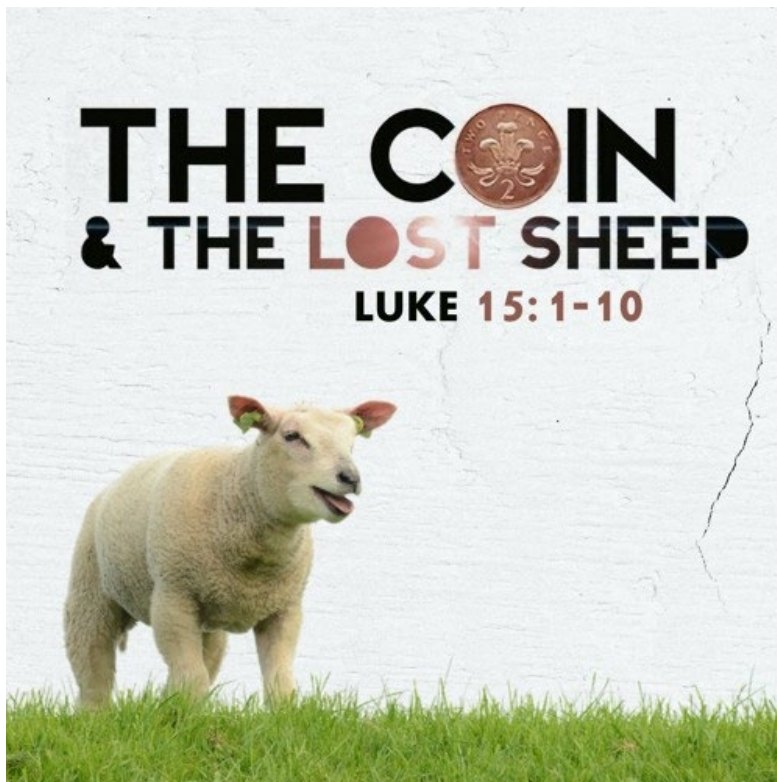




ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ORDER of DIVINE SERVICE



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

AS WE GATHER



The charge against Jesus was always the same—He keeps the wrong company. But Jesus has come for sinners, and if you are not a sinner, He does not have anything for you. To emphasize why He has come, our Lord tells the stories of ninety-nine sheep left behind to find one who is lost and a woman who rejoices over finding one lost coin. You are that lost sheep and lost coin for whom Christ has come and in whom heaven rejoices. Jesus has come for you and for you He has offered Himself upon the cross and been laid in the tomb. This is the heavenly joy of the angels above, and it is our earthly joy as well. Christ came for us!

PRELUDE

Just As I Am | arr. Robert Vandall

TOLLING OF THE BELL & WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION HYMN

974 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -

say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions
grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro -
e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to

live And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is
claim; Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly
way Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His
me; Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these

hope for all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
in these words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
arms that they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
words my soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

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 O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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

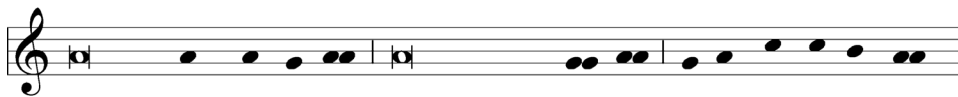
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



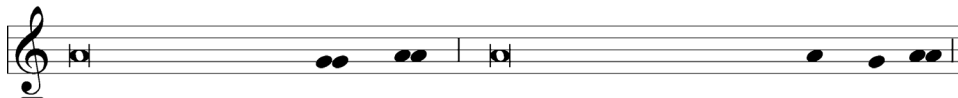
C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



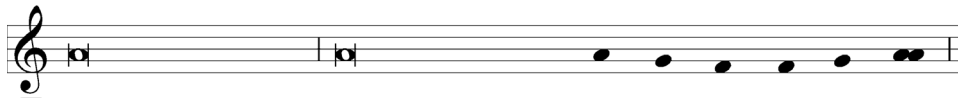
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



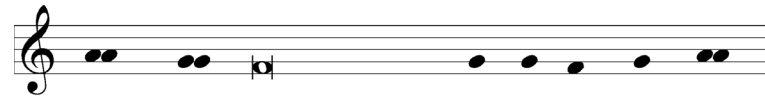
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



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.



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



G Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



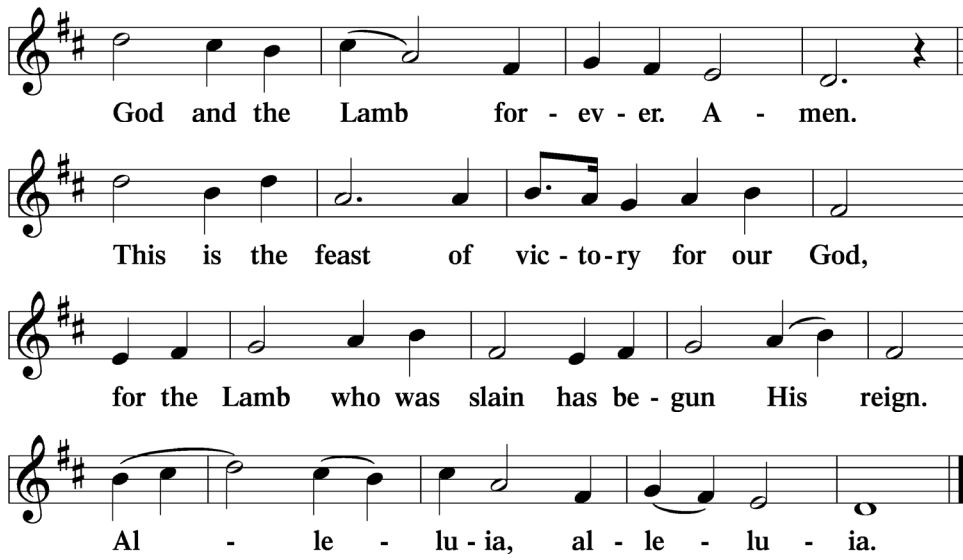
lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:11–24

L The Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, chapter 34.

