

**St. John’s Lutheran Church**



*16th Sunday After Pentecost*

*September 4, 2016 10:30 Holy Communion*

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship today, we might be helped by translating Paul’s request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in the blessed sacrament and recalling God’s grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to “choose life” – to choose life in God as our own.

-from *Sundays and Seasons 2016*

*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* Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

*(For music turn to Hymn 712 in the Red Hymnal)*

*1.* **Lord, whose love in humble service**

**bore the weight of human need,**

**who upon the cross, forsaken,**

**worked your mercy’s perfect deed:**

**we, your servants, bring the worship**

**not of voice alone, but heart;**

**consecrating to your purpose**

**ev’ry gift which you impart.**

*2.* **Still your children wander homeless;**

**still the hungry cry for bread;**

**still the captives long for freedom;**

**still in grief we mourn our dead.**

**As you, Lord, in deep compassion**

**healed the sick and freed the soul,**

**by your Spirit send your power**

**to our world to make it whole.**

*3.* **As we worship, grant us vision**

**till your love’s revealing light**

**in its height and depth and greatness**

**dawns upon our quickened sight,**

**making known the needs and burdens**

**your compassion bids us bear,**

**stirring us to ardent service,**

**your abundant life to share.**

*4.* **Called by worship to your service,**

**forth in your dear name we go,**

**to the child, the youth, the aged,**

**love in living deeds to show;**

**hope and health, goodwill and comfort,**

**counsel, aid, and peace we give,**

**that your servants, Lord, in freedom**

**may your mercy know and live.**

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, copyright Oxford University Press. Music: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr, *Selected Hymns,* 1985, arr. copyright 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

*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, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

**C: Amen.**

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

*(A moment of silence for reflection)*

P: Just and gracious God,

**C: we have come to you for healing and love. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sins committed against us; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus the Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: The apostle Paul assures us:  
“When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross.”

Jesus says to you, “Your sins are forgiven.” Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

**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*

P: Let us pray…

*(The Prayer of the Day is said, concluding:)*

**C: Amen.**

WORD 

*First Reading* Deuteronomy 30:15-20

15See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. 16If 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. 17But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, 18I 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. 19I 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, 20loving 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 together)*

**C: If you would be happy:**

**never stand with the wicked,**

**never stand with sinners,**

**never sit among cynics,**

**but delight in the Lord’s teaching**

**and study it night and day.**

**You will stand like a tree**

**planted by a stream,**

**bearing fruit in season,**

**its leaves never fading,**

**its yield always plenty.**

**Not so for the wicked,**

**like chaff they are blown by the wind.**

**They will not withstand the judgment,**

**nor assemble with the just.**

**The Lord marks the way of the upright,**

**but the corrupt walk to ruin.**

*Second Reading* Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, 2to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: 3Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God 5because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. 6I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. 7I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

8For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, 9yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. 10I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. 11Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. 12I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. 13I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; 14but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. 15Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, 16no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. 17So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. 18If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. 19I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. 20Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. 21Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation (Psalm 119:135)*

**C: Alleluia. Let your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes. Alleluia.**

*Gospel Reading* Luke14:25-33

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 14th chapter.

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

25Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus]; and he turned and said to them, 26“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. 27Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. 28For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? 29Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, 30saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ 31Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. 33So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

*After the reading:*

P: The Gospel of the Lord

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

*Children’s Sermon*

*Sermon*

*Hymn of the Day*  Change My Heart, O God

*(For music turn to Hymn 801 in the Red Hymnal)*

**Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.**

**Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.**

**You are the potter; I am the clay.**

**Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.**

**Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.**

**Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.**

Text and music: Eddie Espinosa, 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services.

*Apostles’ Creed*

P: 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*

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

**C: And also with you.**

P: We share that peace with one another.

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

MEAL 

*Offering*

*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*

P: Let us pray:

**C: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. 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: Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet. Welcome to the feast.

*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)*

**468** *Around You O Lord Jesus (Red Hymnal)*

**825** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (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*

P: Let us pray. O God, as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

SENDING 

*Blessing*P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn*  Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*(For music turn to Hymn 858 in the Red Hymnal)*

*1.*  **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!**

**O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!**

**Let all who hear**

**Now to his temple draw near,**

**Joining in glad adoration!**

*2*  **Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things is wondrously reigning.**

**And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.**

**Have you not seen**

**All that is needful has been**

**Sent by his gracious ordaining?**

*3.* **Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you.**

**Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.**

**Ponder anew**

**What the Almighty can do**

**If with his love he befriend you.**

*4.* **Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!**

**All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!**

**Let the amen**

**Sound from his people again.**

**Gladly forever adore him!**

Text – Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878; Tune Ernewerten Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665; arr. Heidi Griffith

Heart Music, Inc.,

Admin. By Word Music Group, Inc.; CCLI # 825356

*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: God’s work. Our hands.**

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers Pat and Jack Hortop

Lector Jim Spawton

Acolyte Jaden White

Altar Care Sally Mansfield

Communion Assistants Rob Stroup and Joe Pow III

Nursery Care Laura Stroup

Counters Nancy and Ivan Shuler

Coffee Hour

Worship assistants for next Sunday, September 11

Greeters and Ushers Paul and Babette Huber

Lector Rob Stroup

Acolyte Julia Bullwinkle

Nursery Care Katy Stimmel

Counters Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann

Coffee Hour *Please sign up.*

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St. John’s Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor

Heidi Griffith, Music Director