

**August 10, 2025**  
**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**UNDIVIDED ATTENTION:**  
**ON HEAVENLY TREASURE**



**EMMANUEL and ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
**Wisconsin Synod**  
**Mecan and Montello, WI**  
**Sunday Worship: 8:00 AM in Mecan 10:00 AM in Montello**

## **WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!**

We pray that you are blessed by God's Word in worship today. **The order of worship** is printed here, is projected on the screen, and live-streamed at [www.stjohnsmontello.org](http://www.stjohnsmontello.org). **Restrooms** are located in the link way, out the church entryway, to the left and down the stairs. At Emmanuel, they are located in the Parish Hall. A **nursery changing station** is located in the lower level of St. John's.

## **UNDIVIDED ATTENTION**

We live in a world where a thousand things are competing for our attention. There is the real danger that we focus on the frivolous and ignore the indispensable. As a result, we often talk about the importance of being "free from distraction." But the stakes are higher than that. We need to be freed from distraction. We need the spiritual power to give our undivided attention to that which truly makes a difference, not only here and now, but also in eternity. A life focused on all the right things is only possible because of a Savior who is always focused on us. On the Day of Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to give his followers power and focus. Still today, through his Word, Jesus grants those gifts to his disciples. We have come to the second half of the Church Year. In the first half, we focused on the life of Christ. In this second half, we turn our attention to all the teachings of Christ. May we give them our undivided attention.

## **ON HEAVENLY TREASURE**

Last week Jesus warned us against overvaluing earthly wealth. This week Jesus warns against undervaluing heavenly treasure. Last week, Jesus exposed the folly of greed. This week, Jesus exposes the folly of worry, even when faced with the prospect of having a seeming shortage of resources. This week might be the bigger challenge! When it seems we lack providence or protection for our daily lives, it can be hard to avoid worry. So, Jesus asks us to give our undivided attention to him, that he might take our worries away. Jesus points to creatures that do not labor or toil yet eat every day. Even more, Jesus points to our Father who promises to give us the heavenly treasures of his kingdom. Jesus assures us that our Father will throw in any needed earthly possessions as well. We can rest from our worries, confident that our loving Father knows all we need.

**Today's Preacher: Pastor John Dolan**

**Today's Accompanist: Donna Kuenn**

## Today's Order of Worship

**OPENING HYMN:** 811 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**CONFESSION:**

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

♪ **Amen.**

♪ **Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For you only are holy; you only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and willing to give far more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS:

### FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1–6

*(In faith, Abram treasured all the LORD's gracious promises.)*

<sup>1</sup>After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." <sup>4</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." <sup>6</sup>Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

### Thanks be to God.

### PSALM: 121D Keep Me as the Apple of Your Eye

*Refrain*



*Tone*



I lift up my eyes to the / mountains—  
where does my help / come from?  
My help comes / from the LORD,  
the maker of heav- / en and earth.

He will not let your / foot slip—  
he who watches over you will not / slumber;  
indeed, he who watches over / Israel  
will neither slum- / ber nor sleep. *Refrain*

The LORD watches / over you—  
the LORD is your shade at / your right hand;  
the sun will not harm / you by day,  
nor the / moon by night.  
The LORD will keep you / from all harm—  
he will watch o- / ver your life;  
the LORD will watch over your coming and / going  
both now and for- / evermore.  
**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. *Refrain***

Tune: Jane Marshall

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## **SECOND READING:** Hebrews 11:1-3,4-16

*(The gift of faith allows us to see the treasure that is found in the city whose architect and builder is God.)*

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

<sup>2</sup>This is what the ancients were commended for. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. <sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

<sup>11</sup>And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. <sup>12</sup>And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore. <sup>13</sup>All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

<sup>14</sup>People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to

return. <sup>16</sup>Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

♪ **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**  
**Do not be afraid, little flock,**  
**for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.**  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### **GOSPEL READING:** Luke 12:22-34 (Sermon Text)

*(Jesus assures us that we have a Father in heaven who knows  
what we need better than we do.)*

<sup>22</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! <sup>25</sup>Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? <sup>26</sup>Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? <sup>27</sup>"Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. <sup>30</sup>For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. <sup>32</sup>"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY: 800 "How Firm a Foundation"**

**SERMON:** Luke 12:22-34 Don't Worry Anymore - It Doesn't Pay. It Doesn't Help. You Don't Need To.

## **NICENE CREED:**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **OFFERING & PRAYERS**

### **THE SACRAMENT:**

The Lord be with you.

