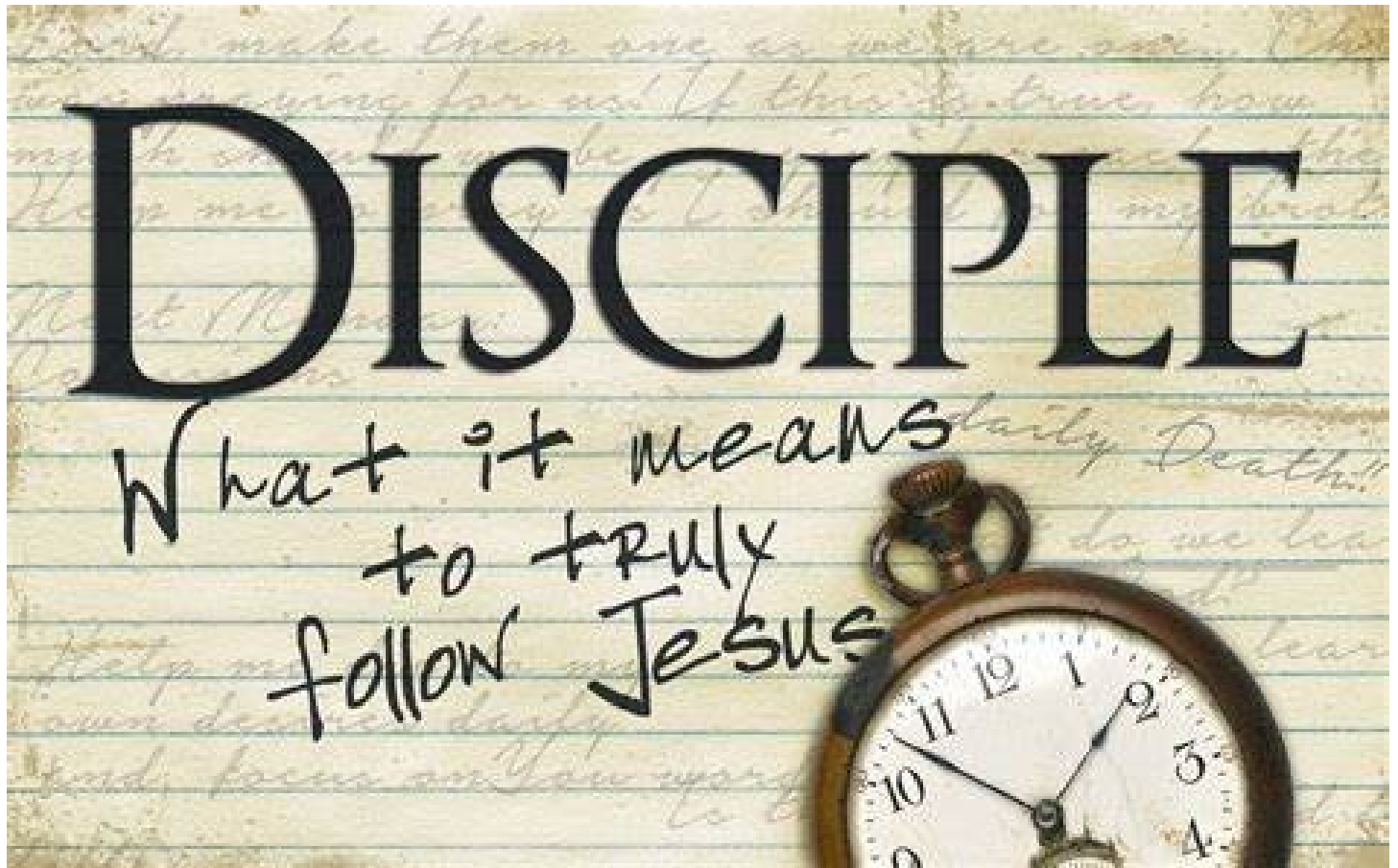


*Saturday, September 6th, Service of the Word*  
13th Weekend of Pentecost



**Worship Services:** Saturdays at 5:00pm • Sundays at 9:45am

**Parish Education:** Sunday School - Grades Pre-K to 6th - 8:30am • Adult Forum - 8:30am  
Confirmation - Grades 7 & 8 - Wednesdays 6:30pm

**Church Office Hours:** Tues-Thurs 9am-2pm • Fri 9am-12pm

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

for the week of  
September 7-14

<b>Sunday</b>	8:30am Worship @ Sandwich Fairgrounds
<b>wednesday</b>	6:30pm Confirmation @ Salem
<b>Saturday</b>	5:00pm Worship - Pastor Tom Rogers
<b>Sunday</b>	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship (Note time change)



There will be no worship service at St. John's on Sunday, September 7th. Worship will be at the Sandwich Fairgrounds at the Ag Land Stage at 8:30am. Local pastors will be presiding. The stage is located next to the Ag Petting Zoo barn pictured above.

