



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



22nd Sunday After Pentecost

October 16, 2016

10:30 Holy Communion

Today's harvest festival celebrates the bounty of the earth. God has created this wonderful planet and inspired an abundance of rich life. We are the benefactors of this abundance. May we be thankful for what we have. May we share generously. And may we be good stewards of all that God has provided so that it can continue to flourish long into the future.

Welcome to worship today!

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

Nursery care is available during the service. Please see one of the ushers if you need more information.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
(For music see Hymn 693 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Come, ye thankful people, come;
raise the song of harvest home.
All be safely gathered in
ere the winter storms begin.
God, our maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.**
2. **All the world is God's own field,
fruit unto his praise to yield;
wheat and tares together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.**
3. **For the Lord our God shall come
and shall take his harvest home;
from his field shall in that day
all offenses purge away;
give his angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in his garner evermore.**
4. **Even so, Lord, quickly come
to thy final harvest home.
Gather then thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified,
in thy garner to abide.
Come, with all thine angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home!**

Apostles' Greeting

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.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God:
the only Sovereign, who dwells in light;
Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners;
the Holy Spirit, who lives within us.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(A moment of silence for reflection)

P: God of overflowing grace,

C: we come to you with repentant hearts.

Forgive us for shallow thankfulness.

Forgive us for passing by the ones in need.

Forgive us for setting our hopes on fleeting treasures.

Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness.

Bring us home from the wilderness of sin,

and strengthen us to serve you in all that we do and say;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: There is joy in heaven over every sinner who repents. By the grace of God in Christ Jesus, who gave himself up for us all, our sins are forgiven and we are made free. Rejoice with the angels and with one another!

We are home in God's mercy, now and forever.

C: Amen

Hymn of Praise Kyrie Eleison

"Kyrie Eleison" is Latin for "Lord have mercy."

(For music turn to Hymn 19 in the Songbook binder)

Refrain

Kyrie Eleison on our world and on our way.

Kyrie Eleison ev'ry day

**1. For peace in the world, for the health of the church,
for the unity of all.**

**For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! Refrain**

2. That we may live out your impassioned response to the

hungry and the poor.

**That we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! Refrain**

**3. For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes,
for friends and family.**

**For life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! Refrain**

**4. For your spirit to guide, that you center our lives
in the water and the Word**

**That you nourish our souls with your body and blood
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! Refrain**

Text and music: Larry Olson, copyright 1989, Dakota Road Music, CCLI #1765776

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Most gracious God, we praise you for the return of planting and harvest seasons, for fertility of the soil, for the harvesting of the crops, and for all other blessings which you generously pour on this nation and people. Give us a full understanding of your mercy, and lives which will be respectful, holy, and obedient to you throughout all our day; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Joel 2:21-27

²¹ Do not fear, O soil;

be glad and rejoice,

for the LORD has done great things!

²² Do not fear, you animals of the field,

for the pastures of the wilderness are green;

the tree bears its fruit,

the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

²³ O children of Zion, be glad

and rejoice in the LORD your God;

for he has given the early rain for your vindication,

he has poured down for you abundant rain,

the early and the later rain, as before.

²⁴ The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

²⁵ I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.

²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again
be put to shame.

²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again
be put to shame.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord
C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 8 (*Read responsively*)

L: Lord our God,
the whole world tells
the greatness of your name.
Your glory reaches
beyond the stars.

**C: Even the babble of infants
declares your strength,
your power to halt
the enemy and avenger.**

L: I see your handiwork
in the heavens:
the moon and the stars
you set in place.

**C: What is humankind
that you remember them.
the human race
that you care for them?**

L: You treat them like gods,
dressing them in glory and splendor.

**C: You give them charge of the earth,
laying all at their feet:**

L: cattle and sheep,
wild beasts.

birds of the sky,
fish of the sea,
every swimming creature.

**C: Lord our God,
the whole world tells
the greatness of your name.**

Second Reading Philippians 1:3-11

[Paul writes] ³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Hebrews 4:12)

C: Alleluia. The word of God is living and active, able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Luke 18:1-8

The gospel is announced:

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

C: Glory to you O Lord.

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me

out by continually coming.”⁶ And the Lord said, ‘Listen to what the unjust judge says.⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?’

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Give Thanks
(For music turn to Hymn 12 in the Songbook binder)

Verse

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.**

Chorus

**And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”
Let the poor say, “I am rich,
Because of what the Lord has done for us.”
And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”
Let the poor say, “I am rich,
Because of what the Lord has done for us.”**

Repeat Verse and Chorus

Text and music: Henry Smith, Copyright 1978 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music; CCLI #20285

Apostles’ Creed

A: We confirm our faith with the Apostles’ Creed

**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.

Prayers of the Church

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

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

C: And also with you.

A: We share that peace with one another.

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

† MEAL †

Offering & Anthem Hymn of Promise by Natalie Sleeth

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord

For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray: Merciful God,

C: as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus of Nazareth; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with church of yesterday, today and tomorrow; and the church here in this place and all churches throughout the world, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you

and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Take hold of the life that really is life. Come, take your place at the table.

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. You will receive bread from the communion assistant. You may receive wine from either the common cup or in an individual glass. If you would like to receive in a glass please pick one up from the tray as you approach the altar rail. White grape juice is available in the individual glasses for those who do not wish to take wine. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

678 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending (Red Hymnal)*

771 *God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens (Red Hymnal)*

Communion Blessing *After all have communed the pastor will say:*

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray. We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Praise and Thanksgiving
(For music turn to Hymn 689 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, created good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**
2. **God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,
harvesting, milling for daily bread.**
3. **Father, providing food for your children,
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share
one with another, so that, rejoicing
with us, all others may know your care.**
4. **Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,
freely confessing your gracious hand.
When you are reigning, no one will hunger;
your love sustaining showers the land.**

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt. Copyright, Oxford University Press. Music: Gaelic tune; arr. copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's work. Our hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Don and Sally Mansfield
Lector
Acolyte Scott Wilmot
Altar Care Beth Perdan
Communion Assistants Bruce and Diane Boncke
Nursery Care Laura Stroup
Counters John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour Harvest Festival Lunch

Worship assistants for next Sunday, October 23

Greeters and Ushers Tom and Lisa Kurilovitch
Lector
Acolyte Sabastian Plouffe
Nursery Care Lynne Minkel
Counters Don Mansfield and Tim Brown
Coffee Hour *Please sign up.*

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