



St. John's Lutheran Church † Reformation Sunday October 25th Facebook Live/Baptism - 8:15am

Welcome to worship! We are glad you are here! Thank you for your shared ministry with us at St. John's.

This fall our stewardship theme is **#abundanceaware**. A verse from 2nd Corinthians says, ***"God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."*** In this time when we have many limitations on our lives it is critical to call to our attention the ways in which God is providing for us, and how God's provision is abundant. Let's give thanks for expressions of God's abundance. If you would like to share a story or experience or picture of the abundance of God, please send it to us via Facebook or email. Help us to see what you see of God's goodness!

Thank you so much for your prayers and financial gifts that keeps us attentive to the mission of St. John's which is love for each other and compassion for the world. We are all in this together for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Peace be with you.

Announcements

Prelude

The Greeting and Prayer:

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.**

Let us pray. Gracious Father, **we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

ELW - # 637 *Holy God, Holy and Glorious* vs 1-3

- 1 Holy God, holy and glorious, glory most sublime, you come as one among us into human time, and we behold your glory.
- 2 Holy God, holy and powerful, power without peer, you bend to us in weakness; emptied you draw near, and we behold your power.
- 3 Holy God, holy and beautiful, beauty unsurpassed, you are despised, rejected; scorned, you hold us fast, and we behold your beauty.

Bible Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 *The Holiness Code in Leviticus urges people to be holy because God is holy. Holiness is lived out as God's people exercise justice and love in their dealings with one another. We are to love our neighbors as ourselves.*

¹The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

¹⁵You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the LORD. ¹⁷You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40 *Put on the spot by the Pharisees, Jesus displays wisdom by summarizing the law of God in just two commandments and by demonstrating the Messiah must be more than the son of David.*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 22nd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

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

Message: “Love Yourself?” Pastor Julie Brenden

ELW - #546 – To Be Your Presence

- 1 To be your presence is our mission here, to show compassion's face and list'ning ear, to be your heart of mercy ever near, alleluia!
- 2 To be your presence is our mission bold, to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold, to be your hands of justice, right uphold, alleluia!
- 3 To be your presence is our mission blest, to speak for all the broken and oppressed, to be your voice of hope, your love expressed, alleluia!
- 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your people is our call and choice, and in this mission we, the church, rejoice, alleluia!

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the

one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Pastor: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

All: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

All: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

All: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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 child, parents and sponsors may come and gather around the font.)

Sponsors: We present **Grant Maxwell** for the sacrament of holy baptism.

Pastor: Parents, you bring **Grant Maxwell** to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to fulfill these promises?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture **Grant Maxwell** in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: We do.

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support **Grant Maxwell** and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

People: We do. *(Please include your responses in the Comments.)*

Pastor: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that he who is washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Grant Maxwell I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Pastor: Let us pray...We give you thanks, O God that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. *(Parents lay hands on the head of the newly baptized.)* Sustain **Grant Maxwell** with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

Pastor: Grant Maxwell, child of God *(Parents uses oil to make the sign of the cross on the forehead of the newly baptized)*...you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Pastor: *(Sponsors take the candle and light it using the Christ candle.)* Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **Amen.**

(The candle is to remind us that we carry the light of Christ throughout our baptized life.)

Pastor: Let us welcome **Grant Maxwell** into the community of faith.

All: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

(The child, parents and sponsors may return to their seats.)

Prayers

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

In your love, you speak to your church. Give courage and the bond of love to all who gather in your name, that this love turn toward our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your love, you create our earth filled with living things of every kind. Sustain the intricate connections among plants, insects, animals, and organisms we don't even know or recognize. Bless the work of scientists who help us extend neighbor love to the natural world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your love, you guide with justice. Inspire leaders for truthful conversations and wise policies, that decisions are made for the good of all. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your love, you tenderly care for your children and nurse them to health. Bring relief to all those who need healing, hope, or restoration this day (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your love, you accompany us in life's transitions. We pray for new parents, those grieving a loss, those who are retiring, and those embarking on new ventures. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In your love, we remember those who were dear to us and now rest in you. We give thanks for Martin Luther and all who seek to reform and renew your church. Give us courage to live out your gospel, revealing your love until our days on earth have ended. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Savior has taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

Blessing

Mothering God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

ELW # 637 *Holy God, Holy and Glorious* vs 4 & 5

- 4 Holy God, holy and only wise, wisdom of great price, you choose the way of folly: God the crucified, and we behold your wisdom.
- 5 Holy God, holy and living one, life that never ends, you show your love by dying, dying for your friends, and we behold you living.

Sending

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

(A sign of peace is shared) (Comment your peace to one another.)

Postlude

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At St. John's:

Thanks to Roxanne Litchfield-Holey, Director of Music and Jim Boulter on trumpet for leading us in music today.

Today we celebrate the baptism of Grant Maxwell Nelson. His parents are Edward & Kristin Nelson. Welcome Grant, to our church family!

Next Sunday, November 1st is All Saints Sunday