

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church September 18, 2022

# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870 (419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com Sanctuary Worship 10:30 a.m.

### Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

**September 18, 2022** 

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to Worship! As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

As Lutheran Christians, we also believe and teach that Christ is truly present in our celebration of Holy Communion as he promised, and we encourage all baptized believers to come to the Lord's table! We commune children of all ages who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received instruction will receive a blessing. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered to accommodate various traditions. Gluten free wafers are provided for those with dietary restrictions. Please make the pastor aware of your need.

If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

Prelude Morgan Noon

Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand

## Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

### **Confession And Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

Amen.

### Gathering Hymn

"Take My Life, That I May Be"

ELW **685** 

1 Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

3 Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

5 Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne. 2 Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

4 Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself, and I will be ever, only, if all for thee.

### Greeting

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

And also with you.

# Kyrie



# Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### Amen

Please be seated

### First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

A reading from Amos.

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

<sup>4</sup>Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, <sup>5</sup>saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, <sup>6</sup>buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." <sup>7</sup>The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### Psalm: Psalm 113 (Read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.

<sup>3</sup>From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

<sup>4</sup>The LORD is high above all nations; God's glory above the heavens.

<sup>5</sup>Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

<sup>6</sup>but stoops to behold

the heavens and the earth?

<sup>7</sup>The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

<sup>8</sup>enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

## Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

A reading from 1 Timothy

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup>This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human,

<sup>6</sup>who gave himself a ransom for all

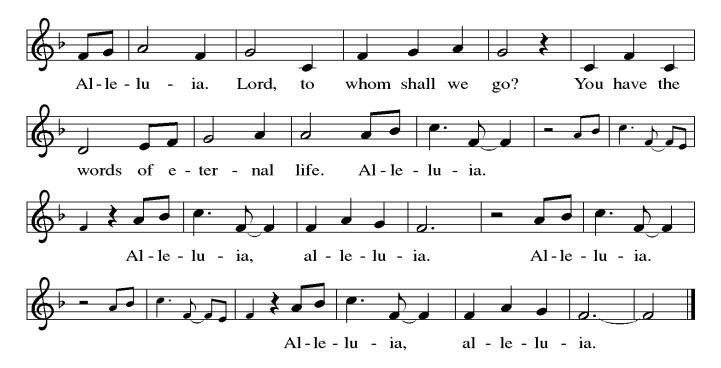
—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

### **Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel:** Luke 16:1-13

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

Cong: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. 2So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' 5So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' 6He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' 8 And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. 9And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup>"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

Please be seated

#### Sermon

Please stand

Hymn of the Day

"Son of God, Eternal Savior"

ELW **655** 

1 Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race, you our head, who, throned in glory, for your own will ever plead: fill us with your love and pity, heal our wrong, and help our need.

3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of peace; hush the storm of strife and passion, bid its cruel discords cease. By your patient years of toiling, by your silent hours of pain, quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, stem our selfish greed of gain

2 As you, Lord, have lived for others, so may we for others live. Freely have your gifts been granted; freely may your servants give. Yours the gold and yours the silver, yours the wealth of land and sea; we but stewards of your bounty held in solemn trust will be.

4 Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race: by your praying, by your willing that your people should be one, grant, oh, grant our hope's fruition: here on earth your will be done.

The Apostles' Creed
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.

<sup>\*</sup>Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

#### **Prayers of Intercession**

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

#### **Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## And also with you.

Please be seated



"We Are An Offering"



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### Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

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**

## Dialogue

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

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:

beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:

through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

## We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:

at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

# We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

### The Lord's Prayer

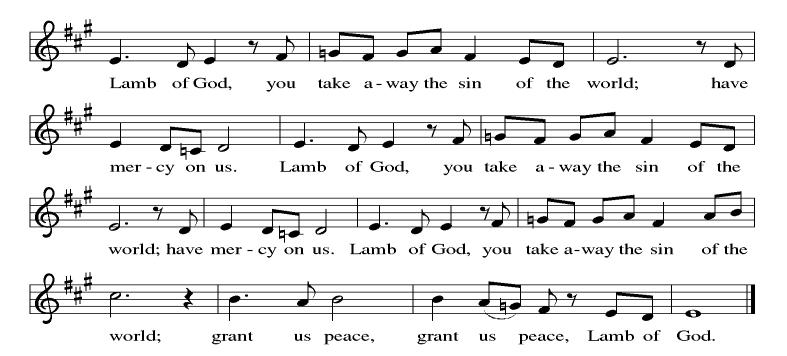
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

#### Distribution



## Distribution Hymn:

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.

3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

# Distribution Hymn:

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

**ELW 471** 

**ELW 803** 

1 Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees. Refrain

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

3 Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees. Refrain

Please stand

# 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.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

### Amen.

## Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### **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**

"Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

ELW **669** 

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

3 Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom's task embrace; redress sin's cruel consequence; give justice larger place.

5 Commit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod; and, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! Despair engulfs earth's frame; as heirs of God's baptismal grace, the word of hope proclaim.
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain; stretch forth your hand of healing now, with love the weak sustain.

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#### 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

Church: 419-625-2192

Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday

Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Administrative Asst.

