

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

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

**901 West Jefferson Avenue  
Effingham, Illinois 62401  
Phone: (217) 342-4334  
Fax: (217) 342-6599**

**E-mail: saintjohnslcms@gmail.com  
WEBSITE: stjohnslcms.net**

**PRESCHOOL WEBSITE: eaglesnestpreschool.com**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**"Division and Perfect Peace"**

**5:30PM — August 31, 2019  
8:00AM — September 1, 2019**



**THOSE WHO SERVE US**

Each Member of St. John's .....	A Minister
Worship Leader.....	Rev. Gary Fortkamp
Mrs. Sandy Esker.....	Preschool Director
Mrs. Jerry Starner .....	Organist
St. John's Praise Band.....	10:30AM
Mrs. Megan Wahl.....	Song Leader
Mr. Jake Wendling .....	5:30PM Elder on Duty
Makenna Duckwitz.....	5:30PM Acolyte
Mr. Jim Schroeder.....	8AM Elder on Duty
A. J. Radloff .....	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Howard Janis .....	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Elena Niebrugge .....	10:30AM Acolyte
Mr. Jeff Stremming .....(217-821-3891)	Elder on Duty for September 2-6, 2019
Sister Congregation .....	in Blidene, Latvia
Adopted Chatelain School.....	Haiti
Mrs. Julie Scott .....	(343-3047) 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** “For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 14:11). We are urged to a path of humility, not thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought and thinking of others before us. With this very purpose, Jesus heals a man on the Sabbath and reveals the character of God’s patient and powerful love. We are invited to follow Christ’s own example and to be people of such love and humility that God is glorified and the mercy of God is exalted.

**+ PREPARATION +**

**HYMN** ..... “*Today Your Mercy Calls Us*” ..... [LSB 915 ]

**INVOCATION**

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

People: Amen.

**CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: It is God who executes judgment,

People: putting down one and lifting up another.

Pastor: Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,

People: and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

*A time for silent reflection*

Pastor: Almighty God,

People: we are a disobedient people who have forsaken Your ways and chosen the desires of our own hearts over Your Word. In thought, word, and deed we have sinned against You and against one another, done what is evil, and failed to do what is good. In pride we have sought to repair our sinful condition and have failed. We are sorry for all our sins, and we pray You to forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, asking You to send also Your Holy Spirit that we may amend our sinful lives and live to the praise of Your glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Be comforted, dear people, for the Lord has heard Your cry for mercy and forgiven You for the sake of Your Savior Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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.

Pastor: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

**+ WORD +**

**INTROIT**            *Psalm 75:1–2, 6, 9; antiphon: v. 7*

1 We praise you, God,  
    we praise you, for your Name is near;  
    people tell of your wonderful deeds.  
2 You say, “I choose the appointed time;  
    it is I who judge with equity.

6 No one from the east or the west  
    or from the desert can exalt themselves.

9 As for me, I will declare this forever;  
    I will sing praise to the God of Jacob,

7 It is God who judges:  
    He brings one down, he exalts another.

**KYRIE**                *(p. 186 in hymnal)*

**HYMN OF PRAISE**     *(p. 187-189 in hymnal)*

**SALUTATION**

*Pastor:*    *The Lord be with you.*

*People:*   *And also with you.*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Pastor:*    *Let us pray.*

*O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

*People:*   *Amen.*

**RESPONSE:**.....“**Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus”.....(LSB 685; Vs. 1)**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** ..... *Proverbs 25:2-10*

*(When before a king, do not make yourself higher than you ought. Learn the place of humility.)*

It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings.<sup>3</sup> As the heavens are high and the earth is deep, so the hearts of kings are unsearchable.<sup>4</sup> Remove the dross from the silver, and a silversmith can produce a vessel;<sup>5</sup> remove wicked officials from the king’s presence, and his throne will be established through righteousness.<sup>6</sup> Do not exalt yourself in the king’s presence, and do not claim a place among his great men;<sup>7</sup> it is better for him to say to you, “Come up here,” than for him to humiliate you before his nobles. What you have seen with your eyes<sup>8</sup> do not bring hastily to court, for what will you do in the end if your neighbor puts you to shame?<sup>9</sup> If you take your neighbor to court, do not betray

another's confidence,<sup>10</sup> or the one who hears it may shame you and the charge against you will stand.

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE..... Hebrews 13:1-17**

(The way we treat others matters in God's eyes. Loving one another as brothers and sisters, showing hospitality to strangers, keeping marriage relationships pure, and continually offering praises to God pleases Him.)

