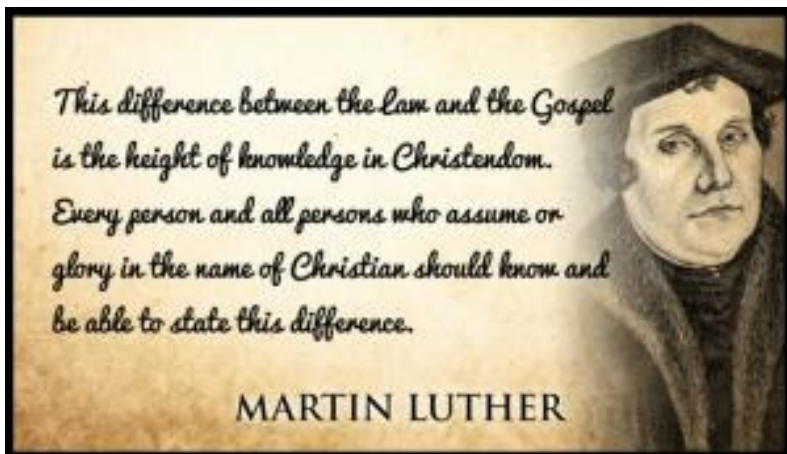




# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



*This difference between the Law and the Gospel  
is the height of knowledge in Christendom.*

*Every person and all persons who assume or  
glory in the name of Christian should know and  
be able to state this difference.*

MARTIN LUTHER

## *Law and Gospel*

*October 8, 2017*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

God uses God's Word in two ways. First, God uses the Word as Law, to tell us how to love the neighbor – to tell us those things we are to do for the neighbor and to tell us those things we are not to do to the neighbor. When God uses the Word as law, God creates a more loving world but also reminds us of our sin. Second, God uses the Word as gospel – to tell us all of the good things that God will do for us, since we are not able to do them for ourselves – forgive our sins, give us new life, grant us reconciliation and eternal life.

*-from Working Preacher.org, "Preaching the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation"*

### *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

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P: Source of all life,

**C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We still fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by your will, willing to speak for what is right and work for what is just. Amen.**

P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven and God continues to work in us. God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn There Is None Like You  
(For music turn to Hymn 87 in the Songbook binder)

*Chorus*

**There is none like You  
No one else can touch  
My heart like You do  
I could search  
For all eternity long and find  
There is none like You**

*Verse*

**Your mercy flows like a river wide  
And healing comes from Your hands  
Suffering children are safe in Your arms  
There is none like You**

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...

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20

<sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the Lord your God, obeying

him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 1 (*Read responsively*)

A: If you would be happy:  
never walk with the wicked,  
never stand with sinners,  
never sit among cynics,

**C: but delight in the Lord's teaching  
and study it night and day.**

A: You will stand like a tree  
planted by a stream,  
bearing fruit in season,  
its leaves never fading,  
its yield always plenty.

**C: Not so for the wicked,  
like chaff they are blown by the wind.**

A: They will not withstand the judgment,  
nor assemble with the just.

**C: The Lord marks the way of the upright,  
but the corrupt walk to ruin.**

Second Reading Romans 7:7-13

<sup>7</sup>What then should we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet, if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet."<sup>8</sup>But sin, seizing an opportunity in the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law sin lies dead. <sup>9</sup>I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived <sup>10</sup>and I died, and the very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. <sup>11</sup>For sin, seizing an opportunity in the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. <sup>12</sup>So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good. <sup>13</sup>Did what is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, working death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (Luke 4:19)

**C: Alleluia. The Lord has sent me to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading Luke 4:14-21

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. <sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,<sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: <sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.” <sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Amazing Grace

*(For music turn to Hymn 779 in the Red Hymnal)*

**1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
Was blind, but now I see.**

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!
3. Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me;  
His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.
5. When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807; music W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Edwin O Excell.

### 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 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

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

**C: And also with you.**

A: Let us share that peace with one another.

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

† THANKSGIVING †

Offering & Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving As the offering is brought forward the congregation sings:

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.**

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray: God of life,

**C: you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

A: 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, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**



Sending Hymn Shout to the Lord  
(For music turn to Hymn 821 in the Red Hymnal)

*Verse*

**My Jesus, my Savior,  
Lord there is none like you;  
All of my days  
I want to praise  
The wonders of your mighty love.  
My comfort, my shelter,  
Tower of refuge and strength;  
Let ev'ry breath, all that I am  
Never cease to worship You.**

*Chorus*

**Shout to the Lord all the earth  
Let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King;  
Mountains bow down  
And the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,  
Forever I'll love You,  
Forever I'll stand,  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.**

*Repeat Verse and Chorus*

Text and music: Darlene Zschech; copyright 1993 Darlene Zschech, Admin. Integrity's Hosanna! Music; CCLI #1406918

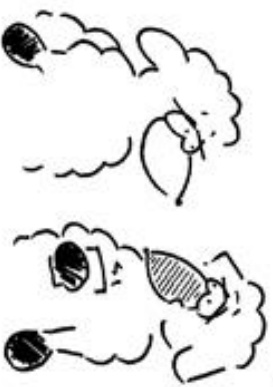
Dismissal

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

'ISAIAH' READS  
LIKE A  
JOB DESCRIPTION.



YEAH — AND JESUS  
FULS THE JOB  
OF 'MESSIAH'  
PERFECTLY



SURE, BUT  
EVERYBODY KNOWS  
HE GOT HIRED  
BECAUSE HE'S  
THE BOSS' KID.





**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	John and Linda Thompson
Acolyte	Katya Kurilovitch
Nursery Care	Kristi Bullwinkle
Counters	John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour	Swigarts and Spawtons

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, October 15**

Greeters and Ushers	Mike and Bettina Kalish
Acolyte	Viala Wagner
Altar Care	Gary Boisseau
Communion Assistants	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan
Counters	Don Mansfield and Tim Brown
Coffee Hour	The Christmans

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 2017* copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress.

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