

DIVINE SERVICE
for the
Sixteenth Sunday
After
PENTECOST

10:00 a.m.

September 28, A.D. 2025



Saint John's Lutheran Church

---- *Missouri Synod* ----

60 Broad Street, Westfield, MA

(413)568-1417

Website: stjohnswestfield.org E-mail: info@stjohnswestfield.org

Radio Broadcast at 7:30 AM on WHYN 560 AM

Rev. David Riley, Senior Pastor

125 Glenwood Drive, Westfield, MA 01085

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Rev. Jeffrey Windoloski, Associate Pastor

Cell phone # 260-445-5320

E-mail: associatepastor@stjohnswestfield.org

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD and SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST!

If you are a visitor or the guest of someone, please sign our Guest Book at the round table in the Foyer. Requests for prayers in this morning's service may be made by writing them on the Prayer Request form in the entryway of the church.

A Nursery for infants and toddlers is available in Room 4 on this level.

The Order of Holy Communion

✠ OPENING HYMN NO. **916**: *"Only-Begotten, the Word of God Eternal"*



1 On - ly - be - got - ten, Word of God e - ter - nal, Lord of cre -
2 Ho - ly this tem - ple where our Lord is dwell - ing; This is none
3 Hear us, O Fa - ther, as we throng Your tem - ple. By Your past
△ 4 God in three per - sons, Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing, Son co - e -



a - tion, mer - ci - ful and might - y: Hear us, Your ser - vants,
oth - er than the gate of heav - en. Ev - er Your chil - dren,
bless - ings, by Your pres - ent boun - ty, Smile on Your chil - dren,
ter - nal, ev - er bless - ed Spir - it: To You be prais - es,



as our tune - ful voic - es Rise in Your pres - ence.
year by year re - joic - ing, Chant in Your tem - ple.
and in grace and mer - cy Hear our pe - ti - tion.
thanks, and ad - o - ra - tion, Glo - ry for - ev - er.

✠ CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

† KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

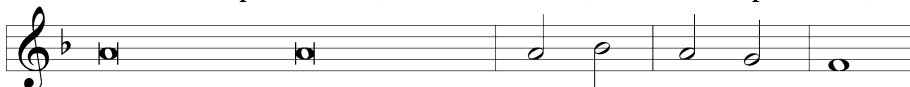
† GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



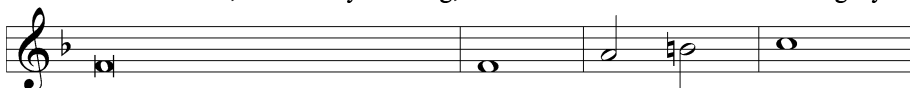
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



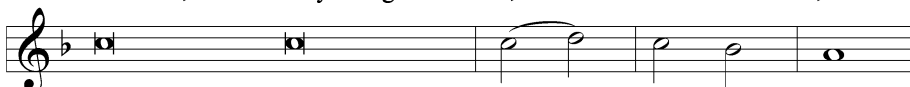
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



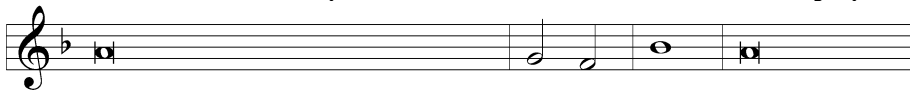
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



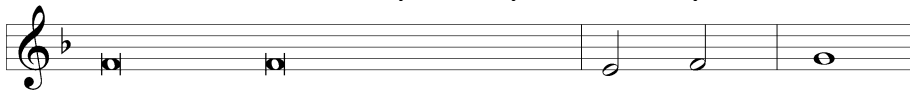
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

✠ SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P: Let us pray. O God, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



☐ A - men.

(Be Seated)

✠ OLD TESTAMENT READING: Amos 6:1-7

“Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria, the notable men of the first of the nations, to whom the house of Israel comes! Pass over to Calneh, and see, and from there go to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines.

Are you better than these kingdoms? Or is their territory greater than your territory, O you who put far away the day of disaster and bring near the seat of violence? "Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and stretch themselves out on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the midst of the stall, who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David invent for themselves instruments of music, who drink wine in bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile, and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

✠ GRADUAL: **He will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.
Bless the Lord, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!**

✠ EPISTLE: 1 Timothy 3:1-13

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

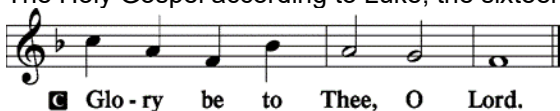
C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)



✠ HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31

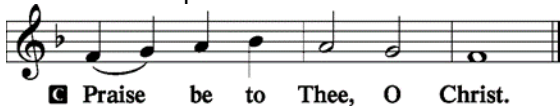
P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the sixteenth chapter.



