Zion & St. James Lutheran Churches of Martin County, Minnesota



Pastor John Henry

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Appreciation Sunday
October 11, 2026

Regarding Membership and the Holy Communion:
We believe that, in the Holy Communion, the bread is truly Christ's Body and the wine is truly His Blood, given to us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. As we receive this gift individually, we profess that we are truly one body in Christ—that we are united in one faith and teaching (doctrine). Ordinarily, full participation in this Holy Communion is reserved for those who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Any visitors or guests who desire to partake of the Body and Blood of Christ are asked to please speak with the Pastor or an Elder before the service.

Welcome to all who have gathered to praise God today. May we worship with grateful hearts and reach out to one another in the love and fellowship of Christ.

Opening Hymn *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* **660**

Invocation, Confession & Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
P Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
P ... in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Entrance Psalm *Psalm 22:26*



[26]*The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;*
*those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!**
May your hearts live for- | ever!

Gloria Patri *LSB pg. 186*

C ***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;***
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

Kyrie *LSB pg. 186*

C ***Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.***

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB pgs. 186-189*

P *Glory be to God on high:*

C ***and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.***
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy 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,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P *The Lord be with you.*

C ***And with thy spirit.***

P *Let us pray.*

O Lord, absolve Your people from their offenses that from the bonds of our sins, which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ***Amen.***

SJL Students sing *Children of the Heavenly Father* *SJL only*
Be Still and Know

First Lesson *Ezekiel 37:15–26*

15 The word of the LORD came to me: 16 "Son of man, take a stick and write on
it, 'For Judah, and the people of Israel associated with him'; then take another
stick and write on it, 'For Joseph (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of
Israel associated with him.' 17 And join them one to another into one stick, that
they may become one in your hand. 18 And when your people say to you, 'Will
you not tell us what you mean by these?' 19 say to them, Thus says the Lord
GOD: Behold, I am about to take the stick of Joseph (that is in the hand of
Ephraim) and the tribes of Israel associated with him. And I will join with it
the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, that they may be one in my hand.
20 When the sticks on which you write are in your hand before their eyes, 21 then
say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will take the people of Israel
from the nations among which they have gone, and will gather them from all
around, and bring them to their own land. 22 And I will make them one nation
in the land, on the mountains of Israel. And one king shall be king over them
all, and they shall be no longer two nations, and no longer divided into two
kingdoms. 23 They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols and
their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions. But I will save
them from all the backslidings in which they have sinned, and will cleanse
them; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

24 "My servant David shall be king over them, and they shall all have one
shepherd. They shall walk in my rules and be careful to obey my statutes.
25 They shall dwell in the land that I gave to my servant Jacob, where your
fathers lived. They and their children and their children's children shall dwell
there forever, and David my servant shall be their prince forever. 26 I will make
a covenant of peace with them. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them.
And I will set them in their land and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary
in their midst forevermore.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *Psalm 22:22–26*



22 *I will tell of your name to my | brothers;**

in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you:

[23]You who fear the LORD, praise him!
*All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify him,**
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of | Israel!

[24]For he has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,
*and he has not hidden his | face from him,**
but has heard, when he | cried to him.
*[25]From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation;**
my vows I will perform before those who | fear him.
[26]The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
*those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!**
May your hearts live for- | ever!

Second Lesson *Ephesians 4:1–6*

[1]I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, [2]with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, [3]eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. [4]There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— [5]one Lord, one faith, one baptism, [6]one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia *LSB pg. 190*

C ***Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.***

Holy Gospel *Luke 15:11–32*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter

C ***Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

[11][Jesus said:] "There was a man who had two sons. [12]And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. [13]Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. [14]And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. [15]So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. [16]And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

[17]"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! [18]I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. [19]I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' [20]And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. [21]And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' [22]But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. [23]And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. [24]For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

[25]"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. [26]And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. [27]And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' [28]But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, [29]but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. [30]But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' [31]And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. [32]It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C ***Praise be to thee, O Christ.***

