



**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - HAMBURG
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, August 3 and Monday, August 4, 2025**

Luke 12:15 – “And he said to them, ‘Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’” Coveting is the opposite of being content with what God has given us. And the cure for coveting is twofold: thankfulness to God and generosity toward God’s purposes. So be on guard against all covetousness. Acknowledge that your Father has given you all that you need, and therefore be free and confident in directing the mammon of this world toward godly purposes.



WELCOME VISITORS: We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part

of our Bible Based Church family.

RECEIVING THE HOLY SACRAMENT

In deep Christian love and commitment to the Word of God we continue to hold to the Biblical and Ancient practice of closed communion. We believe that those who commune together must confess the same faith, and recognize the great power and real presence of the body and blood Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine. (*1 Corinthians 10:16-18; 11:23-29; Romans 16:17*). Likewise, since one's membership helps promote that church's major teachings we ask that only those commune who are confirmed and communicant members of the LCMS, and who are not under church discipline. Thank you for respecting our beliefs and practices. Please pray with us for honest unity around the Word of God. If you



have any question please contact Pastor Love. *NOTE: Gluten free wafers are now available at the Lord's Table. Please let Pastor know before worship service that you would like the gluten free wafers."*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
DIVINE SERVICE IV
LSB page 203**

OPENING HYMN

“All Depends on Our Possessing”

LSB #732

INVOCATION

*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.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- 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

Psalm 100



C ¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

²Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!

³Know that the LORD, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Kyrie

LSB 204

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

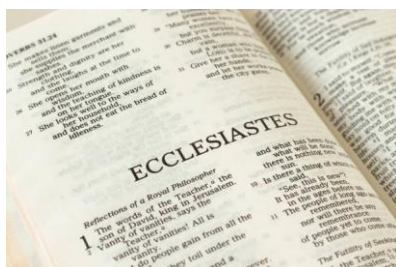
Catechism Review

P *The Ninth Commandment*

C **You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**

P *What does this mean?*

C **We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.**



Old Testament Reading

*Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14;
2:18–26*

²Vanity of vanities, says the
Preacher,
vanity of vanities! All is
vanity. . . .

¹²I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. . . .

¹⁸I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? ²³For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

²⁴There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Colossians 3:1–11

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷In these you too once walked, when you were living

in them. ⁸But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.



P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:13–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶And he told them a parable,



WHAT DO YOU *Treasure?*

saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

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.

SERMON HYMN

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

LSB #783

Sermon

“The Best Is Yet To Come”

Prayers of the Church

Offering

OFFERTORY HYMN

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

LSB #781 *sts. 1–2*

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB 208

Sanctus

LSB 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.”

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

Distribution

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“What Is the World to Me”

LSB #730

“I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”

LSB #618

“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”

LSV #641

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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 ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill”

LSB #698

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DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: 1 Samuel 17:48 – 18:9; Acts 27:39-26

Monday: 1 Samuel 18:10-30; Acts 27:27-44

Tuesday 1 Samuel 19:1-24; Acts 28:1-15

Wednesday: 1 Samuel 20:1-23; Acts 28:16-31

Thursday: 1 Samuel 20:24-42; 1 Samuel 21:1 – 23:29;
1 Corinthians 1:1-25

Friday: 1 Samuel 24:1-22; 1 Corinthians 1:26 – 2:16

Saturday: 1 Samuel 25:1-22; 1 Corinthians 3:1-23



CHURCH CALENDAR ST.
JOHN'S and FAITH

Sunday, August 3

8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy
Communion at St. John's

10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy
Communion at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Monday, August 4

6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy
Communion at Faith

Tuesday, August 5

4:30 p.m. Women of Faith Summer Outing

6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting at St. John's

7:15 p.m. Elders' Meeting at St. John's

Sunday, August 10

10:00 a.m. Dual Parish Outdoor Worship at St. John's

Tuesday, August 12

6:30 p.m. Dual Parish Congregational Meeting at St. John's

Wednesday, August 13

10:00 a.m. Ablelight Volunteers



Check Your
Calendar

UPCOMING DATES



Sunday, August 10

**DUAL PARISH
OUTDOOR WORSHIP**

10:00 a.m. at St. John's

Tuesday, August 12

6:30 p.m. at St. John's

**DUAL PARISH
MEETING**

Sunday, September 28

10:00 a.m. at Faith

POLKA SERVICE



**FAITH and ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCHES**

*Please remember the following
in your prayers:*

Gary Baumann Joe Calmes
David Czech Rodney Dahlke
Alice Fromm

Christopher Emmerich

Wallace Emmerich Gerhard Hanneman

Angie Harkner Dale Janisch Cecelia & Lucille Klade
Rob Koebe Kim Love

Bob Meyer Gene Mootz Debbie Olson

Mark Pester Bob Porath Marge Radenz Karen Rajek

Jo Schedler Audrey Steckling Lorraine Steckling

Carl Uttech Deb Wiederhoeft Susie and Ellie Zastrow



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upcoming events and activities, don't forget to pick up Scrip Cards. One can always use cards for everyday personal and household needs such as gas and food, Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program ... *all without it costing you an extra penny!*



WOMEN OF FAITH

Summer Outing

Tuesday, August 5 at 4:30 p.m.

Meet at Casa Amigos, Merrill

Spouses are invited



Save the date – Saturday, September 27, 2025

Mark your calendars!

Join the North Wisconsin and South Wisconsin LLL District at their annual joint convention hosted at Peace Lutheran Church, Neenah, Wisconsin.

All are welcome to attend. Our guest speaker is Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour®.

Join us for a day of spiritual growth with inspirational presentations to encourage and equip you as partners in His mission.

More convention details will be shared later this summer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You for your generous sacrificial offerings to the Lord, to help us keep our ministry going. You can also mail your offerings to Our Churches at

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

15425 County Road K South
Merrill, WI 54452

or

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

134058 County Road L
Athens, WI 54411

(Please do not send hard cash through the mail)

**Please help us spread the Word. Visit us online at
Pastor's (Don Love) Facebook Page, or Faith
Lutheran Merrill Facebook Page**

<https://faithmerrill.webs.com/>

Lord, in my work — whether at a
job, at home or in a service—

 *help me*
to do it with
purpose and
peace. 

Keep me from being
overwhelmed, and remind me
that my worth is not in what I
produce, but in
who I am in You.
Amen.

