



St. John's Lutheran Church Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 19, 2021 | 10:30am

Welcome to St. John's. We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God.

PRELUDE

Elegy

ERIN FAMOUS, VIOLINIST

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***HYMN AT THE PROCESSION**

All my hope on God is founded

1 All my hope on God is founded
who will all my trust renew,
who through change and chance will guide me,
only good and only true.
God unknown, God alone,
call my heart to be thine own.

2 Mortal pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray our trust;
what with care and toil we fashion,
tow'r and temple, fall to dust.
But thy pow'r, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tow'r.

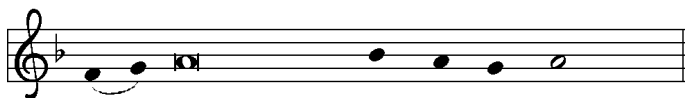
3 Great thy goodness, e'er enduring;
deep thy wisdom, passing thought;
splendor, light, and life attend thee,
beauty springing out of naught.
Evermore from thy store
newborn worlds rise and adore.

4 Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of God's own Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

***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.

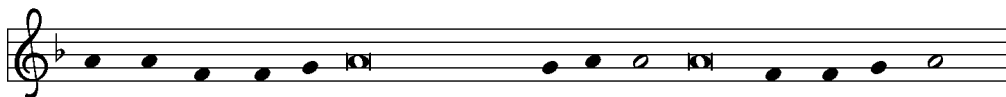
***KYRIE & GLORIA**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we

giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one

will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
 ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry.
 ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
 God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - men.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 11:18-20

A reading from Jeremiah.

It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew;
 then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
 led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
 that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
 let us cut him off from the land of the living,

so that his name will no longer be remembered!”
²⁰But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

PSALM 54

Sung by the choir.

Save me, O God, by your Name; in your might, defend my cause. ²Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth. ³For the arrogant have risen up against me, and the ruthless have snatched my life, those who have no regard for God. ⁴Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life. ⁵Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them. ⁶I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your Name, O Lord, for it is good. ⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

SECOND READING

JAMES 3:13-4:3,7-8

A reading from James.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.⁴

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what

you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The assembly faces the center aisle to welcome Christ in the Gospel.



***GOSPEL**

MARK 9:30-37

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus and the disciples went on and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR PEDERSON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Children of the Heavenly Father

The first verse will be sung in Swedish.

Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each intercession ends with these words:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

***OFFERING**

***OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

SCHUMANN

We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee. Amen.

***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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:*
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
 You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
 You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
 so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
 We give you thanks for his coming into the world
 to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.
To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come, take your place at the feast.

All who believe that Jesus is present in the bread and wine, forgiving sin and promising eternal life, are welcome to the Table of the Lord.

LAMB OF GOD

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. A - men.

MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

ANTHEM

The Call of Wisdom

TODD

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with power of his endless life, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

***BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, How pass - ing
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore His ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed, for us he taught, For us his

thought and fan - ta - sy, That God, the Son of God, should
 fast, and hun - ger'd sore; For us temp - ta - tions sharp he
 dai - ly works he wrought, By words and signs and ac - tions,

take Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 knew; For us the temp - ter o - ver - threw.
 thus Still seek - ing not him - self, but us. A - men.

4 For us to wicked men betrayed,
 Scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
 He bore the shameful cross and death;
 For us gave up his dying breath.

5 For us he rose from death again,
 For us he went on high to reign;
 For us he sent his Spirit here
 To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

6 All glory to our Lord and God
 For love so deep, so high, so broad;
 The Trinity whom we adore
 For ever and for evermore. Amen.

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Fugue in G Major

BACH

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Coffee/Fellowship Time

Our thanks to Irene Hendricks and David Hendrickson for hosting the fellowship time following worship today in the Welcome Room. This time of hospitality is important as we connect with one another over coffee and treats. The Welcome Room is located directly beneath the sanctuary.

