

STAFF

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For emergencies call 443-844-9314

****The Pastors are off on Fridays****



Notice of live streaming:

Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.

 St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville

 stjohnsparkville

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 27, 2025



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

stjohnsparkville.org

(410) 665-1234

office@stjohnsparkville.org

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

Introduction to the Day

The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. “When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.”

(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)

(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Salut D’Amour*
(Music: Edward Elgar; © 1899 Schott & Co.)

Yoon-Mee Chong, violinist

(Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Merciful God,
**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God’s children through faith.

In the cross of ✠ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

This week's schedule

Today	10:00 am	Live & Online Worship
Mon.		
Tues.		
Wed.	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
Thurs.		
Fri.		
Sat.		

Counting our Blessings

		2025	
Sun. 7/20	Attendance: 121	April Offering Income	\$ 31,766
	Offering: \$ 5,051	April Other Income	\$ 3,678
	Homebound: 14	April Total Income	\$ 35,444
		April Expenses	\$ 49,145
		YTD Offering Income	\$132,727
		YTD Other Income	\$ 20,814
		YTD Total Income	\$153,541
		YTD Expenses	\$151,774



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Pat Denk, JoAnn Weiland, Ashley Gerber, Louie Gerber, Joan Kraft, Shirley Kreh, Olusegun Fowode, Marge Jasper, Julie Hastings, Kim Townsley, Mildred Schaffer, Bill Fliegel, Ruth Albrecht, Marion McDonough, Diane Carroll, Richard Souders, Oluseye Fowode, Robert Suznick, Lisa Duerling, Joan Swank, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Don Garrish, Peggy Denk, Tammy Geelhaar, JR Kidd, Carol Paulshock, Katherine Fliegel, Elaine Perzan, Debbie McWilliam, Wayne Maxwell, George Lotterer, Jenny Cavallero, Barb Distefano, Marilyn Baldwin, Wendy Kraft, Fred Smith, Anna Meyer, Patricia Dunn, Jerre Keller, Scott Hendricks, Chuck Taylor, Jane Esterby, Patsy Smith, Marianne Widderich

For the military and their families: Christopher McCann, Mason Arnold, Kalib McCann, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, and all those in harm’s way

For those grieving family & friends of: Hank Truslow, Patricia Hurley, Michael Elligson, Andrew Hills

For St. John’s Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Audrey Lentz, Carl Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Janet Roth, Doris Rye, Kim Townsley, and Emma Volz

Note regarding the Prayer List

Those on the family & friends prayer list will remain for 6 weeks and then be removed— unless otherwise specified. If at any time you would like to add or remove someone from the list, please contact the church office.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

God Is Here!

ELW 526 (vv. 1-3)

(Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000; Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991; Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Co.; Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Co.)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

WORD

Psalm 85

FIRST READING

- ¹ LORD, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- ² You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you pardoned all their sin.
- ³ You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.
- ⁴ Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us.
- ⁵ Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- ⁶ Will you not revive us again,
so that your people may rejoice in you?
- ⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.
- ⁸ Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.
- ⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

- ¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.
¹² The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.
¹³ Righteousness will go before him
and will make a path for his steps.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses)*

Psalm 138

- ¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.
² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your
steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word
above all things.**
³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**
⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.
⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**
⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.
⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your
hands.**

SECOND READING

Colossians 2:6-19

The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about “the empty lure” of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.

- ⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
⁸ Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ.
⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Next Week— Sunday, August 3rd—Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

† 9 am—Faith + Fellowship

† 10 am—Worship in-person


and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel


Visit stjohnsparkville.org





The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in celebration of Kelly Haacke’s 30th birthday by her mom, Debra, and sister, Shelby.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2025. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Dates available are August 31st, September 28th, and December 28th.

Nursery Care for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten. 

 Faith and Fellowship meets in the Fellowship Hall on the first floor from 9 am—9:45 am each Sunday. This is an opportunity for adults to gather for light refreshments and to grow in faith. **Note-There will be no Faith & Fellowship in July. We will resume on Sunday, August 10th.**

Registration is still open for our Music Camp. Our Summer Musical Camp is August 11th–15th from 9:00 am —2:00 pm for students who have completed grades 3 through 8. Registration forms are on the third floor bulletin board, in the weekly email and on our website. Please tell your family, friends and neighbors about our wonderful camp! 

 **Request from the Property Committee!** We are in need of some new people to join our committee. If you are interested in joining and helping with some of the much needed projects at St. John’s, please contact Bill Fliegel at wfliegel@yahoo.com.



Pastor Mathew & Pastor Amy will be on vacation Wednesday, July 23rd—Wednesday, August 6th. They will return to the office on Thursday, August 7th.

