



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 24, 2025

AS WE GATHER



The word *discipline* is derived from the Latin word *discipulus*, which means “learner.” One of the most interesting documents found among the Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered at Qumran in the Holy Land in 1947, is called *The Manual of Discipline*. It outlined the expectations for new members joining the Essene sect of Jewish men at the time of Jesus. As part of the of their community’s discipline, they were to have evidence in their lives of faithfulness to God, to show justice toward all people, and to love truth and hate falsehood. Their behavior was to reflect that discipline whatever age they were. As our God’s beloved sons and daughters, we are under His loving discipline. May we continue that blessed learning through all the seasons of our lives!

PRELUDE

TOLLING OF THE BELL & WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION HYMN

791 All People That on Earth Do Dwell

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, Sing to the
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; With - out our
3 O en - ter then His gates with praise; Ap - proach with
△ 5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, The God whom

Lord with cheer - ful voice. Him serve with mirth, His
aid He did us make. We are His folk, He
joy His courts un - to. Praise, laud, and bless His
heav'n and earth a - dore, From us and from the

praise forth - tell; Come ye be - fore Him and re - joice.
doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.
name al - ways, For it is seem - ly so to do.
an - gel host Be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the **✝** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel | Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

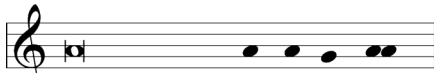
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **✝** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE

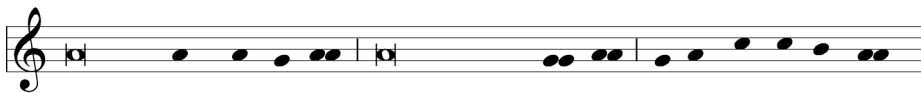
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



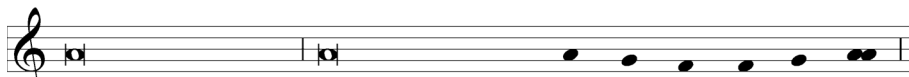
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



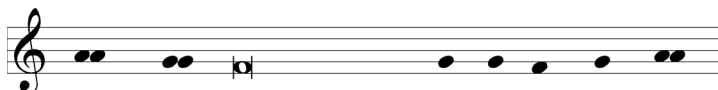
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

FESTIVAL CANTICLE | Gloria in Excelsis

A musical score for a festival canticle, featuring a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The music is written in a modern, accessible style with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, as well as rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The lyrics are: [A] Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. [C] Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord, You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

[A] Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.

[C] Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we

praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You

take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a - lone are the

Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord, You a -

lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 66:18–23

L The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 66.

¹⁸“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. ²¹And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD.

²²“For as the new heavens and the new earth
that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD,
so shall your offspring and your name remain.

²³From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath,
all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

- L** The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- C** **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**
- L** Our God comes; he does not keep silence;
before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty tempest.
- C** **He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:
Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"**
- L** The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge!
- C** **Hear, O my people, and I will speak;
O Israel, I will testify against you.**
- L** I am God, your God.
Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;
your burnt offerings are continually before me.
- C** **I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds.**
- L** For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.
- C** **I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine.**
- L** If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine.
- C** **Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?**
- L** Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows
to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

EPISTLE

Hebrews 12:4–24

- L** The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter 12.

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

"My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
nor be weary when reproved by him.

⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and chastises every son whom he receives."

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

¹⁸For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 13:22–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, ²⁴“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ ²⁶Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ ²⁷But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ ²⁸In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. ²⁹And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. ³⁰And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit



1 The Bride - groom soon will call us, "Come to the wed - ding feast."
 2 There shall we see in glo - ry Our dear Re - deem - er's face;
 3 There God shall from all e - vil For - ev - er make us free,
 4 In that fair home shall nev - er Be si - lent mu - sic's voice;



May slum - ber not be - fall us Nor watch - ful - ness de - crease.
 The long - a - wait - ed sto - ry Of heav'n - ly joy takes place:
 From sin and from the dev - il, From all ad - ver - si - ty,
 With hearts and lips for - ev - er We shall in God re - joice,



May all our lamps be burn - ing With oil e - nough and more
 The pa - tri - archs shall meet us, The proph - ets' ho - ly band;
 From sick - ness, pain, and sad - ness, From trou - bles, cares, and fears,
 While an - gel hosts are rais - ing With saints from great to least



That we, with Him re - turn - ing, May find an o - pen door!
 A - pos - tles, mar - tyrs greet us In that ce - les - tial land.
 And grant us heav'n - ly glad - ness And wipe a - way our tears.
 A might - y hymn for prais - ing The Giv - er of the feast.

Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570; (st. 1): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (sts. 2–4): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
 Tune: Musae Sioniae, 1609, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, ed. Michael Praetorius
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SERMON

The Really Narrow Door

Pastor Mark Stapleton

Stand

APOSTLE'S CREED

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
 And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Kneel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P With You nothing is impossible and the surprise of Your sufficient grace calls us to offer You the prayer and petitions of our hearts, O Lord, to whom we pray.

