

ST. MICHAEL'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our mission is to celebrate and share God's love in Jesus Christ

10 Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. 11 And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12 When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." 13 When he laid his hands on her. immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. 14 But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done;



come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." 15 But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? 16 And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" 17 When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 2025 at 10:00 AM ELW Setting 6

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL'S!

If you are visiting with us for the first time, please share in all that is ours in Christ! We invite you to consider making St. Michael's your church home. Please ask us about our participation in God's mission in the world. By God's grace we celebrate and share Christ. Our 10:00 worship service this morning is streamed live to St. Michael's Facebook and YouTube pages. Please keep conversation to a minimum in the sanctuary, you may be picked up by our sound system. If you prefer not to be seen on camera please speak to an usher and they will seat you outside of the video frame. Thank you for your understanding.

DIGITAL SIGN IN

You are welcome to sign in with our digital sign in. Please use the QR Code that can be found here in the bulletin or the iPad in the Narthex.



Ministers: The People of St. Michael's
The Reverend Christopher Bruesehoff, Pastor (pastor@stmlutheran.org)
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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INTRODUCTION

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Where Cross the Crowded Way of Life"

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The assembly is invited to stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of Φ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

- 1 Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea, day by day his clear voice sounding, saying, "Christian, follow me":
- 2 As of old Saint Andrew heard it by the Galilean lake, turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for Jesus' sake.
- 3 Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store, from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."

- 4 In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."
- 5 Jesus calls us! By your mercy, Savior, may we hear your call, give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.

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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



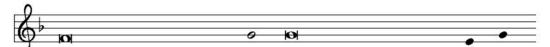
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of

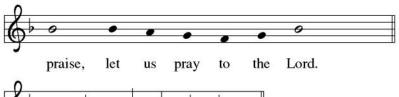


God, and for the uni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.





For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and



Lord, have mer - cy.



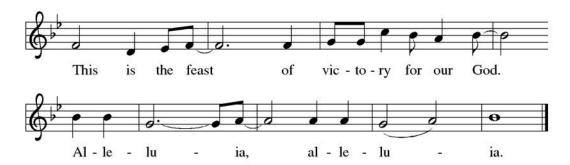
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



CANTICLE OF PRAISE







PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING Isaiah 58:9b-14

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

A reading from Isaiah

- 9b If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
 - ¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
 - then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.
 - ¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong,
 - and you shall be like a watered garden,
 - like a spring of water
 - whose waters never fail.
 - ¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;

you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

13 If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs; 14 then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

A reading from Hebrews.

¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

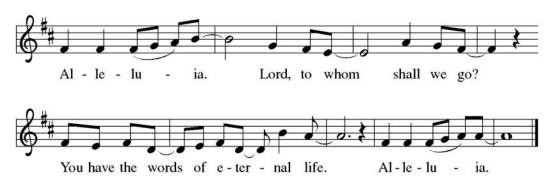
²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷ This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created

things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The assembly is invited to stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** *The assembly is seated.*

SERMON

The assembly is invited to stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Oh Happy Day When We Shall Stand"

FLW 441

- 1 Oh, happy day when we shall stand amid the heav'nly throng; and sing with hosts from ev'ry land the new celestial song, the new celestial song.
- Oh, what a mighty rushing flood of joy and love and peace will roll down over us with good and blessedness and grace, and blessedness and grace.
- 2 Oh, blessed day when Christ shall come 4 and show himself as Lord, and thousands meet in their new home which Jesus has prepared, which Jesus has prepared.
- O Lord, your grace is ev'rything; your love has made us free to stand among the saints and sing the glory that we see, the glory that we see.

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APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near. responding with "your mercy is great".

A brief silence.

