

St. John's Lutheran Church
Conover, NC
August 2, 2026
The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude & Welcome and Announcements

***Opening Hymn** LSB # 540 "*Christ, the Word of God Incarnate*"

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

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

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

*please rise on last verse

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. Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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 55:1–5

¹“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

P: This is the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God!

Romans 9:1–5

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— ²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

P: This is the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

Matthew 14:13–21

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the death of John], he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶But Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷They said to him, “We have only five loaves here and two fish.” ¹⁸And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Children’s Message 8:00 svc

Sermon Hymn LSB # 602 “*The Gifts Christ Freely Gives*”

Sermon “(No) Satisfaction” based on Isaiah 55:1–5

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

Special Music “*Blessed Assurance*”

Response Hymn LSB # 729 “*I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus*”

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 # 618 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

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

LSB # 918 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

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 # 686 *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

Silent Prayer

Postlude

ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

August 2, 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. 2 - 9

Aug. 2 Chuck Miller

Taylor Price

Aug. 3 Kenny Church

Linda Travis

Paul Yount

Eloise Miller

Aug. 4 Don Childers

Jerry Sigmon

Michael Weber

Derik Smith

Aug. 5 Lori Killian

Willie Pearl Yount

Katelyn Houser

Carol Houtler

Aug. 6 Dennis Trivette

Aug. 8 Barbara Reese

Barrett Webb

Aug. 9 Rebecca Eckard

Maysee Lo

Ronnie Cline

Ben Setzer

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

2nd Monica Baker

9th Todd & Amanda Goulds

16th Juanita Propst

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.

2027 BUDGET

Budget considerations for 2027 need to be given to the Board of Finance no later than August 7th.

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.

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.

The **MAMA BIBLE STUDY GROUP** will meet *Friday, August 14th, 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 28th* 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 9th* 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 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).

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL is currently enrolling students for the 2026-2027 school year. To enroll, contact Megan Baker at (contact church office) or email at sjlcprek@gmail.com.

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.

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)

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."

STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE, July 26		Attendance:	8:00	95	10:30	136	SS	59
Offerings:	Budget:	Missions/Ministry	9,483.91					
		Sunday School	48.75	\$	9,532.66**	(needed weekly 15,240)		
Designated Funds:		Helping Hands	25.69					
		LLL	520.00					
		Preschool (mem. Hollo)	105.00					
		Russian Ministry	40.00					
		Short Term	281.00	\$	971.69			
		Offerings	675.00	\$	675.00			
Building Fund:				\$	675.00			
Total Receipts for July 26				\$	11,179.35			

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH		464-4071	<i>Website - <u>www.stjohnsconover.com</u></i>	
Pastor		<u>Lagoutine@stjohnsconover.com</u>	Matt <u>@stjohnsconover.com</u>	
Secretary		<u>@stjohnsconover.com</u>	RevSelf <u>@stjohnsconover.com</u>	
Rev. Anton Lagoutine	(contact church office)		Rev. Luke Self	
(contact church office)				
Ryan Spleet– President	(contact church office)		Michael Tripp – Chairman of Elders	
(contact church office)				
Matt Cochran—DCE	(contact church office)		Bruce Ingle– Organist	(contact
church office)				
Derek Baker- Music Director	(contact church office)		Matthew Ingle – Deacon	
(contact church office)				
Scott Hollo – Head Usher	8:00 svc	(contact church office)	Paula Canipe - Sunday School	
(contact church office)				

Jason Sain – Head Usher 10:30 svc (contact church office) Jamie Sigmon – Acolyte
(contact church office)
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. 2

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

Tuesday, Aug. 4

Daily Bible Study 7:00 pm

Wednesday, Aug. 5

Men's Bible Study 8:30 am

Thursday, Aug. 6

Quilters 10:00 am

Sunday, Aug. 9

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

Elders	2:30 pm
Deacons	2:30 pm
Council	4:15 pm