Sermon Hymn *All Christians Who Have Been Baptized* **596**

Sermon

Apostles' Creed *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Prayers

Offering

Announcements

Offertory *LSB pgs. 192-193*

C ***Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.***

The Preface

P *The Lord be with you.*

C ***And with thy spirit.***

P *Lift up your hearts.*

C ***We lift them up unto the Lord.***

P *Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.*

C ***It is good and right so to do.***

P *It is truly good, right, and salutary [...] evermore praising You and saying:*

Sanctus *LSB pg. 195*

C ***Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;***
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Consecration

Pax Domini

P *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

C ***Amen.***

Agnus Dei *LSB pg. 198*

C ***O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.***
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Communion Hymns

My Song Is Love Unknown	**430**
Chief of Sinners Though I Be	**611**
The Tree of Life	**561**

Nunc Dimittis *LSB pgs. 199-200*

C ***Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,***
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

Thanksgiving & Benediction

P *O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good.*
C ***And his mercy endureth forever.***
P *Let us pray... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*
C ***Amen.***
P *The Lord be with you.*
C ***And with thy spirit.***
P *Bless we the Lord.*
C ***Thanks be to God.***
P *The Lord bless you and keep you.*
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give ✢ you peace.
C ***Amen, amen, amen.***

Closing Hymn *God Loves Me Dearly* **392**

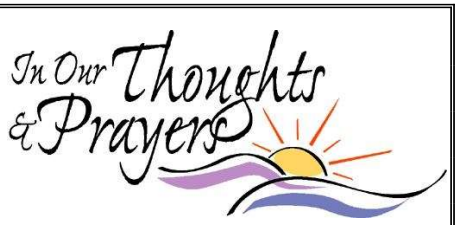
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We welcome Marceline Minton to the family of God through holy baptism, and to our SJL church family. She was baptized in a private service on Saturday at SJL.

Donovan Bremer would like to thank everyone for their support in his participation in the Great Cycle Challenge for cancer. With everyone's support he was able to surpass his monetary goal.

Lutheran Schools in Martin County
St James Lutheran School, Martin Luther High School
All Schools and places of learning



St James
Baptism Birthdays: Marci Minton, Jacob Crissinger, Barb Schultze
Sick & In Distress: Rochelle Franzen, Allan Quinn, Jim Becker
Homebound: Carl Luhmann

Zion
Baptism Birthdays: Easton Bultman
Student: Anna Crismore
Serving our Country: Kory Brown, Jesse Peterson, Lili Bulfer
Sick & In Distress: Greg Wallace, Marsha Peterson, Duane Behrens, Chuck Dobson, Bob Traetow
Homebound: Norma Patsche, Yonsey Karasek, David Hinz

A Guide for Daily Devotions

On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, use this bulletin for daily devotions. One these days, pray the Collect of the Day each day, and reread the Lessons as follows: Monday, First Lesson; Tuesday, Second Lesson; Wednesday, Gospel Lesson. You may also want to pray or sing one of the hymns from the previous Sunday.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, follow this plan to prepare for the coming Sunday.

Each day, pray:
Grant to us, Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

On Thursday, read *Malachi 3:16-18*
On Friday, read *Ephesians 3:11-16*
On Saturday, read *Matthew 20:1-16*

You may also want to pray or sing the Hymn of the Day for the coming Sunday:

Hymn: 754 Entrust Your Days and Burdens



In celebration for the start of another school year and in Thanksgiving to God for all His blessings, the BOCE is hosting a pancake breakfast at SJL TODAY, October 11th, 10:00am - Noon. Pancakes (Gluten-free available), sausage, applesauce & beverages. Free-will donations for new curriculum needs.

Condolences to the family of Delphine Hanson, mother of Sandra Luhmann and former member of SJL. Her funeral will be held at Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont, on Saturday, October 17th at 11am, with visitation starting at 10am. May God bring your family peace and comfort during this difficult time.