You call your church to proclaim liberation and freedom to all. Give wisdom to bishops, synod councils and staff, and congregation leaders as they pursue a more just and equitable church and society. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You inspire all creation to sing and bless your holy name. Send healing rains to parched places and relief to flooded lands. Lead us to enact policies to rebuild ruined ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You work vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. Strengthen the resolve of world leaders and local officials in the way of love and mercy, so that all persons may experience abundant life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You satisfy your people with good things. In your steadfast love, receive the cries of all who are bent over under the weight of addiction, isolation, and mental or physical illness, especially...those we name aloud...and those we hold in our hearts. Manifest your healing presence in their midst. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Invigorate worship planners and leaders with creativity to aid this assembly in fresh and faithful prayer and praise. Enable all who gather here to be nourished and renewed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With Bartholomew and all your apostles, prophets, and saints, we give thanks and bless your holy name. As they now rest from their labors, guide us by the witness of their lives to pursue your reign, which can never be shaken. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** *The assembly is seated.*

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

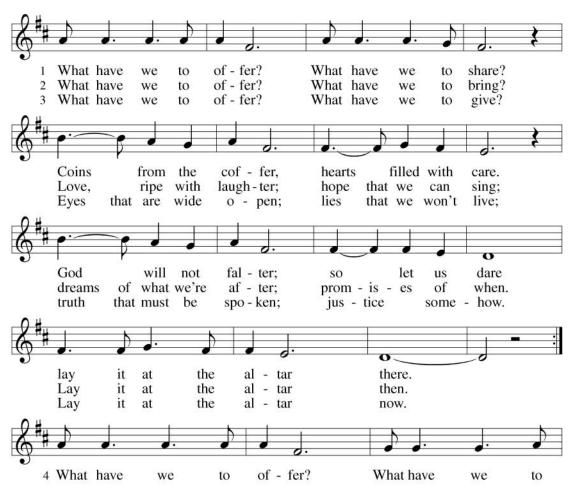
OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING: "Break Now the Bread of Life"

Offering is being gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. You are invited to place your offering in one of the offering plates located in the rear of the Sanctuary or send your offering to the church office through the mail or by having your bank mail a check directly. You can also contribute using any of the electronic giving options found on our church website or app.

The assembly is invited to stand.

OFFERATORY





OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

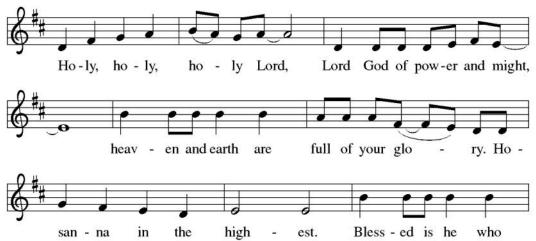
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

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. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world

to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving

and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

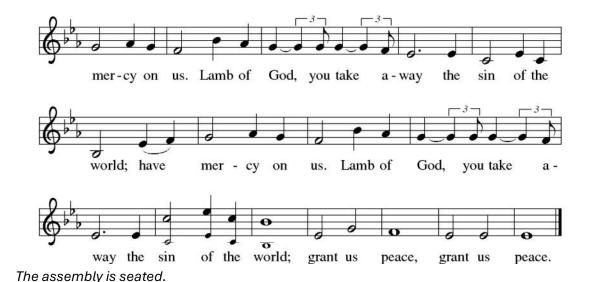
We give thanks as we receive the real presence of our resurrected Lord in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Communion will be distributed continuously under the direction of the ushers. Take an empty cup to receive from a pouring chalice (let the communion assistant know if you prefer grape juice). Please let the pastor know if you require a gluten free host. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you." and each person may respond, "Amen". Worshippers who are not yet communing are invited to come forward for a blessing.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

LAMB OF GOD





COMMUNION HYMN

"We Come to You for Healing Lord"

ELW 617

- 1 We come to you for healing, Lord, of body, mind, and soul, and pray that by your Spirit's touch we may again be whole.
- 2 As once you walked through ancient streets and reached toward those in pain, come, risen Christ, among us still with pow'r to heal again.
- 3 You touch us through physicians' skills, through nurses' gifts of care,

- and through the love of faithful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
- 4 When nights are long with wakefulness, through days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of patience, Lord, your calming peace to know.
- 5 We come to you, O loving Lord, in our distress and pain, in trust that through our nights and days your grace will heal, sustain.

