

Welcome to Worship

St. John's Evangelical
Lutheran Church

July 20, 2025



CHURCH: 419-293-3445

SJLCMcComb@gmail.com

Pastor: SAM Paul Brooks - 419-722-8625

and Rev. Ken Pollitz

6th Sunday of Pentecost

July 20, 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: Carol Cary

ACCOMPANIST: Linda Ross

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: 12

Offering Last Sunday: \$360.00

Direct Deposit: \$20.00

Mile of Pennies: \$0.00

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.

*Worship
Assistants*

Order of Worship

Sunday, July 20, 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 #742

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

*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, let us pray to the Lord. **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: Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 18:1-10A

Reader: The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” ^{10a} Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 15

Reader: LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

ALL: Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;

Reader: they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

ALL: In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

Reader: They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

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

SECOND READING

COLOSSIANS 1:15-28

Reader: Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—²³ provided that

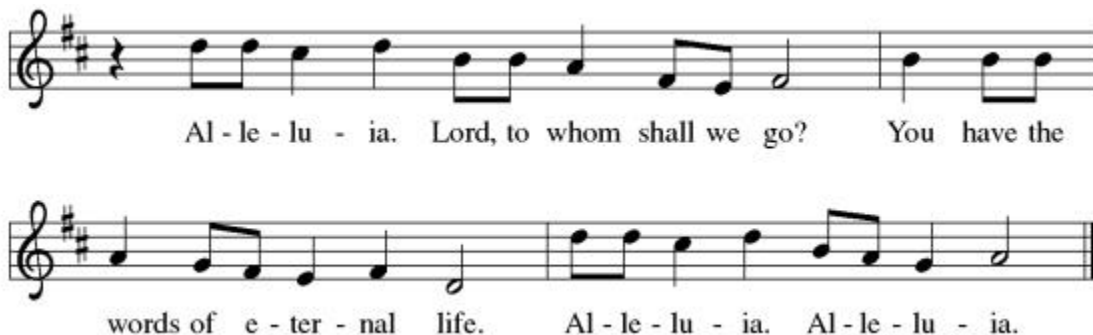
you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 3 #142



*GOSPEL READING

LUKE 10:38-42

During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

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: ³⁸ Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴² there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

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

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #708

JESU, JESU, FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE

***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: Inspire your church, like Sarah and Mary, to listen with eager longing for your words of life. Equip biblical interpreters and teachers with faithful discernment, that your word may be more fully known. God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Every creature under heaven has been promised the hope of the gospel. From that promise, generate in humankind an eagerness to protect and care for creation. Bring healing to the earth with your words of life. God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Peel away the distractions, worries, and fears of all who govern the nations of the world. May your word of love and life dispel all other voices. Provide gracious hospitality in places where hostile forces hold sway. God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Speak your word of comfort to any who suffer pain, illness, grief, depression, or despair. 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, Anita, Lisa, 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. Bring honor to any who experience slander and evil intent or are discredited by others. God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: Enliven and uphold all siblings in Christ who strive to provide hospitality and safe spaces where everyone, without exception, can receive and be transformed by your word of life. God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

Prayer Leader: For Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Mary, Martha, and all the saints who attended to your word, we give thanks. Open our ears to your voice until that day when we realize the promise of the gospel with all creation. 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 worshipping around you.

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

Leader: Jesus set the ultimate example of sacrificial love by giving his life for our salvation. Let us give our tithes and offerings as a heartfelt response to his sacrifice and love.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

*OFFERING PRAYER

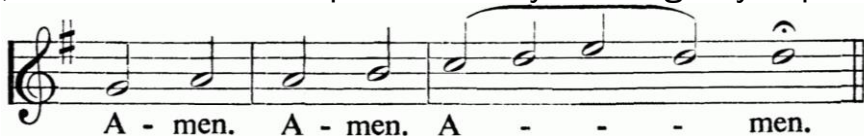
Leader: Let us pray.