The Eve Circle and Stewardship Committee will once again have a Rustic Inn Cafe pie fundraiser. Orders will be taken during the month of October. Order sheets will be available after services in the Narthex. Frozen pies will then be delivered November 21st. Plan now for your holiday desserts.10 popular pies available - Contact Linda Becker 507-236-1316 or Leslie Crissinger 507-236-1354 if you have any questions.

MLHS Faith, Fire & Fellowship dinner is on Saturday, November 21st. Please sign up before November 1st, to help them plan for the meal. RSVP sheets are available in the office and at the back table at both churches. There is NO COST to attend. More information is available on the flyer and in the MLHS announcement box on pg 10.

Upcoming Voter's Meetings



Become a Church Voter. All adults (age 18+) can be voters and help make decisions for your church. Members from all generations are needed to ensure the future of our congregations continue forward in faith. Contact an elder if you have questions.

ZION: October 14th, 7:00pm

(LWML will be serving a hotdish supper starting at 6pm)

On the ballot: Secretary: Stephanie Zellmer; **Elder:** Isaac Wallace; **Trustee:**

SJL: October 21st, 7:00pm

On the ballot: Secretary: Marilyn Carrigan; **Treasurer:** Jennifer Luhmann; **Finance:** Paul Luther, Lynn J Becker; **Elder:** Bart Johnson; **Board of Ed:** Joni Howe; **Trustees:** Jordan Luhmann; **Stewardship:** Drusilla Egeness, Carol Kosbab

MARTIN LUTHER JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL
SJL & Zion are full association members

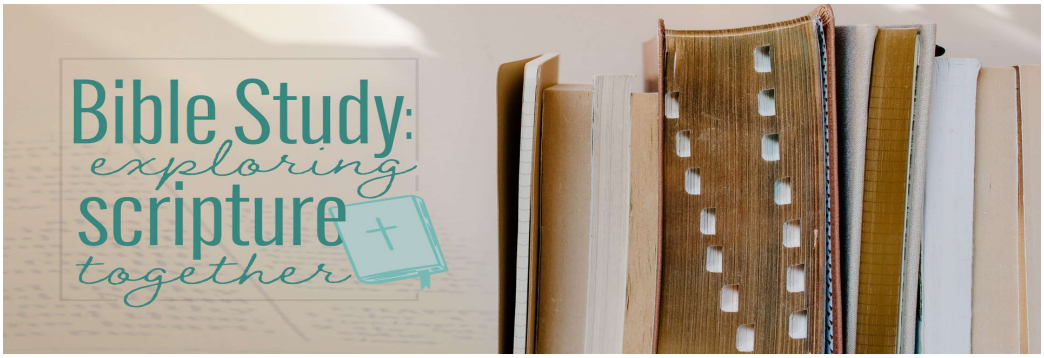
Lutheran Special Education Ministries is looking for a **part-time resource room teacher** at Martin Lutheran High School in Northrop, MN. Applicants must hold a current Minnesota Teaching License and have a special education certification/endorsement. Interested applicants looking for more information or wishing to submit a resume are asked to contact Richard Schumacher at (734) 748-5253 or email him at rschumacher@luthsped.org.

The Fall Rummage and Bake Sale will be held at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School in Northrop on October 15-16-17. Set-up starts Saturday, Oct 10th. Volunteer help is welcome and very much appreciated. Accepting fall & winter items beginning October 10th.

The MLHS National Honor Society students are hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, October 19 from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. Help us reach 100 donors so the students qualify for scholarships. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS and enter MLHSMN to schedule an appointment.You can help save a life and help NHS students earn scholarships.

Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School is excited to announce our **Faith, Fire & Fellowship Dinner** on **Saturday, November 21st**! This special friend-raising event will celebrate and affirm the blessings and impact of the MLHS ministry. Guests will enjoy an evening of fellowship, inspiration, and gratitude as we highlight the value of Christian education and the work God is accomplishing through Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School. We are currently seeking **corporate sponsors** to help offset event expenses. We are grateful to **Profinium**, which has already committed as a **$1,000 sponsor**. We are also looking for volunteers willing to **smoke specialty meats** and assist with meal preparation. If you enjoy cooking, serving, or helping behind the scenes, we would love to have you involved. All MLHS families, alumni, supporters, and friends are warmly invited to attend. **There is no cost to attend**, but **RSVPs are required by November 1st** to help us plan for the meal. If you would like to sponsor the event, volunteer, or reserve your place for this exciting evening, please contact the school office. **Join us for an evening of faith, fire, fellowship, and thanksgiving as we celebrate the ministry of Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School!**

This is Most Certainly Brew Coffee is available in the MLHS office and at www.thisismostcertainlybrew.com. It is an ongoing enterprise of Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School.



Adult Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday morning Adult Bible Class:

- Zion bible class uses topics from the Lutheran Witness magazine.
- SJL uses the "That the World May Know" video series. Our next video is "Shaped in the Desert: Discover how God teaches the Israelites what it means to be part of a community that loves Him and the lessons we can begin to live out in our lives today." **No class October 11th due to the pancake breakfast.**

Friday Morning Bible Study: 8am in the Fellowship Hall at SJL. All are welcome to join in studying the Gospel of John.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR TODAY

Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 11 am

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

"Covered" Proper Attire Required: how God covers us with the robe of Christ's perfect righteousness. Matthew 22:11-12

SERVING THIS WEEK

		Greeters	Acolyte
SJL	**10-11**	Mat & Leanna Mahoney	Silas Henry
	10-18	Jacob & Brooke Mortenson	Trent Luhmann
ZION	**10-11**	Tyler & Mercedes Moulton	Tanner Howe
	10-18	Linette Mundfrom	Viktoria Marroquin-Balderas
SJL Ushers: Garrett Schock, Mark Grefe, Doug Quinn, Cam Dressen			
Elders: Lon (Z), Larry (SJ)		**SJL AG:** Sherri Roforth, Cindi Tomlinson	

THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD: Oct 11 - 18, 2026
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Fri, 8:15 AM - Noon
Office phone: 436-5289 **Pastor phone:** 219-713-1604
Email: sjlnorthrop@gmail.com **Website:** sjlnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com

Sunday	**Pastor Appreciation Sunday**	
	Divine Worship	**(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM**
	Sunday School/Bible Class	**(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM**
	Pancake Breakfast	**(SJ) 10:00 AM - Noon**
	NFL	**(SJ) 7:00 PM**
Wednesday	LWML @ Zion	**(Z) 4:00 PM**
	Public School Confirmation (6th & 7th grades)	**(SJ) 4:00 PM**
	Public School Confirmation (8th grade)	**(SJ) 5:00 PM**
	Zion Voter's supper	**(Z) 6:00 PM**
	Zion Voter's Meeting	**(Z) 7:00 PM**
Friday	NO Morning Bible Study	
Sunday	Divine Worship	**(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM**
	Sunday School/Bible Class	**(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM**



Online giving is an easy and reliable method to contribute to your church while you are out of town, or if you are interested in eliminating the need to remember your envelope on Sunday morning. You can make a one time donation or save time and schedule recurring contributions. This option is available for either congregation through the website; sjlnorthop.com or zionfraser.com, or through the tithe.ly church app.

Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion			**Oct 4, 2026**
Attendance (HC)	87 (60)	SJL School	$450.00
Home	$3,810.00	MLHS	$900.00
Loose Plate	$52.81		

Reflecting our Stewardship – St James			**Oct 4, 2026**
Attendance (HC)	102 (78)	Missions	$100.00
Home	$11,020.00	Online	$625.00
Loose Plate	$250.75	Tuition	$2,650.00
Zion Support	$6,789.52		
Annual Operating Expense: $584,000.00 / Average Weekly Need: $11,231.00			
2026 Giving to date: 441,663.19 Projected Shortfall: ($9,837.85)			