

st. John's

Serving Christ & Community! Serving you!



Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 29/30, 2026

As We Gather

The time of changing seasons is a good time to begin an outdoor regimen of walking for personal wellness. Experts in the field of fitness have documented that going for a walk outdoors can bring a sense of physical betterment and mental calmness to those who engage in it on a regular basis. In the Scriptures there are numerous passages that underscore the value of spiritual walking for the Christian as well. Paul writes to the Galatians, "But I say, walk by the Spirit" (5:16), and he reminds the believers in Christ at Corinth that "We walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). Hymn writers give poetic expression to that special walking in texts like "Let us ever walk with Jesus" (LSB 685:1) and "I want to walk as a child of the light" (LSB 411:1). May we be blessed by our walking through the Divine Service together this day!

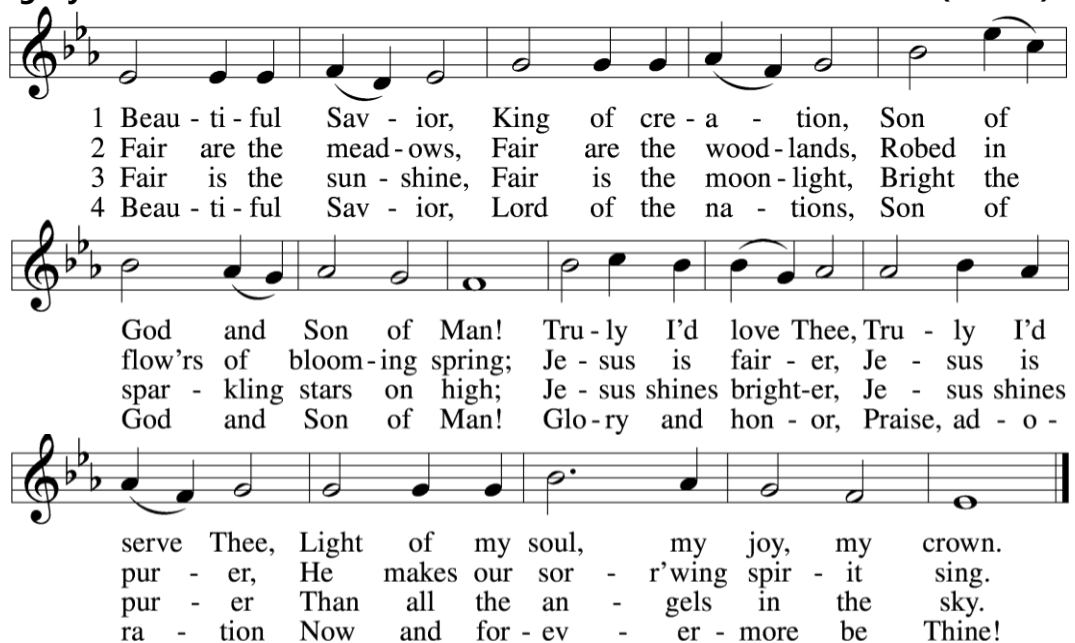
Chimes and Prelude

Please Stand

Opening Hymn

"Beautiful Savior"

LSB 537 (sts 1-4)



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of
 God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
 flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -
 serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
 ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.
 Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation and Call to Worship

P In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Blessed are those whose way is blameless,

C **who walk in the law of the Lord!**

P Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

C **I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.**

P Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

C **Blessed be His glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with His glory! Amen and Amen!**

Confession and Absolution

P It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on Confession in the Small Catechism informs and directs us with these words, which summarize it well.

C **“Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.”**

P Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

C **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your Law. For the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.**

P God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

C **Amen.**

P As you believe, so let it be. 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.**

Please be Seated

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance take me not away;
know that for your sake I bear reproach.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of revelers,
nor did I rejoice;
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail?

