

STAFF

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****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

Nineth Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 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

Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

(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 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* *Dale Wood*
 (© 1991 The Sacred Music Press)

(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	9:00 am	Faith + Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)
	10:00 am	Live & Online Worship
Mon.	9:00 am-2:00pm	Summer Musical Camp
Tues.	9:00 am-2:00pm	Summer Musical Camp
Wed.	9:00 am-2:00pm	Summer Musical Camp
	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
Thurs.	9:00 am-2:00pm	Summer Musical Camp
Fri.	9:00 am-2:00pm	Summer Musical Camp
	7:00 pm	Camp Performance (Fellowship Hall)
Sat.		

Counting our Blessings

Sun.	Attendance: 103	2025	
8/3	Offering: \$ 5,666	April Offering Income	\$ 31,766
	Homebound: 15	April Other Income	\$ 3,678
		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: Barbara Mueller, Pat Denk, JoAnn Weiland, 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: Bill Sanner, Linda Sanner, Don Garrish, Peggy Denk, Tammy Geelhaar, JR Kidd, Carol Paulshock, Katherine Fliegel, Elaine Perzan, Debbie McWilliam, 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: Gary Roth, Sr.

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, Barbara Mueller, 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 *Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun* **ELW 557**

(Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.; Music: Francois H. Barthelemon, 1741-1808)

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 God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen

CHILDREN’S SERMON

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God’s promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ² But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵ He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶ And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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

Psalms 33:12-22

¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!
Happy the people chosen to be God’s heritage!
¹³ **The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**

¹⁴ God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.
¹⁵ **God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.**
¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
¹⁷ **The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.**
¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
¹⁹ **to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**
²⁰ Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.
²¹ **Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**
²² Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.


Announcements & Upcoming Events

Next Week— Sunday, August 17th—Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
 † 9 am—Faith + Fellowship
 † 10 am—Worship in-person
and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel
 † 11:30 am—Worship & Music Meeting
 Visit stjohnsparkville.org



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Donald Snyder's 89th birthday with love from his family.


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. Date available is 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.

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.



 **Have you been wondering what the colorful little box is outside of the kitchen entrance?** It's a "Little Free Library!" There are books in there that you can take to enjoy. When you are finished with a book, you can return it or not, either way is fine! We are also looking for donations of books for all ages to keep the library stocked. If you have any books you would like to contribute or have any questions, please see Amanda Hartman.

The Food for Thought Program is gearing up for the 2025-2026 school year. We will again be supporting children at Carney Elementary. **At this time we are in need of: tuna & chicken salad kits, Chef Boyardee single serving meals, applesauce pouches, poparts and pudding cups.** Don't fee like shopping? Monetary donations are always welcome.



Lawrence, deacon, martyr, died 258

Sunday, August 10, 2025

As one of the seven deacons of the church at Rome, Lawrence was responsible for the church's financial matters and for the care of the poor. Asked by the emperor to gather the church's treasure, he presented a collection of orphans, lepers, and the like. The enraged emperor had him put to death.

Clare, Abbess of San Damiano, died 1253

Monday, August 11, 2025

A contemporary of Francis of Assisi, Clare and a growing number of companions established a women's Franciscan community, called the Order of Poor Ladies, or Poor Clares. She inspired other women to pursue spiritual goals.

Florence Nightingale, died 1910; Clara Maass, died 1901; renewers of society

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

Nightingale was born in England, and horrified her wealthy family by deciding to become a nurse. She led a group of nurses in ministering in the midst of the Crimean War, and worked for hospital reform. Maass, a native of New Jersey, was also a war nurse, and volunteered as a subject for research on yellow fever. She died of the disease.

Maximilian Kolbe, died 1941; Kaj Munk, died 1944; martyrs

Thursday, August 14, 2025

Father Kolbe was a Franciscan priest arrested by the Nazis and confined in Auschwitz. Kolbe gave generously of his meager resources, and finally volunteered to be starved to death in place of another man. A Danish Lutheran pastor and playwright, Munk strongly denounced the Nazis who occupied Denmark in the Second World War. His sermons and articles helped to show the anti-Christian nature of the movement.

Mary, Mother of Our Lord

Friday, August 15, 2025

The church (including Martin Luther) honored Mary with the title theotokos, meaning "God-bearer," for her role in giving birth to the Son of God. Her song, the Magnificat, speaks eloquently of God's lifting the lowly and feeding the hungry.

Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Megan Czarski
Crucifer	Jay C.
Acolyte (s)	Landry E.
Lector	Amanda Hartman
Communion Assistant	Amanda Hartman
Dismissal Assistant	Devon W.

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(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 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

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 *What Is the World Like (See insert)* *ACS 1047*

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.

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 *O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee* *Dale Wood*
(© 1993 The Sacred Music Press)

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.)



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 OF MUSIC CAMP PARTICIPANTS

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 *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* *ELW 632*
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.; Music: William Croft, 1678-1727)

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* *Cindy Berry*
(© 2013 Alfred Music)

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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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

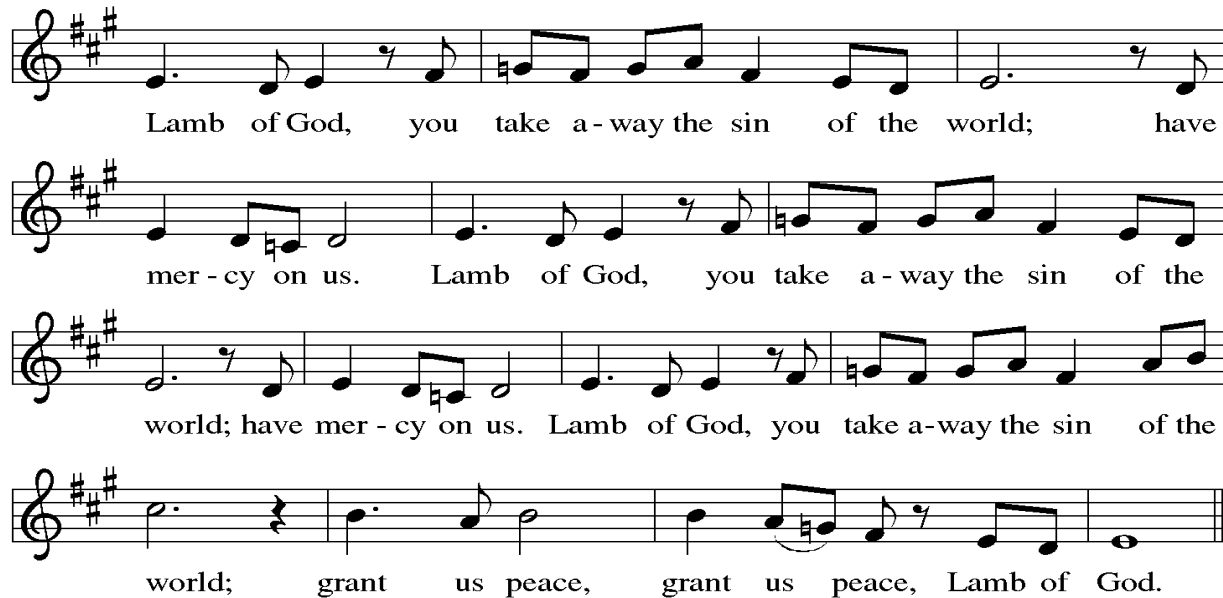
The kingdom of God is set before you.
Eat and rejoice.

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ELW 501

(Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877; Music: Irish tune)

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

ELW 818

(Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.; Music: H. Perry Smith, 1825-1898)

(The assembly remains seated.)

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.

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.)