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 #335

JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS

*DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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### TODAY'S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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*"What a Friend We Have in Jesu"* PUBLIC DOMAIN

*"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"* TEXT: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt. Music: Gahanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin © 1969 Hope Publishing Company

*"Create in Me a Clean Heart"* PUBLIC DOMAIN

*"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"* TEXT: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915 Music: William H. Doane, 1832-1915

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[ELCA.org/flooding](http://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 who 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.

# **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 27 – 8:00 A.M. Worship Service

Sun. July 27– 9:30 A.M. Adult Sunday School

Sun. Aug. 3 - 8:00A.M. Worship Service W/Communion

Sun. Aug. 3 – 9:30 A.M. Adult Sunday School

Tue. Aug. 12 – 6:30 P.M. Lion's Dinner Meeting

Wed. Aug. 13 – Church Council Meeting

**Readers for July & Aug:**

July 27 – Linda Ross

Aug. 3 - David Sharninghouse

Aug. 10 - Lori McDaniel

Aug. 17 – Carol Cary

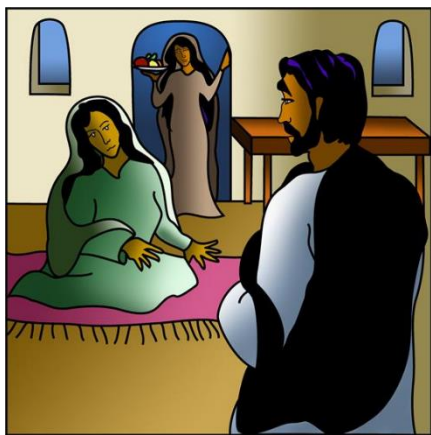
**In Our Prayers:** John Sharninghouse, Gary Kern, Paul & Sue Maki, Betty Hornbeck, David Cary, LuAnn Beverly, Colene Shoop, Eva George, Eric & Lisa Kreh, Don Edler, Ashley Edler, Brandt Edler, Mary Scroll, Pat Newell, Gordon Myers & Bobby Moore, Jim Cary, Ari & Josh, Linda Hoops. Pray also for the victims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

**FYI:** There are flyers on the board in the back regarding HOME REPAIR HELP at NO COST FOR HANCOCK COUNTY RESIDENTS. It's The Hancock County Community Housing Impact & Preservation (CHIP) Program, they provide home repairs for plumbing, electric systems, roofs, ADA modifications, HVAC systems, and other needs. Income eligibility guidelines apply.

A family of 1 can have an annual income of \$52,650, family of 2 - \$60,200, 3 - \$67,700, 4 - \$75,200, 5 - \$81,250, 6 - \$87,250, 7 - \$93,250, 8- \$99,300. If you need some help, call 800-775-9767 or [glcap.org/homerepair](http://glcap.org/homerepair). It's there so if you need help check it out and take advantage of this offer.

**FYI:** Also want to let you know one of our CD's has matured on the 10<sup>th</sup>. We were able to add \$1000.00 to it in order to increase interest to 4% for 7 months

## Unexpected and Intentional Distraction



As digital tablets and smart phones keep us busy and on-the-go, today's gospel reminds us of a struggle: when are we to set aside our busy calendars, duties, and to-do lists and simply rest in God's presence, listening to what God has to say to us? This tension mounts in our gospel as Jesus addresses Martha's busyness, worry, and distraction, juxtaposed with Mary's contemplation, focus, and desire to sit at the feet of the great teacher. But is "quietly sitting" even possible

in our age of distractions? Perhaps we can find helpful advice in our first reading, as Abraham rests in the heat of the day. In that time of rest, he was ready to receive the three guests who came bearing the news that Sarah would have a son, fulfilling God's promise given years earlier. With the heat keeping him from moving on to other things, the guests had Abraham's undivided attention. These readings remind us how crucial it is to set aside time to spend with God. We might even wonder what sort of things Jesus was saying to Mary. Were they profound words, akin to the "mystery" the author of Colossians addresses in the epistle? Jesus was the person in whom God was pleased to dwell, that same one who is "the hope of glory."

**Sit quietly and listen.**

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