

*St. John*  
SHARING  
the LOVE of Christ

I've been  
meaning  
to ask...

what are you  
looking for?

Sunday,  
August 15,  
2021

8:30am  
&  
11:00am

Dear Confirmation Families - Celebrate your Confirmand with family and friends by sharing today's worship link available on YouTube & Facebook. Our 8:30am and 11:00am services can be viewed immediately following the livestream. Enjoy!

Sincerely,



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## Next Sunday, August 21-22

~~ble~~ssing  
~~ble~~ssing  
~~ble~~ssing

blessing of the  
  
backpacks

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### **new member class**

August 25th & September 1st  
6:30-8pm  
please plan to attend both sessions  
let us know your coming!

815-439-2320

stjohn2650@stjohnjoliet.org

stjohnjoliet.org

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# *Farewell for Ellen*



**SUNDAY  
AUGUST 29  
8:30AM  
11AM**

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## Returning this Fall

St. John Chorale, Sunday School, MOPS, Small Groups,  
New Member Class, Confirmation, Praise Band,  
H.S. Ministries FIRE/FIRE2, Youth Choirs, Daybreak,  
Blessing of the Backpacks, Hunger Action Month, Bells,  
Fair Trade Products, Blessing of the Quilts, PDO,  
Food Pantry, Thanksgiving Eve...and so much more!

**Check your mailbox for launch dates & sign ups, or visit [stjohnjoliet.org](http://stjohnjoliet.org)**

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church as we gather for this time of worship and reflection on God's love for the world.*

*The flowers are given to the glory of God by the Altar Guild.  
To sponsor altar flowers for our worship space, sign up at the Opportunity Wall in the Narthex or call the church office.*

***Additional seating is available in the Trinity Room.***

**Worship Leaders – Sunday 8:30 am**

<b>Deacon</b>	Michelle Covert
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Pam Murray
<b>Greeter</b>	Sam Riggi
<b>Ushers</b>	Joe Aincham, Jon Blomquist Ron Crabb, Judy Dachman
<b>Piano &amp; Organ</b>	Janet Blomquist
<b>Audio Board</b>	Bill Bromer
<b>Livestream Team</b>	Elliott Liss, Colin Wilcox, Mary Wilcox, Dawn MacGregor
<b>Counters</b>	Frank Norem, Norm Roland
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Joan Nunemaker, Sharon Sullivan, Marge West

**Worship Leaders – Sunday 11:00 am**

<b>Deacon</b>	Kristen Vorrier
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Lynne Smith
<b>Ushers</b>	Rick Franzen, Duane Johnson Shawn Roark, Glenn Smith
<b>Piano</b>	Ellen Goodwin
<b>Audio Board</b>	Mike Pragit
<b>Livestream Team</b>	Elliott Liss, Colin Wilcox, Mary Wilcox, Dawn MacGregor

**Contact Information**

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**St. John Lutheran Church**  
**2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435**  
**815-439-2320 stjohn2650@stjohnjoliet.org stjohnjoliet.org**

 **St. John by the Mall – Joliet, IL**

 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

## Prelude

(8:30)

“Andante & Lento”

Merkel, Albrechtsberger

(11:00)

“Christians, We Have Met to Worship”

arr. Curry

## Welcome and Announcements

### \*Confession and Forgiveness

P We are gathered today in the name of the holy Trinity, † one God.

C **Amen.**

P If we were to call the prayer of confession by another name, I would call it a moment for truth telling- a moment to pause, to reflect, to be honest about the places we want to grow, and the way we need God’s help. Family of faith, there is power in honesty. We worship a loving and gracious God. Join with me as we pray to God, together.

P Gracious God,

C **We speak without listening.**

P We assume without knowing.

C **We offer without asking, and rush without waiting.**

P You know when we are careless with our thoughts, words, and deeds.

C **We do not always love what you love.**

P You are God. We are not.

C **Forgive us for assuming and rushing.**

P Forgive us when we are careless with the things you love.

C **Help us learn from our mistakes.**

P Help us to forgive others with the mercy you show us.

C **Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

P Family of faith, no matter how many times you have spoken without listening, assumed without knowing, offered without asking, or rushed without waiting: you are † forgiven!

P Hear the good news of the gospel:

C **Every day is a new day for love.**

**We are claimed.**

**We are forgiven.**

**We are invited into relationship.**

**Thanks be to God for growth and grace that know no end! Amen.**

## \*Prayer of the Day

P 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.**

P Let us pray. Holy God, we don't always know how to pray, but you find us anyway. We don't always know how to listen, but you are speaking, all the same. We don't always know how to believe, but you surround us with beauty. You hold us together in love. Sometimes, our lives are full of distractions and noise. Come to us in this space. Be in the words we hear today, and in the way we listen to one another.

C **Amen.**

## Special Music

"It's Your Life"  
(Nora Wilcox)

Battistelli

## Reading

## Proverbs 9:1-6

D A reading from the book of Proverbs. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open!**

Lady Wisdom has built and furnished her home;  
it's supported by seven hewn timbers.  
The banquet meal is ready to be served: lamb roasted,  
wine poured out, table set with silver and flowers.  
Having dismissed her serving maids,  
Lady Wisdom goes to town, stands in a prominent place,  
and invites everyone within sound of her voice:  
"Are you confused about life, don't know what's going on?  
Come with me, oh come, have dinner with me!  
I've prepared a wonderful spread—fresh-baked bread,  
roast lamb, carefully selected wines.  
Leave your impoverished confusion and *live!*  
Walk up the street to a life with meaning."

