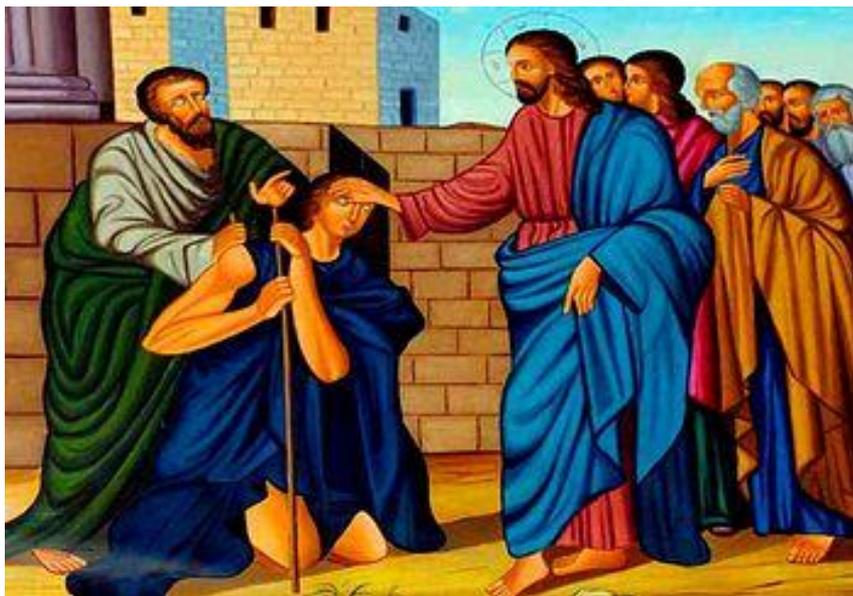




# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *The 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*

*October 9, 2025 10:30 Service of the Word*

What makes someone an effective follower of Jesus? Is it knowledge? It is intelligence? It is race/ethnicity? Is it belief or trust? And how do we come to know Jesus? Our gospel reading today takes us into all of these questions and gives us answers that are difficult to hear.

*Welcome to worship today!*

If you are visiting St. John's 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.

**C: Amen**

Gathering Hymn Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down  
(For music turn to Hymn 7 in the Songbook binder)

*Verse*

**Come let us worship and bow down  
Let us kneel before the Lord  
Our God our maker  
Come let us worship and bow down**

**Let us kneel before the Lord  
Our God our Maker  
For He is our God  
And we are the people of His pasture  
And the sheep of His hand  
Just the sheep of His hand**

*Repeat*

Text and music: Dave Doherty; Copyright 1980 Maranatha Praise, Inc.; CCLI #27329

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...

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading Jeremiah 31:7-9

B: For thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,

and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;

proclaim, give praise, and say,

‘Save, O Lord, your people,  
the remnant of Israel.’

<sup>8</sup> See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,

and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup> With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back,  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Scripture Poetry* Psalm 126 (read responsively)

D: The Lord brings us back to Zion,  
we are like dreamers,  
laughing, dancing,  
with songs on our lips.

**C: Other nations say,  
“A new world of wonders!  
The Lord is with them.”**

D: Yes, God works wonders.  
Rejoice! Be glad!

**C: Lord, bring us back  
as water to thirsty land.**

D: Those sowing in tears  
reap, singing and laughing.

**C: They left weeping, weeping,  
casting the seed.  
They come back singing, singing,  
holding high the harvest.**

*Second Reading* Hebrews 7:23-28

Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; <sup>24</sup>but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues for ever. <sup>25</sup>Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. <sup>27</sup>Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this

he did once for all when he offered himself. <sup>28</sup>For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (2 Timothy 4:18)

**C: Alleluia. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for the heavenly kingdom. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading Luke 18:31-43

