

St. John Lutheran Church and Preschool

Fifteenth Sunday After the Trinity
Observing St. Michael and All Angels

Divine Service Setting Three
September 27&28, 2025



St. John Lutheran Church and Preschool

520 Paddock Avenue

Meriden, CT 06450

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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: *Archangel Michael defeats Satan*, Guido Reni, Santa Maria della Concezione, Rome, 1636.

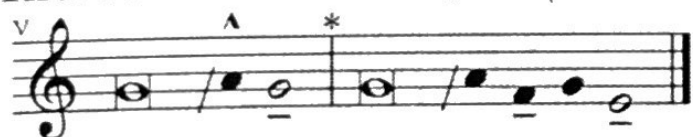
September 27&28, 2025 *As we gather for this service let us take time to lay aside our thoughts of other things as we prayerfully prepare for the worship of our Lord. Inside the front covers of your hymnal are Prayers For Worship. Additionally inside the back cover of your hymnal are the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds as well as the Lord's Prayer.*

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

Hymn: *I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus* **729**
(As the music begins, please rise to sing)

Confession and Absolution **p. 184**

Introit: *Psalm 103:1, 20 (Mode V)*



Antiphon: Bless the LORD, / O my soul:
and all that is within / me, bless His holy name.

A: Bless the LORD, ye His angels, that ex-/cel in strength,
that do His commandments, hearkening un-/to the voice
of His word.

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: Bless the LORD, / O my soul:
and all that is within / me, bless His holy name.

Kyrie - *Lord Have Mercy*

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Hymn Of Praise: *Gloria in Excelsis*

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

(Please be seated for the readings)

First Reading: *Daniel 12:1–3*

In those days: “Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever.”

A: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle *Revelation 12:7–12a*

In those days: War broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the

accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them!”

P: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: *Psalm 103:1, 20a (Mode V)*

Bless the LORD, / O my soul:

and all that is within / me, bless His holy name.

Bless the LORD, ye / His angels,

that excel in strength, / that do His commandments.

(Please rise for the Alleluia)

Alleluia

Holy Gospel: *Matthew 18:1–11*

P: The Lord be with You.

C: And with your Spirit. (Spoken)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and

become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes! If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire. Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven. For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.”

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:

Be Stil, My Soul

752

Sermon

Offertory Music *I Trust in the Lord – J. Martin (Sunday)*

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*

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

(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

Closing Hymn: *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* **940**

(We reflect in silent prayer following the closing hymn)

Postlude

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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.

Attendance

Saturday.....	19
Sunday.....	58

Assisting with our service: Assistant: Hector Rodriguez (Sat) Don Andersen (Sun), Lead Deacon: Gary Poulin (Sat) Cissy Kulakowski (Sun), Reader: Neal Kelly (Sat) Don Andersen (Sun), Altar Guild: Donna Dlugos (Sat) Kathryn Chester (Sun)

We welcome Rev. Scott Schuett sharing God’s word with us Saturday evening.

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!

Choir has Started!: Handbell and Chorister Choir has started! Join us as both groups hold open rehearsals for anyone to join. Handbells meet in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays while the Chorister Choir meets in the choir room at 7:30 p.m. also on Tuesdays! Come sing with us!

News At St. John Church

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.



Cans and Bottles Update: When donating cans and bottles for the fundraising committee, please check the bottle to see if it qualifies for a recycling return. Thank you!

New Paschal candle: We have recently acquired a Paschal candle for our Saint John Chapel. This Paschal candle was used for many years at *St. John's Lutheran Church in Waterbury* which has recently closed. It now will have a new life. Come and see it in the Chapel!

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!

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

Our Father in Heaven Protects His Children by Giving His Holy Angels Charge Over Them

We live in “a time of trouble” (Dan. 12:1), in the midst of great tribulation. Satan and his wicked angels have been thrown out of heaven and have come down to earth “in great wrath,” with woeful “temptations to sin” and with constant accusations (Rev. 12:8–12; Matt. 18:7). Even so, we are encouraged by the presence and protection of St. Michael and the holy angels, whom God sends to help us in the strife (Dan. 10:11–13). By “the authority of his Christ,” His holy angels guard and keep us in body and soul. These heavenly servants of God preserve His human messengers on earth, the ministers of “the blood of the Lamb,” against all the power of the enemy, for by “the word of their testimony,” the Church is saved and the devil is defeated (Rev. 12:10–11; Luke 10:18–19). By their preaching and Baptism of repentance, the old Adam and the old evil foe are “drowned in the depth of the sea” (Matt. 18:6). As God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, so are His people delivered and raised from the dust of the earth through the forgiveness of their sins (Dan. 12:1–3).