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

## \*Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Verse from *Now the Feast and Celebration*, by Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications. OneLicense A-712815

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

## \*Gospel

**John 1:35-42**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John, the first chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

**P** The gospel of our Lord.

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

**Sermon**

**Pastor Jen Beamsley**

**“Be Thou My Vision”**

Text: Irish, vers. Eleanor H. Hull, tr. Mary E. Byrne. Tune: Irish Trad. Public Domain.

- Verse 1**            Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
Thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- Verse 2**            Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord,  
Thou my soul’s shelter, and thou my high tow’r.  
Raise thou me heav’nward, O Pow’r of my pow’r.
- Verse 3**            Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- Verse 4**            Light of my soul, after victory won,  
May I reach heaven’s joy, O heaven’s Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

**Rite of Confirmation** (*see insert*)

**Joys and Concerns of our Faith Community**

*Prayer request cards are available in your pews.*

*You may place the card in the offering plate or give to a pastor.*

**Prayers of the Church**

Text & Tune by: Marty Haugen. © 2007 GIA Publications. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

**P**            Trusting in Christ, sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*Response (sing):*

**Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that divide us;  
Christ, our peace, come, make us one body in you.**

*The prayers conclude:*

P We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

### **\*Sharing the Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*You may share the peace of Christ with others. Those who choose to stay in their pew may wave or give signs of peace. Those who move to greet others may choose their greeting at the discretion of the person you are greeting.*

*Please be mindful of the non-verbal cue you are receiving, and ask what the person is comfortable with before greeting.*

### **Offertory**

**(8:30)**

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Kendrick, arr. Hayes

**(11:00)**

“Peace Like a River”

arr. Hayes

*Each week in our worship you are invited to give to the mission and ministry of this church, by your involvement and/or your financial gifts. When you give, you are not only supporting this congregation, but you are offering to the broader community--leaning in, asking the hard questions, choosing connection, choosing generosity.*

*It is these small acts of care, connection, and love that can help heal the hurt in the world. You may place your offerings and attendance sheets in the basket as you come to communion, or at the doors of the Sanctuary when you leave worship.*

*Let us give with our grateful hearts.*

### **\*Offertory Response**

#### **“Come, Thank the Lord”**

Text & Tune by: Peter Holmer. Used with permission of Peter Holmer.

Come, thank the Lord for He's the total giver.

He's the one who truly does deliver.

Come thank the Lord He's the one who does it all. (Praise the Lord!)

Sun, moon, and rain, trees and flowers are the gifts He gives.

The Lord does provide all we need to live.

Thanks, praise and love now we offer to the Lord our King.

He's the guider, provider, the giver of everything.

Sing Amen! Say it again. Sing Amen!

## **\*Offertory Prayer**

D Let us pray. **God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **\*Great Thanksgiving** *(spoken)*

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 our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

## **\*Words of Institution**

### **\*The 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.**

### **\*Invitation to Communion**

P Hunger no more. Thirst no more. Come to the banquet of life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

## Distribution

*We believe in the true presence of Jesus Christ in this meal and at this table.  
All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.*

*There are two ways to receive communion today:*

### **Receiving Communion in your pew**

*You may receive communion in your pew with the elements contained in the communion pod. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion:*

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

### **Receiving Communion at the altar**

- *You will be invited forward by the pastor.*
- *Wear your masks as you come forward; lift your mask when receiving the elements of bread and then again with the grape juice or the wine.*
- *Gluten-free wafers are available upon request, please ask the pastor.*
- *The deep purple wine is on the outer rings of the tray; the golden grape juice is on the inner rings of the tray.*
- *After receiving communion, place the used communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.*

## Communion Music

**(8:30)**

"I Need Thee Every Hour"  
"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Lowry  
Mason

**(11:00)**

"Mighty to Save"

Fielding & Morgan

## \*Blessing

### \*Prayer after Communion

D Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

### \*Benediction

C Sing AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

**“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”**

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The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,  
To make of all the earth a better place to live.  
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,  
To make of all the earth a better place to live.

The angels are not sent into our world of pain  
To do what we were meant to do in Jesus’ name;  
That falls to you and me and all who are made free.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will today. **(Repeat)**

**\*Sending**

D Go in peace. Serve the Lord!  
C **Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude**  
**(8:30)**  
**(11:00)**

“Fugue in C Minor”  
“Cry of my Heart”

Charpentier  
arr. Tornquist

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# Sunday SCHOOL

**Now - Take the Sunday School survey before Monday!**

It's on our website, [stjohnjoliet.org](http://stjohnjoliet.org), or call 815-439-2320.

**September 12th - Sunday School Starts!**



I've been  
meaning  
to ask...

**A 5-part worship series for curiosity, courage, & connection**

We believe everyone is beloved, shaped from the dust of the earth and the breath of God. Everyone has a story to tell. Our stories are messy and beautiful, painful and hopeful—being written and rewritten over time. We commit to disrupting our assumptions and staying curious.

Aug. 7-8 Where are you from?

**Aug. 14-15 What are you looking for?**

Aug. 21-22 Where does it hurt?

Aug. 28-29 What do you need?

Sept. 4-5 Where do we go from here?

Here is Where I  
*Find Holy*

"I've been setting tables my whole life and the greatest privilege I have is setting the Lord's table for Sunday worship. I need to be part of something that's bigger than me & as an Altar Guild member, I get a great deal of satisfaction setting up the **holy things of God for the people of God**. I am a behind the scenes kind of person. I enjoy making people feel welcome and preparing everything our pastors need to make worship the enriching experience that it is. I'm part of a team who does this work with great love. I'm often overwhelmed with the dedication and unselfishness I see in the people of St. John, and that really is what makes St. John special." - *Jan Drish*