♪ **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

♪ **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

♪ **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

**♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts: heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you. As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**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.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

♪ **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING:**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN:** 601 "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

### **Acknowledgments**

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### **Today's Worship Prayers**

*Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)* Included in the Prayer of the Church this morning will be a prayer of thanksgiving to God on the 175th Anniversary of Montello which culminated in a day of activities yesterday. A sense of community is one of the extra blessings God gives to his church and the local congregation. May we continue to be blessed and be a blessing to the City of Montello. If there are requests for special prayers in the worship service, let the pastor know or contact the church office. What a privilege it is to carry everything to God in Prayer.

### **Our Holy Communion Practice**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in worship today. Holy Communion is a wonderful gift in which we receive Jesus' own body and blood to forgive our sins and to strengthen us in our faith. It is, however, a gift that is given us with certain responsibilities. The sacrament is intended for those who have been instructed and who understand the biblical teachings of the Lord's Suppers. It is also a way for communicants to express the unity of faith and belief that we share. Therefore, we ask that only confirmed members of Emmanuel and St. John or other congregations of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or those in doctrinal fellowship with her come forward to receive Communion.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE: 8/10/25-8/16/25**

**Today:** Emmanuel Congregation Meeting following 8:00am Worship  
Parent Information Meeting

**Monday:** St. John's BoE Meeting 5:15pm

**Tuesday:** Joint Elders Meeting 9:00am  
Fill Your Desk Night

**Wednesday & Thursday:** CALA Parent Information Meetings

**Friday:** LL & CALA Faculty Get-together at Princeton Ice Bowl

**Next Sunday:** Vacany Pastor Hanneman and Kindergarten teacher Liz Wolter leads worship.

## Announcements and News

**Attendance last Sunday:** Emmanuel 40; St. John's 104

### **St. John's Financials**

	Budget	Offerings	All Income	Expenses
July	\$33,436.46	\$22,572.23	\$35,452.11	\$28,932.36
Year to Date	\$33,436.46	\$22,572.23	\$35,452.11	\$28,932.36

### **Forward in Christ**

Copies of both the July and August *Forward in Christ* magazine are still available. Pick up a copy for yourself or for someone else and enjoy the rich collection of spiritual growth, human interest, and informational articles.

### **Custodian Sought**

St. John's is looking to hire a custodian for the church school (Montello campus). For more information, contact Jerre Duerr at [Jerre.asc@gmail.com](mailto:Jerre.asc@gmail.com).

### **Calling all college students!**

If you have a college student in your family, let Pastor Dolan or the church office know.



### **WELS 175th**

If you haven't done so, check out all the great resources for this important anniversary celebration - [175th – WELS Historical Institute](#), or just google it. The interactive timeline is great.

### **St. John's Ushers:**

Thank you to Jacob Jaster, Mark Emond, and Kevin Kaul for ushering last Sunday. The Ushers for today are Matthew Kath, Glen Bubolz, Martin Schmanke, Mike Kempley and Grayson Kempley. The Ushers for Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> are James Wachholz, Zeb Zuehls, Chuck Boetcher, Jesse Schable, and Aaron Wachholz.

### **Eagles nest Staff hiring**

We are looking for a part time staff member to join the Eagles Nest after school program. The hours we are looking for help are: Monday-Wednesday-Friday (3:00-5:15) The program is closed when school is closed and hours may vary slightly. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more on how you can help please contact Mrs. Straschinske ([lladmin@stjohnsmontello.org](mailto:lladmin@stjohnsmontello.org))

## ***Help us stay in touch!***

*Scan the code below using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information. Don't have a smartphone? That's ok! Fill out an attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate located at the entry of each church.*



**Welcome to our visitors!**

**Find & Like us on Facebook**

**Visit our website:** [www.stjohnsmontello.org](http://www.stjohnsmontello.org)

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[bwhanny@frontier.com](mailto:bwhanny@frontier.com)

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