



**Give to God
the things
that are God's**

MATTHEW 22:21

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
October 18, 2020*

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

October 18, 2020

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

If in the church parking lot or at Strickfaden Park, please turn your car radio to 101.7 FM to listen to our worship service at 9 AM.

This signal is only 1500 feet.

You can also join us on Zoom for worship at 10:30 AM.

Welcome to Worship! In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

Hymn

"God Is Here!"

ELW 526

God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

Thanksgiving For Baptism

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Canticle of Praise

“Lord, be Glorified”

In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In my life, Lord, be glorified today

In my song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In my song, Lord, be glorified today.

In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

¹Sing to the LORD a new song;

 sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
 proclaim God’s salvation from day to day.**

³Declare God’s glory among the nations

and God's wonders among all peoples.

**⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

**⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

**⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

[¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!**

**The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the
peoples with equity."**

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,
for you come to judge the earth.**

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.]

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love
and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters
beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you
not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as
you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you
became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word
with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in

Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

ELW 679

For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev'ry nation,
thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

Prayers of the people:

Please type your prayer requests in using the chat feature during worship, or send them to stacylauer@gmail.com or text them to 419-680-0358 before worship begins.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

We give back to God what God first gives us. Offering can be mailed in to the church at 106 Scheid Road, Sandusky OH 44870, by texting give to 614-389-9681, or given on our church website.

Offering Song

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

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.

Communion

Please have your communion bread and wine ready on your dashboard or near the screen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His care.

Amen

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn

"Here Is Bread"

ELW 483

Here is bread. Here is wine,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
Break the bread, taste the wine,
Christ is with us here.
In this bread there is healing,
in this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit,
Christ is with us here.

Here we are, joined in one,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified
In this bread there is healing,
In this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit,
Christ is with us here.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is:
"A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known"
And a congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S, MINISTERS

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Like us on Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church, Sandusky

Council Prayer: We ask the members of St. John's to pray this month for a safe and peaceful election and an end to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Throughout October, we are doing God's work with our hands. Thanks to Allison Young for making a calendar to keep us organized and motivated! Each day, there is a suggested way to make a difference in our community. These are only suggestions, and you can also come up with your own awesome ideas as the Spirit flows.

Additionally, we will be collecting items for a local nursing home until October 24th. Items needed are listed below, and they can be placed in the bin inside the glass door at church.

I can't wait to see how the Spirit uses each of us to make a difference!

Items needed for the nursing home: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, lip balm, writing paper, markers, colored pencils, adult coloring books, pens, stamps, greeting cards, word search, easy crossword, find the difference, BINGO prizes (balloons, mini candy bars, lolly pops, sugar free cookies and snacks), word search, coloring page, devotion

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Thank you for being an important part of our church family, and thank you to the many people who responded to our one question survey. Council met last night, and we discussed the survey results. With the restrictions that are in place due to the pandemic, the vast majority of people preferred zoom or parking lot worship over worship in the sanctuary.

At our meeting, we discussed interesting questions from you all. We talked about changing zoom and parking lot times so that zoom occurs at 9 and the in-person worship at 10:30. This will be discussed again at our next meeting—and I will gladly hear your thoughts on a time change. We appreciate all questions, ideas, and feedback that help us look at doing things in a new or different way.

While the majority preferred zoom and parking lot worship, there were two or three families who were interested in worshipping in the sanctuary. To meet their needs, the second Sunday in November will likely be in the sanctuary at 10:30. We will test our transmitter to see if worship could also be in the parking lot on that date. Guidelines will be sent out prior to this service, and reservations will be required. Before we do that, I will need eight volunteers to help with worship. If I don't get eight volunteers, then we will not be able to worship in the sanctuary. Are you willing to volunteer? Please let me know by October 16th so that we can make appropriate plans.

The rest of October has worship as planned. 9 AM at Strickfaden and 10:30 on Zoom.

November worship will be 1st, 3rd, and 4th Sundays with parking lot worship at 9 and Zoom at 10:30. The 2nd Sunday will likely be in the sanctuary at 9, with Zoom at 10:30.

I appreciate any and all feedback. Please give me a call, text, or email so I know what you're thinking and how I can pray for you.

I also thank our council for praying and working so hard on making worship as meaningful and accessible as possible during a pandemic.

Walking with you in Christ,
Pastor Stacy

St John's Lutheran Evangelical Church of Union Corners
 2020 Month and YTD summary of Ordinary Income/(loss)
 as compared to 2020 budget

MONTH	Offerings	Expenses	Ordinary Income/(loss)
Actual September 2020	\$ 10,330	\$ 10,549	\$ (219)
Budget September 2020	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ -

YEAR TO DATE			
Actual September 2020 YTD	\$ 114,927	\$ 111,996	\$ 2,931
Budget September YTD 2020	\$ 123,049	\$ 123,049	\$ -

Happy Birthday and Anniversary wishes for October.

Oct. 1—Sheri Bauer
 5—Ann Voight
 14—Mike Chill
 23—Ashlee Schlessman Joseph
 26—Thomas Dawson
 28—Peg Kingsley
 30—John Wilson
 31—Cole Ruggles

Oct. 1—Barry and Kerry Laird
 2—Dave and Sue Zorn