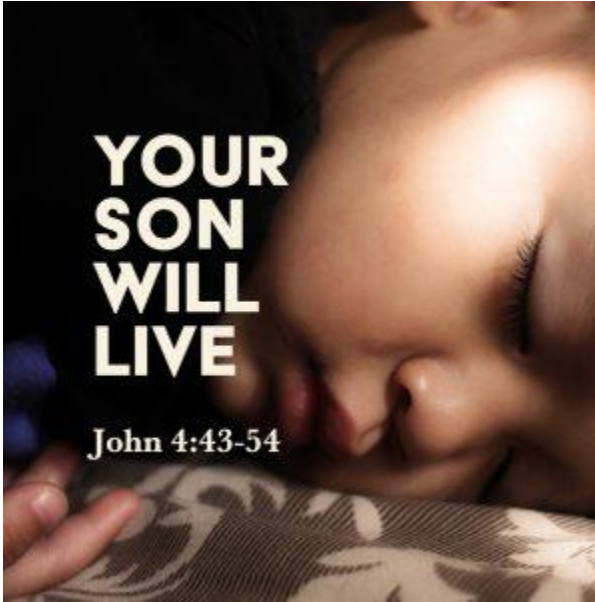




St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The 6th Sunday After Pentecost

July 9, 2023

10:30 Service of the Word

God hears every prayer – the prayer of the outside as well as the prayer of the insider. The attentive nature of our God is evident as God comes to us again and again in the word and in the supper. “Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.” Do it today.

- from *Indices to Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, pg. 125

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.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.
Merciful God,

C: we confess that we have sinned.

We have hurt our community.

We have squandered your blessings.

We have hoarded your bounty.

In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Righteous God,

C: we confess that we have sinned.

We have failed to be honest.

We have lacked the courage to speak.

We have spoken falsely.

In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.

God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy:

you are freed and forgiven in the name of Jesus the Christ.

C: Amen

Gathering Hymn Thy Holy Wings

(For music see Hymn 613 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. Thy holy wings, O Savior,
spread gently over me,
and let me rest securely
through good and ill in thee.
Oh, be my strength and portion,
my rock and hiding place,
and let my ev'ry moment**

be lived within thy grace.

2. **Oh, let me nestle near thee,
within thy downy breast
where I will find sweet comfort
and peace within thy nest.
Oh, close thy wings around me
and keep me safely there,
for I am but a newborn
and need thy tender care.**

3. **Oh, wash me in the waters
of Noah's cleansing flood.
Give me a willing spirit,
a heart both clean and good.
Oh, take into thy keeping
thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber,
enfold us one and all.**

Text: Carolina Sandell Ber, 1832-1903, sts. 1,3; Gracia Crindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite. Text Copyright 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc. Music: Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version. Arr. Copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress

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...

Merciful God, we do not presume to come before you trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great and abundant mercies. Revive our faith, we pray; heal our bodies, and mend our communities, that we may

evermore dwell in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading 1 Kings 8:22-23, 41-43

B: ²²Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. ²³He said, “O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, ⁴¹“Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name ⁴²—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, ⁴³then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 96 (*Read responsively*)

D: A new song for the Lord!

Sing it and bless God’s name,
everyone, everywhere!

C: Tell the whole world

**God’s triumph day to day,
God’s glory, God’s wonder.**

D: A noble God deserving praise,
the dread of other gods,
the puny gods of pagans;

**C: for our God made the heavens
the Lord of majestic light
who fills the temple with beauty.**

D: Proclaim the Lord, you nations,
praise the glory of God’s power,
praise the glory of God’s name!

**C: Bring gifts to the temple,
bow down, all the earth,**

tremble in God's holy presence.

D: Tell the nations, "The Lord rules!"

As the firm earth is not swayed,
nothing can sway God's judgment.

**C: Let heaven and earth be glad,
the sea and sea creatures roar,**

D: the field and its beasts exult.

Then let the trees of the forest sing
before the coming of the Lord,

**C: who comes to judge the nations,
to set the earth aright,
restoring the world to order.**

Second Reading Ephesians 1:15-23

E: I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Ephesians 1:17, paraphrase)

C: Alleluia. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading John 4:43-54

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 4th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

⁴³When the two days were over, he went from that place to Galilee ⁴⁴(for Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in the prophet's own country). ⁴⁵When he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, since they had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the festival; for they too had gone to the festival. ⁴⁶Then he came again to Cana in Galilee where he had changed the water into wine. Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in Capernaum. ⁴⁷When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." ⁴⁹The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my little boy dies." ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way. ⁵¹As he was going down, his slaves met him and told him that his child was alive. ⁵²So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and they said to him, "Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him." ⁵³The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So he himself believed, along with his whole household. ⁵⁴Now this was the second sign that Jesus did after coming from Judea to Galilee.

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day The Church's One Foundation

(For music see Hymn 654 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.**
- 2. Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation**

**one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with ev'ry grace endued.**

**3. Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up, "How long?"
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.**

**4. Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.**

**5. Yet she on earth as union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.**

Text: Samuel Stone, 1839-1900 Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

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.**

E: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit.

(Jude 20)

E: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

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

E: 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)

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.

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: Let us share that peace with one another.

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

† THANKSGIVING †

Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your Word.**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.**

**When my heart is hard,
break the stone away.**

**When my heart is cold,
warm it with the day.**

**When my heart is lost,
lead me on your way.**

Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray:

C: Blessed are you, O God, 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.

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: The God who calls across the cosmos
and speaks in the smallest seed
bless, keep, and sustain you
now and to the end of the age.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn 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

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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



Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Acolyte
Counters Michele Myers and Helen Crown
Coffee Hour

Worship assistants for next Sunday, July 16

Greeters and Ushers Mary and Greg Zuege
Acolyte Thomas Bullwinkle
Counters Mary and Greg Zuege
Coffee Hour

Scripture readings from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible* copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States. Psalm from *The Psalter* copyright 1994, Liturgical Training Publications. Variable worship texts from *Sundays and Seasons 2023* copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress.

St. John's Lutheran Church
888 County Road 9, Victor, NY 14564
stjohnsvictor.com (585) 924-5192
The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor
William Shi, Pianist