

# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

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*Pastor: Roger Dennis*

*PMA: John Dumler*

*Youth & Family Ministry Coordinators: Alex & Audrey Lofland*

## Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

**Sunday, September 20, 2020 ~ 8:15 am and 10:30 am Worship**

### SPECIAL NOTE

***If you borrow a mask, please deposit it in the receptacle outside the sanctuary as you leave today.***

### Order of Service

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

*(Congregation may stand as able)*

**Invocation**

**Order for Confession and Forgiveness**

**L:** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**L:** 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.**

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

L: Almighty God, in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Hymn (10:30 am only)** ..... “Rise Up, O Saints of God!”

*Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn;  
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts with nobler zeal might burn.*

*Commit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod  
And quickened by the Spirit’s power, rise up, O saints of God!*

## Greeting

**Kyrie & Hymn of Praise (10:30 am only)**

*Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.  
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.*

*Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:  
We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.*

## Prayer of the Day

**ALL:** Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*(Congregation may be seated)*

## The Reading of the 1st Lesson: Jonah 3:10-4:11

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened. <sup>1</sup>But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD, “Isn’t this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. <sup>3</sup>Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.” <sup>4</sup>But the LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?” <sup>5</sup>Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. <sup>7</sup>But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When

the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live."<sup>9</sup> But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" "It is," he said. "And I'm so angry I wish I were dead."<sup>10</sup> But the LORD said, "You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight."<sup>11</sup> And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?"

L: Holy wisdom, holy word.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **The Reading of Psalm 145:1-8**

L: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

**C: Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.**

L: Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

**C: One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.**

L: They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

**C: They tell of the power of your awesome works—and I will proclaim your great deeds.**

L: They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

**C: The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.**

### **The Reading of the 2nd Lesson: Philippians 1:21-30**

<sup>21</sup> For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! <sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; <sup>24</sup> but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. <sup>25</sup> Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith <sup>26</sup> so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me. <sup>27</sup> Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel <sup>28</sup> without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. <sup>29</sup> For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, <sup>30</sup> since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

L: Holy wisdom, holy word.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Congregation may stand as able)*

### **Alleluia Verse (10:30 am only)**

*Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.*

*Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.*

*Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.*

## The Reading of the Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

<sup>1</sup> “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. <sup>4</sup> He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ <sup>5</sup> So they went. “He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup> About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’ <sup>7</sup> “‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup> “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’ <sup>9</sup> “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup> When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. <sup>12</sup> ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’ <sup>13</sup> “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius?’ <sup>14</sup> Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. <sup>15</sup> Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup> “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Congregation may be seated)*

**Hymn (10:30 am only)**..... “Lord of All Hopefulness”

*Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, every childlike, no care could destroy:  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.*

*Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.*

**Children’s Time**..... Fruit of the Spirit

**The Sermon**..... Pastor Roger Dennis

*(Congregation may stand as able)*

## The Apostles’ Creed

**C:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by

the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

### **The Prayers of the Church and Blessing of the Prayer Shawls**

P: Lord, in your mercy.

C: **Hear our prayer.**

C: **Amen.**

### **Offertory (10:30 am only)**

*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 the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now.*

*Grace our table with your presence and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

P: Let us pray.

C: **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **Words of Institution**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

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.

#### **Lamb of God (10:30 am only)**

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.*

*(Congregation may be seated)*

## Communion Distribution

You may (and are encouraged to) depart after receiving communion.

If you return to your seat after communion,  
please remain in your seat until directed to depart.

Please deposit all borrowed masks in the receptacles outside the sanctuary.

## Benediction

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## ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

**Attendance 9/12 & 9/13:** 74 (includes Curbside Communion)

**Giving 9/12 & 9/13:** \$3,352.00 (lockbox and services)

## PRAYERS FOR GOD'S PRESENCE:

### Care Center Residents

Don Boxberger

Evelyn Davis

Rita Galyardt

Janice Jack

Monica Lolley

Jerry Michaelis

Mary Parkhurst

Cindy Ranabargar

Keven Schneider

Cathy Trapp

### Homebound Members

Jillian Browne

Duane & Janet Fields

Angeline Green

Deb Kreutzer

Gerald Mai

Sue Murphy

Becky Partridge

Russ Reynolds

LoAnn Sechtem

Gloria Waymaster

### Marceline Bender

Harold Brumley

Janet Funk

Robert Groff

DJ Kuhn

Janice Marshall

Sarah Odum

Vernon Radke

Violet Rutter

Fern Steinle

Darlene Woelk

**Kathleen Albrecht** (wife of Rick Albrecht, daughter-in-law of Bob & Judy Albrecht);  
**Marsha Bacon** (mother of Courtney Krug); **Madison Buehler** (granddaughter of  
Bonnie Buehler); **Paul David** (husband of Pat David); **Donnie Gideon** (brother of Glenn  
Gideon, Darold Gideon, and Tammy Witte); **Kevin Gregg** (nephew of Kayla Meyer);  
**Connie Kilian** (sister of Bonnie Schatz); **Cathy McClain** (friend of Ruth & Dean  
Keil and Juanita Flegler); **Tracy McCune** (friend of Juanita Flegler); **Martha Mink**  
(sister of Margaret Finkbeiner); **Ava Schwien** (granddaughter of Lu Ann  
Hammersmith); **Virginia Sieker** (mother of Rich Sieker); **Brennan Soukup** (grandson of  
Tina Schaad-Claussen)

We continue to pray for the protection of our armed forces as they  
serve our country around the world. May they know that their service  
is appreciated by us.