



# *St. John's Lutheran Church*

1000 Bluff St., Beloit, WI 53511  
[www.stjohnsbeloit.com](http://www.stjohnsbeloit.com)

**“Sharing the good news of forgiveness and eternal life  
through Jesus Christ.”**

***October 25, 2020***

*Please take the bulletin with you  
or dispose of it in our recycling bin.  
Thank you.*

**Reformation Day**  
**Psalm 46**  
**Romans 3:19–28**  
**Matthew 11:12–19**

***The Son of God Has Set Us Free from Sin and Death by His Grace***

“Wisdom is justified by her deeds” (Matt. 11:19), and the true Wisdom of God, Christ Jesus the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, that we might eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and “remain in the house forever” (John 8:35). For He is “a friend of tax collectors and sinners” (Matt. 11:19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel “to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people” (Rev. 14:6), “the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law” (Rom. 3:21), “that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus” (Rom. 3:26). And by hearing the Gospel of Christ Jesus, “whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith” (Rom. 3:25), “you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:31–32).

**Silent Preservice Meditation and Prayer**

*Blessed Lord, you have caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

**Music for Reflection**  
**Announcements**

**Gathering Hymn**

**Salvation unto Us Has Come**

**555**

- 1    Salvation unto us has come  
      By God’s free grace and favor;  
      Good works cannot avert our doom,  
      They help and save us never.  
      Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,  
      Who did for all the world atone;  
      He is our one Redeemer.
- 2    What God did in His Law demand  
      And none to Him could render  
      Caused wrath and woe on ev’ry hand  
      For man, the vile offender.  
      Our flesh has not those pure desires  
      The spirit of the Law requires,  
      And lost is our condition.
- 3    It was a false, misleading dream  
      That God His Law had given  
      That sinners could themselves redeem  
      And by their works gain heaven.  
      The Law is but a mirror bright  
      To bring the inbred sin to light  
      That lurks within our nature.
- 4    From sin our flesh could not abstain,  
      Sin held its sway unceasing;  
      The task was useless and in vain,  
      Our guilt was e’er increasing.  
      None can remove sin’s poisoned dart

Or purify our guileful heart—  
So deep is our corruption.

- 5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled  
Or we must die despairing,  
Christ came and has God's anger stilled,  
Our human nature sharing.  
He has for us the Law obeyed  
And thus the Father's vengeance stayed  
Which over us impended.

## Confession and Forgiveness

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.  
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.

## Service of the Word

Lord, Have Mercy (Kyrie) *LSB 204*

**C** Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

Glory to God in the Highest (Gloria in Excelsis) *LSB 204*

**C** 1 To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.  
2 To You, O sole-begotten,

**The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—**

**3 For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
“Amen!” our glad reply.**

### **Salutation and Prayer of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Old Testament Reading**

1 God is our refuge and strength,  
a helper who can always be found in times of trouble.  
2 That is why we will not fear when the earth dissolves  
and when the mountains tumble into the heart of the sea.  
3 Its waters roar and foam.  
The mountains quake when it rises.  
4 There is a river—its streams bring joy to the city of God,  
to the holy dwelling of the Most High.  
5 God is in her. She will not fall.  
God will help her at daybreak.  
6 Nations are in turmoil. Kingdoms fall.  
God raises his voice. The earth melts.  
7 The Lord of Armies is with us.  
The God of Jacob is a fortress for us.  
8 Come, look at the works of the Lord.  
What a wasteland he has made of the earth!  
9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth.  
He shatters the bow. He cuts up the spear.  
He burns the carts with fire.  
10 “Be still, and know that I am God.  
I will be exalted among the nations.  
I will be exalted on the earth.”  
11 The Lord of Armies is with us.  
The God of Jacob is a fortress for us.

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

**C Thanks be to God.**

### ***Psalm 46***

## Epistle

## ***Romans 3:19–28***

19Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

21But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

27Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

**[P]** This is the Word of the Lord.

**[C]** Thanks be to God.

## Anthem

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

**[C]** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**[C]** These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

**[C]** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

**[P]** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

**[C]** Glory to You, O Lord.

## ***Matthew 11:12–19***

<sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been advancing forcefully and forceful people are seizing it. <sup>13</sup>In fact, all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. <sup>14</sup>If you are willing to receive it, he is the Elijah who was to come. <sup>15</sup>Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.

<sup>16</sup>“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces who call to others, <sup>17</sup>‘We played the flute for you, but you did not dance. We sang a dirge, but you did not mourn.’ <sup>18</sup>John did not come eating or drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ <sup>19</sup>But the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘See, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ But wisdom is justified by her actions.”

**[P]** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Nicene Creed

**[C]** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;

**who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
 and was made man;  
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
 He suffered and was buried.  
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
 and ascended into heaven  
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
 whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the Lord and giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life + of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Message Hymn**

#### **A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

**657**

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
     A sword and shield victorious;  
 He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod  
     And wins salvation glorious.  
 The old satanic foe  
 Has sworn to work us woe.  
     With craft and dreadful might  
     He arms himself to fight.  
 On earth he has no equal.
  
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might.  
     We would be lost, rejected.  
 But now a champion comes to fight,  
     Whom God Himself elected.  
 You ask who this may be?  
 The Lord of hosts is He,  
     Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,  
     God's only Son, adored.  
 He holds the field victorious.
  
