

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
September 8, 2024

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

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

September 8, 2024

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Rally Day

Welcome to Worship on this Rally Day! We gather to celebrate our ministry together as the people of St. John's, and we celebrate "God's Work, Our Hands" together as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. A renewed focus on ministry and mission begins today, and this moment of worship serves as a reminder that we exist as a faith community for the sake of the world with a message of good news.

As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the celebration of Holy Communion as he is God with us. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to come to the Lord's table. We commune children of any age who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received communion 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.

We thank Linda Stauffer for sharing her gift of music today. Join us for lunch and fellowship following worship as well as assembling the hygiene kits for LW Relief. Next Sunday we meet back in our more traditional surroundings.

Bells

Welcome and announcements

Prelude

Please stand if you are able

Gathering

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

Confession And Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

We confess that we have honored you with our lips,

but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.

The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.

In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

Draw near to us with grace in time of need,

and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,

our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing,

your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

Bulletin Pg. 12

Text and music © 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc., admin. Capitol Christian Music Group

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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

Lectio Divina Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a

The reading will be read once, we will pause, the reading will be read again and meditate on what we hear. Reading will be read again and we will share what stands out to us.

A reading from Isaiah.

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

“You Are Mine”

Bulletin Pg. 13

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Reading: Psalm 146

(Read responsively)

¹Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴**When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;**

the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰**The LORD shall reign forever,**

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Sensio Divina

1. Look at the park around us and take in what we see.
2. We will use as many senses as we can and reflect on what else stands out to us.
3. What is God telling us? What does this say about God's creation? You can draw, hum, write a poem, sit quietly and think, journal.
4. We can share in the group.

Please stand if you are able

Hymn of the Day

"We Are One In the Spirit"

Bulletin Pg. 14

Prayers of the people:

Response: Hear us O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Choir Offering

"This Is My Father's World"

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

Music: Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930, adapt. Public Domain

Please stand if you are able

Offertory

"As the Grains of Wheat"

Bulletin Pg. 15

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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 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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please be seated

Communion Song



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn

“Seek Ye First”

Bulletin Pg. 16

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Distribution Hymn

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

Bulletin Pg. 17

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Please stand if you are able

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.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our 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

"God's Work Our Hands"

Bulletin Pg. 18

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b 1954,

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922-1987

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Music ©1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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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

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Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday

Cell: 419-680-0358

Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Admin. Assistant

419-625-2192

E-mail: Sandy8110@gmail.com

Today's Musician: Linda Stauffer

Communion Assistant: Mia Scovanner

Attendance: Sept. 1 - 34

Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

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

2024: The Year of Rest Memory Verse

"So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God" Hebrews 4:9

Council asks the congregation to pray for students, parents, professional and auxiliary staff in all areas. We pray that each one has a year filled with achievement, growth and safety, and that they find joy and friendship in learning.

Communion Clean-up today:

15 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben	Cleanup – Elizabeth Libben
22 – Set-up – Joleen Dillender	Cleanup – Lynn & Sue Schlessman
29 – Set-up – Toni Nossaman	Cleanup – Sandy Thompson

Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help out, please see Toni Nossaman, Joleen Dillender or Sandy Thompson.

There will be no live streaming of worship on Rally Day, Sept. 8th. Live streaming of worship will return on Sunday, September 15th at 10:30 am.

Adult Study with Lynn resumes on Sunday, September 15th at 9:15 am in the Upper Room. We will be looking at the life of Abraham. All are welcome to join the upcoming study.

Beginning in October, Sunday School will be the second Sunday of the month.

October 13th at 9:00 AM will be Sunday School for **all ages**. We will focus on the Reformation and dreaming. Please let Pastor Stacy or Dawn Schlessman know if you will be there so she knows how many items to prepare.

November 10th at 9:30 will be Sunday School for **ALL youth**. We will learn about Holy Communion, taste the bread, tell stories, and go a little deeper into our understanding of this sacrament.

November 17th will be the first play practice for the Christmas program, which will be on December 15th in the barn. Please let Pastor Stacy know if your child/neighbor/grandchild/family member of any kind would like a role!

Reformation is approaching on October 31st. So why do we celebrate the Reformation? What is it that sets us Lutherans apart? Join us as we Make Sense of Martin Luther! It's a seven week series, beginning October 15th at 11 AM at St John's (we will not meet the week of Thanksgiving). There is a book that goes with the series, so please let Pastor Stacy or Sandy know by September 21st if you would like a copy. Anyone is welcome in this group.

Supper Club Returns: Mark your calendar and make your reservation for Supper Club fellowship. Supper Club will meet on **Thursday, September 19th** at 6:00 pm at the Red Lobster in Sandusky. Sign-up sheet is at the back of the sanctuary.

Book Club Selection: *“Jesus and John Wayne”* written by Kristin Du Mez.