Sunday Leaders

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Duane C. Pederson
Organist	Nathan K. Lively
Worship Assistant	Vinnie Bell
Reader	Inger Ruffels
Acolytes	Ava Carney, Adam Famous
Communion Assistants	Tim Brumbaugh, Pat Fisher
Ushers	Joe Milukas, David Hendrickson
Counters	Tim Brumbaugh, Lois Coffin, Pat Fisher
Altar Committee	Sheila Koch

Livestream Sponsors

Cynthia & Thomas Schlachtenhaufen
Greta & Mark Schneider
Jeffrey & Shirley Schulz



Countertenor **Logan Tanner** will be singing a 20-minute prelude next Sunday, September 26, beginning at 10:10 am. You may remember him from the Messiah lecture series last December. Logan is one of the leading countertenors on the world's stage today. Logan and one of St. John's choristers, **Silas Hoffman**, who is one of Logan's students, will sing selections from Handel's *Messiah* and *Saul*. Make sure you make it to church early to enjoy the music of Handel.

The Little Free Pantry

Sign up to volunteer to maintain the Little Free Pantry - clean, organize, and restock. Click [here](#) to sign up. Please do this before the dedication of the LFP on Sunday, September 26.

Consider donating these specific food/toiletry items. Bring them to the church prior to September 26. Please donate *only* the items below.

Food List – The Little Free Pantry Donate items that do not expire easily with undamaged packaging. Focus on low sugar, low sodium, and whole grain items.		
Beans (canned or dry)	Brown Rice	Unsweetened Apple Sauce
Peanut or Nut Butters	Quinoa	Spices/Salt/Pepper
Rolled Oats	Nuts or Seeds	Whole Grain Cold Cereal
Canned Fruit in Juice	Shelf Stable Powdered Milk	Coffee or Tea
Canned Soup, Stew, Broth	Whole Grain Pasta	Canola or Olive Oil
Canned Meat (tuna/chicken/salmon)	Low Sodium Pasta Sauce	Canned Vegetables
Toiletry List – The Little Free Pantry		
Shampoo/Conditioner	Soap	Feminine Hygiene Products
Body Wash	Diapers	Dish Soap
Toilet Paper	Laundry Soap	Paper Towels
Dental Floss	Toothpaste and Brushes	

Pumpkin Patch

The Pumpkin Patch returns to St. John's Lutheran Church! This is a major fundraiser on behalf of three nonprofits in Stamford (Building One Community, Pacific House, Family Centers Literacy Volunteers) and a significant mission project of the congregation. We need your help with the following: **Sept 30 & Oct 1: Setup 5:30 pm, Unloading on Oct 2 at 9:00 am, Table Coverage beginning Saturday, Oct 2**

To keep everyone safe, we ask that only those vaccinated participate to help. We've ordered half a semi-truckload instead of a full load, so we hope to complete the work within an hour or two. Please sign up [here](#) for as many shifts to staff the Pumpkin Patch during October as you can. This is crucial to the success of The Patch, because if we're not open; we're not selling. Sign up now so that we get a jump on filling the shift slots. **Note: Movie Night at the Pumpkin Patch** is scheduled for Saturday, October 16 at 6:00 pm. The last time we held movie night around 100 people attended!

God's Work. Our Hands...This Sunday, September 19

Because of the pandemic, we will do a single outdoor service project for the annual "God's Work. Our Hands." at Family Centers, a nonprofit that St. John's has supported for years.

We'll do some yard work for Family Centers, 60 Palmer Hill Avenue, Stamford. We will gather at that address at 12:30 pm this Sunday, September 19.

Bring gloves, pruning shears, a rake and wheelbarrow (if you have one to bring). We'll weed and prune shrubs and tree branches. The work shouldn't exceed two hours. If you can help, let Vinnie Bell know (Vincent.bell@sbcglobal.net), so we know how many workers to anticipate. Thank you for pitching in!

Bass Choral Scholar Sponsors

Pat Fisher *in memory of* Chuck Fisher; Anonymous; Mark and Jennifer Famous;
Eric Lane *in memory of* Walter and Ruth Ramshaw; Nels and Susan Ylitalo *with thanks to*
Nathan Lively; Connie Feydy and Jake Elwell; Chis and Amy Beldotti; Diane Egley; Rev.
Duane and Charlene Pederson; Nathan Lively *in thanks to* Marie Sweglar & Tom and
Nanette Jordan; Veronica Olsen; Joe and Cheryl Milukas; John and Betsie Harkins