



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**,  
welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

### **AS WE GATHER**

“You shall teach them diligently to your children, 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 6:7) Teaching, and learning, God’s Word is something we should be doing every day. Jesus is the heart of the Bible; today we ask Him to be the heart of our teaching and learning. Teaching Christ is a privilege for each teacher in class, every parent at home, and all of us as we seek to teach others of our Lord by word and deed. Jesus is the heart of our teaching, and our prayer is that the Holy Spirit would open our hearts.

### **WELCOME & INVOCATION**

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

- P** We gather in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### **INSTALLATION OF ANNELIESE PLYLER AS CALLED TEACHER**

- P** Beloved in the Lord, according to the Church’s usual order, Anneliese has been called to the office of teacher at St. John Lutheran School. This office has been established in love to support the ongoing ministry of the Church and to assist and strengthen Christian fathers and mothers in their God-given responsibility to bring up their children in the nurture and instruction of the Lord. Anneliese has been prepared for this office by prayer and study. She has been examined and declared ready to undertake this sacred responsibility and public trust. I now ask you:
- P** Do you believe and confess the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
- R** *Yes, I believe and confess the canonical Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.*
- P** Do you believe and confess the three Ecumenical Creeds, namely, the Apostles’, the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds, as faithful testimonies to the truth of the Holy Scriptures?
- R** *Yes, I believe and confess the three Ecumenical Creeds because they are in accord with the Word of God.*
- P** Do you confess the Lutheran Confessions, as contained in the Book of Concord, to be a true exposition of Holy Scripture and a correct exhibition of the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church?
- R** *Yes, I make these Confessions my own because they are in accord with the Word of God.*
- P** Do you solemnly promise faithfully to serve God’s people in the office of teacher in accordance with Holy Scripture and with these Confessions?
- R** *Yes, I promise, with the help of God.*
- P** Will you, trusting in God’s care, seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills, and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ with a godly life?
- R** *Yes, I promise, with the help of God.*

*Teachers and Staff come forward*

- P** Brothers and sisters in Christ, fellow teachers and staff of St. John, you have heard the confession and solemn promise of Anneliese, who has been called to the Office of Teacher in the Church. I ask you now, in the presence of God: Will you receive her, show her fitting love and honor, and support her by your gifts and fervent prayer? If so, then answer: We will, with the help of God.
- C** **We will, with the help of God.**
- P** Anneliese Plyler, I commission you to the office of teacher and install you at St. John Lutheran School in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

## COMMISSIONING OF TEACHERS

- P** Hear the words of Jesus as recorded in Matthew 28: “Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the earth.’” And again in Mark 10:14: (Jesus said) “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.”
- P** Will you take every opportunity to respectfully share the hope that is in you through Jesus Christ with your students and their families?
- R** *Yes, with the help of God.*
- P** Will you faithfully pray for the students entrusted to you, asking God to grant them safety, the will to learn, and an ongoing experience of His love?
- R** *Yes, with the help of God.*
- P** Will you continually lift up, encourage and inspire one another as you serve the Lord, *connected in Christ?*
- R** *Yes, with the help of God.*
- P** We pray: Lord God, Heavenly Father, You have called us to service as teachers and staff at St. John Lutheran School. We give thanks for Your love and mercy in our lives. Guide us, protect us, and use us to be a blessing especially to those you have entrusted to our care and teaching, as we share Your words of eternal life in all we do, and say. Bless those who will hear our words and receive our service in Jesus. Help us to lift up, encourage and inspire one another as we carry out Your mission of making disciples in Your name. Remind us that You are always with us, even to the end of the age. In Your name we pray,
- C** **Amen.**
- P** May God bless us now and forever in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Go in peace and serve the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN: “SEEK YE FIRST”

LSB 712



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God, And His  
 2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you, Seek and  
 3 Man does not live by bread a - lone, But by



right - teous - ness. And all these things shall be  
 ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be  
 ev - 'ry word That pro - ceeds from the



add - ed un - to you! Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
 o - pened un - to you, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
 mouth of the Lord, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Karen Lafferty, 1948

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## CONNECTED IN CHRIST LITANY

- P** Jesus said, "I am the vine,"  
**C** **and we are the branches.**  
**P** We are connected in Christ our Savior,  
**C** **to be set free from sin.**  
**P** Connected in Christ our Teacher,  
**C** **to be His disciples.**  
**P** Connected into the love of Christ,  
**C** **to overflow with joy.**  
**P** Connected in Christ the vine,  
**C** **to produce much fruit.**  
**P** Jesus said, "I am the vine,"  
**C** **and we are the branches, connected in Christ.**



## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*1 John 1:8-9; John 20:19-23*

- P** God's Word tells us, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."**

*Silence for reflection.*

- 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**  
**P** Let us pray together:  
**C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Deuteronomy 6:4–13*

<sup>4</sup>“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup>You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. <sup>6</sup>And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. <sup>7</sup>You shall teach them diligently to your children, 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. <sup>8</sup>You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup>You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

*2 Timothy 3:14–4:5*

<sup>14</sup>As for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it <sup>15</sup>and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

<sup>1</sup>I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

<sup>10</sup>“And when the LORD your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you— with great and good cities that you did not build, <sup>11</sup>and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant— and when you eat and are full, <sup>12</sup>then take care lest you forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. <sup>13</sup>It is the LORD your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear.

dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: <sup>2</sup>preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. <sup>3</sup>For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 15:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. <sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

## APOSTLES' 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.**

**ST. JOHN STUDENTS SING**

*Brothers and Sisters in Christ*

1 Sing Alleluia! Amen!  
 Let your prayers and your praises ascend.  
 Lift up your voices and sing  
 to our Lord God, our Savior, our King!  
 Here brought together by grace,  
 we are gathered as friends in this place.