[Jesus said:] “There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.

And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house—for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



✠ STATEMENT of FAITH: Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, Begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead whose kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Be Seated)

✠ CHILDREN’S SERMON

† SERMON HYMN NO. **708**: *"Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart"*



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and
3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth
all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,
bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were
grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy
in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my
lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false
peace-ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.
doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious
Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my
O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.
Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.
tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

† SERMON

† OFFERING

(Please Stand)

† OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

† PRAYER of the CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord of life, You provide us with daily bread in abundance. Preserve us from the worship of idleness and love of leisure lest we misuse Your gifts to our ruin. Foster in us contentment, righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness and gentleness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, as You once gave Moses and the prophets so that people might hear Your Word, continue to provide pastors and other laborers to make Your Gospel known among the nations. Preserve those who currently serve within Your Church, and raise up more workers to labor in the harvest. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Father in heaven, preserve our homes from idols and sins of idleness. Bless fathers and mothers as they catechize their children, that generations to come might faithfully guard their hearts and rejoice in Your gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, You open the eyes of the blind and lift up those who are bowed down. Hear our prayers on behalf of those in need of Your mercy [*especially _____*]. Provide restoration and deliverance according to Your good and gracious will, and in the time of affliction that is given to them, strengthen their faith that they would cling to Your promises and praise Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, grant that we who commune on Christ's holy body and blood would repent of our sins, trust Christ's full forgiveness, and receive Him for strengthening of our faith and for greater love to serve those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, embolden all faithful Christians here and scattered throughout the world. Grant that we may always make the good confession, even in the midst of persecution. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, we praise Your name for Your faithfulness to Abraham, Lazarus and to all the saints who have gone before us. Enliven us by Your Word and Sacraments, that convinced of Jesus' death and resurrection, we may eagerly await the day of our resurrection for His sake; through Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and singing:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

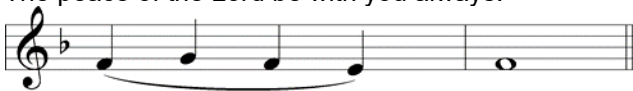
✠ WORDS of INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also, He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

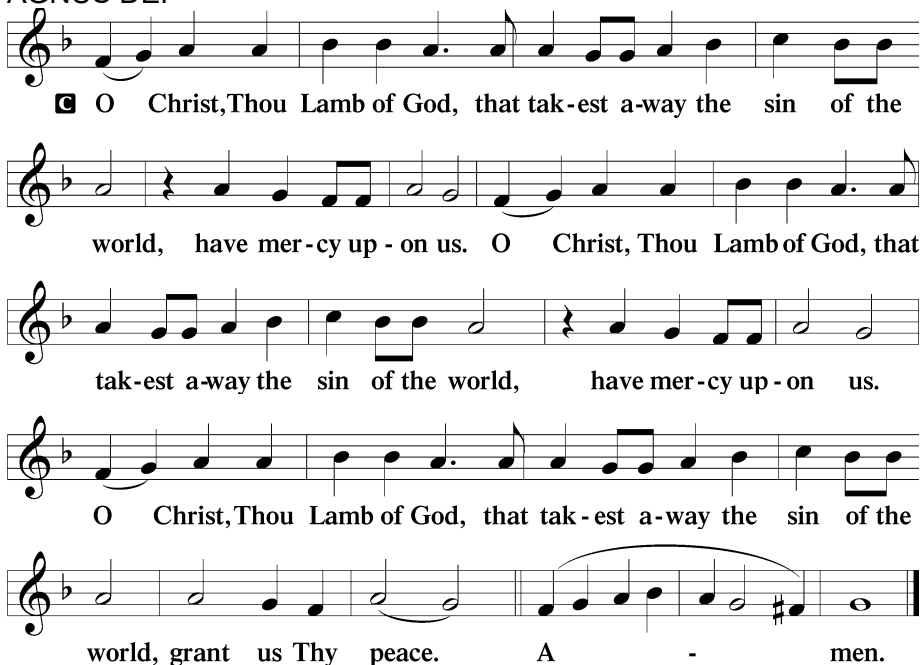
✠ PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

† AGNUS DEI



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

(Be Seated)

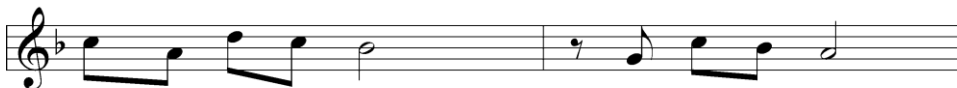
Regarding the Reception of the Lord's Supper

At Saint John's we believe, teach, and confess according to Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions that in the Lord's Supper we receive not merely bread and wine, but the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. This Holy Supper is not only a gift of Christ, but also a confession of the faith and doctrine confessed at this altar. Because Holy Scripture warns that those who eat and drink unworthily do so to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), and because communing together is also an expression of unity in doctrine and confession, we joyfully invite to the Lord's Table all confirmed members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) who are in good standing with their home congregation, who have been instructed and who publicly confess this faith. If you are not a confirmed member of an LCMS congregation, we are thankful for your presence today and warmly invite you to come forward for a blessing, indicating this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor approaches. Following the service and in the coming week, our pastors would be glad to speak with you about the Lord's Supper and to share more about what we believe, teach, and confess in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod."