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters.<sup>2</sup> Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.<sup>3</sup> Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.<sup>4</sup> Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.<sup>5</sup> Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."<sup>6</sup> So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"<sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.<sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.<sup>9</sup> Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by eating ceremonial foods, which is of no benefit to those who do so.<sup>10</sup> We have an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat.<sup>11</sup> The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp.<sup>12</sup> And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.<sup>13</sup> Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore.<sup>14</sup> For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.<sup>15</sup> Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.<sup>16</sup> And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.<sup>17</sup> Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**VERSE** Luke 14:1

**Alleluia. Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL ..... Luke 14:1-14**

(The Pharisees kept close watch on Jesus and even invited him to the house of a prominent Pharisee for dinner. As Jesus dined, he taught about the consequences and rewards of

honor. In this particular parable, Jesus illustrated that there will always be someone more important than you.)

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

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.<sup>2</sup> There in front of him was a man suffering from abnormal swelling of his body.<sup>3</sup> Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in the law, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath or not?”<sup>4</sup> But they remained silent. So, taking hold of the man, he healed him and sent him on his way.<sup>5</sup> Then he asked them, “If one of you has a child or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day, will you not immediately pull it out?”<sup>6</sup> And they had nothing to say.<sup>7</sup> When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable:<sup>8</sup> “When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited.<sup>9</sup> If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place.<sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests.<sup>11</sup> For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid.<sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,<sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**HYMN OF THE DAY.....“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”.....[LSB 563]**

**SERMON.....“Come Up Here” .....Proverbs 25:2-10**

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY .....“We Praise You, O God”.....[LSB 785]**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: In humility and faith we come, O Lord, before Your throne of grace, and we ask You to hear us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Kill the pride that would cut us off from Your grace and teach us the humility of faith that we serve You and delight in Your will here on earth and live in peace and love with all people. Lord, hear our prayer,

**People: and grant our supplication.**

Pastor: Guard Your Church against such pride and raise up able and humble leaders that she may have faithful pastors to speak Your Word, faithful servants to

accomplish her mission, and faithful support to provide the resources to accomplish such work. Lord, hear our prayer,

**People: and grant our supplication.**

Pastor: Give to our president, Congress, governor, and all elected and appointed public servants a heart for Your people, a desire for justice, and a passion for service.

Give special blessing to all emergency and disaster workers who serve us in our greatest moments of need and protect those who defend us at home and abroad. Lord, hear our prayer,

**People: and grant our supplication.**

Pastor: Guide us to look beyond ourselves and to behold the poor and those in need.

Give us voices to speak on their behalf and give us generous hearts to supply their need from our abundance. Lord, hear our prayer,

**People: and grant our supplication.**

Pastor: Govern our lives by Your Word so that we know the truth and keep it in holy hearts. Bless especially our Sunday School, catechumens, Bible studies, parochial schools, universities, and seminaries that our learning be directed by Your Word. Lord, hear our prayer,

**People: and grant our supplication.**

Pastor: Give us grateful hearts so that we not presume to come to this Table of the Lord trusting in our own merits but solely in the merits and mercies of Jesus Christ, who gives Himself to us in this bread and cup. Help us to be people of love, and strengthen us in this love by this blessed Communion. Lord, hear our prayer,

**People: and grant our supplication.**

Local prayers and petitions may be added.

Pastor: Guard the hearts of the mentally ill, give to the suffering relief, grant healing to the sick and those recuperating, and guard the dying in Your peace, [especially . . .], that all be healed according to Your will, sustained in their hour of need by Your grace, and kept to everlasting life. Lord, hear our prayer,

**People: and grant our supplication.**

Pastor: Give us a grateful heart for the gift of labor and for the fruits of our labors we enjoy. Give to the unemployed and the underemployed the work they seek, and guide us all to use well and wisely the resources this labor provides, that we honor You both with the songs of our lips and the tithes and offerings we bring. Lord, hear our prayer,

**People: and grant our supplication.**

Pastor: Guard Your people in their journey of faith, from the baptismal new birth until we rest in Your almighty arms, and bring us with the saints into the joy of Your everlasting presence on that blessed day when Jesus comes again to finish His new creation. Lord, hear our prayer,

**People: and grant our supplication.**

**Pastor:** *Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**People:** **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** Matthew 6:9–13

**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** ..... “**Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”** ..... [LSB 686]

**SILENT PRAYER**

**GREETING OF PEACE**

**POSTLUDE**

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## We Exit to Serve!

***If this service has moved you spiritually and you have questions regarding your spiritual life, please feel free to visit with Pastor after the service.***

