

Welcome to Worship

St. John's Evangelical
Lutheran Church

July 13, 2025



CHURCH: 419-293-3445

Pastor: SAM Paul Brooks - 419-722-8625

SJLCMcComb@gmail.com

and Rev. Ken Pollitz

5th Sunday of Pentecost

July 13, 2025

Welcome: Thank you to those who join us for Worship. We hope you will be blessed as we pray and sing together, as we hear God's Word read and proclaimed. We gather as equals in the sight of God, who loves us, forgives us, and is WITH US. Peace be with you.

Serving at Worship Today:

READER: Lori McDaniel

ACCOMPANIST: Linda Ross

*Worship
Assistants*

Your Servant Leaders:

Worship Leader: SAM Paul Brooks, [419-722-8625](tel:419-722-8625)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Dave Sharninghouse, 419-293-2322 Hm.
419-429-2391 Cell

NWOS BISHOP: The Rev. Daniel Beaudoin

ELCA BISHOP: The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton

St. John's email address: SJLCMcComb@gmail.com

St. John's Facebook page: <https://facebook.com/SJLCMcComb>

Attendance Last Sunday: 15

Offering Last Sunday: \$647.00

Direct Deposit: \$20.00

Mile of Pennies: \$20.00

Prayers for the people affected by all the recent flooding: We need to continually pray for these people so they can receive the help they need. People have lost everything they own, their homes, car, clothes, just everything. They have also been hit hard with flooding in that area again as well. Please, pray for them.

Food Pantry for July: We would like to collect Bar Soap and Body Wash/Shower Gels. For August we would like to collect Cake Mixes & Frostings. Thank you to everyone that helped with the contributions in June.

Order of Worship

Sunday, July 13, 2025

God is glad you have joined us for worship today. At the symbol ✠ assembly members may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked upon us at baptism.

**please stand, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER REQUESTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Loving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to love like Jesus."

THE GREETING

Leader: the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **ALL: and also with you.**

***GATHERING HYMN #712** LORD, WHOSE LOVE IN HUMBLE SERVICE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

Leader: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: Merciful God,

ALL: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

Leader: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

ALL: Amen.

* KYRIE

Leader: In Peace let us pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, have mercy.**


Leader: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise. **ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **ALL: Amen.**


* CANTICLE OF PRAISE

GLORY TO GOD

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



I 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.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 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.



Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 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.



Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leader: Let us join our hearts and voices together in the Prayer of the Day.

ALL: O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

DEUTERONOMY 30:9-14

Reader: The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, ¹⁰ when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

¹¹ Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. ¹² It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" ¹³ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" ¹⁴ No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 25:1-10

Reader: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

ALL: My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Reader: Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

ALL: Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

Reader: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have trusted all the day long.

ALL: Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

Reader: Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

ALL: You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

Reader: You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

ALL: All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

Reader: Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ²To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶ that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷ This you learned from

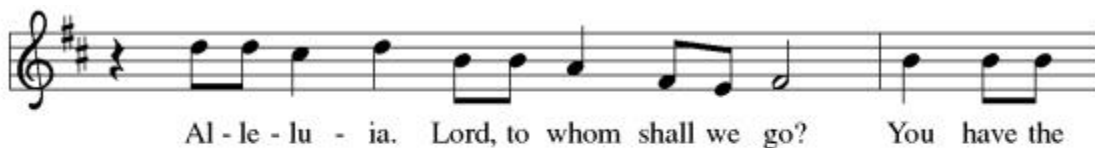
Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸ and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 3 #142



*GOSPEL READING

LUKE 10:25-37

Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Luke chapter 10. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: ²⁵ Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” ²⁷ He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸ And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹ But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” ³⁷ He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Leader: The gospel of the Lord. **ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #886

OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

ALL: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION**

Prayer Leader: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: Saving God, awaken your church to your truth as it follows your path of love. Encourage pastors, deacons, teachers, and seminarians, and lead them as they seek to learn your ways. God of grace,
ALL: hear our prayer.

Prayer Leader: Prosper the harvests of fruit-bearing bushes, trees, and plants. Uphold farmers and farm workers as they labor through summer days, and bring relief to lands that are parched with heat. God of grace,
ALL: hear our prayer.

Prayer Leader: Instill in leaders of the world a strong love for their neighbors. Compel them to govern with equity and to give aid and protection to people who are vulnerable, especially strangers, migrants, and asylum seekers. God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Draw near to people in need of help, comfort, and healing. Provide protection and aid to children who are unsafe and undernourished while on summer break. Hear our prayers for those close to our hearts - Jo, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene Eva, Eric, Lisa, Don, Ashley, Mary, Pat, Kelli, Gordon, Ellery, Ari, Josh, Eloise, Rose Marie, Mike, Nancy, John, Becky, JoLynn, Rick, Emily, Carl, Jim, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Amy, Nickie, Eli, Riley, Mr. Doherty, Ron, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Laura, Michael, and Cindy. Carry your people when grief is heavy, and lift burdens of shame and self-doubt. God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: We give you thanks for all who have gone before us and have made your love known. Help us to follow their witness as we await our share in the inheritance of the saints. Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayers and hopes in you, in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray together saying,

***THE PRAYER OUR LORD TAUGHT US**

**All: 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**



*SHARING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Please share God's peace with those worshiping around you.

