

St. John Lutheran Church and Preschool

Eighteenth Sunday After the Trinity

Divine Service Setting Three

With alternate movements

October 18&19, 2025



St. John Lutheran Church and Preschool
520 Paddock Avenue
Meriden, CT 06450

Church Office 203-238-2331 Hrs. Mon-Wed: 9am-2pm
office@saintjohnmeriden.org

Reverend Scott M. MacDonald 203-238-2332

Pastorsaintjohn@gmail.com

Matthew Bartlett, Music Director

Matthewbartlett510@gmail.com

Preschool 203-630-3997

Church Website: www.saintjohnmeriden.org

Facebook: St. John Lutheran Church & Preschool

Full Divine Service is held:

Sundays at 10 a.m.

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the St. John Chapel

Saturdays at 5 p.m.

Holy Communion *The Lord welcomes to his table all who repent of sin and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior. In this meal the Lord is present by a mystery in his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. As the Lord's Supper is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar and lest any eat and drink unworthily, those who are not yet instructed as members or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Lord's Supper, are asked to first speak to the pastor. Those who are not communing but wishing to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward. Simply bow your head to indicate that a blessing is desired.*

**As we prepare for worship together please remember to
set your phone to silent mode. Thank You!**

**Mission Statement: Growing a Christian Community
rooted in Faith, Fellowship, and Service**

Cover: From Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld's Die Bibel in Bildern, 19th century

October 18&19, 2025

As we gather for this service let us take time to lay aside our thoughts of other things as we prayerfully prepare for the worship of our Lord. Inside the front covers of your hymnal are Prayers For Worship. Additionally inside the back cover of your hymnal are the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds as well as the Lord's Prayer.

Bell tones and Prelude - *(We reflect in silent prayer during the time of the prelude)*

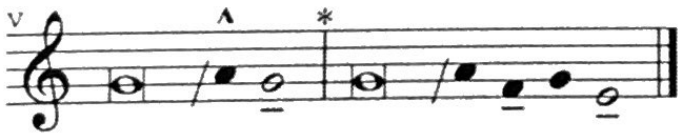
Hymn: *When Morning Gilds the Skies* **807**
(As the music begins, please rise to sing)

Service of Holy Baptism **p. 268**

Anthem *A Child's Prayer – J.K. Perry (Sunday)*

Confession and Absolution **p. 184**

Introit: *Psalm 122:1, Sirach 36:16–17a (Mode V)*



Antiphon: I was glad when they said / unto me,
Let us go in-/to the house of the LORD.

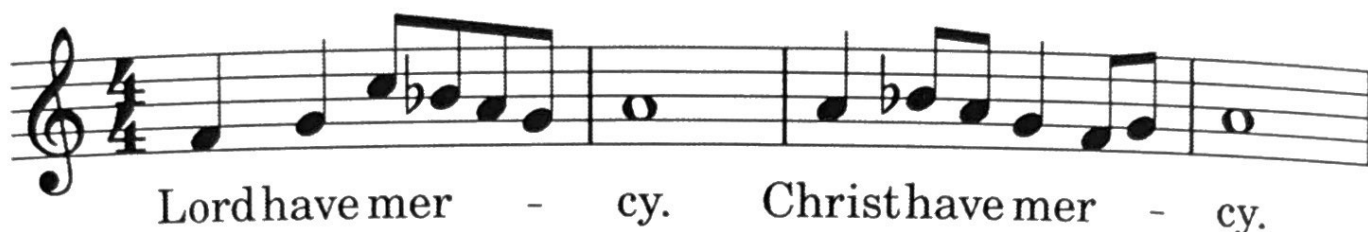
A: Grant peace, O Lord, to them that / wait for Thee,
and let Thy / prophets be found faithful.

Hear the prayer of / Thy servants,
and of / Thy people Israel.

C: Glory be to the Father and / to the Son*
and / to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the be-/ginning,*
is now, and will / be forever. Amen.

Antiphon: I was glad when they said / unto me,
Let us go in-/to the house of the LORD.

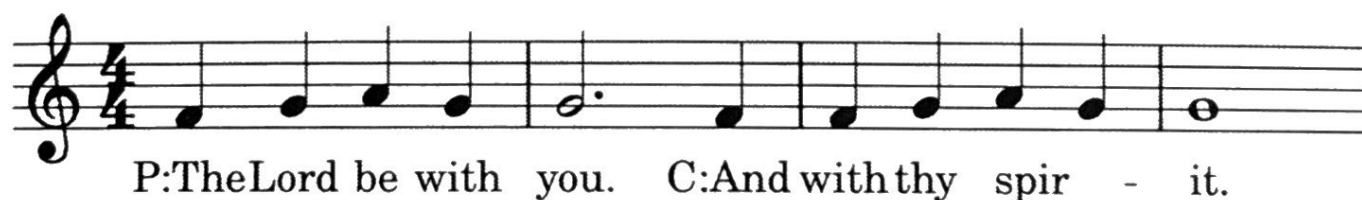
Kyrie - *Lord Have Mercy*



Hymn Of Praise: *Gloria in Excelsis*

p. 187

Salutation and Collect of the Day



(Please be seated for the readings)

First Reading: *Deuteronomy 10:12–21*

In those days Moses spoke to the children of Israel, saying: “What does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good? Indeed heaven and the highest heavens belong to the LORD your God, also the earth with all that is in it. The LORD delighted only in your fathers, to love them; and He chose their descendants after them, you above all peoples, as

it is this day. Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer. For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe. He administers justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing. Therefore love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the LORD your God; you shall serve Him, and to Him you shall hold fast, and take oaths in His name. He is your praise, and He is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things which your eyes have seen.”

