



Set your mind
on things
that are above

St. John Lutheran Church

August 2 & 3, 2025

St. John Lutheran Church

9th Sunday After Pentecost August 2 & 3, 2025

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS

We welcome you as we gather together to worship our Lord. We pray that you are fed by the richness of His Word and strengthened in this fellowship that you might continue to seek His will for your life. If you are visiting, we are glad that you are with us today. We hope that you will join us again to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

“Vanity Of Vanity!”

CELL PHONES, A GENTLE REMINDER: As a number of us have discovered, cell phones can often ring at the most inappropriate times. If you have your cell phone or pager with you during the Lord's service, please take a moment to ensure that it is turned off or on silent mode in order not to disrupt the service Thank You.

PRAYER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP: Almighty and gracious Lord, prepare my heart to hear Your Word today. Allow me to see the glory You have revealed before me. May I receive Your Word and make it part of my life. Help me also to live according to it so that others may see Your presence in my life. This I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

Prelude & Welcome

Opening Hymn.....# 732

“All Depends On Our Possessing”

Order Of Worship..... Page 203

Introit.....Psalm 147:8-11

Pastor: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!

People: **He covers the heavens with clouds; He prepares rain for the earth; He makes grass grow on the hills.**

Pastor: He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry.

People: **His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor His pleasure in the legs of a man, but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His steadfast love.**

The Kyrie.....Page 204

Gloria In Excelsis.....Page 204

Prayer Of The Day

Almighty and merciful God, it is by Your grace that we live as Your people who offer acceptable service. Grant that we may walk by faith, and not by sight, in the way that leads to eternal life. This we pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament.....Genesis 15:1–6
After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ²But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will You give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “Behold, You have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” ⁴And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” ⁵And He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then He said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” ⁶And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to Him as righteousness.

Leader: The Word of the Lord for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Responsive PsalmPsalm 100
Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!
People: Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.
Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!
People: For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

Epistle Lesson.....Colossians 3:1–11

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. ⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Leader: The Word of the Lord for the People of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia And Verse.....Page 205

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter,
beginning with the 13th verse.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Gospel Lesson.....Luke 12:13–21

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But He said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And He said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶And He told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord for the people of God.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.
Nicene Creed.....Page 206
Children’s Message
Sermon Hymn.....# 782
“Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings”
Sermon
Offertory.....# 805
“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”
Prayers Of The Church & The Lord’s Prayer
Closing Hymn.....# 653
“In Christ There Is No East Or West”

Postlude



The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Gary and Deb Simmons in memory of Patty Erickson. We wish God’s richest blessings on Gary and Deb.

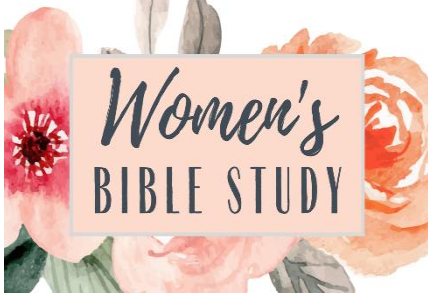
Life Thoughts In The Church Year: The Lord our God has made human lives His business (Psalm 100:3; Luke 13:20). That makes the sanctity of every human life the Church’s business. Crucified and ascended Jesus Christ invites us to press even death into service – never the death of the neighbor’s body, but rather the death of the sinful and selfish desires (Colossians 3:5) that lie behind abortion and assisted suicide.

Life Quotes: “God isn’t a page in your book, you’re part of His. And He’s delighted to have you in the family.” *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, The Lutheran Hour – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Faith in Christ Is Rich Toward God

To live for earthly things “is vanity and a striving after wind,” and work that is driven by such vanity “is an unhappy business” (Ecclesiastes 1:13–14). The man who lives like that has nothing to show for “all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun ... all his days are full of sorrow” (Ecclesiastes 2:22–23). So, too, your “covetousness, which is idolatry” (Colossians 3:5), makes

a god out of that which cannot give you life or happiness. For "one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15). But "Christ who is your life" (Colossians 3:4), in giving you Himself, gives you all the wealth of heaven. Instead of striving to lay up treasures for yourself, be "rich toward God" in Him (Luke 12:21).



