

the connection

one in Jesus... reaching many

Week of August 16, 2026

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



AT THE TABLE: Feasting with Jesus in His Word | Week 6 – Changed: Feasting With The Outcast

Summer often becomes a season of gathering around tables - backyard cookouts, family vacations, celebrations, and shared meals. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus continually meets people at tables. Around food and fellowship, He forgives sinners, restores the broken, teaches disciples, welcomes outsiders, and reveals the kingdom of God. In these remaining weeks of summer we will journey through various table encounters with Jesus and discover that He still invites us to come hungry and leave filled by His grace.

If you missed any previous messages, you can find them on the Online Resources webpage. <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/worship/church-online/>



SUMMER INSTRUCTION & MEETINGS

Please note that many of our Bible Studies and small groups pause their meetings during the summer months. Be sure to check our **Week At A Glance**, on the back page and contact the group leader for timing and location changes!

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The main office is open Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Phones and doors will not be answered after 1:00 PM. If you need to meet with a staff member outside of these hours, please schedule an appointment. **Regular hours will resume August 24, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.**



The family of Tyler Doeblor would like to thank the congregation for 20 years of prayer for Tyler when he was in military service. He has recently retired and the Lord kept him safe from harm all those years.

TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

Pentecost 13

Many service elements are taken from the Pew Hymnal.

OPENING HYMN: <i>Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old</i>	LSB #846
SERVICE OF THE WORD	
Invocation/Confession	Screen
Gloria	
Prayer of the Day	
First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11–16	
Second Reading: Titus 3:3–8	
Alleluia	LSB #952
Gospel Reading: Luke 19:1–10	
THE NICENE CREED	Screen
HYMN OF THE DAY: <i>Our Father, by Whose Name</i>	LSB #863
MESSAGE	Pastor Marc Schwichtenberg
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER	
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT	Screen
DIST. HYMN: <i>Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord</i>	LSB #637
<i>O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee</i>	LSB #632
NUNC DIMIITIS	Screen
BENEDICTION	
CLOSING HYMN: <i>On What Has Now Been Sown</i>	LSB #921

COMMUNION - THE LORD'S SUPPER - WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Bible teaches that along with the bread and wine of Holy Communion we also receive the true body and blood of our Savior. Jesus' own words, "this is my body" and "this is my blood for the forgiveness of sins" reveal His Real Presence in the sacrament (Luke 22, 1 Cor. 10:15-16). The Bible also teaches (1 Cor. 11:23-32) the Lord's Supper, properly received brings great blessings, but improperly received without understanding can actually incur God's judgment. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the Biblical teaching of communion, please feel free to commune today. If you have any questions, please first speak to a pastor.



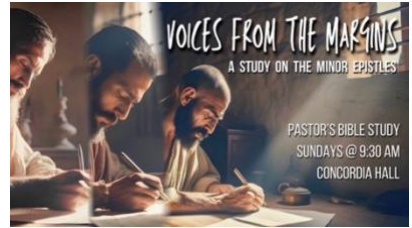
As you come forward, gluten free wafers are available by request, as well as individual cup choice of wine or lighter colored non-alcoholic grape juice (located in the center of the trays). Common cup is also offered during Traditional Praise services at the altar only. **During regular worship weekends, the Lord's Supper is celebrated in Traditional Praise on the first and third weekends of the month; and in Modern Praise on the second and fourth weekends of the month. On months with a fifth Sunday, Communion will be served at both Traditional and Modern Praise services.**

BIBLICAL DISCOVERY

VOICES FROM THE MARGINS: A STUDY ON THE "MINOR" EPISTLES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Pastor's Bible Study | Sundays at 9:30 AM | Concordia Hall

Join our Pastors on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in Concordia Hall. We are familiar with Romans, Philippians, 1 and 2 Corinthians, but what about the smaller Epistles? John's letters, Peter's letters, or even Philemon? We are covering these three, chapter by chapter, and hearing from the "margins," the lesser known letters. We can't wait to see you! For more information, contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.



DAD'S BIBLE STUDY | Wednesdays at 6:00 AM | Luther Hall

This group will continue to meet through the summer! Join dads of all ages and walks of faith as we grow in God's Word together, learn what it means to lead our families well, and receive encouragement in the highest calling God has for men. This group meets on Wednesday mornings (even if you have to leave early) and picks a book of the Bible to read through and discuss. Coffee and bagels/donuts are provided, so that no one misses out on breakfast before work! For more information, contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.



JOIN THE ST. JOHN FAMILY

**MEMBERSHIP CLASS STARTED
SEPTEMBER 21, 2026**

Are you ready to make St. John Lutheran Church & School your home? Have you or someone you know been looking for an opportunity to learn or rediscover what real faith in Jesus is all about? Join us in a relaxed and welcoming environment where your questions can be answered.

This is a great class for anyone new to St. John or returning after being away for some time, or for those who have been worshipping with us as a guest and feel led to make St. John their church home. Whether transferring from another church or brand new to the Christian faith, the ONE Class is for you... and now is the time to enroll!

