

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. John Werner, Pastor

Mrs. Sheila Stuenkel, Organist

E-mail: revjohnwerner@gmail.com

Website: www.stjohnpalmer.net

Pastor Werner - Cellphone: (612) 716-4753

Member - Linn Lutheran School Association

Email: linnluth@bluevalley.net

Phone: (785) 348-5792

Principal & Teacher: Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl; Teachers: Mrs. Laura Stunkel,

Mrs. Laurel Wurtz, Mrs. Renae Bott, & Mrs. Amy Duever

September 13, 2026

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are a guest or visitor with us today, we welcome you and invite you to come and worship with us again. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Pastor Werner, and we hope to see you again soon.

Remember that the Worship Service begins when you enter. As the Music for Meditation begins, you are invited to join in quiet, preparation time for worship. Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

Liturgy - Divine Service Setting Three (pg. 184)

Opening Hymn: 735 "Have No Fear, Little Flock"

Hymn of the Day: 760 "What God Ordains Is Always Good"

Distribution Hymn: 634 "The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord"

Distribution Hymn: 754 "Entrust Your Days and Burdens"

Distribution Hymn: 750 "If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee"

Distribution Hymn: 746 "Through Jesus' Blood and Merit"

Closing Hymn: 752 "Be Still, My Soul"

Prayer Requests

Please text or call Pastor Werner at (612) 716-4753 to submit prayer requests.

Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.

Angie Reinert, Loren Bott, JoAnn Ohlde, & Gladys Stone (nursing home);

Annette Bott (cancer)

Acolyte today - Grace Meier

Acolyte Sept. 27 - Jase Meier

Ushers today - *Eli Thalmann, Lucious Petesch, Zac Hiltgen, & Noah Thalmann

Ushers Sept. 20 - *Evan Bott, Cade Hiltgen, Deavon Ohlde, Liam Voelker (Mission Fest.)

Ushers Sept. 27 - *Greyson Ohlde, Eli Thalmann, Emmerich Hornkohl, Sam Werner

Fellowship Hour LYF serving today & Sept. 27 - Lexie & Kyra Ohlde

Fellowship Hour LYF serving Oct. 4 & 11 - Greyson Ohlde & Emmerich Hornkohl

Upcoming Events

Sept. 13

9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School

5:30 p.m. Youth Confirmation Class

7:00 p.m. Adult Catechesis

Sept. 20

9:00 a.m. Bible Study at LHS Cafeteria

10:00 a.m. Mission Festival with Holy Communion at LHS Gym

5:00 p.m. Annual PTL/St. John Men's Club Hayrack Ride, followed by hotdog roast & PTL mtg (see announcement below)

5:30 p.m. Youth Confirmation Class

7:00 p.m. Adult Catechesis

Sept. 22

7:00 p.m. Linn Lutheran School Board Meeting

Announcements

- LCMS Memory Verse Challenge: **Psalm 143:8** - "Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul."
- It's time to renew *The Lutheran Witness* subscriptions. If your address has changed or if you would like to be added to or removed from the mailing list, please contact Theresa Meier. Otherwise, your subscription will be renewed automatically.
- **Linn Lutheran School News:**
 - **Monday, Sept. 14** - School Pictures at Linn Lutheran School
 - **Wednesday, Sept. 16 - 8:30 a.m.** chapel at Zion with Vicar Shipman
 - **Sunday, Sept. 20** - Mission Festival at Linn High School old gym. 7th/8th LLS students playing handbells need to be to the old gym by **9:30 a.m.** 1st-6th grade students are singing and can be dropped off at the Kindergarten wing (west side of public school) at **9:45 a.m.** Students sing right away and then join parents for the service, which begins at **10 a.m.** Please wear appropriate church clothing.
 - **Sunday, Sept. 20** - Annual PTL/St. John Men's Club Hayrack Ride at St. John. All are invited to join us!
 - **5 p.m.** Hayrack Ride
 - **6 p.m.** Hotdog Roast - hotdogs & drinks provided; bring side/dessert to share
 - **7 p.m.** PTL Meeting
- **Linn Lutheran School Endowment Report for August:** 4 donations came in from St. John for a total of \$5,300.00; \$2650.00 was matched. Due to the carry-over from previous months and the amount this month, St. John will not owe anything for the month of August. \$10,735.00 is left to be matched by December 15, 2026.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord 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 all sins, 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, according to Holy Scripture, 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, are asked to refrain from communing with us until such a time as they are properly instructed.

