

# St. John's Lutheran Church

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STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026**

# ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church in America

**ALL ARE  
WELCOME!**



## Parish Office:

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📍 884 Newfield Ave., Stamford, CT

We are delighted to have you with us today! To help us keep track of our cherished visitors, we kindly ask that you sign the visitor book located in the Narthex. This small gesture allows us to connect with you and offer any assistance you may need. Additionally, our ushers are more than happy to provide guidance and answer any questions you might have during worship. Whether you're here for the first time or returning, we hope you feel welcomed.



Busy bags are in the Narthex for your little ones to enjoy. These bags are thoughtfully prepared to keep children engaged during the service. Additionally, we invite you to explore and make use of the Godly Play area at the back of the Nave, designed to provide a welcoming and enriching environment for our young attendees. We hope these resources help create a meaningful and enjoyable experience for your family.

## MISSION STATEMENT

All are welcome! We share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.

*Welcome to St. John's. We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God.*

## PRELUDE

*We stand.*

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

*Lift high the cross*

HYMN 660

## OPENING DIALOG

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,  
**for in your wisdom you have formed us.**

You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

**We bless you and praise your name forever.**

You set free those who are bound.

**We bless you and praise your name forever.**

You raise up those whose courage falters.

**We bless you and praise your name forever.**

You provide for our every need.

**Accept our grateful praises.**

You have called us from all peoples.

**We rejoice and bless your name forever.**

You bless your people with peace.

**We bless you and praise your loving grace.**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,  
**for in your wisdom you have formed us.**

## APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.\***

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

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*\*Or,* He descended to the dead.

**OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE**

*My soul proclaims*

WAREHAM

1. My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
Rejoicing in his holiness;  
For he hath looked with favor on  
His servant in her lowliness.
2. All ages now shall call me blessed;  
The mighty one hath strengthened me;  
Throughout all generations now  
Them that fear him will have mercy.
3. He hath displayed his right arm's strength,  
Scattered the proud in their conceit,  
Exalted now the humble, meek  
Put down the mighty from their seat.
4. The hungry he hath filled with good;  
The rich he sent empty away;  
As he once promised Abraham  
And our forefathers in their day.
5. All glory to the Father, Son,  
And to the Holy Spirit be;  
As from the first it was, is now,  
And will be for eternity. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your lovingkindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*We sit.*

## WORD

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### FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 20:7-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

**O** LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. <sup>8</sup>For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. <sup>9</sup>If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. <sup>10</sup>For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." <sup>11</sup>But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. <sup>12</sup>O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. <sup>13</sup>Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

8 Surely, for your sake have I suffered reproach, \*  
and shame has covered my face.

**9 I have become a stranger to my own kindred, \*  
an alien to my mother's children.**

10 Zeal for your house has eaten me up; \*  
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

**11 I humbled myself with fasting, \*  
but that was turned to my reproach.**

18 Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind; \*  
in your great compassion, turn to me.<sup>7</sup>

**19 "Hide not your face from your servant; \*  
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.**

20 Draw near to me and redeem me; \*  
because of my enemies deliver me..

## SECOND READING

ROMANS 6:1-11

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

**S**HOULD we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

**GOSPEL**

MATTHEW 10:24-39

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

“**A** DISCIPLE is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup>it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! <sup>26</sup>“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup>What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup>Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup>Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup>And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup>So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. <sup>32</sup>“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; <sup>33</sup>but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. <sup>34</sup>“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; <sup>36</sup>and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; <sup>38</sup>and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

**SERMON**

MR. NATHAN PEACE

*We stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Children of the heavenly Father*

**HYMN 781**

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us  
and gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God.



*We sit.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**      *Sung by the Summer Choir*

*We stand.*

**HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION**

SCHUMANN

**We give thee but thine own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone,  
a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
Amen.**

*We kneel or sit for the prayers.*

## THE PRAYERS

Almighty and everlasting God, you are worthy to be held in reverence by all the mortal race. We give you thanks for the innumerable blessings which, despite our unworthiness, you have showered upon us.

We praise you especially that you have preserved for us in their purity your saving Word and the sacred ordinances of your house. Grant and preserve to your Church throughout the world purity of doctrine and faithful pastors who shall preach your Word with power and help all who hear rightly to understand and firmly to believe your Word of truth.

