

October 12, 2025
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
WELS 175TH ANNIVERSARY: CHRIST FOR US



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

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. **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.

WELS 17TH ANNIVERSARY: CHRIST THROUGH US

Today, and the 19th, and 26th, we will join many other synod congregations giving special attention to the 175th anniversary of our church body. Christ Through Us is the overall theme. The last of the three is also Reformation Sunday and two sons of the congregation will be here to help us celebrate. Pastor David Kolander will be our guest preacher for the day, and Robert Mateske, Jr. will serve as guest organist. The adult choir and the Sunday School will be singing.

CHRIST FOR US

Our synod's 175th anniversary theme is "Christ Through Us." That can only be understood properly if we first establish the concept of "Christ For Us" (Christus pro nobis in Latin). Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection were not for his own benefit but specifically for humanity's salvation. He lived a perfect life, fulfilling God's law on behalf of sinners, and his death was a substitutionary atonement for our sins. The phrase "for us" underscores the idea that salvation is entirely a gift, granted by God through Christ's actions, and is not earned by human effort or merit. "Christ For Us" is central to the Bible's explanation of justification, where believers are declared righteous before God solely on the basis of Christ's work, received through faith. Christ's vicarious suffering and resurrection assure Christians that God's wrath against sin has been fully satisfied, and through Christ, we are reconciled to God.

Go to welshistoricalinstitute.org/175th/ for much more information about WELS 175th

Today's Worship Leader: Retired Pastor John Dolan
We are using electronic music for the hymns today

Today's Order of Worship

(Adapted from *Service of Holy Baptism CW* pages 261-265 and *Corporate Confession and Absolution CW* pages 278-281)

Note: Liturgy for Emmanuel begins on p.3; St. John's begins on p. 4

EMMANUEL 8:00AM

OPENING HYMN: 800 "How Firm a Foundation"

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

Amen.

PRAYER

Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that we may love you and praise your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

the maker of heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. In what I have done and left undone, I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. I have not loved others as you command. For this I deserve your punishment now and forever. I am sorry for my sins. I repent of them. I beg for your mercy.

Silence for reflection

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.

Cleanse me from my sins. Release me from my guilt. Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven." Do you believe this?

Yes, I believe.

In the name and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

Amen.

EXHORTATION

Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us, has reconciled us to God, and has promised us the power to forgive and love one another. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

Worship continues on p.6 with the Prayer of the day.

St. JOHN'S 10:00AM

OPENING HYMN: 646 "See This Wonder in the making" Verses 1-3

HOLY BAPTISM

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

Amen.

CONFESSION

Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in

God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

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

God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Gospel according to St. Mark: People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Daniel Robert Michael Finger II, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Let us pray. We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received Daniel as your own child and made him a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to him and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

HYMN: 646 "See This Wonder in the making" Verse 4

Worship Liturgy continues here.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Grant, O merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through 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: Romans 5:8–10

Christ died for us, and we are reconciled to God.

⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING: John 1:9–14

Jesus Christ is light, grace, and truth for us, his children.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY: 702 "Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake"

SERMON: Genesis 3:8-15 "175 Years of Grace ... FOR US"

⁸Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." ¹¹And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" ¹²The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." ¹³Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." ¹⁴So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, 'Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.'"

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.

HYMN: 675 v. 1-2 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

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.

HYMN: 675 v. 6 & 8 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

DISTRIBUTION

Our Biblical Communion Practice

The Lord's Supper is God's gift in which we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and strengthening of faith. This gift brings certain responsibilities. The sacrament is intended for those who have been instructed and who understand what the sacrament is all about. Communing together is also a way we express oneness of faith. Therefore, we ask that only confirmed members of our congregations or other churches in fellowship with the Wisconsin Synod come forward to receive the sacrament today.

Thank you for respecting this biblical practice. To learn more, you may speak with the pastor after the service.

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: 673 "O Lord, We Praise You"

Acknowledgments

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Baptized Today in Montello

Daniel Robert Michael Finger II, son of Dan and Amanda Finger, will be baptized into the Triune God and become a child of God today in the 10AM worship at St. John's.

Emmanuel Members. An Emmanuel Financial Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Oct 16th at 6:30 PM in the parish hall. A St Johns/Emmanuel Joint Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct 21st at Emmanuel at 6:30 PM followed by an Emmanuel Council Meeting. The Emmanuel Congregation 4th quarter meeting will be held on Sunday Oct 26th following the Sunday service.