Altar Flowers: The flower chart for 2025 is up and waiting on you to reserve your special day! If you would like to place flowers on the altar for an Anniversary, Birthday, Memorial or other special occasion, please remember to sign up on the "Flower Chart." Please sign your name and the special occasion. The cost is \$75.00 for both arrangements. It is permissible to have more than one person sign up for a Sunday and split the cost. You can also call the office at 580-353-0556 and Sandra will sign you up. The dates that are available are August 13, September 7, November 16, 23, 30 and December 14.

Attention, Ladies! Have you been searching for a Women's Bible Study group that meets during the week? Well, look no further. We will begin a study of Psalms by utilizing the book Everlasting written by Christina Hergenrader. We will meet on Wednesdays, beginning on **August 20th, at 11 a.m. in the LWML room.** The cost of the book is \$19, and Sandra will order them for us. If you are interested, sign up on the credenza in the narthex. Feel free to bring your lunch and a friend! *"Sweet friendships refresh the soul and awaken our hearts with joy." Psalm 27:9.*



Attention Bibliophiles! Book Club will meet Tuesday, August 5, 5:30 p.m., at Olive Garden. Our summer selection is **Beneath a Scarlet Sky** by Mark Sullivan. Didn't read the book?? No problem! Just bring a Bible verse that you would like to share with the group! Hope to see you there...



Ladies of St. John: Please join us in fellowship as we begin our monthly LWML meetings again (Lutheran

Women in Mission); We meet each month on the 2nd Tuesday now through May. Our August 12th meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. and we will enjoy getting to know each other better through a new Secret Sister program. Even if you haven't attended before, we invite women of all ages to join us for some female companionship and a Bible study along with light refreshments. Hostesses are Jacque & Susie and a devotion will be presented by Barb, "The Chocolate Life" by Deb Burma. Sound fun? It is! Come see what we do and learn more about our mission focused women.



LWML SPECIAL COLLECTIONS for LAWTON FOOD BANK: For the months of August and September, the LWML ladies' are coordinating collections for the Lawton Food Bank. We will be asking for donation of **toys** for Christmas-time delivery as well as **boxed foods**. Boxed foods can consist of anything in a box, such as Hamburger Helper,

mac and cheese, cereal, oatmeal, rice, pasta, other boxed meals, etc. Please place items in the collection boxes in the back of the sanctuary. **NOTE:** food items may not be previously opened or be past the expiration date on the box. Any opened and expired foods will be disposed of. Thank you in advance for your support of the Lawton Food Bank.



Lutheran Women *in Mission*



Help Us Update Our Prayer List.

We know things change over time.

Help us to keep our prayer list up to date. If those we have been praying for are recovered to the point they may be taken off the list, please let us know. Thank you.



Please note for security reasons if you come into the church from the north door or the kitchen and there are people in the office please make them feel safe and announce yourself.

Please note that the church has a new email address:

churchsecretary@stjohnlawton.com



Memorial Services for Ron Ramming will be Saturday, August 23rd at St. John Lutheran Church.

Memory Verse Challenge: The church confesses to Christ, “You have the words of eternal life” (John 6:68). The church is encouraged to “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly ...” (Colossians 3:16). Psalm 1 teaches us to meditate on God’s Word day and night. It is our great opportunity and joy to read and study God’s Word. One beneficial practice is to memorize the Scriptures and, in so doing, to meditate on it. . You can also find the Memory Verse for the week on the St. John website Homepage. **This week’s memory verse:**

A photograph of a man and a young girl sitting outdoors, reading a book together. The man is wearing a pink shirt and the girl is wearing a blue shirt. They are both looking down at the book. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and grass.