The book club book "Jesus and John Wayne" appears more political than intended. However, it is still a topic that has been requested by quite a few in the congregation, that seems quite relevant, and that has already been purchased by a bunch of you in book club. Whether you agree or disagree with the book, I hope you will still join us. **Book Study takes place on Tuesday, Sept. 10th at 10:00 am in the Upper Room.**

Please feel free to SKIP the intro and preface as those seem the most political. In September we will discuss chapters 1 and 2. Please also be thinking about a fluffier piece that we could read after this book--I'm guessing we will all need a brain break!

Blessings Pastor Stacy

The book is available at Amazon or your favorite book place. If you would like a book, see the sign-up sheet in the back of the church or contact Sandy Thompson.

Kitchen and Fellowship Hall renovation! The council is asking for your help. It is time to put together a renovation plan. If you would like to be part of a committee to develop plans for a new kitchen and fellowship area, if you have skills in design or kitchen design, please contact Pastor Stacy or any member of council.

Endowment Grant Applications are being accepted: 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 7, 2024. 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, Ted Call, Jeff Justi, Bob Stacy, Colleen Girard, Ron Zorn, Pastor Stacy . If you have any questions, please see a member of the endowment committee.

The Endowment Team will hold its quarterly meeting in mid to late October, 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.

Happy Birthday to Ann Witt, Trudi Baaske, Jenna Burnham, Holden Stacy

Happy Anniversary to Richard and Kathy Schlessman, Ron and Melinda Zorn, and Jim and Brittany Semon.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 8th THRU SEPTEMBER 22nd

Sunday, September 8	10:00 am 10:30 am 11:30 am 12:30 am	Rally Day Coffee Time – Edison Park Rally Day Worship Rally Day Picnic Potluck God's Work Our Hands Hygiene Kit Assembly
Tuesday, September 10	10:00 am	Book Club meets in Upper Room
Sunday, September 15	9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Worship
Tuesday, September 17	7:00 pm	Church Council
Thursday, September 19	6:00 pm	Supper Club at Red Lobster
Sunday, September 22	9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Worship

Weekly Verse: The spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty give me life. Job 33:4

Sept. 8 – Go outside and enjoy God's creation.

9 – Listen to music that makes you want to move.

10 – Light a candle and give thanks for your baptism

11 – Affirm a gift you see in another.

12 – Cook something you love to eat & share it.

13 – Donate your time or money to something you believe in.

14 – Do a physical activity that makes you winded. Give thanks for breath.

LORD, I LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH

G C D C G C

Lord, I lift your name on high, Lord, I love to sing your

D C G C D C

prais - es. I'm so glad you're in my life,

G C Dsus D G C

I'm so glad you came to save us. You came from heav - en to earth

D C G C

to show the way, from the earth to the cross,

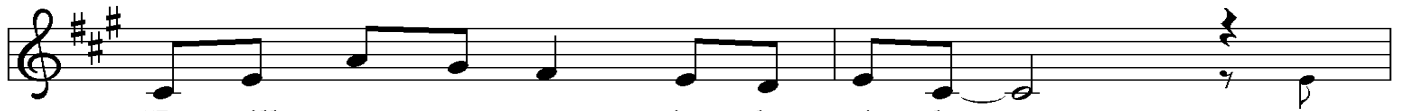
D C G C

my debt to pay; from the cross to the grave,

D Em⁷ Am⁷ Dsus D G C/G G

from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

You Are Mine



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. *To stanza 2*
 Come and rest in me. *To refrain*
 all will know my name. *To refrain*
 up, now walk and live! *To refrain*



Refrain
 Do not be a - afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine." *To stanzas 3 and 4*

4 "I

Text: David Haas, b. 1957
 Music: YOU ARE MINE, David Haas
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They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

Unison

1. We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord, We are
2. We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand, We will
3. We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side, We will
4. All praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come, And all

one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord, And we pray that all
walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand, And to - geth - er we'll
work with each oth-er, we will work side by side, And we'll guard each one's
praise to Christ Je - sus, His on - ly Son, And all praise to the

Refrain

u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
spread the news that God is in our land: And they'll know we are Chris-tians
dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride:
Spir - it, who makes us one:

by our love, by our love, Yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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Seek ye first

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Optional descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al -

D F#m G D G

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God and its
 2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and

le - lu - ia, al - le -

D Em⁷ A⁷ D F#m

righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
 you shall find; knock and the door shall be

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

G D G D Em⁷ A D

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying". It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system contains the lyrics: "Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;". The second system contains the lyrics: "Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace." The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex chordal accompaniment in the left hand.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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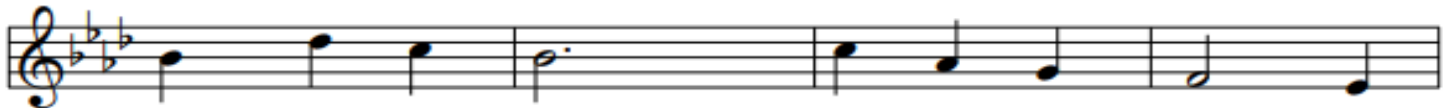
God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your Gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson

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