

**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

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

“Rescuing the Wanderers”

**5:30PM —September 14, 2019
8:00AM —September 15, 2019**



THOSE WHO SERVE US

Each Member of St. John's	A Minister
Rev. Gary Fortkamp	Worship Leader
Mrs. Sandy Esker	Preschool Director
Mrs. Jerry Starner	Organist
Mrs. Amy Kohnert	Song Leader
St. John's Praise Band	10:30AM
Mr. Howard Janis	5:30PM Elder on Duty
Makenna Duckwitz	5:30PM Acolyte
Mr. Chris Niebrugge	8AM Elder on Duty
A.J. Radloff	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Dave Wall	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Elena Niebrugge	10:30AM Acolyte
Mr. Jim Schroeder	Elder on Duty for September 16 - 20, 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.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Lois Budde in memory of Lloyd Budde.

AS WE GATHER “If the Lord describes Himself in Scripture as our “Shepherd,” it follows that we, as those who belong to Him, are His “sheep.” True to our broken nature, we all wander away from our Shepherd’s provision, wrongly assuming we can find our own way. Not only can we never find our own way to lasting life, but we can find our own way only to everlasting death. We all stand in need of rescue! We all are the lost sheep who have wandered away. Thank the Shepherd for coming to your rescue. His death and resurrection are proof that He never gives up on us! He pursues His wanderers. Finding us and claiming us, He carries us home. And that’s exactly where He gathers us today: at home in His presence so that He, our Shepherd, can fill us, His sheep, with His love and mercy. Jesus. When we repent as sinners, all of Heaven greatly rejoices!

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN..... *“Jesus Like a Shepherd Lead Us”***LSB 711**

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION **Isaiah 53:6**

Pastor: As sheep who have wandered from the Shepherd, we all have turned from the Lord in our disobedience to His commands.

People: **All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

Pastor: Confident in the pursuit of our Shepherd, Jesus, for those who wander from Him, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

A time for silent reflection upon God’s Word and personal prayers of confession

Pastor: Together, we pray:

People: **Good Shepherd, we are Your wandering people. We need You. We need Your love. We need Your forgiveness. We need Your pursuit of us all.**

Guide us back into the fold of Your care that we be cleansed of our sins. Create in us hearts to worship You in truth and follow Your Word, which alone gives us life. Amen.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, we are redeemed by Jesus Christ. In Him, our Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for us all, we are fully and freely forgiven. Receive this forgiveness today as you, like wandering sheep, are drawn back into His rescuing mercy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

☩ WORD ☩

INTROIT *Psalm 30:2–5; antiphon: vv. 11a, 12b*

Pastor: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;

People: O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever!

Pastor: O LORD my God, I cried to You for help,

People: and You have healed me.

Pastor: O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;

People: You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

Pastor: Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints,

People: and give thanks to His holy name.

Pastor: For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.

People: Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;

People: O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever!

KYRIE (P. 186 in hymnal)

HYMN OF PRAISE..... LSB page 187-189

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.
Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd.

People: Without You nothing is secure.

Pastor: Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever.

People: Help us to follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life;

Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

+ **WORD** +

OLD TESTAMENT READING..... Ezekiel 34:11-24
(The Lord will search for and seek out His scattered sheep.)