Cell: 419-680-0358
419-433-4530

E-mail: Sandy8110@gmail.com

Morgan Noon, Organist

Lay Reader: Connie Deehr

Ushers: Communion Assistant: Sandy Thompson

Audio/Visual Tech.: Jon Baaske

Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com Attendance: Sept. 11 - 35

2022: The Year of Vision Memory Verse: "And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new." (Revelation 21:5a)

Council asks the congregation to pray for discernment and insight for our small groups as they begin this fall, and for Pastor Stacy as she continues to search new ways to share God's Word. We also pray for our children as they begin a new school year, that they find learning a joy and time with their fellow students a blessing.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Jim and Bonnie Semon's anniversary.

Thanks to everyone who helped with rally day! It was so fun worshiping in the park as children laughed nearby on the playground. And thank you to everyone who helped with the Lutheran World Relief care packages!

Choir Practice begins on Wed., September 21st. All are welcome!

We are starting small groups now that it is fall!! There is quite the variety this year, and most only meet once a month. I hope you'll join one!

**Art with Allison Young** meeting in her home, with a different project each month. They'll meet on the 2nd Thursday.

Meditation and Movement with Pastor Stacy and Shannon Thomas on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 11 AM at the Christian Life Center at Zion in Huron (This group will offer time for prayer, scripture reading, reflection, and quiet time. There wil be gentle movements to go along with the prayers, but they can also be done in a chair. All ages and abilities are invited)

Men's Group with Jason Shupe and Andy Gundlach. (Join them once a month for a relaxed conversation, usually around a fire or at the bar. The men who participated a couple of summers ago enjoyed the time just for them--to relax, to talk, to simply be. All men are invited.)

Conversations with Lynn Schlessman meeting on the 2nd Sunday of the month from 9-10 AM. (I will be offering to lead a group that will use materials I have written for use at monthly meetings I conduct with men and women that are in prison. Some of the titles are Reflections and Reflecting, Questions About Fairness, Happiness Exercise, Event-Response-Outcome, Excuses And Reasons, and Changing The Way You Think And Act. Each session will begin with participants jotting down some responses to the questions and then the group will go through the questions with participants sharing as much or as little as they want to. I find that I learn about myself as I hear others tell about how they face the challenges and respond to situation. I hope you will join me in this group on the second Sunday of each month at St. John's at 9 am. If you have any questions you can call me at home, 440-934-6736 —I do not have a cell phone. Thanks for considering being a part of this discussion group.)

**Bible Study with Sandy Thompson**, Thursdays at 1, starting Oct. 6 (this group met during the last session of small groups and had so much fun they want to go again. Join them as they go a bit deeper into the bible. Prior knowledge is not needed, and there is a ton of room for questions and discussion.)

## Thank you:

Dear Church Family, Thank you for the scholarship! It has greatly lessened financial worries. God has blessed me with a wonderful church family. God bless, Valerie Deehr

Dear Church Family, Thank you for the Meijer gift card as a birthday present! It will be put to use through gas and school supplies. I truly appreciate your thoughtfulness. Thank you again! God bless, Valerie Deehr

Thank you for supporting OHgo! We are honored to count you as a partner in our effort to serve and feed neighbors and lead the community to end hunger. Your donation helps ensure that we are able to be a constant support. You are truly making a difference! Thank you so much for your generous support! Christine and Kendra

Happy Birthday to Faith Tommas, Kelley Tommas, Bud Schenk, Hunter Cantu, and Jim Semon III.

Happy Anniversary to Jim and Bonnie Semon.

Endowment Grant Applications are now being accepted; please contact a member of the endowment team for an application. Applications must be submitted to the Endowment committee no later than October 7, 2022. 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, Colleen Girard, Ron Zorn and Pastor Stacy. If you have any questions, please see a member of the endowment committee.

The Endowment team will hold its quarterly meeting on October 13, 2022, at which time all grant applications that have been presented will be reviewed and voted on. Those that are approved will be sent to the Finance Team for additional review and approval. Once the new audio visual system is operational, the endowment team intends to hold a temple talk prior to the October 7, 2022 application deadline to review the endowment fund's purpose and mission and encourage the congregation to submit grants.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 18th THRU OCTOBER 2nd

Sunday, September 18	9:45 am	Confirmation Introduction and Welcome
	10:30 am	Sanctuary worship/live stream to Zoom
Tuesday, September 20	7:00 pm	Church Council
Wednesday, September 21	1:00 pm	Conversations: Dementia with Pamela
		Brumbaugh
	6:00 pm	Choir Practice
Sunday, September 25	10:30 am	Sunday Worship live streamed to Zoom
	11:30 am	Small group leader lunch at Jim's Pizza
		Box Huron
Sunday, October 2	9:30 am	Intergenerational Sunday School
	10:30 am	Sanctuary worship

**Attention ladies:** The Eastern Conference Fall Retreat takes place on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am – 1:00 pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 203 S. Washington St., Castalia, OH. The Theme: "Grace, Gratitude, and Generosity". Take a few hours out of your busy schedule for a time of prayer, devotion, fellowship, and growing in God's word. Program: Pastor Katie Suggitt will lead the Bible Study on "Grace, Gratitude, and Generosity".

Registration and coffee hour starts at 9:30 am, cost is \$5.00 which includes coffee hour and lunch. The offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response (Kentucky and the Ukraine)

See bulletin board flyer for in-kind gift items which will benefit Grace's Table. RSVP by October 2<sup>nd</sup> to 419-684-5059 or macdonaldb58@gmail.com