Protect and defend your people in time of tribulation and danger, that we, in communion with your Church and in unity with all Christian people, may fight the good fight of faith and in the end receive the fullness of salvation.

Upon all the nations of the earth, bestow your grace. Especially, we ask you to bless our land and all its inhabitants and all who are in authority. Cause your glory to dwell among us, and let mercy and truth, justice and peace everywhere prevail. We commend to your care all

our schools, that virtue and useful knowledge may be nourished and the wholesome fruits of life may abound.

In your mercy, defend us from all calamities by fire and water, from war and pestilence, from scarcity and famine. Protect and prosper all who labor and cause all useful arts to flourish among us. Show yourself to be the helper of the sick and needy, the comforter of the forsaken and distressed.

Accept, we pray, our bodies and souls, our hearts and minds, our talents and powers, together with these gifts, as our offering of praise.

And as we are strangers and pilgrims on earth, help us to prepare for the world to come, doing the work which you have given us to do while it is day, before that night comes when no one can work. And, when our last hour shall come, support us by your power and receive us into your everlasting kingdom, where, with your Son our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever.

**Amen.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Fa - ther who art in\_\_ hea - ven, Ha - llow'd be thy Name;

Thy king - dom come; thy will be\_\_ done, on earth as it is in hea - ven.

Give us this day our\_\_ dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pass - es as

we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst\_\_ us. And lead us

not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - li - ver us from e - vil. For thine is the

king-dom, the po- wer and the glo- ry, for e- ver and e- ver.

A- men. For e- ver and e- ver. A- men.

*We stand.*

**NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE** *Sung to* DIADEMATA

**1** You are the God we praise,  
 The Lord whom we acclaim,  
 Eternal Father, all the world  
 Bows down at your great Name;  
 To you angelic hosts  
 And all the powers of heaven,  
 The Cherubim and Seraphim,  
 Sing praises without end.

**2** Holy, thrice-holy Lord,  
 The God of praise and might,  
 The heavens above and earth beneath  
 Are filled with glorious light;  
 The apostolic band,  
 Prophets and martyrs praise,  
 Throughout the world the holy Church  
 Acclaims you Lord always;

**3** Father, of majesty,  
 Your only Son and true,  
 And Holy Spirit, Advocate,  
 To you all praise is due;  
 Lord Christ, the Father's Son,  
 In glory, King above,  
 You did not shun the Virgin's womb  
 To set us free in love.

**4** You overcame death's sting  
 And opened heaven's door  
 To all the faithful where you reign  
 In glory evermore;  
 Come, then, and help all those  
 For whom your blood was spent  
 And bring us with your holy saints  
 To glory without end.

**BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless us and keep us.  
 The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.  
 The Lord look upon us with favor **✝** and give us peace.  
**Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

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Lord's Prayer, Traditional Afrikaan's, arr. Marnus Lively-Greyling

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*This week we welcome Nathan Peace as our guest preacher while Pr Martha is away.  
Pr Martha will return this week.*

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**Scan the QR code to view the Parish Life Calendar  
for the most up-to-date schedule.**



PRAYER  
LIST



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Beryl, Valerie, Gary, Pr Harv Weitzel, Trish, Joe, Henry, Paul, Becky,  
Margaret, Jack, Cat, Roberta

If you have someone to add to the prayer list, please email the parish  
office.

Contact Pr Martha for pastoral needs at 406-565-3592.

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# Summer CHOIR

**BEGINS JUNE 14!**

Looking for a low-commitment, joyful way to stay connected through music this summer?

*Join us!*



**WE MEET AT 9:00 AM**  
for a quick, relaxed rehearsal around the piano in the back of the church.



**WE SING DURING THE OFFERTORY.**



**MINIMAL COMMITMENT!**  
No weekly commitment required—come whenever you're available. All are welcome—regular choir members and newcomers alike!

**THIS YEAR'S THEME:**

*Old and New*




We'll sing some **new tunes** with favorite texts



Some **new texts** with favorite tunes



And some **new texts** and **new tunes**

It's a chance to experience the richness of tradition alongside the creativity of today's church music—all in a supportive, low-pressure setting. 



*Mark your calendars*

**AND JOIN US**

for this opportunity for *easy musical fun in worship!* 



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Lutheran Church  
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