In the Prayer of the Church Today

Continue to keep Pastor Joe Fricke in your prayers as he deliberates on the call we have sent him to be our pastor... Also pray for St. John's, Princeton, and Pastor Lucas Bitter, called to be their next pastor.... Also, remember Diane Metcalf who was hospitalized this week. *If there are special intercessory prayers to include in the weekly intercessory prayers, notify the church office during the week or speak to the pastor prior to the service.*

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Here is a prayer for our pastors: Heavenly Father, we thank you for the blessing of pastors to shepherd us. Grant that our pastors remain faithful in prayer and study of the Scriptures and continue preaching your Word in its truth and purity. As we await a new pastor-shepherd, give us grace to support in prayer and enable us to encourage Pastors Hanneman and Dolan, as well as our visiting pastors, that their service may be filled with joy and their ministry yield fruit. And, Lord, give our congregation receptiveness to their ministry so that we may be strengthened and renewed in our faith. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

THANK YOU FROM LWMS FOR SUPPORTING MISSIONS! During September Befriend A Mission month, any prayers spoken, any encouragement written in a card or note, and any offerings given to support WELS missions were greatly appreciated! May we continue to be friends of missions!

PIE SALE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9 Buy a homemade pie! Visit us in the gym! All proceeds will help us send some of our Sisters to their first Lutheran Women's Missionary Society Convention this summer in Madison. Sales will run from 9:15 a.m. until the 10:00 a.m. service and will re-open after the service till all the pies are sold. \$12/pie.

How's Your Diet? Meditations Devotions for this Week

A steady and balanced diet of good spiritual food is even more important than food for the body. Consider using Meditations personal devotion time. Copies are in the racks on the back wall of church. This week you will be invited to "Meet Jesus" through a closer look at Luke 16:11-19, the account of the 10 Lepers.

LWMS FALL RALLY at St. Stephen's-Beaver Dam on SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18. *All are welcome! Come share a day "CHEERING" for WELS missions! Speakers Pastor Dan & Amanda Lewig, "Lessons from the Field. Our Home Mission-Richland Center/Hillpoint." Register 9:15 a.m.* Enjoy morning refreshments, mission displays, and register on-line as a 2026 Convention volunteer! *Service Project:* Monetary gifts for Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool-Richland Center. *Convention Cross Project:* Bring completed crosses & unused tags & bags. *Bible Study* 10:20 a.m. *Business Meeting* 11:00 a.m. *Lunch* 11:50 a.m. *Devotion & Speaker* 12:40 p.m. Come for the whole day or just part of it! Anyone with a heart for missions—women, men, even kids—all are invited! Carpool signup in the Information Room or contact your LWMS reporter: Helen Stelter 608-297-7116 or Linda Wachholz 608-369-2635.

This Week of October 12-October 19

12th Sun. Choir practice after Worship. Stewardship Meeting after Worship.
13th Mon. Choir practice at St. John's 6:30pm.
15th Wed Adult Bible Study for all Emmanuel/St. John's Members and Friends at St. John's lower level 10:30am and repeated at 6:30pm
15th Wed Public School Confirmation Class at St. John's, lower level. 5-6 PM
16th Thurs GriefShare St. John's lower level 6pm
18th Sat Men's Breakfast & Study Club at St. John's, lower level. 8am.
18th Sat LWMS Fall Rally at St. Stephen's in Beaver Dam.
19th Sun 8 AM Worship at Emmanuel and 10 AM at St. John's. Vacancy Pastor Bruce Hanneman with accompanist Donna Kuenn

Adult Bible Study Opportunities

- The Wednesday class continues the series, Stories You Didn't Learn in Sunday School – and a Few You Did. This week: Making a Decision for God – Joshua Challenges Israel, Part II, Joshua 24.
- Sunday Morning at St. John's at 8:45am in the linkway. Important Chapters of the Bible.
- Saturday, the Men's Breakfast & Study Club. Food and Fellowship, followed by a study of the Lutheran Confession, the Smalcald Articles. Men of all ages welcome, Dad's and grandpa's are welcome to bring kids!!

Thank You to Those Who Serve as Ushers

Thank you to Ben Jaster, Jacob Jaster, Mark Emond, and Jeff Reimer for serving as today's ushers. October 19th ushers are: Matthew Kath, Glen Bubolz, Martin Schmanke, Mike Kempley, Grayson Kempley.

CALA News – Monday Magazine

Every Monday our school sends out an electronic newsletter called the *Monday Magazine*. In addition to general news and updates, there is a link to each individual classroom. You can be well informed about the school, the children, and the staff. Contact CALA secretary, Jorgia Kempley, and she will add you to the list. *Monday Magazine* will appear in your email inbox.

Singing Schedule:

Oct. 19: CALA 3-8 at Princeton

Oct. 26: St. John's Sunday School (Montello)

Nov. 9: Little Lambs & CALA K-2 at Montello

Nov. 16: Little Lambs & CALA K-8, Chimes at Princeton

Nov. 16: St. John's Sunday School (Montello)

St. John's is having Trunk-or-Treat on Wednesday, October 29th from 4-6pm!

We are in need of volunteers and donations to help make this a great event!!

The supplies we are in need of are apples, applesauce pouches, and cider (these items can be dropped off at the church office until Friday, Oct. 24th). We are also looking for volunteers to help run the activities (this a great way to involve the whole family!!!) We are in need of monetary donations, or a Thrivent Action Team Card if you have one available to use for this event. For more information, please contact Mr. Matt in the office.