¹¹For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of

Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

¹⁷“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 119:169–176; antiphon: v. 176

L Let my cry come before you, O LORD;
give me understanding according to your word!

C Let my plea come before you;
deliver me according to your word.

L My lips will pour forth praise,
for you teach me your statutes.

C My tongue will sing of your word,
for all your commandments are right.

- L** Let your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen your precepts.
- C** **I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight.**
- L** Let my soul live and praise you,
and let your just decrees help me.
- C** **I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant,
for I do not forget your commandments.**

EPISTLE

1 Timothy 1:5–17

- L** The Epistle is from 1 Timothy, chapter 1.

⁵The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ⁶Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, ⁷desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

⁸Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, ⁹understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, ¹¹in accordance with the glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

¹²I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1–10

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ⁴“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me
 2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I
 4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He
 walk doth make With - in the paths of
 fear no ill; For Thou art with me,
 of my foes; My head Thou dost with
 fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.
 righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.
 and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.
 oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.
 ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

SERMON

Dear Mrs. Day

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 The Lord says through the His prophet: “I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak.” Confident in the care of our faithful Shepherd, let us bring our thanksgivings, requests, and intercessions before our Father’s throne of grace.

Faithful Shepherd, You are so good to us. Even when we stray from Your presence through disobedience to Your commands, You bring us back into Your presence through the good news that we have received in this time of worship.

C **Grant that we treasure all we possess in the Gospel of Christ.**

P Guiding Shepherd, You lead us with Your mercy that we may dwell in Your presence forever. Salvation is found solely in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Enable us to bring the good news of His life, death, and resurrection to all souls for whom He offered His life.

C **Enable us to open our lips and declare Your wonders to the world.**

P Loving Shepherd, You care for all You have made, for all the world is Yours. Grant that those who are broken in heart, mind, and spirit find refreshment in Your presence. Open our eyes to the needs of our neighbors, for in them we see You.

C **Give us hearts to serve others with the mercy You give to us all.**

P Protecting Shepherd, You guard and bless those who take refuge in You. Watch over the land in which we live, guiding all servants among us to act justly with the wisdom from above. Enable us to dwell in security and peace. Lead all Christians to be people of worship, prayer, and service so that our communities are blessed by You through the works of our hands.

C **Send us out to represent our Savior in all we say and do.**

P Healing Shepherd, You bind up the wounds of those who suffer in both soul and body. [*Today we lift up before You . . .*] Whatever the need and whatever the circumstance, draw Your sheep into the fold of Your care that they receive the healing You desire for them.

C Open our eyes to see Your healing hand at work.

P As sheep who trust in their faithful Shepherd, we bring these prayers, along with all the unspoken prayers of our hearts, before You.

C In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE



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SOLO

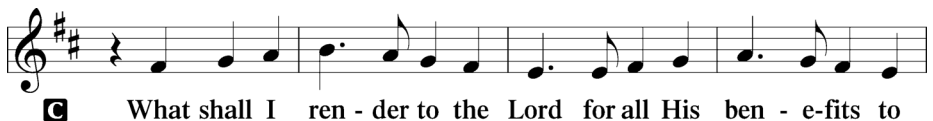
Amazing Grace

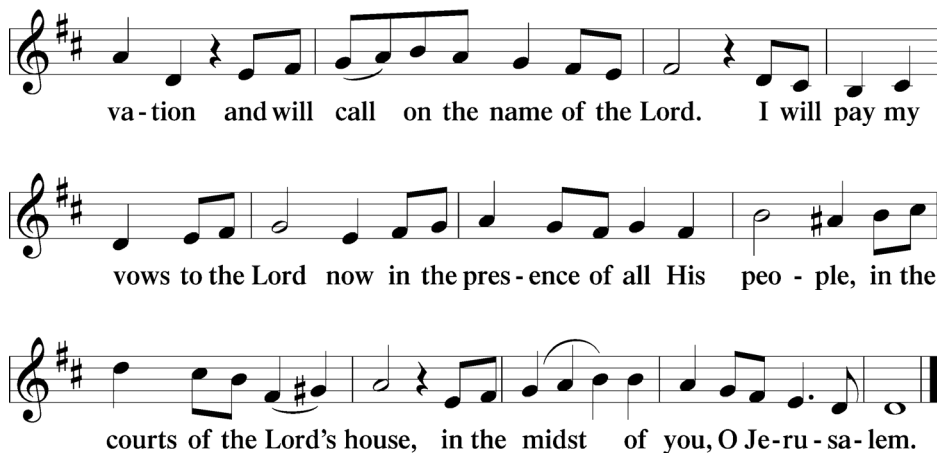
Arr. Robert Vandall

Stand

OFFERTORY

Psalms 116:12–13, 17–19





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 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
 love He sought me And on His shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist & Liturgist

Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist

Sofie Hemminger, Flute

Rebecca Hemminger, Piano

Sue Kunz, Lector (8:00am)

Bruce Smith, Lector (10:45am)



ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the Altar are given by John and Amy Buonassisi for blessings received over 37 years of marriage this September 17.

JUBILATION RINGERS

Rehearsals will take place on Sundays after the 10:45am service beginning on **Sunday, September 28th**. A detailed rehearsal and ringing schedule is available. To sign up, and for more information, please email Marc at m.brunelle@stjohnslagrange.org

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House



BIBLE PASSAGE — Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”



EQUIPPING † ENGAGING † ENCOURAGING

St. John's Lutheran Church and School

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