharing Center!** - There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for those who could help. We need 2 hours of your time once a month. Financial donations are also appreciated.

The **DAILY WALK BIBLE STUDY** will be led by Jeff and Diane Holchin on *Tuesday nights at 7 pm* in the library. We will focus on the New Testament in 2025. Daily Walk Bibles are available for \$15 and you can contact Jeff at (contact church office) with questions.

### **SHORT TERM MISSION FUNDRAISERS - Ice Cream in Newton & Fair**

We will be having our food truck at the Monday and Tuesday night Soldiers Reunion music events on August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. We'll be selling sandwiches and homemade ice cream both nights. If you can help work in the food truck, take orders, or scoop ice cream either night, please let Rickelle Robertson ((contact church office)) or Dana Drum ((contact church office)) know. Please also let us know if you can donate a freezer of ice cream. There will be a sign up for the ice cream in the Parish Hall or you can tell Rickelle or Dana.

The fair will begin the week before Labor Day. We'll have our booth open all week and will need workers for the kitchen and to take orders starting early in the week for daytime hours and then during the evenings, too, once the fair opens on Wednesday. Please let Dana or Rickelle know if you can help with this. We'll have a sign-up sheet circulating soon.

If you can't help but are able to attend any of these events, please stop by and support us! Thanks for all you do to make our mission trips possible!

**NEWS** from *Katelyn Houser*- click on the QR code to read what has been going on!! She is serving in San Juan de la Maguana, Dominican Republic with Solid Rock International. Please keep her in your prayers and if you **FEEL LED TO SPONSOR HER** visit <https://bit.ly/KHouserSRI>. All gifts made through the link are tax deductible.



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** - Now that the back-to-school sales on supplies have begun, please keep the Operation Christmas Child project in mind as you shop. We had great success with members sponsoring already-packed boxes last year and I hope to have the same or better success with that this year. *Items needed: crayons, pencils, pencil sharpeners, pens, notebooks, notebook paper, colored pencils, and markers to fill the boxes.* Leave items in box at nursery. If you are planning to pack a box yourself, this is a great time to buy your supplies. Thank you so much for your support of this ministry! Call Dana Drum at (contact church office) if you have questions.

### MISSION AND VISION THEME

*Equip:* We will equip all for the Christian life. (Ephesians 4:10-16)

*Engage:* We will engage with all people to be all things to all people for the sake of the Gospel. (1 Corinthians 9:19-23).

*Encourage:* We will continuously encourage one another in our faith. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

*Endure:* Everything changes, but the Word of God will endure forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

**STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE, Aug 2 & 9**    **Attendance:** 8:00 107/94    10:30 154/136    SS 49/66

|                                         |                |                   |           |                                        |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Offerings:</b>                       | <b>Budget:</b> | Missions/Ministry | 20,679.02 |                                        |
|                                         |                | Sunday School     | 52.50     |                                        |
|                                         |                | Sales Tax Refund  | 2,691.35  | \$ 23,422.87 ** (needed weekly 15,240) |
|                                         |                |                   |           |                                        |
| <b>Designated Funds:</b>                |                | Building Bridges  | 40.00     |                                        |
|                                         |                | Cemetery          | 40.00     |                                        |
|                                         |                | Food Pantry       | 317.70    |                                        |
|                                         |                | LLL               | 93.00     |                                        |
|                                         |                | Preschool         | 60.00     |                                        |
|                                         |                | Preschool Payroll | 1,178.77  |                                        |
|                                         |                | Short Term        | 270.00    |                                        |
|                                         |                | Teen Camp - AK    | 790.00    | \$ 2,789.47                            |
| <b>Building Fund:</b>                   |                | Offerings         | 1,558.00  | \$ 1,558.00                            |
| <b>Total Receipts for Aug 2 &amp; 9</b> |                |                   |           | <b>\$ 27,770.34</b>                    |

### 2026 GOALS

\*We will "Equip, Engage, Encourage, and Endure."

\*We will support Pastor Lagoutine and Pastor Self by faithfully attending church services, praying for their ministries and seeking ways to offer assistance as needed.

\*We will encourage and support our DCE Matt Cochran, our Sunday School teachers, youth leaders, youth groups, and adult Bible study groups by attending regularly.

\*We will support our preschool leaders Megan Baker, Vanessa Travis, and volunteers and pray for its continued growth.

\*We will faithfully pray for our church staff and church officers and continue to be supportive of the efforts here to "Lift High the Cross."

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH** 464-4071 Website - [www.stjohnsconover.com](http://www.stjohnsconover.com)  
**Pastor** [Lagoutine@stjohnsconover.com](mailto:Lagoutine@stjohnsconover.com) **Matt** [Matt@stjohnsconover.com](mailto:Matt@stjohnsconover.com)  
**Secretary** [RevSelf@stjohnsconover.com](mailto:RevSelf@stjohnsconover.com)  
Rev. Anton Lagoutine (contact church office) Rev. Luke Self  
Ryan Spleet– President (contact church office) Michael Tripp – Chairman of Elders  
Matt Cochran—DCE (contact church office) Bruce Ingle– Organist (contact church office)  
Derek Baker- Music Director (contact church office) Matthew Ingle – Deacon  
Scott Hollo – Head Usher 8:00 svc (contact church office) Paula Canipe - Sunday School  
Jason Sain – Head Usher 10:30 svc (contact church office) Jamie Sigmon – Acolyte  
Chastity Arndt – Church Secretary (contact church office) Megan Baker – Preschool (contact church office)



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### **St. John's Building: Immediate Major Needs**

The last voters meeting it was discussed to send out a survey to the congregation assessing the desire to either: build a new building, expand the current gym, or simply remodel and update the gym (**surveys are due by the end of August**). The church has several big ticket items that will be in need of replacement now and in the coming years, as well as some general maintenance that needs to be done on the main building. The building committee would like to bring these items to everyone's attention.

#### ***Financial Status***

- Current Building Fund Balance: \$183,807 Current Building Fund CDs: \$197,143.46

#### ***Immediate & Upcoming "Big-Ticket" Needs***

- Main Building Chiller: Over 20 years old; estimated replacement cost of \$270,000.
- Gym AC Units: Replacement approved by voters; quoted at \$70,000.
- Roof (Sanctuary & Main Building): Future replacement estimated at \$100,000+. (Note: This is currently funded by a generous \$100,000 donation).

#### ***General Maintenance & Ongoing Projects***

- Wall Repairs: Inspection and repair of cracks throughout the church.
- Interior Refresh: Painting and wall repairs needed for the entire main building.

Please prayerfully consider how you can support these efforts as we continue to steward the facilities God has blessed us with. If you feel called to contribute to the building fund please consider it supplemental to your tithe in order for us to continue the mission and ministry of the church.

### **THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S**

#### **Sunday, Aug. 16**

Early Worship 8:00 am  
Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15am  
Worship 10:30 am

#### **Tuesday, Aug. 18**

Daily Bible Study 7:00 pm

**Wednesday, Aug. 19**

Men's Bible Study 8:30 am

**Thursday, Aug. 20**

Quilters 10:00 am

**Sunday, Aug. 23**

Early Worship 8:00 am

Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15am

Worship 10:30 am