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After all have communed the assembly is invited to stand.

TABLE BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in Christ's Grace, **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit \oplus bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "As Rain in the Clouds" ELW 508

- As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth, as snow from the heavens refreshing the land. Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word; we thank you, good gard ner, for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield, for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.
- 2 As grain that is scattered your word has been sown on rocks and on roadways, in good earth and sand.
 Make fertile our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand.

- We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil.
 We bless you, best farmer, for hundred-
- fold yield, for harvest of grace in our once-barren
- for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.
- 3 As rays of the sun shall your word light the world, awaking and warming and healing our land.
 - Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand.
 - We praise you, our God, for the light of your word;
 - we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil.
 - We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield,
 - for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Come We That Love the Lord"

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Bartholomew, Apostle

Sunday, August 24, 2025

Mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Bartholomew's name is replaced in John's gospel by Nathanael, leading many to believe that the two are different names for the same person. Little is known about his work, though some traditions place him later in India or Armenia.

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.

FREE CHAIR YOGA CLASS WITH KAREN ROORDA

Join SMLC member Karen Roorda as she leads a FREE chair-supported yoga-fitness class in the Social Hall on Sunday 9/14 at 1pm. Please reserve your space by emailing or texting Karen (fitlifewithkarenr@gmail.com or 609-502-3421) or signing up in the Narthex. This class is for all ages and abilities, and you're welcome to invite a friend. Come As You Are!

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Starting in September, Confirmation class will meet on an irregular schedule. The class schedule for the first few weeks is as follows:

- Sunday, September 14: Orientation (Students & their Adults)
- Sunday, September 21

All classes start at 7:00 PM. If you have any questions about confirmation or are interested in being a presenter for this years program please contact Pastor Chris.

IHOC PACK A SACK

Backpacks & supplies are due by **TODAY**, **August 24th**. Please leave them in the Narthex under the coat rack. Thank You for your support!

SMLC BOOK CLUB 2025-26

Calling all readers: Book Club is back! We will hold our initial organizational meeting on Monday, September 8th at 7:00pm. You do not have to be a member to join us, so please feel free to bring a friend along. All you need is a love of books and reading. See Trudy Carr with any questions.

SOCIAL JUSTICE & ADVOCACY DISCUSSION ON 9/15

Please join the Social Justice & Advocacy group on September 15th at 7:00PM for some sweets and a discussion called "Faithful Response: Supporting LGBTQ+ People and their Families in Challenging Times". Jamie Bruesehoff (LGBTQ+ Advocate and author) will help us to have a better understanding of the current social and political landscape that LGBTQ+ individuals and their families are facing, including the unique vulnerabilities of transgender youth. Together, we will reflect on how people of faith are called to respond—with compassion, courage, and commitment. Participants will leave with practical ways to offer support, advocacy, and hope.

JOSEPH'S HOUSE BREAKFAST CASSEROLES

The next date to provide breakfast casseroles will be THURSDAY, 8/28. Drop-off between 10:00AM and 12:00PM using the Elkins Road door. Use this link to sign-up: https://bit.ly/4mJyLrm

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, August 24

8:15 AM Spoken Communion Service 10:00 AM Summer Holy Communion In-Person, Facebook & YouTube 6:00 PM NA Meeting

Monday, August 25

Tuesday, August 26

Wednesday, August 27

9:00 AM LSM Food Pantry Pick-Up 9:30 AM Weight Watchers Meeting

Thursday, August 28

10:00 AM JH Casseroles Drop-off

Friday, August 29

Office Closed—Summer Hours

Saturday, August 30

Sunday, August 31

8:15 AM Spoken Communion Service 10:00 AM Summer Holy Communion In-Person, Facebook & YouTube 6:00 PM NA Meeting



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.