

16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2020



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

— CHURCH & PRESCHOOL —

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WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. A special welcome is extended to those visiting with us. When the time came for the Israelites to enter the land God promised to Abraham, they had a crisis of faith. Ten of the men were afraid while Joshua and Caleb trusted that God would give them victory. We also struggle with trust in God during difficult times. God's blessings on your worship this morning!

AS YOU PREPARE TO WORSHIP

- Please sign an attendance card. Pass to the center of the isle (will be collected after offering).
- Please silence your cell phone.
- Children are welcomed in worship! There will be a Children's Time during worship for your child(ren) to go up front with the pastor. If your child becomes fussy, you may prefer to use the nursery room (toys are available in the room and there is audio and video of the service).

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Keith Reich	Organist: Bonnye Wenzel	Usher Captain: Lee Roy Tyson
Elders: Ryan Polster & Lucas Robinson	Acolytes: Emma Johnson & Haley Hopper	
Offering Counter: Susie Odom	Greeters: Sarah Bauman & Michelle Beach	Trustee: Johann Jeschke

ORDER OF WORSHIP

HYMN — "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" # 790

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Let all hear now to His temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning.
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been,
Sent by His gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief ever has failed of relief?
Wings of His mercy did shade you.**

**Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again; Gladly forever adore Him!**

by Joachim Neander. Public Domain

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

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

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **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 on God's Word and for self-examination.]

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I assure you that all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING — *Numbers 13:1-2, 17-20, 25-31*

¹ The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² "Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel. From each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a chief among them."

¹⁷ Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan and said to them, "Go up into the Negeb and go up into the hill country, ¹⁸ and see what the land is, and whether the people who dwell in it are strong or weak, whether they are few or many, ¹⁹ and whether the land that they dwell in is good or bad, and whether the cities that they dwell in are camps or strongholds, ²⁰ and whether the land is rich or poor, and whether there are trees in it or not. Be of good courage and bring some of the fruit of the land." Now the time was the season of the first ripe grapes.

²⁵ At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land. ²⁶ And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the people of Israel in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh. They brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. ²⁷ And they told him, "We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. ²⁸ However, the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large. And besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there. ²⁹ The Amalekites dwell in the land of the Negeb. The Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the hill country. And the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and along the Jordan." ³⁰ But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, "Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it." ³¹ Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are." (ESV)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING — *Philippians 4:4-9*

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made

known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me – practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. (ESV)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA and VERSE — page 205

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
These things are written that you may believe
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING — *Matthew 5:38-48*

³⁸ "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' ³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. ⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. ⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you. ⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH — Nicene Creed *(inside back cover of hymnal)*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in the holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN — “I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus” # 729

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, trusting only Thee
Trusting Thee for full salvation, great and free.**

**I am trusting Thee for pardon; at Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy trusting now.**

**I am trusting Thee for cleansing in the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy by Thy blood**

**I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead
Ev'ry day and hour supplying all my need.**

**I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me must prevail.**

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever and for all.**

by Frances R. Havergal. Public Domain

MESSAGE – *Moses Sends the Spies!* – Numbers 13

“As a result of what you have heard from God’s Word today, what is He giving you to believe or do this coming week? _____

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS — (Give online at www.stjohnshamilton.org or text amount to 833-706-7586.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

RITE OF FIRST COMMUNION

Bret Bauman	Grant Bauman	Addyson Clowdus	Colton DeLaGarza
Piper Hanson	Trint Jeschke	Colter Johnson	Austin Kliener
Amalia Knutson	Helena Knutson	Daniel Olalde	Tucker Ondrusek
Kaytlyn Schrank	Kayla Tawater	Henlee Wagner	Kaitlyn Walton
Lexie Ward	Lawson Yates		

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this altar in the confession and glad confidence that as our Lord says, He gives to us not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us.

(The wine is available in individual cups or the common cup. If you would like the common cup, keep your hands folded in front of you when the pastor goes by with the individual cups and he will return to you with the common cup. There is also available in the center of each tray white grape juice for those unable to receive wine.)

DISTRIBUTION — “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me” # 722

**Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life's way;
Direct, protect, and feed me from day today.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, and lead the way.**

**Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages, are always near.
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding, in peace I go.**

**Lord, when the shadows lengthen and night has come,
I know that You will strengthen my steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend;
So take my hand and lead me unto the end.**

by Julie von Hausmann. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship
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“Just As I Am, Without One Plea” # 570

**Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

by Charlotte Elliott
Public Domain

“Rock of Ages, Cleft For Me” # 761

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, from Thy riven side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.**

**Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy Law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

(hymn continued on next page)

**Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress; helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me Savior, or I die.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath; when mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.**

by Augustus M. Toplady. Public Domain

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” # 643

**Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching, receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living
The tasks of our ev’ry day life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us, with Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.**

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POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, that You have refreshed us through this gift of Your Son’s body and blood. We ask that You strengthen us daily in our faith and give us a passion to love and serve those around us. We pray this in Jesus name,

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

SONG — “Blessed Be Your Name”

**Blessed be Your name, in the land that is plentiful,
Where Your streams of abundance flow, blessed be Your name.**

**Blessed be Your name, when I’m found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be Your name**

**Chorus: Ev’ry blessing You pour out I’ll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say:
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name.**

**Blessed be Your name, when the sun’s shining down on me,
When the world’s all as it should be, blessed be Your name.**

**Blessed be Your name, on the road marked with suffering,
Though there’s pain in the offering, blessed be Your name. Chorus**

**Bridge: You give and take away, You give and take away.
My heart will choose to say, Lord blessed be Your name.
Repeat Bridge and Chorus**

**Ending: Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name.
Blessed by Your name.**