2 Man walked alone and in need,  
 without faith, hope or promise or creed;  
 wandering aimlessly lost  
 unaware of the staggering cost;  
 that God in his mercy would save  
 all his people from death and the grave.  
*Refrain*

*Refrain* And assembled as one,  
 in the name of the Son,  
 lifting hearts, lifting hands,  
 celebrating as friends,  
 and proclaiming the Lord,  
 all our praises afford.  
 We are brothers and sisters in Christ.

3 Lord, teach us how to proclaim  
 all your goodness, your love and your name!  
 Lord, teach us how to forgive,  
 and in love, teach us Lord, how to live.  
 Raising our voices in song,  
 help us tell all the world we belong. *Refrain*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**HYMN: "ABIDE WITH ME"**

LSB 878



1 A - bid e with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
 6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid e.  
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
 Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
 Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bid e with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bid e with me.  
 I tri - umph still if Thou a - bid e with me!  
 In life, in death, O Lord, a - bid e with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.  
 Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**SERMON**

**Main Points:**

**One thing NEW I learned:**

**What can I apply to my life?**

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

**P** Let us pray:

**C** **O Lord, our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** With humble hearts, Lord, we bring You our prayers. We remember Your acts of kindness to Your people through the ages. We bless You that we have come to know the Good News of the salvation that is ours in Jesus Christ. We praise You for the Church, which has transmitted the blessed Gospel to us, and we pray that it would grow unhindered in every place. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for the world in which we live, that world to which our Lord was willing to come to carry out the plan of salvation. Grant that peace and justice, understanding and harmony, and goodwill prevail all over the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for all those who are involved in Christian education: teachers, administrators, church workers, and volunteers. Give us a full appreciation of the gift that each person is who shares the faith today and who has shared it in the past. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for those with special needs and concerns in these days, remembering the sick, the shut-in, and the hospitalized and other situations as well, [*especially . . .*]. From Your treasury of grace, meet the needs of all who call to You, granting them whatever is best for their lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** With gratefulness, we remember Your saints of all time, including those who have instructed and guided us and all those we hold dear in our hearts. Grant that we be inspired by their faithful witness and seek to serve You constantly all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

### LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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

*Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 212*

**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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

## HYMN: "EARTH AND ALL STARS"

LSB 817



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets! Sing to the  
3 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals! Sing to the  
5 Class - rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes! Sing to the  
6 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom! Sing to the  
7 Chil - dren of God, Dy - ing and ris - ing, Sing to the



Lord a new song! Oh, vic - to - ry! Loud shout - ing  
Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming  
Lord a new song! Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing  
Lord a new song! Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing  
Lord a new song! Heav - en and earth, Hosts ev - er -



ar - my! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
cel - los! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
peo - ple! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
mem - bers! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
last - ing, Sing to the Lord a new song!



*Refrain*  
He has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too will praise Him with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–87

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## School Open House

- After worship today we invite parents, students & church members to visit the school classrooms **before** going to the picnic.

## Directions for the Picnic

- Head outside through our **main entrance**. (other doors will be used by picnic volunteers)
- Follow the **arrows** around the building, on the sidewalk, to the back of the gym.
- Get some food, enjoy some games and hang-out under the tents!

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## St. John Lutheran School 2022-2023 Staff

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Pastor</b>                   | Michael Borgstede  |
| <b>Administrator</b>            | Katie Gundell  |
| <b>Administrative Assistant</b> | Terrie Licht   |
| <b>Pre-K 3</b>                  | Katie Marzano  |
| <b>Pre-K 4</b>                  | Jessica Chambers   |
| <b>Kindergarten</b>             | Heidi Sue McCormick  |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>     | Adrienne Orłowski  |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>     | Kathleen Ward  |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>     | Julianne Kropczynski   |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>     | Kristy Messing   |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>     | Anneliese Plyler   |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>     | Connie Craig (Math, History)   |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>     | Rick Lyons (Science, Religion, History, PE)  |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>     | Erica Redmond (ELA, History, Life Skills)  |
| <b>Instrumental/Band</b>        | Dave Manth   |
| <b>Piano</b>                    | Steve Parisi   |
| <b>Choirs</b>                   | Katie Gundell, Lacey Bahr, Bill Cook   |
| <b>K-5 PE</b>                   | Sal Ciffa  |
| <b>Art</b>                      | Bonnie Nevans  |
| <b>Spanish</b>                  | Anastacia Minniefield  |
| <b>A.I.S.</b>                   | Taylor Huff  |
| <b>Teacher Assistants</b>       | Katelyn Pantano, Bekah Borgstede, Valerie Nicholas, Mary Redding, Melanie Richards |
| <b>Latchkey Director</b>        | Valerie Nicholas   |
| <b>Latchkey Assistants</b>      | Donna Black, Virginia Markel, Sandy Watt, Jane Schulz, Mary Redding                |
| <b>Lunch Director</b>           | Sandra Gannon  |



*He is the Vine*  
**WE ARE THE BRANCHES**  
JOHN 15



*St. John Lutheran*  
2023-2024

**St. John Lutheran School**

*Established 1846*

*Nurturing children academically and spiritually toward a life of witness and service in Christ.*