A short, more detailed explanation of our Confessional practice is available from our Ushers or Elders. If you would like to learn more about the Sacrament of the Altar and our confessional position, I would be happy to visit with you.

-Rev. John Werner, Pastor, St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

In preparation for Holy Communion, you may use the following statements as part of your self-examination:

- ☐ I admit that I am a sinner. **(1 John 1:8-10)**
- ☐ I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, from Satan and death. **(Acts 4:10-12; John 14:6)**
- ☐ I desire to live as God wants me to. **(John 14:15; 1 John 2:6)**
- ☐ I am sure of my eternal salvation because Jesus died for me and rose again. **(John 3:16; Romans 8:14; & 1 John 5:11-12)**
- ☐ I believe the Risen Christ is really present in Holy Communion and that with the bread and wine I receive His Body and Blood. **(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 4:22-24; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; Luke 22:17-20)**
- ☐ I forgive those who have wronged me.

Morning Prayer

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



Introit *(Psalm 86:4, 6, 15a, 16; antiphon: vv. 1a, 2b, 3)*

Incline your ear, O Lord, and | answer me,*
save your servant, who trusts in you—you | are my God.
Be gracious to me, | O Lord,*
for to you do I cry | all the day.

**Gladden the soul of your | servant,*
for to you, O Lord, do I lift | up my soul.
Give ear, O Lord, | to my prayer;*
listen to my | plea for grace.
But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and | gracious;*
turn to me and be gra- | cious to me;
give your strength to your | servant,*
and save the son of your maid- | servant.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Incline your ear, O Lord, and | answer me,*
save your servant, who trusts in you—you | are my God.
Be gracious to me, | O Lord,*
for to you do I cry | all the day.

Collect for the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading: *1 Kings 17:8-16*

8 Then the word of the Lord came to [Elijah], 9 “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” 10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” 11 And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” 12 And she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” 13 And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says the Lord the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain upon the earth.’” 15 And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. 16 The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

Gradual (*Psalms 118:8-9*)

**It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in man.**

**It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in princes.**

Epistle Reading: *Galatians 5:25-6:10*

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

1 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. 5 For each will have to bear his own load.

6 One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches. 7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 6:24-34*

24 [Jesus said:] “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

25 “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? 28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

34 “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

As We Gather...

Anxious Bondage vs. Confident Trust

“You cannot serve God and money” (Matthew 6:24-34), for they require two contrary forms of service. Worry is the worship given to the false god of mammon, an unbelieving anxiousness and focus on the things of this world. Faith is the worship of the true God, a confident trust that He is a loving Father who will care for all of our needs in both body and soul. The widow of Zarephath served God— that is, she believed the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah that the bin of flour would not be used up nor would the jar of oil run dry (1 Kings 17:8-16). He who feeds the birds and clothes the flowers will certainly provide for our daily needs. For He has already provided for our eternal needs, clothing us with Christ's righteousness in Baptism and feeding us His body and blood for our forgiveness. With such confidence we are liberated from worry and freed to do good with our material resources, especially to those who are of the household of faith (Galatians 5:25-6:10).

Catechetical Review

Table of Duties

CERTAIN PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE FOR VARIOUS HOLY ORDERS AND POSITIONS,
ADMONISHING THEM ABOUT THEIR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Of Citizens

Matthew 22:21

They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

Romans 13:5-7

⁵ Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷ Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

1 Timothy 2:1-3

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³ This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior.

Titus 3:1

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work.

1 Peter 2:13-14

¹³ Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.

The Sunday of the Birds and the Lilies



September 13, 2026
The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church
304 National Road
Palmer, KS 66962
Rev. John Werner, Pastor