

St. John's Lutheran Church
Conover, NC
July 19, 2026
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude *"Joy Unceasing and Infinite Praise"*

Welcome and Announcements

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. *Romans 11:33, 36*

***Opening Hymn** LSB # 657 *"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

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. O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; 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 44:6–8

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

P: This is the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God!

Romans 8:18-27

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

P: This is the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” . . . Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there

will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Children’s Message 8:00

Sermon Hymn LSB # 730 “*What is the World to Me*”

Sermon

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

The Special Music “*Holy Ground*”

Response Hymn LSB # 761 “*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*”

Prayer of the Church

The Lord’s Prayer

Sacrament of Holy Communion 8:00 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 # 570 “Just as I Am, without One Plea”

LSB # 620 “Jesus Comes Today with Healing”

LSB # 630 “Now, My Tongue the Mystery Telling”

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 #748 “I’m But a Stranger Here”

Silent Prayer

Postlude

ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

July 19, 2026

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the Glory of God.

EAGLE – Deadline is Thursday by noon

August NEWSLETTER Deadline is July 20

BIRTHDAY WISHES: July 19 - 26

July 19 Elysha Morris

Cate Hollo

July 20 Chloe Eckard

Tim Ignasiak, Sr.

Chance Johnson

July 22 Scott Little

Dexter Canipe, Jr

Inez Shull

July 23 Rusty Hefner

Kurt Stephens

Cody Stephens

Nathan Reitzel

Mary Channing Hoffman

Brandee Wallinger

July 24 Janice Sigmon

Tim Canipe Jr.

Buddy Jones

Riley Hefner

Julie Vogelsang

Mark Hollo

July 25 Kinsley Canipe

July 26 Chad Stephens

Brandon Canipe

Maggie Christenbury

Tammy Rhyne

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

19th Rylie Moose 26th Stephanie Weber & Megan Baker 2nd Monica Baker

USHERS 8:00 Clyde & Logan Whitener 10:30 Robert Trent, Scott & Michael Weber

ACOLYTES 8:00 Cadence Stephens 10:30 Ella Jones & Ashleigh Nichols

ELDERS FOR COMMUNION 8:00 Jerry Icenhour 10:30 Scott Weber

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.

QUARTERLY VOTERS MEETING will be held TODAY at 2:30 pm.

2027 BUDGET

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

PASTOR LAGOUTINE is preaching at Redeemer Lutheran Church this morning.

LISTENING TO THE STORYTELLER: SUMMER FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us the Joy Room at 9:30am on Sundays in June - August 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 *July 24th* at Pastor Self's house. If you have any questions or would like to join, contact Pastor Self at ((contact church office)). Look forward to seeing you there.

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.

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.

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 (contact church office) or Dana Drum (contact church office).

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.

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.



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.

Our **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** exceeded a goal for units of life giving blood when our donors gave 24 units of blood on July 13th. Thank you and blessing to our donors and volunteers which made this an successful event.

The **CHOIR, HANDBELLS, and ANYONE** who is, was, or is interested in **helping with music** at church are invited to a summer get together on *Sunday, July 26 from 3:00-5:00* in the Joy Room. There will be information about upcoming music for the year and this year will also be a **send-off** for Keith and Karen as they prepare to move to SC. All we ask is to bring an appetizer or snack. If you have any questions please ask Kathy, Kelley, or Melinda.

THANK YOUS

Thanks to the June Sunshine Ladies (Kim and Kevin) for the lunch after my surgery and thanks to Holly Sigmon for the wonderful dinner. Thanks to Ken Hildebran for the VBS ice cream that can make anyone feel better. Thanks to Ray Hildebran for the yummy blueberries. Thanks especially to all for your continued prayers as I continue to heal. *Cindy Miller*

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. In order to make that happen, I need crayons, pencils, pencil sharpeners, pens, notebooks, notebook paper, colored pencils, and markers to fill the boxes. Could you help by purchasing an item or two and leaving it in the box in front of the 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)

Please keep the following members of **ST. JOHN'S MISSION TEAM** in your **prayers**

Deering (July): Dana Drum, Rebekah Drum, Kathy Harris, Abby Albert, Amy Yount, Emma Yount, Payten Mann

Teen Camp (July): Heather Bassett, Rebekah Drum, Amy Holchin, Ben Harris, Dara Brunner

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 12		Attendance:	8:00	112	10:30	178	SS	66
Offerings:	Budget:	Missions/Ministry	12,083.76					
		Sunday School	82.00					
								\$ 12,165.76 ** (needed weekly 15,240)
Designated Funds:		Building Bridges	40.00					
		Food Pantry	272.50					
		Preschool Payroll	1,178.77					
		Short Term	10.00					\$ 1,501.27
Building Fund:		Offerings	427.00					\$ 427.00
Total Receipts for July 12								\$ 14,094.03

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH		464-4071	Website - www.stjohnsconover.com	
Pastor		Lagoutine@stjohnsconover.com	Matt	
Secretary		Self@stjohnsconover.com	Rev	
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)
(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)
(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 as we consider a new building project.

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.

- Youth Room: Currently undergoing remodeling and updates.

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, July 19

Early Worship 8:00 am
Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15am
Worship 10:30 am
Bd of Youth 12:00 pm
Voters Meeting 2:30 pm

Tuesday, July 21

Daily Bible Study 7:00 pm

Wednesday, July 22

Men's Bible Study 8:30 am

Thursday, July 23

Quilters 10:00 am

Friday, July 24

Men's Bible Study 8:00 pm (Pastor Self's Home)

Sunday, July 26

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