

GO AND WORK IN THE VINEYARD TODAY

MATTHEW 21:28



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
September 27, 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 27, 2020 Seventeenth 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. Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

Gathering Hymn

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

ELW 815

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.
Refrain

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.

You are the treasured people of the LORD,

a people holy to the LORD our God.

Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.

Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8

Scripture Song

Refrain

Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

1. Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe, just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations. Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name? *Refrain*
2. For you alone are the Holy One. All nations will draw near and worship before you, for your just and holy works have been revealed. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Psalm 25:1-9

¹To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**⁴Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

**⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

Second Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Gospel Acclamation

Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you!
Word of life, Jesus Christ, all praise to you!
Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the Scriptures.
Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you!
Word of life, Jesus Christ, all praise to you!

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the

kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

“Change My Heart, O God”

ELW 801

Refrain

Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

You are the potter;

I am the clay.

Mold me and make me;

this is what I pray. Refrain

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.

Response: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

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 of the pets

Blessing

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Lift High the Cross"

ELW 660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. Refrain

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

Cell: 419-680-0358

Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Secretary

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!

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.

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