Obey what I command you today. I will drive out before you the Amorites, Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. ¹²Be careful not to make a treaty with those who live in the land where you are going, or they will be a snare among you. ¹³Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and cut down their Asherah poles. ¹⁴Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God. ¹⁵“Be careful not to make a treaty with those who live in the land; for when they prostitute themselves to their gods and sacrifice to them, they will invite you and you will eat their sacrifices. ¹⁶And when you choose some of their daughters as wives for your sons and those daughters prostitute themselves to their gods, they will lead your sons to do the same. ¹⁷“Do not make any idols. ¹⁸“Celebrate the Festival of Unleavened Bread. For seven days eat bread made without yeast, as I commanded you. Do this at the appointed time in the month of Aviv, for in that month you came out of Egypt. ¹⁹“The first offspring of every womb belongs to me, including all the firstborn males of your livestock, whether from herd or flock. ²⁰Redeem the firstborn donkey with a lamb, but if you do not redeem it, break its neck. Redeem all your firstborn sons. “No one is to appear before me empty-handed. ²¹“Six days you shall labor, but on the seventh day you shall rest; even during the plowing season and harvest you must rest. ²²“Celebrate the Festival of Weeks with the firstfruits of the wheat harvest, and the Festival of Ingathering at the turn of the year. ²³Three times a year all your men are to appear before the Sovereign LORD, the God of Israel. ²⁴I will drive out nations before you and enlarge your territory, and no one will covet your land when you go up three times each year to appear before the LORD your God.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Pastor: Fear the LORD, you His saints,

People: **for those who fear Him lack nothing!**

Pastor: Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

People: **but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

EPISTLE.....1 Timothy 1:(5-11) 12-17

The Lord's abundant grace, selfless sacrifice, endless mercy, and immense patience for sinners like you and me is more than enough reason to lift a mighty shout of praise to the One and Only King Eternal! Hallelujah!

⁵The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ⁶Some have departed from these and have turned to meaningless talk. ⁷They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm. ⁸We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. ⁹We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine ¹¹that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me. ¹²I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. ¹³Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. ¹⁷Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE Luke 15:10

Pastor: Alleluia. I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God

People: **over one sinner who repents. Alleluia.**

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 15:1-10

Jesus illustrated the Father's relentless love through picture parables. One parable showed a shepherd leaving behind his flock of 99 to search for the one lost sheep and bring it home. The other parable told a story of a woman who lost a silver coin only to rejoice with her friends when she found it.

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. ⁸"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' ¹⁰In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

SERMON HYMN..... "Amazing Grace".....LSB 744

SERMON THEME "When God Rejoices Over You"By Pastor Gary Fortkamp

OFFERING/OFFERTORY.....LSB 785 V. 1

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH Ezekiel 34:16

Pastor: The Lord says through the His prophet: "I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak."

Confident in the care of our faithful Shepherd, let us bring our thanksgivings, requests, and intercessions before our Father's throne of grace.

Faithful Shepherd, You are so good to us. Even when we stray from Your presence through disobedience to Your commands, You bring us back into Your presence through the good news that we have received in this time of worship.

People: Grant that we treasure all we possess in the Gospel of Christ.

Pastor: Guiding Shepherd, You lead us with Your mercy that we may dwell in Your presence forever. Salvation is found solely in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Enable us to bring the good news of His life, death, and resurrection to all souls for whom He offered His life.

People: Enable us to open our lips and declare Your wonders to the world.

Pastor: Loving Shepherd, You care for all You have made, for all the world is Yours. Grant that those who are broken in heart, mind, and spirit find refreshment in Your presence. Open our eyes to the needs of our neighbors, for in them we see You.

People: Give us hearts to serve others with the mercy You give to us all.

Pastor: Protecting Shepherd, You guard and bless those who take refuge in You. Watch over the land in which we live, guiding all servants among us to act justly with the wisdom from above. Enable us to dwell in security and peace. Lead all Christians to be people of worship, prayer, and service so that our communities are blessed by You through the works of our hands.

People: Send us out to represent our Savior in all we say and do.

Pastor: Healing Shepherd, You bind up the wounds of those who suffer in both soul and body. [*Today we lift up before You . . .*] Whatever the need and whatever the circumstance, draw Your sheep into the fold of Your care that they receive the healing You desire for them.

People: Open our eyes to see Your healing hand at work.

Pastor: As sheep who trust in their faithful Shepherd, we bring these prayers, along with all the unspoken prayers of our hearts, before You.

People: In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: As our Shepherd, our Savior will lead us as we walk with Him in faith.

People: Following our Shepherd every day, let us share His mercy with all we meet.

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.

CLOSING HYMN..... "The King of Love My Shepherd Is".....LSB 709

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.