MEMORY VERSE

And these words that
I command you today
shall be on your heart.
You shall teach them
diligently to your chil-
dren, and shall talk of
them when you sit in
your house, and when
you walk by the way,
and when you lie down,
and when you rise.

DEUTERONOMY 6:6-7



lcms.org

†St. John Lutheran Prayer List †

Health Concerns

+Lori Anderson	+Greg Lord
+Lowell Ambrose	+Chuck Martin
+Amy Armstrong	+Craig McDonald
+Richard Armstrong	+Alice Mills
+Larry Baas	+Martha Mindemann-Nunn
+Lindel Bevill	+Amy Moeller
+Laura Craig	+Barbara Moore
+Bobby Curry	+Melody Morris
+Virgil Dinse	+Jay Payne
+Doug Dunnick	+Christopher Penton
+Jade Ellis	+Rose Penton
+Ruth Farrelly	+Lynette Ranz
+Denise Garrison	+John Selk
+Ronnie Gibson	+Slade Slater
+Stephanie Glazener	+David Spear
+Mike Green	+Matthew Streit
+Avery Hall	+David Stroud
+Judy Huffman	+Tina Styron
+Paula Hughes	+Chuck Yackeyonny
+Sarah Jones	+Grace Vincent
+Christine Kinard	+Sandra Ward
+Davis Lander	+Juanita Zacharias

The Payne's & Tanzania Ministry

The Steffenson's & Italy Ministry

Our Homebound Members

Military

+Jake Czelusniak
 +Joshua Darling
 +Chaplain Robert Kraft & Family
 +Anthony Payne
 +Austin Payne
 +Jonathen Van Bebber
 +Drew Ward

Seminary

+Michael Wilke



SERVING THE LORD

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Saturday

6:00 p.m.

Sunday

10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL and BIBLE STUDY:

9:30 a.m.

Communion is celebrated on 1st & 3rd weekends of each month.

ELDER FOR THE MONTH:

Don Greb

SATURDAY NIGHT ELDER:

John Selk

ALTAR GUILD:

TRUSTEE FOR THE MONTH:

Grady Greene

COUNTER:

Linda Mashburn

LECTOR:

Mike Dodds

ORGANISTS:

Saturday: Elaine Boatsman

Sunday: Barb Schneider

July 26, 2025 Attendance	14
July 27, 2025 Attendance	85
Needed weekly to meet budget.....	\$5,600

Giving opportunities. St. John Lutheran now has several ways to give your offerings. You can now use the QR Code on this page. You can also go to our new and improved website: stjohnlutheranlawton.com and find several giving opportunities. Of course, you can still give by using your offering envelopes for 2025 and we also still have electronic giving.



Announcements! In order to ensure that announcements are included in the weekly bulletin please have them into the office by Thursday at 1 p.m. We want to help you get the word out. Our office hours are Monday – Friday 9 a.m. till 3 p.m. with an hour lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS

The Church is a living organism made up of all its members. Each member has a vital role to fulfill within the body of the Church. The Lord has brought the members of the Church body together for the purpose of ministry. That ministry is diverse and is only able to be completed when every portion of the body participates and fulfills the role God has established for them. YOU are an important member of the Church, which is the body of Christ. If YOU don't do your part, who will?



The Lutheran Hour can be heard every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. on K-LAW 101.3 FM. You can also download The Lutheran Hour app for free and listen anytime, anywhere. Find it on the Apple app store, the Amazon Kindle Fire and on Google Play. Or simply listen on your desktop, tablet or smartphone at lutheranhour.org.

St. John Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

**To seek the lost, nurture the faithful, and show
compassion to all as we shine the light of
Christ!**

St. John Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



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Home: 580-355-1250

Ministers:
The members of
St. John Lutheran Church

Office: 580-353-0556

Preschool: 580-280-2580

www.stjohnlawton.com