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

Then [Jesus] took the twelve aside and said to them, ‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. <sup>32</sup>For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. <sup>33</sup>After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again.’ <sup>34</sup>But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>36</sup>When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. <sup>37</sup>They told him, ‘Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.’ <sup>38</sup>Then he shouted, ‘Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!’ <sup>39</sup>Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ <sup>40</sup>Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, <sup>41</sup>‘What do you want me to do for you?’ He said, ‘Lord, let me see again.’ <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to him, ‘Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.’ <sup>43</sup>Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day When Memory Fades  
(For music turn to Hymn 792 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **When mem'ry faces, and recognition falters,  
when eyes we love grow dim, and minds confused,  
speak to our souls of love that never alters;  
speak to our hearts, by pain and fear abused.  
O God of life and healing peace, believing,  
with patient courage, by your grace infused.**
2. **As frailness grows, and youthful strengths diminish,  
in weary arms which worked their earnest fill,  
your aging servants labor now to finish  
their earthly tasks, as fits your mercy's will.  
We grieve their waning, yet rejoice, believing,  
your arms, unwearied, shall uphold us still.**
3. **Within your Spirit, goodness lives unfading.  
The past and future mingle into one.  
All joys remain, unshadowed light pervading.  
No valued deed will ever be undone.  
Your mind enfolds all finite acts and off'rings.  
Held in your heart, our deathless life is won.**

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953, copyright 2002 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957, copyright Breitkopf & Hartel

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 ✠

### Offertory and 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.*

### 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: 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: 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.**

*Sending Hymn* Send Us Out  
(For music turn to Hymn 29 in the Songbook binder)

**1. We have been called by the Lord.  
We have been saved by the Word.  
Now let the Word be restored.  
Now let the Gospel be heard**

*Refrain*

**Send us out to teach what God has done.  
Send us out to reach ev'ry single one.  
Send us out. Send us out.**

**2. We who were bound by our shame,  
ruled by our fears within.  
Stand and declare by the name,  
freedom from all of our sin. Refrain**

**3. Teach what God has done.  
Reach ev'ry single one.  
Teach what God has done.  
Reach ev'ry single one. Refrain**

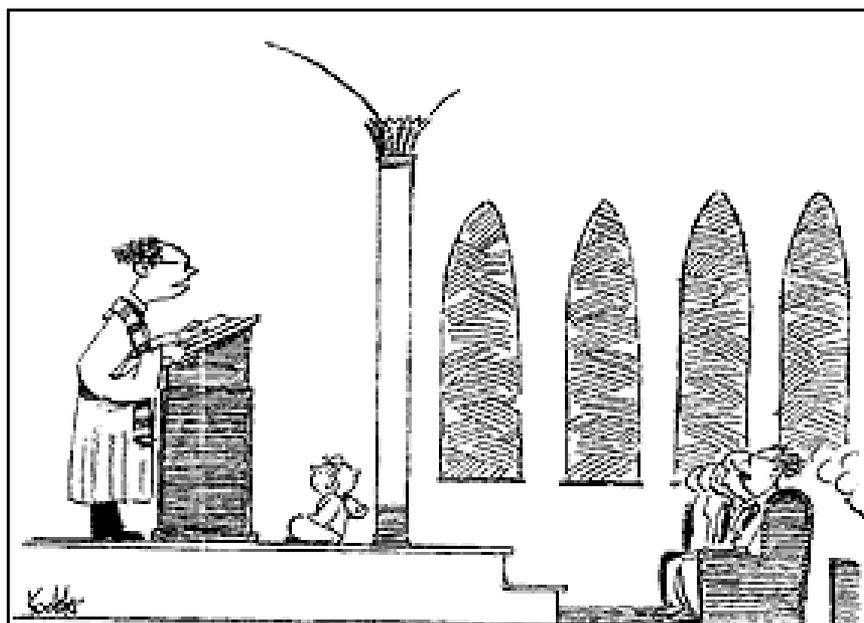
**4. We have been called by the Lord.  
We have been saved by the Word.  
Now let the Word be restored.  
Now let the Gospel be heard Refrain**

Text and Music by James Hersch; Copyright 1994 Dakota Road Music; CCLI# 1790882

*Dismissal*

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





"Before moving on to my fourth and final point, I'd like to again remind everyone that the children's sermon has been moved to next Sunday."

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers     Rob Stroup  
Acolyte                     Alyssa Young  
Counters                    Greg and Mary Zuege  
Coffee Hour

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, November 16**

Greeters and Ushers     Tom and Carol Urbanic  
Acolyte                     Charlotte Stroup  
Altar Care                 Sue Kaufmann  
Communion Assistant     Sally Mansfield  
Counters                    Anne Stromstad and Michele Myers  
Coffee Hour                Nicholas Stuart

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.

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