Commemorations

When we are baptized, we are baptized into the body of Christ. We understand this body to be the communion of saints, a diverse witness of people across time and space.

Throughout its history, the church has sought to lift up Christians who have been unique, exemplary people of faith. It is not that these people are perfect, as we are all both saint and sinner. Our faith in God working in them can be a reminder of God's grace working in all of our lives. "The saints are to be remembered so that we may strengthen our faith when we see how they experienced grace and how they were helped by faith."

(Augsburg Confession)

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Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians

Monday, July 28, 2025

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, Messiah, is a setting of scriptural texts.

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.

Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Linda Wiley
Crucifer	James W.
Acolyte (s)	Devon W.
Lector	Bonnie Spellman
Communion Assistant	Bonnie Spellman
Dismissal Assistant	Alec B.

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when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.¹³ And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses,¹⁴ erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross.¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

¹⁶ Therefore, do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food or drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or Sabbaths.¹⁷ These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the body belongs to Christ.¹⁸ Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, initiatory visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking,¹⁹ and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with a growth that is from God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."² So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

⁵ And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,’ ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ ⁷ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly is seated.)

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY *Ask the Complicated Questions (See insert)* **ACS 1005**

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition God of grace.
Hear our prayer.

COMMUNION HYMNS *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* **ELW 742**
(Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886; Music: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918)

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive **ELW 605**

(Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-1987, alt.; Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; Text © Oxford University Press)

(The assembly remains seated.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
And the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* **ELW 543**

(Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008; Music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958; Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House; Arr. © Oxford University Press)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* *Douglas E. Wagner*
(© 2005 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

TODAY WE WELCOME *Pastor Joseph Lettrich as our presider and preacher,*
and thank him for sharing his gifts with us in worship.
It is always good to have you here at St. John’s!

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

(The assembly is seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

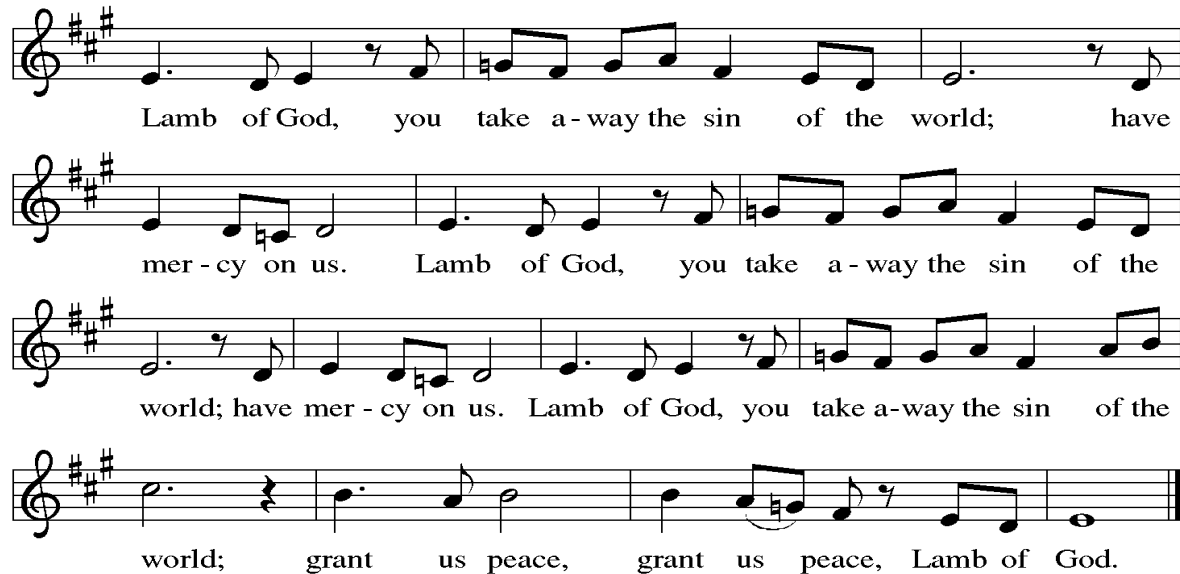
The kingdom of God is set before you.
Eat and rejoice.

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

*If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing,
crossing your arms over your chest.*

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(We offer each other a sign of God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC
(© 2006 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

Lord, Hear My Prayer

Lani Smith

Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.

Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website stjohnsparkville.org. Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville



(Please stand as you are able.)

OFFERING HYMN

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

ELW 721



Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;
light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is
ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is
ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931
Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949
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OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

You Are Holy (See insert)

ELW 525

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;

with every breath.
We praise you, O God.
We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.
We bless you, O God.
We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.
We thank you, O God.
We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.
Amen.