## Rebekah Circle for September '25

**Date: Thursday, Sept. 18th Time: 1:00 pm.**

**Location: St. John's Lutheran**

**Lesson: Lesson: Pray Always – Session #3**

**Hostess: Ellie Kulton**

Offering 8/30 & 8/31	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	1,932.00	\$142,208.00
Capital Fund	\$125.00	\$11,372.52

## Prayer Requests

Mary Bark  
Mary Carlson  
Mary Carlson's sister, Sue  
Lance Davenport  
Lee Gehrke  
Gianna  
Sharon Goode  
Karol Grandgeorge's daughter, Beth  
Mike Hamer  
Mary Ann Hulon  
Mary Ann Hulon's grandson, Weston  
Jen  
Judy  
Karen

Linda Martin  
James Moris  
Lonnie Murray  
Kay Nelson  
Roger & Helen  
Larry Rogers  
Shelly  
Lynn Skryzpiec  
Jackie Wendland  
Susan White



**Sunday School and Adult Forum are back in session – Sept. 14th  
8:30am • Worship 9:45 am.**

Dates to Remember		
Month	Date	Occasion
SEPTEMBER	7	WORSHIP @ SANDWICH FAIR
SEPTEMBER	10	CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION
SEPTEMBER	14	RALLY DAY

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Gathering

**Assisting Minister 1:** The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## Confession and Forgiveness

**Assisting Minister 2:** Welcome to worship in the name of the Father,  
and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

**Assisting Minister 1:** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C:** Amen.

**Assisting Minister 2:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Assisting Minister 1:** Most merciful God,

**C:** we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**Assisting Minister 2:** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✙ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C:** Amen.

**Gathering Hymn** ELW 860 I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

## Greeting

**Assisting Minister 1:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

**Assisting Minister 2:** Let us pray the Prayer of the Day together.

**C:** Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

**Assisting Minister 1:** The **First Reading** comes from the Book of Deuteronomy Chapter 30 verses 15-20

**Assisting Minister 1:** Word of God, Word of Life

**C:** Thanks be to God.



**Assisting Minister 2:** Our Psalm today is **Psalm 1**

1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 **Their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper.

4 **It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

**Assisting Minister 1:** The **Second Reading** comes from Philemon verses 1-21

**Assisting Minister 1:** Word of God, Word of Life

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.*

**Assisting Minister 2:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 14<sup>th</sup> Chapter

**Gospel: Luke 14:25-33**

**Assisting Minister 2:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Hymn Sing**<sup>1</sup>

**ELW 504 v 1 & 2      A Mighty Fortress is Our God**

Martin Luther was an Augustinian monk; his understanding of the Christian faith was radically reshaped by his reading about faith and grace in the book of Romans

We think that this hymn was written at Coberg, Germany. This hymn became Luther's battle-cry. Its theme comes from Psalm 46, which says:

"God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear,  
though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult"  
(Psalm 46:1-3)

Luther wrote thirty-five + hymns altogether. This hymn is by far the most familiar.

\* \* \*

**ELW 812 v 1 & 2      Faith of Our Fathers**

This hymn, written by Frederick Faber in the 19th century, obviously has to do with Christians suffering persecution -- and the inspiration that their heroic witness gave to their fellow Christians. Indeed, we are always inspired by stories of Christians who maintain their faith in the face of persecution or death. Persecution has been a part of the church's life from the very beginning.

Pray for Christians who endure persecution -- to make ourselves aware of their stories -- and to be inspired by their heroic witness.

*"Faith of our fathers! living still  
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;  
O how our hearts beat high with joy*

*Whene'er we hear that glorious word."*

\* \* \*

#### ELW 656 v 1 & 4 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

John Fawcett was born into a poor family in Yorkshire, England, and was orphaned at age 12. To survive, he accepted a lengthy apprenticeship to a tailor. Then, while still in his teens, he heard the great George Whitfield preach and became a Christian.

At age 25 (and newly married) he was invited to serve as pastor of a small church at Wainsgate. The poor people of that little village were able to pay very little, and much of Fawcett's pay came as potatoes and other produce. Once his wife, Mary, began having children, they found it difficult to survive.

Fawcett, who wrote a number of hymns during his lifetime, wrote this hymn, "Blest Be the Tie," to convey his sentiments and those of his wife to the poor people among whom they had chosen to live. Fawcett served that little church for the rest of his life -- 54 years in all.

\* \* \*

#### ELW 856 v 1 & 3 How Great Thou Art

Carl Boberg was a Swedish lay preacher who, among other things, published a Christian newspaper. He wrote the original version of this song in 1886, and entitled it "O Store Gud," which means "O Great God." His inspiration for the song came from the beauty of Swedish meadows and lakes after a thunderstorm.

Stuart Hine, an English missionary, heard it, translated it into English, and added one or more verses -- inspired, he said, by the beauty of the "woods and forest glades" of the Carpathian Mountains after a thunderstorm. The last verse, which begins, "When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation, and take me home," was inspired by Eastern European refugees who had fled to England and who asked, "When are we going home?" Hine printed his version of the song in leaflet form, and it was distributed somewhat widely in England.

### The Apostles Creed

**Assisting Minister 2:** God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C:** **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 Intercession

**Assisting Minister 1:** Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

**Assisting Minister 2:** God of grace,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

**Assisting Minister 2:** We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

**C:** **Amen.**

## Peace

**Assisting Minister 1:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

## Thanksgiving for the Word

**Assisting Minister 2:** Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**C:** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

**Assisting Minister 1:** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C:** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

## Sending

**Assisting Minister 2:** God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## Blessing

**Assisting Minister 1:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**C:** Amen.

**Sending Song** ELW 685 Take My Life, That I May Be verses 1-4

## Dismissal

**Assisting Minister 2:** Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted;

**Assisting Minister 1:** support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

<sup>1</sup> Hymn Stories – Copyright 2006, 2007, or 2008, Richard Donovan  
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