That the Lord call His elect from all nations and all peoples until the number is complete and the work of Christ is complete and gather us into His eternal presence around His throne of grace, to behold His glory and sing His praise forevermore, let us pray the Lord.

C Hear the prayers of Your people.

P That we hear His call to labor in His vineyard, supplying missionaries and church workers to speak His Word here and everywhere and that we well supply them with the tools and resources to accomplish this work, let us pray to the Lord.

C Hear the prayers of Your people.

P That we extend God's care to those in any need, including those seeking employment, those struggling with disability, and the poor, and that we well supply those in need with the abundant resources God has entrusted into our care, let us pray to the Lord.

C Hear the prayers of Your people.

P That we enjoy the gift of peace, an end to conflict and strife, safety from violence, protection against natural disaster, and an end to fear by trusting in the Lord for all things, let us pray to the Lord.

C Hear the prayers of Your people.

P That the hurting find relief, the sick healing, the dying hope, the grieving comfort, and the mentally ill peace, especially those who have requested our prayers, [*including . . .*], that all those who cry to the Lord receive grace sufficient to their need, let us pray to the Lord.

C Hear the prayers of Your people.

P That we remember with thanksgiving those who died in the Lord and now rest from their labors and that we be kept holy and blameless until that day when the last shall be first and we shall see the Lord face-to-face, let us pray to the Lord.

C Hear the prayers of Your people.

P Through Him, with Him, in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, both now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE



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Stand

OFFERTORY

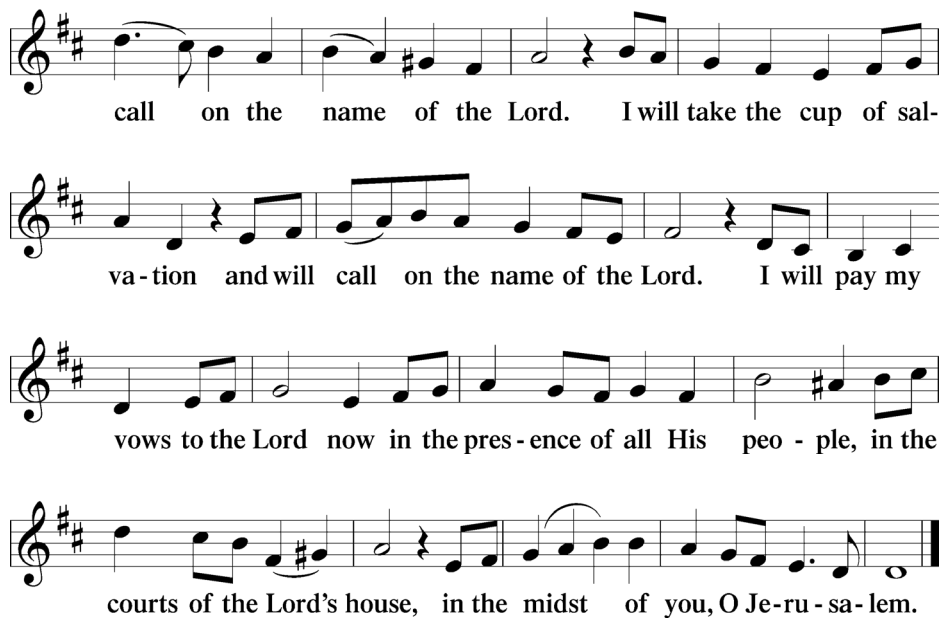
Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C** 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.

BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with
 3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
 joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
 For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
 Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?
 truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist & Liturgist

Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist

Mark Behnke, Lector (8:00am)

Sherrie Smith, Lector (10:45am)

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers at the Altar are given to the Glory of God in memory of our son, Ronald Gallman, Jr., from Ronald and Ruth Gallman.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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CANTATA CHOIR VOICE TRIALS

We are currently holding informal voice trials for those that wish to become a member of the Cantata Choir. This gives us a chance to hear you sing, for proper placement in the choir, and to review the expectations. All voice parts are welcome. A strong commitment to the rehearsal and service schedule is expected. We will hold voice trials on **Sunday, September 7** beginning at **12:15pm -1:15pm** in fifteen-minute increments in the choir room. To sign up, and for more information, please email Marc at m.brunelle@stjohnslagrange.org.

JUBILATION RINGERS

We would like to bring back our handbell choir, but we need your time and talent. If you can read music and commit to the rehearsal schedule, please consider joining us. Rehearsals will take place on Sundays after the 10:45am service beginning on Sunday, September 21. A detailed rehearsal and ringing schedule is available. To sign up, and for more information, please email Marc at m.brunelle@stjohnslagrange.org

I THINK I
NEED HELP
HERE.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

OH SURE. WELL, MEETING
GOD AT MT. SINAI WAS A
GOOD THING, BUT IT WAS
SO FRIGHTENING THAT
SOME COULDN'T STAND IT.



BUT WE ARE MEETING
JESUS, WHO IS
EVERYTHING HE IS A
GIFT BEYOND
IMAGINATION!



SO, TAKE THE
GIFT AND DON'T
BLOW IT?



YEAH,
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.



HEBREWS 12:18-29

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Equipping † Engaging † Encouraging

St. John's Lutheran Church and School

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