A: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle *1 Corinthians 1:4–8*

Brethren: I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Psalm 122:7, 1 (Mode V)

Peace be with-/in thy walls,
 and prosperity / within thy palaces.
 I was glad when they said / unto me,
 Let us go in-/to the house of the LORD.

(Please rise for the Alleluia)

Alleluia**Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:34–46**

P: The Lord be with You.

C: And with your Spirit. (Spoken)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time: The Pharisees gathered together and came to Jesus. Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” Jesus said to him, “‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” While the Pharisees

were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?” They said to Him, “The Son of David.” He said to them, “How then does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord,’ saying: ‘The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool” ’? If David then calls Him ‘Lord,’ how is He his Son?” And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

p. 191

(Please be seated for the hymn)

Hymn of the Day: *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

845 (1-4)

Sermon

Offertory *Create in Me A Clean Heart*

p. 192

(As the music begins, please rise to sing)

Prayer of the Church

Preface

p. 194

Sanctus - *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Ho - ly Ho - ly, Ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a - oth.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na Ho - san - na in

God the high - est. Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord Ho -

- san - na Ho - san - na in God the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving 1

The Words of Our Lord

p. 197

Lord's Prayer

p. 196

Pax Domini – *The Peace of the Lord*

p. 197

Agnus Dei - *Lamb of God*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sin of the world. Have

mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the

sin of the world. Have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

ta - kest a-way the sin of the world. Grant us Peace.

(Please be seated after the Agnus Dei)

Distribution

p. 199

The Lord welcomes to his table all who repent of sin and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior. In this meal the Lord is present by a mystery in his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. As the Lord's Supper is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar and lest any eat and drink unworthily, those who are not yet instructed as members or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Lord's Supper, are asked to first speak to the pastor. Those who are not communing but wishing to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward. Simply bow your head to indicate that a blessing is desired.

Communion Prayers *Prayers are provided for before and after communing inside the front cover of the hymnal under "Prayers for Worship". Please make use of these prayers or your own prayers during the time before, during and after communion*

(Please rise for the Post Communion Collect)

Post Communion Collect

p. 201

Salutation and Benedicamus

P. 201

Benediction

p. 202

1. *The Prayer of Thanksgiving III – adapted from Apostolic Tradition, Worship Supplement, CPH 1969.*

Closing Hymn: *All People That on Earth Do Dwell* 791

(We reflect in silent prayer following the closing hymn)

Postlude

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Attendance

Wednesday.....	5
Saturday.....	15
Sunday.....	55

Assisting with our service: Assistant: Hector Rodriguez (Sat) Lewis Balsizer (Sun), Lead Deacon: Wayne Sasso (Sat) Cissy Kulakowski (Sun), Reader: Hector Rodriguez (Sat) Lisa Barillaro (Sun), Altar Guild: Donna Dlugos (Sat) Marcia Gregory (Sun)

Pancake Breakfast: We will be having the Pancake Breakfast on October 25th from 8-10 am in our Fellowship Hall for a \$5 donation! Call the office for tickets, or they can also be purchased at the door! There will be pancakes, eggs, sausage, and coffee. Apple Fritters will also be available to purchase!

Offerings for God The offering box is in the narthex for our giving.

Fall Fellowship: Pictionary & Lunch, Date: Tuesday, October 28, Time: 11:45 AM, Location: Church Lounge:
Celebrate the season with laughter, creativity, and connection! Bring your own lunch and join us for a spirited game of Pictionary. Let's enjoy the warmth of community as the leaves turn and the days grow crisp. "*A cheerful heart is good medicine.*" — Proverbs 17:22 All ages welcome. Come ready to draw, guess, and giggle!

News At St. John Church

God's Blessing – *“Pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.” James 5:14.* The blessing of God with prayer and the anointing with oil is an ancient and biblical custom. Following services on **Saturday, November 1 and Sunday, November 2**, *All Saints* weekend. you are invited to join at the altar area after service for a brief time of scripture, prayer and this request for God's blessing!

Ladies Book Study: If you are interested in attending a ladies' Christian book study, please text or call Wendy at - 860-975-8170. Dates and times TBD.

Online Giving: We recently set up a secure giving option through the Joyful Response program, already in use for our direct deposit for offerings. “You may set up a one-time donation or recurring offering to St. John through this link.” Credit/Debit card payments and bank ACH are accepted through this program. Credit card fees are deducted from the amount unless otherwise selected.



Repair Request: If you notice any broken or damaged, please fill out a St. John Property Board Repair Form outside the church office, and place in the Property Board mailbox. Thank you!

Tuesday Bible study in the lounge: Join us for our Tuesday morning Bible study beginning at 10 AM for fellowship and a study of the Gospel of John. All welcome!

In Life and Death, Christ Fulfills the Law of God

The Pharisees ask a Law question. Jesus asks a Gospel question. The Pharisees seek to test Jesus in His own words. Jesus seeks to “test” them in the saving reality of who He is as the Messiah (Matt. 22:34–46). The Law requires you to “fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul” and to “love the sojourner” (Deut. 10:12–21). Failure to keep the Law perfectly brings judgment. On the other hand, the Gospel brings the grace of God given by Jesus Christ, that you may be blameless in the day of His return (1 Cor. 1:1–9). Jesus is David’s Son yet David’s Lord, true God and true man. He is Love incarnate who fulfilled all the demands of God’s Law on our behalf, that we might be saved from the Law’s condemnation and sanctified in the Gospel’s forgiveness. Thereby we see that “God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord” (1 Cor. 1:9). Lcms.org/worship.