



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
September 13, 2020

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com
Parking Lot Worship 9:00 am Zoom Worship 10:30 a.m.

September 13, 2020 Fifteenth 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 second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

Gathering Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ELW 834

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:13

And also with you.

Canticle of Praise

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.
Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may
delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

Psalms 103:[1-7] 8-13

[¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
²**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**
³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
⁴**who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**
⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
⁶**O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
⁷You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.
] ⁸**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**
⁹you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.
¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**
¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
¹²**As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**
¹³As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

Second Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in

honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of

both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he

would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

666

What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free,
I'll sing God's love for me,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.

Response to the Word

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 1:13-14

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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 into hell.* 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

**Or,* He descended to the dead.

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

pray in the Holy Spirit.

Jude 20

Keep yourselves in the love of God;

look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jude 21

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

2 Corinthians 5:17

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God
and to one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to
the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen

Peace

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one
another, live in peace.

2 Corinthians 13:11

The peace of the Lord 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.

Offertory

Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours the anointing, the radiant worth.

Ours the rejoicing for spirits aflame;
ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done;
yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.

Let us pray.

God, our Creator,

you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Praying this week's prayer requests

Prayer requests can be emailed to stacylauer@gmail.com, texted to 419-680-0358, or mailed to the church.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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**

Blessing

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me"

ELW 755

Jesus, Savior, pilot me
over life's tempestuous sea;
unknown waves before me roll,

hiding rock and treach'rous shoal;
chart and compass come from thee.
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

When at last I near the shore,
and the fearful breakers roar
twixt me and the peaceful rest,
then, while leaning on thy breast,
may I hear thee say to me:
"Fear not, I will pilot thee."

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

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor
Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday
Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Secretary

Church: 419-625-2192
Cell: 419-680-0358
419-433-4530

E-mail: Sandy8110@gmail.com

Morgan Noon, Organist

Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

www.flame-elca.com

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

Council Prayer: We ask the members of St. John's to pray this month that people love more and hate less. Remember the Golden Rule!

Florene Swatek remains at Gaymont. Her number is 419-554-3081 and the address is 66 Norwood Ave, Norwalk, OH 44857.

Endowment Grant Applications are now being accepted for 2021. Due to the pandemic, please contact a member of the endowment team and they will be glad to mail you an application. The requests need to be presented to the Endowment committee no

later than October 15, 2020. You can mail the application back to the church, put your request in the endowment mailbox in the basement or present it to any member of the committee. The committee members are John Miller, Mary K Schlessman, Jeff Justi, Bob Stacy, Dale Osbun, Ron Zorn, Pastor Stacy and Kevin Young. If you have any questions, please see a member of the endowment committee.

September Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Sept. 2 —Kathleen Schlessman
 Brynn Baaske
 9 —Ann Witt
 11—Janet Meinert
 15—Owen Reed
 17—Kyle Young
 19—Faith Tommas
 Kelley Tommas
 Bud Schenk
 23—Hunter Cantu
 27—Jim Semon III

Sept. 8—Richard and Kathy Schlessman
 Ron and Melinda Zorn
 14—Jim and Brittany Semon
 19—Jim and Bonnie Semon

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

	Offerings	Expenses	Ordinary Income/(loss)
MONTH			
Actual August 2020	\$ 10,439	\$ 11,097	\$ (658)
Budget August 2020	\$ 13,672	\$ 13,672	\$ -

YEAR TO DATE			
Actual August 2020 YTD	\$ 104,597	\$ 101,447	\$ 3,150

Budget August YTD 2020	\$ 109,377	\$ 109,377	\$ -
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