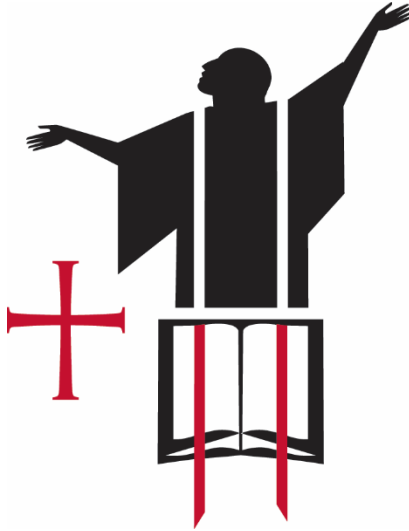




St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2024

10:30 Holy Communion

Today we read the beginning verses of the book of Ephesians. Ephesians is more of a general letter than are the other letters attributed to Paul. It does not address specific problems but instead gives general advice. We will find that advice helpful as we live in the politically charged world of today.

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher's stand.

The Zoom feed for this service is available in the nursery.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Word of God, Come Down on Earth
(For music see Hymn 510 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Word of God come down on earth,
living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.**
2. **Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die
crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.**
3. **Word that speaks God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.**

Text: James Quinn, sj, b. 1919, copyright James Quinn sj admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc. Music: Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen

Hymn of Praise Give to Our God Immortal Praise
(For music see Hymn 848 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Give to our God immortal praise!**
Mercy and truth are all his ways.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.
2. **He sent his Son with pow'r to save**
from guilt and darkness and the grave.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.
3. **Give to the Lord of lords renown;**
the King of kings with glory crown.
His mercies ever shall endure
when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: arr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also

that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Isaiah 42:1-4

B: Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen,
in whom my soul delights;

I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

²He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;

³a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 85:8-13 (*read responsively*)

D: I listen to God speaking:
“I, the Lord, speak peace,
peace to my faithful people
who turn their hearts to me.”

**C: Salvation is coming near,
glory is filling our land.**

D: Love and fidelity embrace,
peace and justice kiss.

**C: Fidelity sprouts from the earth,
justice leans down from heaven.**

D: The Lord pours out riches,
our land springs to life.

**C: Justice clears God’s path.
justice points the way.**

Second Reading Ephesians 1:1-14

E: Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus: ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Mark 10:45)

C: Alleluia. The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Mark 10:35-45

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the

baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day O Word of God Incarnate
(For music see Hymn 514 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance
that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps,
shines on from age to age.**
2. **The church from you, dear Master,
received the gift divine;
and still that light is lifted
o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
that all life's journey through,
mid mists and rocks and quick-sands
still guides, O Christ, to you.**
3. **Oh, make your church, dear Savior,
a lamp of burnished gold
to bear before the nations**

**your true light, as of old;
oh, teach your wand'ring pilgrims
by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended,
they see you face to face.**

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt. Music: Neuvermehrtes Besangbuch, Meininge, 1693

Apostles' Creed

P: We confirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed

**C: 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 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.**

Prayers of the Church

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.**

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

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

C: And also with you.

P: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† MEAL †

Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord
For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God,

**C: source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our
lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: 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 of Nazareth; 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 church of yesterday, today and tomorrow;

and the church here in this place and all churches throughout the world,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, 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."

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. We use wheat bread and wine for communion. If you would prefer a gluten free wafer instead of bread please tell the communion assistant. Also, if you prefer grape juice to wine, it is available pre-filled in the individual glasses. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

679 *For the Fruit of All Creation (Red Hymnal)*

691 *Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring (Red Hymnal)*

Communion Blessing After all have communed the pastor will say:

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray:

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: God all mighty,
God most merciful
bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn On What Has Now Been Sown
(For music see Hymn 550 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. On what has now been sown
your blessing now bestow;
the pow'r is yours alone
to make it sprout and grow.
O Lord, in grace the harvest raise,
and yours alone shall be the praise!**

2. **To you our wants are known,
from you are all our pow'rs;
accept what is your own
and pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers
receive and to your word a blessing give.**
3. **Oh, grant that each of us,
now met before you here,
may meet together thus
when you and yours appear,
and follow you to heav'n our home.
E'en so, Amen! Lord Jesus, come!**

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807 alt. Music: John Darwall, 1731-1789

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **God's Work. Our Hands.**

Worship assistants TODAY:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Greeters and Ushers | Phyllis Henderson |
| Acolyte | Alyssa Young |
| Altar Care | Linn Griffo |
| Communion Assistant | Greg Zuege |
| Counters | Bruce and Connie Stevenson |
| Coffee Hour | |

Worship assistants for next Sunday, September 8

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Greeters and Ushers | Linda Flood |
| Acolyte | Thomas Bullwinkle |
| Counters | Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann |
| Coffee Hour | God's Work Our Hands Lunch |

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