† DISTRIBUTION HYMN No. **629**: "What Is This Bread?"



1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod - y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood of
3	So	who	am	I,	That	I should
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh,	yes! By
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am for -



ris - en	from the	dead:	This	bread	we	break,
Je - sus	shed	for mine;	The	cup	of	grace
live	and	He should	Un -	der	the	rod?
Word	and	prom - ise	In	mouth	and	soul
giv - en	and	set free!	I	do	be -	lieve



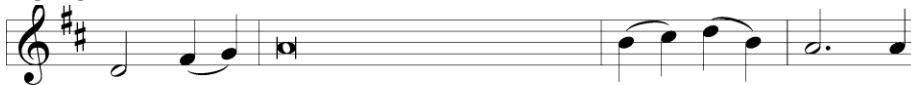
This	life	we	take,	Was	crushed	to	pay	for	our	re -
Brings	His	em -	brace	Of	life	and	love	un -	til	I
My	God,	my	God,	Why	have	You	not	for -	sak -	en
He	makes	us	whole—	Christ,	tru -	ly	pres -	ent	in	this
That	I	re -	ceive	His	ver -	y	bod -	y	and	His



lease.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	peace.
sing!	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	King.
me?	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	free.
meal.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	real.
blood.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	good.

(Please Stand)

† NUNC DIMITTIS



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

✠ THANKSGIVING

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - men.

✠ SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P: Bless we the Lord.



☐ Thanks be to God.

✠ 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.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

✠ CLOSING HYMN NO. 549: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget

The wormwood and the gall,

Go, spread your trophies at His feet

And crown Him Lord of all.

Go, spread your trophies at His feet

And crown Him Lord of all.

**6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.**

**7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.**

† POSTLUDE

Is God Calling You Foolish?

In the Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21), Jesus taught a lesson about the importance of acknowledging God's ownership of our possessions and the damaging effects of being greedy for more. In the parable, Jesus told about a successful farmer who had so much excess grain that he decided to tear down his existing barns to build bigger ones so he would have a place to store it. His sin was not in protecting his investment by building bigger barns. He sinned in his failure to acknowledge God as the provider and owner of all that he had, his indifference to those in need around him, and his greed for more. Because he placed his trust in himself and his possessions instead of God, Jesus called him a "fool." His life was centered only on himself.

The Rich Fool never discovered the real meaning of life. Jesus said, "For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?" (Mark 8:36). The Rich Fool saw his wealth as his own and didn't acknowledge God. He lost all his wealth, which was the focus of his life, and forfeited his soul as well.

In our own lives, are we building bigger barns so that God is calling us fools? Our "barns" may not store grain; they might hold our luxury cars, the mansions we live in, the retirement accounts we're funding. Regardless of what it is we hold dear, if we fail to acknowledge that God is the owner and in control of our lives and if worldly pursuits have become overly important, the label of "fool" is applicable to us. We may not be as rich as the Rich Fool, but we can still be fools.



Lutheran Women in Mission
Mid-Valley Zone

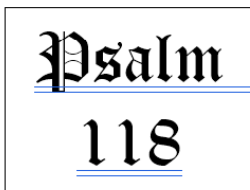
You are cordially invited to join us for the afternoon...

Lutheran Women Fall Rally

Saturday afternoon, Oct. 4th at 1:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
39 Prospect Street, New Hartford, Connecticut

Speaker: Capstone Ministries



Capstone Ministries
*is a ministry to the
street children of
Western Kenya,
specifically Kisumu
and the surrounding
areas.*

COLLECTING FOR "HANDS OF GRACE": shampoo/condi., feminine care products
COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR "CAPSTONE MINISTRIES" (check payable to)

- Bring a friend!
- A light supper following the Program.

LWML / Lutheran Women in Mission is for all LCMS girls and ladies!

What is a Zone? A Zone consists of groups and individual members in the same geographic area united to promote the objects of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League – mission education, mission inspiration, mission service, and mission grants.

LCMS churches of the LWML Mid-Valley Zone:

Manchester, Hebron, East Hampton, Enfield, South Windsor, West Hartford, Terryville, Storrs, Chaplin, Coventry, New Britain, Bristol, Suffield, Granby,
New Hartford, CT, Holyoke, MA, Springfield, MA, Westfield, MA