Come join Pastors Marc, Steve, and Tyler on this engaging and interactive eight-week journey through God's Word! This is an opportunity to discover the Christian Lutheran faith and understand how our church and school mission and vision are rooted in its teachings. This is also a great opportunity to meet new friends and share your faith journey with others!

This class meets Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, beginning on September 21. The last day to register for this class is September 28. Childcare is available for those who need it! Upon completion of the class, participants are welcomed to prayerfully consider official membership as part of the St. John family.

If you have any questions, please contact our St. John Ministry Engagement Coordinator, Deana Stevens, at 248-402-8004 or dstevens@stjohnrochester.org.

**TO REGISTER FOR
THIS CLASS SCAN
THE QR CODE
OR VISIT:**

[https://www.
stjohnrochester
.org/event/one-class/](https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/one-class/)



ADULT BIBLE STUDY | Wednesdays at 6:00 PM starting September 9 | Concordia Hall

“The Bible On Trial – Beyond A Reasonable Doubt” – 4 week class

The world’s most widely circulated book is also one of its most highly debated. Check out how the Bible has withstood intense scrutiny from critics and cynics alike. You’ll come away with a fresh appreciation of the Bible as an historical document and the Word of God. Class led by Pete Grund. For more information contact Bob Danielson at cornell_eng@hotmail.com.

SHARED LIFE

FAMILY PRAISE & PICNIC IN THE PARK - PARKING LOT MAP



- 1 - Rochester Municipal Park Lot
- 2 - Rochester Medical Center
- 3 - Lambert Law
- 4 - Pixley Funeral Home
- 5 - Michigan Eye Institute
- 6 - University Dental Associates

ADDITIONAL PARKING:

- Halbach Field off Woodward - north of park, need to cut across Paint Creek path
- Rochester parking structure on Walnut and University - free for the first hour and \$1.25/hour each additional hour



FAMILY PRAISE & PICNIC IN THE PARK | Sunday, August 23 at 11:00 AM

Join us for this year's Family Praise and Picnic in the Park on Sunday, August 23! Worship service begins at 11:00 AM in beautiful Rochester Municipal Park. **This will be the only worship service offered that weekend as our St. John family gathers to witness Jesus' love in the community!** Make plans now to join us and invite your family, friends, and neighbors too.

Park Info: Dress casually and bring your lawn chairs & blankets as seating will be on the grassy area surrounding the Band Shell in the middle of the park. For our friends and family with mobility concerns, we have golf cart drivers that will transport you to and from the parking lot, as well as seat you in a shaded area with provided chairs.

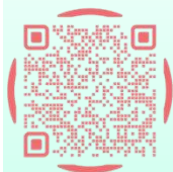
Vintage Vehicle Display: Display your treasured car, truck, tractor, or cycle in the park using the Griggs Street entrance. Registration begins at 9:30 AM. Please contact Eric Brown to register your vehicle at EricBrown1939@gmail.com.

Here are just some of the details of the day:

- Family Friendly Worship Celebration
- Free Picnic Lunch and Ice Cream
- Vintage Vehicle Display
- Fun Games & Activities for All Ages

VOLUNTEERS!

This event isn't possible without volunteers like you! Sign up today to help set up, decorate, greet, prepare food, drive golf cart shuttles, and much more! If you are able to assist with this event, contact our Ministry Engagement Coordinator, Deana Stevens, at dstevens@stjohnrochester.org or (248) 402-8004 or sign up using our online form by scanning the QR code or visiting www.stjohnrochester.org/event/fppip



LUTHERAN LAYMENS LEAGUE MEN'S RETREAT | September 10-13

The men of St. John are invited to attend this year's Lutheran Laymen's League Men's Retreat scheduled for September 10-13 at beautiful Camp Arcadia on Lake Michigan. This year's guest presenter is Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler, current Lutheran Hour Speaker. The cost is \$310, and registration can be completed online at <https://camp-arcadia.com/attend-arcadia/register/>. If you have questions, please contact Roger Guetzkow (248-622-1606) or Paul Kienman (248-890-4405).



ROBOTICS PROGRAM LAUNCHING | COACHES NEEDED, REPLY REQUESTED BY AUGUST 18

St. John is getting ready to launch a Robotics Program! We have had significant interest from students, as well as a several volunteer coaches. Due to the student maximums per team, and the required number of coaches per team, **we are still in need of approximately 10 - 14 more coaches to make this program possible.** (11 more for K - 3; 2 more for 4th - 5th grade, and 2 more for 6th - 8th grades.) Volunteers should enjoy being around children and parents, and be able to attend most of the group's meetings; you will be partnered with other coaches to coordinate schedules; no engineering experience needed. All volunteers will be required to complete a background check with Robotics and with St. John. If you are interested in helping make this program possible, please contact Aaron Roggow, aaroggow@gmail.com or Beth Dameron, bdameron@stjohnrochester.org by August 18. Meeting days and times starting 9/8 for 12 weeks are listed below:

K - 3 | Tuesdays, 5:00 - 6:00 PM

4th - 6th Grades | Tuesdays, 4:00 - 5:30 PM

6th - 8th grade | Monday and Thursday,
4:00 - 6:00 PM



HOUSE OF HOPE 6TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING | September 19 | Rammler Golf Club in Sterling Heights



House of Hope is a new ministry that we are supporting this year. We have done ministry with them in the past, but this year we are committing to more intentional ways of supporting them. Golfers! Be the Hands and Feet of Jesus—On the Fairway! Come out for a day of fun, friendly competition, a 50/50 raffle, and a silent auction. Every swing helps House of Hope bring the love of Christ to families living in mobile home communities throughout Southeast Michigan. Individual spots, team registrations, and event sponsorships are now open.