At our Pastor Call meeting the voters present voted unanimously to extend a Divine Call to Pastor Joseph Fricke. Following is some information about him and his family: He is 60 years old and has been a Pastor for 32 years. He served as Pastor in Mauston for 16 years. He is presently serving at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Johnson Creek WI. His wife's name is Rebecca (Becky) (nee Schultz) she is the daughter of our recently departed member Eloise Schultz. Her brother Tim Schultz is a member of St. John's. They have 4 grown children. They own their own home.

Contact information:

Pastor Joseph Fricke

Phone: 608-548-4998

Email: revfricke@gmail.com

Address:

W4096 County Rd B

Johnson Creek WI 53172

Please pray for him and his family and reach out to them with encouragement through cards, texts, emails, or phone calls as they deliberate where they can best use their gifts to promote the saving Gospel.

Annual Tots to Teens Book Drive Begins October 4th

Literacy Volunteers-Marquette County announces the start of its annual Christmas Tots to Teens Book Drive. The book giveaway will be held in conjunction with the Marquette County Giving Tree program in December at Trinity Methodist Church in Montello, bringing a selection of books to the children of local participating families.

Starting October 4th, a drop box can be found in St. John's CALA school entry.

New or gently used children's books for ages birth on up are welcome. In addition to books for younger children, graphic novels and other popular titles for ages 12-18 would be appreciated. Please bring your donations to the box by November 1st, so they can be collected for sorting before the event.

Worship Attendance Last Week

Emmanuel: 46

St. John's: 68

Also, 6 people were able to attend Sunday Bible Study and 13 on Wednesday.

St. John's Financials

Complete reports were presented by the treasurer at the Quarterly Voter's Meeting on October 5th. They can be made available upon request. Here is a summary of the highlights...Income and expenses were somewhat lower than budgeted, but income outweighed expenses, resulting in a net income and slight growth in the checkbook balance. Funds from dedicated accounts supported some significant repairs. By spending these dedicated accounts down, our overall book equity has been improved, while at the same time seeing the checkbook balance grow. We must be mindful that this budget supports only a part time pastor with no benefits which will, of course change dramatically when a new pastor arrives. We have much to be grateful for but must continue to be diligent and faithful in our financial stewardship. Continued growth in worship, involvement, and offerings are needed as we look ahead.

	Budget	Offerings	All Income	Expenses
September	\$33,436.46	\$25,022.45	\$36,466.78	\$29,855.17
Year to Date	\$100,309.35	\$71,327.75	\$104,768.46	\$90,442.58

WELSS 175th - Adolph Hoenecke – 1835 to 1908

What would you expect from a child born to a religiously indifferent father, whose body—weakened by typhoid fever—made a military career impossible, who then chose the ministry only after being teased, “Look, Adolf, become a pastor and then you will have a good thing”? His early education exposed him to rationalism and a mere moderate Lutheranism.” This doesn’t sound promising, does it? But



God made this man Adolph Hoenecke “the great theologian” of the Wisconsin Synod. Pastor, professor, author, editor, and unequalled theologian, Hoenecke became one of the great leaders in 175-year history of our Wisconsin Synod. His greatest literary work, *Evangelical Lutheran Dogmatics*, was published after his death. Fortunately, the author—who never learned much English—can now speak to us through these four volumes...It just so happens that early in his ministry this future leader of our synod has a Marquette County connection. As a guest preacher here in 1865 he almost became the pastor of the joint parish which included what is now Emmanuel, Mecan. Present day students and pastors still study and are influenced by this gift of God.

Welcome to Our Visitors - Help Us Stay In Touch

Scan the barcode using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information...OR... fill out the attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate



Vacancy Pastor: Bruce Hanneman 507-317-5772

bwhanny@frontier.com

Pastor John Stelter - CALA Principal

principal@crystalonelutheranacademy.net 920-481-9002 ext. 101

Mr. Martin Raasch - CALA 6-8 Grade

mraasch@crystalonelutheranacademy.net 920- 481-9002 ext. 102

Miss Beth Barenz - CALA 3-5 Grade

bbarenz@crystalonelutheranacademy.net 920-481-9002 ext. 103

Ms. Shelley Myers - CALA 1-2 Grade

smyers@crystalonelutheranacademy.net 920-481-9002 ext. 201

Mrs. Elizabeth Wolter - CALA Kindergarten -

ewolter@crystalonelutheranacademy.net 920-481-9002 ext. 202

Miss Rachel Huebner - Little Lambs Teacher -

littlelambs@stjohnsmontello.org 608-297-2866 ext. 203

Mrs. Sylvia Straschinske - Little Lambs Director -

lladmin@stjohnsmontello.org 608-297-2866 ext. 203

Mrs. Jorgia Kempley - CALA Secretary -

secretary@crystalonelutheranacademy.net 920-481-9002 ext. 101

Church Office: Matthew Kath 608-297-2866/608-494-0167

Church/School Address: 313 E Montello St. Montello, WI 53949

Church Email: scsecretary@stjohnsmontello.org