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land  
     All threat'ning to devour us,  
 We tremble not, unmoved we stand;  
     They cannot overpow'r us.  
 Let this world's tyrant rage;  
 In battle we'll engage.  
     His might is doomed to fail;  
     God's judgment must prevail!  
 One little word subdues him.
  
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide,  
     No thanks to foes, who fear it;

For God Himself fights by our side  
With weapons of the Spirit.  
Were they to take our house,  
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,  
Though life be wrenched away,  
They cannot win the day.  
The Kingdom's ours forever!  
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## **Children's Message**

### **Message**

### **“God is our Refuge in a World of Turmoil”**

*Stand*

### **Prayers of the Church**

**P.** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

**P.** O almighty God, You have shown Your faithfulness by raising up those in every generation who call Your Church to repentance and renewal. Continue to raise up voices in our own day who herald the truth of Your Word and proclaim the faith in purity and truth against all enemies. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C. hear our prayer.**

**P.** Everlasting Father, You do not desire the death of the sinner but want all to come to faith and life in Christ. Raise up faithful pastors who will preach Your Word without fail and teach the doctrine delivered to the saints, that many may hear and believe. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C. hear our prayer.**

**P.** Merciful Lord, Your Word has been the light and salvation throughout the ages. Help us to bring Your grace to those in darkness, and grant them freedom through the forgiveness of their sins. Bless the missionaries serving far and near and the new congregations they establish in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C. hear our prayer.**

**P.** God of power and might, You have established governments and the order of law for the protection of all people and to preserve the freedom to worship You in spirit and in truth. Grant to Donald, our president; Tony, our governor; the Congress of these United States; and the legislature of our state wisdom, humility and integrity, that all may enjoy true justice and the protection of life from its conception to its natural end. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C. hear our prayer.**

**P.** Holy and gracious God, Your power is revealed chiefly in showing mercy to those in need. Give to the sick healing, to the troubled peace, to the grieving comfort, and to the dying peace. Hear us first on behalf of those whom we have named on our prayer list and those whom we name in our hearts before You . . . . . According to Your gracious promise, grant patience to those in tribulation and trial. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C. hear our prayer.**

**P.** Almighty God and Father, we pray You to grant us all good things that will benefit us in body and soul and to prevent anything harmful to us or to our salvation. Teach us to live in contentment with Your will and purpose and in the freedom You alone supply to serve You with all our heart, mind, body and soul; all these things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C. Amen.**

## **Blessing (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.

*(Internet livestreaming ends here)*

*Sit*

## **Offering**

### **Service of the Sacrament**

*Stand*

## **Preface**      *LSB 208*

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## **Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)**      *LSB 208*

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## **Lord's Prayer**

- 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.

## **The Words of Our Lord**

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## **Peace of the Lord (Pax Domini)**

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

## **Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) LSB 210**

- C** 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Sit*

## **Receiving the Lord's Supper**

*The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:*

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.  
**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.  
**Amen.**

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.  
**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## **Song of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis) LSB 211**

- C** 1 O Lord, now let Your servant  
Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory  
Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles  
Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people,  
Your chosen Israel.

**2 All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.**

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

- P** Let us pray.  
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.**

### **Blessing (Benedicamus) *LSB 212***

- P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Blessing (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.**

### **Closing Hymn**

#### **Salvation unto Us Has Come**

**555**

- 6 Since Christ has full atonement made  
And brought to us salvation,  
Each Christian therefore may be glad  
And build on this foundation.  
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,  
Your death is now my life indeed,  
For You have paid my ransom.
- 7 Let me not doubt, but truly see  
Your Word cannot be broken;  
Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!"  
No falsehood have You spoken.  
Baptized into Your precious name,  
My faith cannot be put to shame,  
And I shall never perish.
- 8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin  
And makes us conscience-stricken;  
But then the Gospel enters in  
The sinful soul to quicken.  
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live;  
The Law no peace can ever give,  
No comfort and no blessing.
- 9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone  
And rests in Him unceasing;  
And by its fruits true faith is known,

With love and hope increasing.  
For faith alone can justify;  
Works serve our neighbor and supply  
The proof that faith is living.

△ 10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise  
To Father, Son, and Spirit,  
The God who saved us by His grace;  
All glory to His merit.  
O triune God in heav'n above,  
You have revealed Your saving love;  
Your blessed name we hallow.  
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### **Music for Reflection**

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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**For announcements, please see this week's Communicator**

### **Staff and Contact Information**

**Rev. Dennis Roser, Pastor**

dennismroser@gmail.com cell: (608) 713-2050

**Mrs. Berta Eddy, Administrative Assistant**

officestjohnsbeloit@gmail.com

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#### **Communion Practices of this Congregation**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John's every Sunday in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord Jesus gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. In addition to the members of this congregation, visitors from our sister LCMS congregations and other Lutheran denominations with whom we enjoy altar fellowship are invited to join us at the Lord's Table. For further study, please see Matthew 5:23; 10:32; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

**Our Church Council has called a special meeting of the Voters' Assembly of St. John's for Sunday, November 1, at 10:30 am in the Church Nave.**

**The purpose of the meeting will be for the congregation to consider extending a call to a Reverend David Warner to become our Associate Pastor.**

**To prepare for the meeting, you are encouraged to read the Self Evaluative Tool forms (SET forms) for Pastor Warner, which are available in the church office.**

**Please feel free to stop by (Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays) and look them over. Between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm works best for Berta, but if you need another day or time, she will be happy to accommodate you.**