



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The 19th Sunday After Pentecost

September 29, 2024 8:30 & 10:30 Service of the Word

We've been reading through Ephesians in September. Today we reach the half way point with the end of chapter 3. It is a summary of sorts before moving into new material for the second half. We're reminded of how God's love and God's knowledge of all things comes to life in our lives.

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 shown in the nursery.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

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

Gathering Hymn Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty
(For music see Hymn 533 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty
waits for God who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place,
filled with solace, light, and grace!**
2. **Gracious God, I come before thee;
come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee,
there a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, oh, enter thou,
let it be thy temple now!**
3. **Here thy praise is gladly chanted,
here thy seed is duly sown;
let my soul, where it is planted,
bring forth precious sheaves alone,
so that all I hear may be
fruitful unto life in me.**
4. **Thou my faith increase and quicken,
let me keep thy gift divine;
how so e're temptations thicken,
may thy word sill o'er me shine
as my guiding star through life,
as my comfort in all strife.**
5. **Speak, O God, and I will hear thee,
let thy will be done indeed;
may I undisturbed draw near thee
while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
here is balm for all our woes.**

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Music: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

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

C: And also with you.

Gathering Dialog (Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

A: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

A: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,
when you lie down and when you rise.**

A: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading 2 Kings 4:42-44

B: ⁴²A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." ⁴³But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" ⁴⁴He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 145:10-18 23 (read responsively)

D: Let your works praise you, Lord,
your faithful ones bless you.

**C: Let them proclaim your glorious reign,
let them tell of your might.**

D: Let them make known to all
your might and glorious reign.

**C: Your dominion lasts for ever,
your rule for all generations!**

D: The Lord is faithful in every word
and gracious in every work.

**C: The Lord supports the fallen,
raises those bowed down.**

D: The eyes of all look to you,
you give them food in due time.

**C: You open wide your hand
to feed all living things.**

D: The Lord is just in every way,
loving in every deed.

**C: The Lord is near to those who call,
who cry out from their hearts.**

Second Reading Ephesians 3:14-21

E: ¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Luke 7:16)

C: Alleluia. A great prophet has risen among us! God has looked favorably on us! Alleluia.

Gospel Reading John 6:1-21

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the

Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” ¹⁰Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. ¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children’s Sermon “Noisy Offering”

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Our Father, by Whose Name
(For music see Hymn 640 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Our Father, by whose name
all parenthood is known,
in love divine you claim
each fam'ly as your own.
Bless mothers, fathers, guarding well,
with constant love as sentinel,
the homes in which your people dwell.**

2. **O Christ, yourself a child
within an earthly home,
with heart still undefiled
to full adulthood come:
our children bless in ev'ry place
that they may all behold your face
and, knowing you, may grow in grace.**

3. **O Holy Spirit, bind
our hearts in unity
and teach us how to find
the love from self set free;
in all our hearts such love increase
that ev'ry home, by this release,
may be the dwelling place of peace.**

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt., copyright Church Pension Fund. Music: John D. Edwards, 1806-1883

Response to the Word

P: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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.**

A: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit. *(Jude 20)*

A: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. *(Jude 21)*

A: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!** *(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Peace

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

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

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

† THANKSGIVING †

Gathering of Prayers and Offerings

You are invited to write a prayer concern on the small blank slip of paper in your worship bulletin. This slip will be collected by the ushers in the offering plates. The concerns raised will be prayed for later in the service.

Special Music

Offering Prayer

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

C: ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

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.

Issues raised by the congregation are prayed for.

The prayer concludes:

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

C: Amen.

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.**

† SENDING †

Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
(For music turn to Hymn 674 the Red Hymnal)

**1. Let us talents and tongues employ,
Reaching out with a shout of joy;
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

Refrain (sung twice after each verse)

**Jesus lives again,
earth can breathe again,
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**2. Christ is able to make us one,
At the table he sets the tone,
Teaching people to live to bless,
Love in word and in deed express.** *Refrain*

**3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
Gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere!** *Refrain*

Text: Frank Kaan, b. 1929, Music: Jamaican Folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980, Copyright 1975 Hope Publishing Company
Text: Merten Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878. Music: Johann Cruger, 1598-1662

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: God's Work. Our Hands.



ALL EVENTS ARE PREORDAINED AND UNALTERABLE. WHATEVER WILL BE WILL BE. THAT WAY, IF ANYTHING BAD HAPPENS, IT'S NOT MY FAULT. IT'S FATE.



Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Tom and Carol Urbanic
Acolyte Alyssa Young
Counters Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern
Coffee Hour

Worship assistants for next Sunday, October 6

Greeters and Ushers Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Acolyte Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care Emma Deibler
Communion Assistant Gary Boisseau
Counters Bill and Katy Stimmel
Coffee Hour

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