

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD
ST. JOHN'S EAGLE'S NEST PRESCHOOL**

MISSION STATEMENT
Fellowship of Hope, Teaching, Serving and
Proclaiming!

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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

"Laboring For The Lord"



5:30PM — September 23, 2017

8:00AM — September 24, 2017

THOSE WHO SERVE US

Each Member of St. John's	A Minister
Rev. Ted Gall	Senior Pastor
Mrs. Sandy Esker.....	Preschool Director
Mr. Jamie Lotz	Organist
Mrs. Melissa Goldstein.....	Song Leader
St. John's Praise Band.....	10:30AM
Mr. Gayland Bourland	5:30PM Elder on Duty
Tori Budde	5:30PM Acolyte
Mr. Jeff Stremming.....	8AM Elder on Duty
Blaine Flach	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Dave Wall	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Tyler Budde	10:30AM Acolyte
Mr. Jerry Pruemer 690-2265	Elder on Duty for September 25-September 29, 2017
Missionaries from Pakistan	Younis Darshan and Raja Shaleem
Missionaries from India	Ajay Paul & Sonne
Sister Congregation	in Blidene, Latvia
Mrs. Arnetia Osborn.....	(342-2210) Prayer Chain Coordinator

WELCOME To our friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to the stranger, we extend our sincere greeting. If you are a visitor, please understand that you are our guest and we want you to feel welcome and comfortable. We are happy you chose to be with us in this service, and pray you have been blessed by our Lord today as He has blessed us by your presence.

CHRIST is important to us

- in our worship
- in our study
- in our fellowship
- in our lives.

YOU are important to us

- in our worship
- in our study
- in our fellowship
- in our lives.

HOLY COMMUNION – When the members of St. John’s Lutheran Church, (LCMS) celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we confess the Real Presence of Christ’s Body and Blood in the Bread and Wine, given and shed for the forgiveness of our sins. (*1 Cor 10:16 & 1 Cor 11:23-26*) We believe that Christ’s Body and Blood are present “in, with and under” the elements of the Holy Supper. (*Luther’s Small Catechism*) Members should register their intent to commune on the pew card. If you are visiting with us and you desire to join with us in communion fellowship in agreement with these beliefs, please speak to one of the Pastors or the elder on duty before the service.

HIS VISION FOR US:

St. John’s will be known for being involved in our changing community, for providing leadership in our changing world, and for serving others in Christian love.

We will welcome our diverse guests with open arms. Our friendly, loving and accepting people will engage our guests, mentor them in the faith, and inspire many to become members.

Our members will be motivated by the cross to be actively engaged in ministry, showing love and care to others. We will encourage one another, nurture one another, and enthusiastically serve our God together!

HIS GOAL FOR US:

We will pray and work with singleness of purpose to expand the impact of our ministry to God’s children of all ages, with special emphasis on young families, by developing new ways to strengthen the relationship between St. John’s, our members and our community, providing the facilities and resources to involve more people in ministry and outreach.

WELCOME CENTER Greeters are present at the Welcome Center in the atrium adjacent to our sanctuary before and after the service to answer any questions you may have, provide directions to restrooms, classrooms, etc. If you are a first time guest, we also have a gift for you. If you live in our community or surrounding area and you do not have a church home, we welcome your consideration. We offer true fellowship with a living Savior and membership in His Church.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER Kindly fill out a registration card (welcome side) located in the pew rack. Our guests are also asked to complete the address and phone number portion. Please pass your card to the center aisle to be gathered during the offering.

CELL PHONES Please turn your cell phones off before the service begins.

AS WE GATHER Our reward for being called to work in God's kingdom does not change based on how long we have been in our Lord's service. After all, we are saved by grace through faith, not by works. Isaiah's call for the wicked and unrighteous to return to the Lord shows God's immense compassion for all people, no matter when they return to Him. God's ways are not our ways, yet we continue to work in His kingdom until He calls us when we die. Paul is struggled with a desire to depart and be with Christ and a desire to go on living and laboring for the Lord. Death and life contend, but Paul knows life will win. He knows that Jesus will return, raise the dead, and dwell with them forever.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ PREPARATION +

HYMN..... **"Salvation Unto Us Has Come"**..... [Sts. 1-5: LSB 555]

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 27:1, 4a, 5*

Pastor: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Pastor: One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

People: **that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,**

Pastor: For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble;
People: **He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 27:6, 9; Isaiah 55:6–7*

Pastor: As we come to the house of the Lord, we know that we are unworthy of God’s love. We have sinned against friends and families, neighbors and co-workers.