Register here:

<https://friends-in-fairways.vercel.app/house-of-hope-annual-outing>
and contact Nathan Keup with any questions at ndkeup7@gmail.com.



POSITIONS AVAILABLE

St. John Lutheran Church & School is now accepting applications for the following position. Candidates should have a love for Jesus, a love for children, and must be able to pass a background check.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS: As needed

Applications are being accepted for qualified substitute teachers for the 2026-2027 school year for St. John Lutheran School. Interested candidates should submit a letter of application and resume by **Friday, August 21** to Principal, Elizabeth Leinberger at leinberger@stjohnrochester.org.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SCHOOL NEWS | BACK TO SCHOOL IS HERE!

Our teachers officially returned to campus this past week. Please keep them in prayer as they prepare for the students and families!

If you or a loved one is seeking a Christ-centered program with caring, educated faculty and to help your child grow and develop in both academics and their faith, we are accepting applications for limited spaces in 1st to 8th grades, and for PS3 afternoons. For more information, visit school.stjohnrochester.org/admissions or call 248-404-8012.



Upcoming Back to School Events:

- Monday, August 17 | 5th grade Student and Parent Orientation, 5:00 - 6:00 PM
- Tuesday, August 18 | K - 8 Welcome Day, personal classroom visits, student yearbook photos, and various school and ministry information booths; 12:00 - 6:00 PM (photos start at 1:00 PM)
- Wednesday, August 19 | 6th Grade Middle School Orientation, 5:30 - 7:00 PM
- Thursday, August 20 | Preschool Parent Orientation, 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM (select one); 4th grade Parent Orientation, 5:00 - 6:00 PM
- Monday, August 24 | First Day of School, K - 8; Half day
- Wednesday, August 26 & Thursday, August 27 | Preschool & Y5 Classroom Visits
- Monday, August 31 & Tuesday, September 1 | Preschool & Y5 First Days of School

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE

Your continued financial support and partnership in the ministry and mission of St. John Lutheran Church & School is so important and is making a huge difference in changing lives for eternity in Jesus' name! If you are worshiping onsite, offerings can be placed in the designated areas outside the sanctuary. You can also scan the provided QR code to give online or visit our website stjohnrochester.org/give/. If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Operations, Steve Gauss, at sgauss@stjohnrochester.org.



CONSTANT PRAYER

LET US PRAY FOR WHATEVER IS ON YOUR HEART

To submit a prayer request, please email prayer@stjohnrochester.org at any time or visit our website and click on the prayer link toward the bottom of the homepage. These requests are received by our pastors and are passed along (or kept confidential when requested) to our prayer warriors and are also included in our weekend worship.



Healing & Peace: Carol Pawlitz - recovering from a stroke \ Bill Olson – cancer \ Boone (4 week old nephew of Andrew & Alicia Luch) - brain bleeds & clots \ Sandy Luecke - recovering from triple bypass surgery

Strength & Guidance: Sauda (persecuted Christian in Uganda)

Gospel Impact: Family Praise & Picnic in the Park

Thanksgiving: 40th Wedding Anniversary of Joel & Karen Neumeyer / 100th Birthday of Arnold Schilke

WEEK AT A GLANCE: AUGUST 17-23

Here is a highlight of activities happening on campus this week.

Monday, August 17

9:00 AM - The Five Books of Moses - Men's Bible Study (Church Library)

6:00 PM - Foundation Meeting (Church Library)

7:00 PM - Vestry Meeting (Media Center)

17

Tuesday, August 18

10:00 AM - ESL (Mary Martha)

18

Wednesday, August 19

6:00 AM - Dad's Bible Study (Luther Hall)

19

Thursday, August 20

10:00 AM - The Lutheran Witness - Men's Bible Study (Church Library)

12:00 PM - International Bible Study (Mary Martha)

20

Friday, August 21

7:00 PM - Drummelsmith 242 Group (Luther Hall)

21

Saturday, August 22

NO MODERN PRAISE - due to Praise in the Park on Sunday

22

Sunday, August 23

PRAISE IN THE PARK

23



Join Us!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23 @ 11AM

ROCHESTER MUNICIPAL PARK



Worship Schedule

Traditional Praise: Sundays at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM (also online), and 11:00 AM

Modern Praise: Saturdays at 5:00 PM | Sundays at 10:45 AM (also online)

1011 W. University Dr. | Rochester, MI 48307 | 248.402.8000 | stjohnrochester.org