



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The 14th Sunday After Pentecost

September 11, 2022

10:30 Service of the Word

Nothing strikes fear in our hearts like today's gospel reading. Jesus says to the rich man, "Sell your possessions, give to the poor, then come, follow me." Like the rich man, our possessions help to give us a sense of identity and a sense of security. Thus when God calls on us to live with absolute trust in him we balk. It seems like too big a risk, too irresponsible. Too radical. May we listen to the words of Jesus and live in the truth of abundant grace that God wishes to give to us.

Welcome to worship today!

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

‡ GATHERING ‡

Prelude and Announcements

Opening of the 2022-2023 Sunday School Year

P: For the marvels of your creation,

C: we praise you, O God.

P: For the opportunity to explore and study,

C: we praise you, O God.

P: For those who guide us, teachers and mentors,

C: we praise you, O God.

P: Teach us your ways and guide us in your path, for you are the creator of all this us, seen and unseen.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, you give wisdom and knowledge. Grant teachers the gift of joy and insight, and students the gift of diligence and openness, that all may grow in what is good and honest and true.

Support all who teach and all who learn, that together we may know and follow your ways; through Jesus the Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

P: We begin the 2022-2023 academic year in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Gathering Hymn Dance With Me

(For music turn to Hymn 73 in the Songbook binder)

Refrain

Come on – every body

take a chance,

dance with me.

Grab your sister,

tell your brother,

celebrate life dancing free.

1. Painful tears

shattered dreams,

darkness on our left and right.

But with the dawn

joy breaks loose

dispersing sorrow and fright. Refrain

**2. Life's a dance
where we learn
to move our feet creatively.
We may slip
as we move
but God still leads gracefully. Refrain**

Coda

**Mourning turns to dance,
when we give the Lord
a chance to say... Refrain**

Text and music: Hans Peterson, Dakota Road Music, Used by permission of the composer.

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.

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

First Reading 1 Chronicles 16:28-36a

B: ²⁸Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²⁹Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come before him.

Worship the LORD in holy splendor;
³⁰tremble before him, all the earth.

The world is firmly established;
it shall never be moved.

³¹Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,
and let them say among the nations, "The LORD is king!"

³²Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it.

³³Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.

³⁴O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.

³⁵Say also: "Save us, O God of our salvation,
and gather and rescue us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name,
and glory in your praise.

³⁶Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting."

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 106:1-5 (*read responsively*)

D: Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord of goodness,
the God of lasting love.

**C: Who can tell the Lord's wonder,
or sing enough praise?**

D: Happy are those who keep the law
and always act with justice.

**C: Think of me, Lord,
When you bless your people;**

D: share with me your salvation,
your blessing for your chosen ones.

**C: Then I will rejoice with your nation
and praise you as one of your own.**

Second Reading 1 Timothy 6:11-19

E: ¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the

faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. ¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (1 Timothy 6:18)

C: Alleluia. Do good, be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Luke 18:15-34

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 18th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

¹⁵People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. ¹⁶But Jesus called for them and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁷Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.”

¹⁸A certain ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁹Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ²⁰You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother.’” ²¹He replied, “I have kept all these since my youth.” ²²When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” ²³But when he heard this, he became sad; for he was very

rich. ²⁴Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷He replied, “What is impossible for mortals is possible for God.” ²⁸Then Peter said, “Look, we have left our homes and followed you.” ²⁹And he said to them, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰who will not get back very much more in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.”

³¹Then he 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. ³²For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. ³³After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again.” ³⁴But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day O Christ the Same

(For music see Hymn 778 in the Blue Hymnal)

- 1. O Christ the same, through all our story's pages
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;
eternal Lord, the king of all the ages,
unchanging still amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation,
who spread the skies and set the start ablaze;
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation
we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.**
- 2. O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide;
still as of old upon your body bearing
the marks of love in triumph glorified:
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven**

**O Prince of life, in all your saving power;
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given:
we bring our thanks for this the present hour.**

- 3. O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
our lives and loves, our days and years remain;
our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,
our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,
for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
we bring our thanks for all that is to be.**

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926. Music: Irish tune, arr. John Barhard, b. 1948. Text and arr. copyright 1982 Hope Publishing Co.

Response to the Word

F: 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.**

F: 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.**

F: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit.

(Jude 20)

F: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

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

F: 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: God, who gives life to all things
and frees us from despair,
bless you with truth and peace.
And may the Holy Trinity, one God,
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.
C: Amen.

Sending Hymn In Christ There Is No East or West
(For music see Hymn 650 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**
2. **In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.**
3. **Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate're your race may be.
All children of the living God
and surely kin to me.**
4. **In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.**

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt. Music: African American spiritual; adapt. Henry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

Dismissal

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



Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Tom and Carol Urbanic
Acolyte Creed White
Counters Ivan and Nancy Shuler
Coffee Hour

Worship assistants for next Sunday, September 18

Greeters and Ushers
Acolyte Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care Gary Boisseau
Communion Assistant
Counters Burdie Gillern and Linda Flood
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 2022* copyright 2021 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