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

Leader: Trusting in the almighty power of our God, let us present our tithes and offerings to the God who can take them and mold them and turn them into amazing signs of love and mercy through us.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

*OFFERING PRAYER

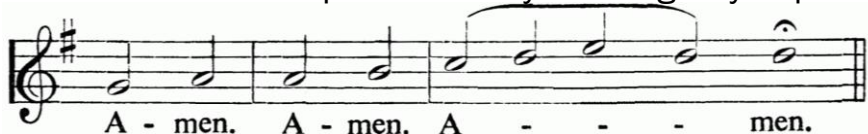
Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

*BLESSING

Leader: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

*The Amen



*SENDING HYMN #856

HOW GREAT THOU HEART

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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Sermon Notes

Write 3 teachings or ideas you heard in today's sermon:

1.

2.

3.

Something I might do to put this sermon into practice.

Write a brief prayer relating to the sermon.

Calendar of Events:

Sun. July 20 – 8:00 A.M. Worship Service

Sun. July 20– 9:30 A.M. Adult Sunday School

July – No Council Meeting – No Newsletter in Aug. - July & Aug. was combined

Readers for July & Aug:

July 20 – Carol Cary

July 27 – Linda Ross

Aug. 3 - David Sharninghouse

Aug. 10 - Lori McDaniel

In Our Prayers: John Sharninghouse, Gary Kern, Paul & Sue Maki, Betty Hornbeck, David Cary, LuAnn Beverly, Colene Shoop, Eva George, Eric & Lisa Kreh, Don Edler, Ashley Edler, Brandt Edler, Mary Scroll, Pat Newell, Gordon Myers & Bobby Moore, Jim Cary, Ari & Josh, Linda Hoops. Pray also for the victims of all natural disasters, our shut-ins, others absent from our worship this morning, all who grieve, and all others with special needs.

AVBS: We had a great Adult Vacation Bible School this past week. We had 14 people the first night, we sang songs, prayed and had snacks, and then we dove into our theme “Steps of Faith, Trust and Love” and after that we had the guest speakers. Linda Ross did a great job getting speaker for the Community Enrichment part of our 11th annual Adult Vacation Bible School. It was truly a joy to hear from these people.

Christian Condolences: To Carol Cary’s cousin Tim Smith of Marion. Stephanie, his wife went to be with her Holy Father on Saturday, July 5. Stephanie was diagnosed with brain cancer earlier this year. She was a member of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Marion, Ohio.

Birthday Cards: There are four cards to sign at the back of the church. Please sign all of them so I can get them in the mail. Thank You!



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

U.S. FLOODING LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

ELCA.org/flooding

In the face of disaster, the ELCA, through Lutheran Disaster Response, shares relief today and builds resilience for tomorrow.

Flooding is one of the most common natural disasters in the United States. Across the country, we support communities as they recover from devastating floodwaters. LDR works with synods and partners to respond to urgent needs, give emotional and spiritual care, support long-term recovery (including disaster case management and meeting unmet needs), and provide educational training for synods and partners in affected regions.

Lutheran Disaster Response works through strong partnerships with ELCA synods, congregations and other organizations. We recognize that every disaster is local and responses need to be rooted in community. Our partners know their communities the best and can address local needs.

Your gifts to LDR support our church's work to share healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disaster. Together we can reflect Christ's light and hope to our neighbors in their time of need. Give today to support survivors in the United States and around the world, wherever and whenever a disaster may strike.

.....

YES, I WANT TO HELP!

☐ Lutheran Disaster Response \$ _____ DDG0060
☐ U.S. Flooding \$ _____ DDG0069

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Scan to
give online



Give through your congregation, by phone (800-638-3522) or by mail. Checks or money orders can be mailed to
**Lutheran Disaster Response, P.O. Box 1809,
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.**

Who Are You?

Who do you identify with in the parable? This is part of what makes parables so powerful. Some days we read the story through the eyes of the priest or the Levite. Some days we feel like the Samaritan. And then there are those days when we are the man in the ditch. Some days you are the windshield and some days you are the bug, as the saying goes.

It is easy to miss the shocking nature of this parable if we start to think that this story only teaches us to imitate the Samaritan. The parable says so much more about God, our relationship to God, and the lengths to which God will go to reach out to us.

Through the image of the Samaritan, Jesus lifts up a surprising rescuer as an image of the God who relentlessly cares for those in need. Could it be that we are meant to identify not with the Samaritan or even the lawyer to whom Jesus speaks the parable, but rather with the man who is hopeless and left for dead? Could it be that Christ is the good Samaritan who embraces us with the tender compassion of God?

All of the sudden the parable is turned on its head. Jesus is not just giving us a comfortable morality tale reminding us to be nice, helpful, generous people. Instead, Jesus is proclaiming the good news of the kingdom. God's grace comes to us through the cross. God's grace comes to us even—and especially—when we are at our worst, when we struggle in the depths and cry out for help. Even when we cannot or will not cry out, mercy and grace come into our lives through Jesus. So whether you are on the road or in the ditch, Jesus even now is coming for you.



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