People: **We have not loved God with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have grumbled against God and His authorities. We have sought selfish desires instead of God’s will.**

Pastor: We turn to God in repentance and implore Him for mercy. Lord, hide not Your face from us. Turn not Your servants away in anger.

People: **Do not forsake us, O God of our salvation!**

Pastor: The prophet Isaiah writes, “Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.” The Lord is near to you. He has drawn near in the person of Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection bring forgiveness, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen. And now my head shall be lifted up. I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

+ WORD +

HYMN OF PRAISE..... “All Glory Be To God On High”..... [LSB 947]

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING..... Genesis 50:15-21
(Joseph and his brothers are reconciled.)

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶ So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE Romans 14:1-12
("Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.")

14 As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.

² One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³ Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵ One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶ The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷ For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸ For if 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. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. ¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹ for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." ¹² So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL..... Matthew 18:21-35

(The parable of the unforgiving servant.)

²¹ Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. ²³ “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

HYMN OF THE DAY “Salvation Unto Us Has Come”
[Sts. 6–10 LSB 555]

SATURDAY SERMON “Seventy-Seven Times” Matthew 18:21-28

SUNDAY SERMON “Reassuring Words” by Rev. Gary Fortkamp – Gen. 50:15-21

OFFERING/OFFERTORY “Let The Vineyards Be Fruitful” [LSB 955]

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Dear heavenly Father, You are the Lord of the harvest. Raise up missionaries who are willing to spread the Gospel of life and salvation to the ends of the earth. Grant them confidence and zeal to do Your work. Send Your Holy Spirit into the hearts of those who will hear the Word of Christ, that they may believe in You. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, You are our rock and our refuge. Grant Your peace to all those who live in fear, especially immigrants, refugees, and all who are oppressed. Be their light and their salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, look with favor upon those who are homeless, unemployed, or underemployed. Grant them patience in the midst of suffering and meaningful vocations in Your perfect timing. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we know that Your ways are not our ways, but sometimes we fail to understand Your will. Strengthen the hearts of those who are coping with disappointment, especially those struggling with infertility or miscarriage. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, be with those who are nearing the end of life. Send them comfort and strength as they will soon rest from their labors. Point them to the hope of Christ's return and the resurrection of the dead. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we ask Your blessing and healing upon all who are sick or recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Cheer their hearts and heal their bodies according to Your perfect will. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, comfort those who mourn the death of loved ones, [*especially . . .*]. We know that to live is Christ and to die is gain. Keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, hopeful for His return, our resurrection, and the restoration of all creation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Finally, Lord, guide Your Church to live in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ, standing firm in unity and truth as a witness to the world of Your light and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We ask all of these things in Your name, O Lord.
People: Amen.

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

***SANCTUS*(p. 195 in hymnal)**

LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI..... (p. 198 in hymnal)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS“Feed Us Now [TOSB #89]

1. Feed us now, Bread of life, In this holy meal;
Let us know Your love a-new; We hunger for You.
Feed us now, Bread of life, Come and live within;
Let Your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray.
2. Piece of bread, glass of wine; We receive from You
Your true body and true blood Your promise we trust.
Piece of bread, glass of wine; who can understand
How Your mercy works in these? Yet, Lord, we believe.
3. Thank You Lord for this gift, such a holy meal.
Only You can give us life; forgive all our sins.
Praises be to our God for the blessings here.
At Your altar Lord we say, “Praise be to our God”

..... “Draw To The Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed” [LSB 560]

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Numbers 6:24–26

People: Amen.

HYMN..... “Hark, The Voice Of Jesus Crying”..... [stz 1 & 4 LSB 826]

SILENT PRAYER

GREETING OF PEACE

POSTLUDE