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord:
"If you return, I will restore you,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall be as my mouth.
They shall turn to you,
but you shall not turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;

they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
declares the Lord.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰ To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

Hymn

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

LSB 722 (sts 1-3)

1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,
 Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
 For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
 I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.
 With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;
 So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
 For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
 So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. Tune: P. Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860

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*Please Stand***[P]** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.**[C]** **Glory to You, O Lord**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

²¹ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him

aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸ Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to You, O Christ

The 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.**

Please Be Seated

Sermon Hymn

“He Leadeth Me”

Verse 1

He leadeth me O blessed thought
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught
Whate'er I do where'er I be
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me

Chorus

He leadeth me He leadeth me
By His own hand He leadeth me
His faithful follower I would be

For by His hand He leadeth me

Verse 2

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom
Sometimes where Eden's flowers bloom
By waters still o'er troubled sea
Still 'tis His hand that leadeth me

Chorus

Ccli song # 7119113 Bob Kauflin Sovereign Grace Praise For use solely with the Songselect® terms of use.

Sermon

“Living in Love”

(Romans 12:9-21)

Introduction: Just a glimpse of the kingdom of God, coming alive in front of me!

I. God’s Kingdom Comes Not with Brutal Force but in Self-Sacrificial Action

**II. God’s Kingdom Comes Not with Massive Military Victory but in Small Seemingly
Insignificant Actions**

Conclusion: God continues to work in human history – in and through YOU!

Responsive Hymn

“He Leadeth Me”

Verse 3

Lord I would clasp Thy hand in mine
Nor ever murmur nor repine
Content whatever lot I see since
'Tis Thy hand that leadeth me

Chorus

He leadeth me He leadeth me
By His own hand He leadeth me
His faithful follower I would be
For by His hand He leadeth me

Verse 4

And when my task on earth is done
When by Thy grace the victory's won
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee

Since God through Jordan leadeth me

Chorus

Offering (Please place in the Box located in the Narthex)

Kid's Church



Prayer of the Church

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend **[name(s)]** and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

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.**

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
 2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near, near;
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 When my life is al - most gone,
 And the day is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
 Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
 At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

Text and tune: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993 Text and tune: © 1938 (renewed) Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., admin. Alfred Music. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001315

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.

C Amen

Silent Prayer: Holy God, I see you alive and at work today in my midst. Use me and grant that others, too, may see you through my self-sacrifice and everyday acts of love. Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

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REMEMBER OUR MISSIONARIES: (A card of encouragement is always welcomed)

L.W.M.L./WOMEN'S SOCIETY TIM (Together In Mission)

†Supporting: Danelle Putnam Schumann & husband Carlos Schumann, Apartada 1356, Santiago, Dominican Republic.

Danelle.Putnam@lcms.org lcms.org/international lcms.org/putnam

L.W.M.L./WOMEN'S SOCIETY ADOPT A STUDENT: Peter Ross Campus Post Office Box 801 Seminary Pl. St. Louis, MO 63105-3196 (rossp@csl.edu)
During Vicarage: 3624 Rolling View Dr. White Bear Lake, MN 55110

****ST. JOHN'S TIM (Together in Mission):**

Rev. Carl & Chenhsi Hanson with Emma, Andrea, and Lydia serving in Seoul South Korea as Pastor at International Lutheran Church. 148 Hannam-daero, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, South Korea 04417

****ST. JOHN'S ADOPT-A-STUDENT:**

Mr. Blake Brockman (wife Hannah, son, Judah) Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 2100 Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood, CO 80214-5707. brockmanb@csl.edu

Mr. Daniel Hampton (wife, Christie, son William, daughter Abigail) 328 Winter Lake Ct. Fenton, MO 63026. OR Campus Post Office Box, 801 Seminary Pl. Clayton, MO 63105-3196

Mr. Tristan Jones (and wife Carolyn and son Micah) 801 Seminary Pl. Clayton, MO 63105-3196, jonest@csl.edu. (Vicarage) Saint Stephens Lutheran Church, 2304 Springs Rd. N.E., Hickory, NC 28601-3066

MY FRIEND'S CLOSET THRIFT STORE TIM (Together in Mission)

Anika Slayton, serving in Germany, c/o The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861.

Deaconess Tirzah Kray, serving in Latin America & Caribbean, Tirzah.krey@lcms.org, facebook.com/groups/TirzahTales, c/o The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, P.O.Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Zach & Christy Yoder serving in Nigeria with Wycliffe Bible translators.

