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



Pastor John Henry

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
LWML Sunday
October 4, 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.

We warmly welcome all who have gathered for worship and encourage everyone to greet one another with the love of Christ.

Opening Hymn *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* **770**

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 100:1–2*



*[1]Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth!**
[2]Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with | singing!

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 God, You have prepared for those who love You good things that surpass all understanding. Pour into our hearts such love toward You that we, loving You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ***Amen.***

First Lesson *Ezekiel 34:11–24*

11 “For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep
and will seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among
his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will
rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds
and thick darkness. 13 And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather
them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will
feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited
places of the country. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and on the
mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie
down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the
mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself
will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost, and I
will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will
strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them
in justice.

17 “As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between
sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. 18 Is it not enough for you to
feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of
your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the
water with your feet? 19 And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with
your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

20 “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge
between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you push with side and
shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered
them abroad, 22 I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I
will judge between sheep and sheep. 23 And I will set up over them one
shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be
their shepherd. 24 And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David
shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *Psalm 100*



1 *Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth!**

2 Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with | singing!

[3]*Know that the LORD, | he is God!**
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his | pasture.

[4]*Enter his gates with thanksgiving,*
*and his | courts with praise!**
Give thanks to him; | bless his name!

[5]*For the LORD is good;*
*his steadfast love endures for- | ever,**
and his faithfulness to all gener- | ations.

Second Lesson *Ephesians 2:17–22*

[17]And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. [18]For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. [19]So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, [20]built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, [21]in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. [22]In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia *LSB pg. 190*

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

Holy Gospel *Luke 15:1–10*

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

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

[1]Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus].
[2]And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
[3]So he told them this parable: [4]"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? [5]And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. [6]And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' [7]Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
[8]"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? [9]And when

she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' [10]Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon Hymn *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It* **594**

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

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence	**621**
Beautiful Savior	**537**
Not What These Hands Have Done	**567**

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.***

LWML Pledge

C **In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen**.

Closing Hymn *Take My Life and Let It Be* **783**

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LWML Sunday is today, October 4th, door offerings will collected for MITES. Mites supporrt mission projects by LWML to spread God's Word here and abroad.

LWML Fall Mission Gathering "Let the Children Hear" on Sunday, October 4th at St Paul's Lutheran Church, Truman. Registration begins at 1:30pm. David Stuckwisch, Principal of MLHS, will be the speaker. Gifts from the Heart collection will be for MLHS: Kleenex, Feminine Hygiene Products, Travel-sized personal care items, Ibuprofen, Tylenol, Midol, Band-Aids, or supplies to make posters.

If you wish to use the basement at Zion, please: 1. Contact one of the elders for permission, and 2. Contact the office to make sure the day and time you want are free. Both of these steps need to be done to complete a reservation. Thank you.

You can sponsor the bulletins ($10 per congregation) or online broadcast ($25) anytime throughout the year, in honor of a special event or giving thanks to God. Call the church office with your request.

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



St James
Baptism Birthdays: Greg Raabe, Paul Leimer
Sick & In Distress: Rochelle Franzen, Allan Quinn, Jim Becker
Homebound: Carl Luhmann

Zion
Baptism Birthdays: Joe Nelson, Kaisley Thate
Deaconess Student: Qian Su (Suzie)
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:
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.

On Thursday, read *Ezekiel 37:15-26*
On Friday, read *Ephesians 4:1-6*
On Saturday, read *Luke 15*

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

Hymn: 596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

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

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

St James Lutheran Sunday School is looking for helpers and substitute teachers for the Preschool-1st grade class. Please contact Jody Uttech for more information 507-236-6456.



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 on Sunday, October 11th, 10:00am - Noon. Pancakes (Gluten-free available), sausage, applesauce & beverages. Free-will donations for new curriculum needs.

Holy Hotdish Organ Fundraiser on Sunday, October 4th from 11am-1pm at St Paul's Lutheran Church, Truman, serving in the Church Basement. Assorted hot dishes to choose from. Bread, beverages and cookies provided. Take-outs will also be available. Free-will donation.

Portals of Prayer for Oct-Dec are in your bulletin box. If you would prefer a larger size, please contact the office.



The Eve Circle and Stewardship Committee will once again have a Rustic Inn Cafe pie fundraiser for the KISS the Pig Benefit. 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.

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

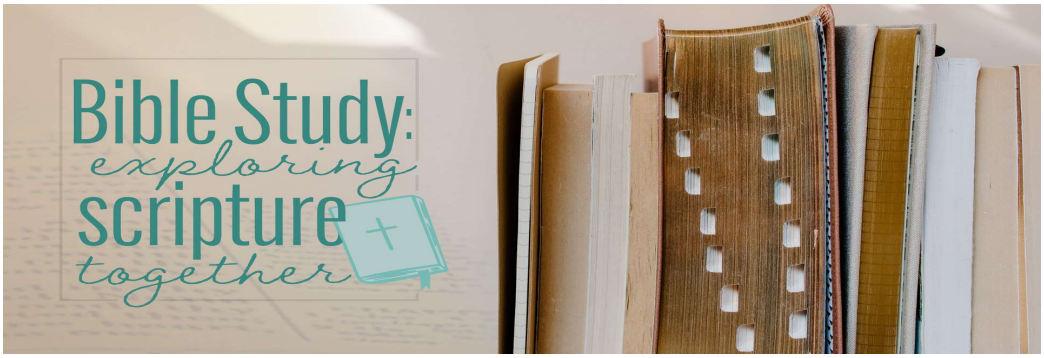
Lutheran Special Education Ministries is looking for a **part-time resource room teacher** at Martin Lutheran High School in Northrop, MN. Applicants must hold a current Minnesota Teaching License and have a special education certification/endorsement. Interested applicants looking for more information 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. This year begins with "God Heard Their Cry: Discover how God answers the cry of his persecuted people and proclaims himself LORD to them and their oppressors"

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	**10-4**	Paul & Hayley Luther	David Gonzalez
	10-10	Mat & Leanna Mahoney	Silas Henry
ZION	**10-4**	Tyler & Mikaelah Morris	Hayden Bultman
	10-10	Tyler & Mercedes Moulton	Tanner Howe
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 4 - 11, 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	**LWML Sunday**	
	Divine Worship	**(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM**
	Sunday School/Bible Class	**(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM**
	LWML Fall Rally @ SPL Truman	**1:30 PM**
Wednesday	**NO** Public School Confirmation	
	Joint Elder's Meeting	**(SJ) 7:00 PM**
Friday	**NO** Joint Morning Bible Study	
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	**7:00 PM**



Zion has voted to include SJL School in their mission offerings. The MN South goal for this year is $5,000. **This amount has been reached,** additional mission giving will automatically be sent to SJL School, unless designated on the check or envelope for MN South. Thank you.

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			**Sept 27, 2026**
Attendance (HC)	101 (73)	SJL School	$200.00
Home	$4,535.00	Bulletins/Broadcast	$45.00
Loose Plate	$113.00		

Reflecting our Stewardship – St James			**Sept 27, 2026**
Attendance (HC)	102 (79)	Missions	$150.00
Home	$4,517.00	Online	$615.00
Loose Plate	$169.00		
Annual Operating Expense: $584,000.00 / Average Weekly Need: $11,231.00			
2026 Giving to date: 420,327.92 Projected Shortfall: ($23,562.77)			