Zach_yoder@wycliffe.org, www.wycliffe.org/partner/yoder; christy-yoder@sil.org

El Ayudante/Shick family, serving in Honduras, ryan@eahonduras.org Ryan, Angie, Abigail, Mandi, & Jacob. El Ayudante Missions USA, Inc, P.O. Box 154 Rodeo, CA 94572, (Include Schick Family in Memo Line)

THRIFT SHOP ADOPT-A-STUDENT:

Mr. Alexander Allsing Campus Post Office Box 801 Seminary Pl. Clayton, MO 63105-3196, Allsinga@csl.edu

Rev.7/26



CONTACT INFO

625 Country Lane Drive,
P.O. Box 216, Lena, Illinois 61048
(Mon – Fri: 8 :00 am – 5:00 pm)

Church Office	815-369-4035
Church Fax	815-369-2535
Emergency (After Hours)	573-987-8420

Jason Shaw, Pastor	573-987-8420
David Offermann, Director of Family Life	815-821-4034
Sid Kemmis, Lay Minister	309-236-5061
Michelle Rothschadl, Parish Assistant & Director of Celebration Worship	815-275-0397
Chris Winter, Ministry Assistant.....	815-291-6994
Lisa Lobdell, Organist	815-275-5165
Ruth Maedge, Choir Director	815-238-1595
Sharon Thompson, Accompanist	815-493-8347
Joy Shaw, Handbell Director	573-987-8421

WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday at 5:30 pm

Sunday at 8:00 am

Sunday at 9:15 am – Education Hour

Sunday at 10:30 am

**Acoustic – 4th Sunday 10:30 service*

STAY CONNECTED

www.stjohnslena.org

Facebook: St Johns Lena

BIBLE EDUCATION

Sunday at 9:15 am

Adults w/ the Pastor – Luke



- **Christian Education will be on break for the summer and will resume in Sept.**

1st and 3rd Monday's at 3:00 & 6:00 pm

Bible Journaling – Mark

Tuesday's 10:00 am

Stitching Blessings – Mark

Wednesday at 9:30 am

Women's Bible Study – Luke

Friday at 6:30 am

Men's Breakfast Bible Study – Fellowship H.

See Church Calendar & Newsletter for additional studies and gatherings!

COMMUNITY

Church Van: If you live in Lena and would like a ride to the 10:30 am service, please call the church office.

My Friends Closet: Visit our thrift store for heavenly deals! 511 W Lena St, Lena, IL 61048. [\(815\) 369-4527](tel:8153694527)

Adult Day Care: Visit our "Friendship Center" to care for your loved ones. 311 N Lake Rd, Lena, IL 61048. [\(815\) 369-2690](tel:8153692690)

SERVING THE LORD THIS WEEK –August 29/30

	Saturday – 5:30 pm	Sunday – 8:00 am	Sunday – 10:30 am
ELDERS	Tom Bannon	Craig Kroeger	Rob Cobine
GREETERS	Bill/ Jean Engel	Craig/ Betsy Kroeger	Dan/ Lauren Dick
USHERS	Gary Erickson	Nick Leiendecker	Kevin Keltner
ACOLYTES	Usher	Everly Keeffer	Tate Tessendorf
AUDIO/VIDEO	Angie Bamberg / Dave Zier	Kory Gerbick/ Leeann Brinkmeier	Anita Mau/ Evan Zier
ALTAR GUILD	Ellen Conway	Ellen Conway	Ellen Conway

SERVING THE LORD NEXT WEEK – September 5/6

	Saturday – 5:30 pm	Sunday – 8:00 am	Sunday – 10:30 am
ELDERS	Donny Fox/ Don Bamberg	Mike Rothschadl/ Dave Thompson/ Steve Stich	Kevin Keltner/ Brett Richardson/ Mark Mau
GREETERS	Jim/ Joan Liles	Deb/ Dana Turnmeyer	Chad/ Chris Winter
USHERS	Larry Maaske	Dave Nolan	Korbin Winter
ACOLYTES	Usher	Charlie Kent/ Ella Korte	Max Winter/ Addie Solverson
AUDIO/VIDEO	Dave/ Judy Zier	Gary Erickson/ Jeff Jones	Hudson Winter/ Steve Levan
ALTAR GUILD	Karen Spinhirne/ Jodi Zeal	Karen Spinhirne/ Jodi Zeal	Karen Spinhirne/ Jodi Zeal