

**WELCOME TO
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**
2415 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
www.stjohnsws.com

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 21, 2016 – 10:45 a.m.
Divine Service – Setting Two

***St. John's Mission: To help one more person get to Heaven
by pointing them to Jesus Christ.***

Jesus is full of surprises. He says and does things differently than we might expect from God. Many will seek to enter the narrow door of the kingdom but will not be able. God's discipline of His children is an expression of His deep love for us. Some who are last will become first, and some who are first will find themselves last. How strange. The way of Jesus is the way of the cross, of suffering, discipline, and of being last. Divine strength is made perfect in human weakness. Grace unexpected is delivered in Word and Sacrament and through Jesus' own presence with us in our sufferings. Thank You, God, for grace unexpected and overflowing.

† Prayer Before Worship †

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prelude

Now Thank We All Our God

J.S. Bach

Welcome & Sharing of the Peace

(Please Stand)

Processional Hymn #813 "Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng"

Confession and Absolution

I

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

C: Amen.

Introit *Psalm 117; antiphon: Psalm 96:6a; 115:18*

P: Splendor and majesty are before Him; We will bless the Lord from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, all nations!

C: **Extol Him, all peoples!**

P: For great is His steadfast love toward us,

C: **and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!**

All: 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.

P: Splendor and majesty are before Him; we will bless the Lord from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!

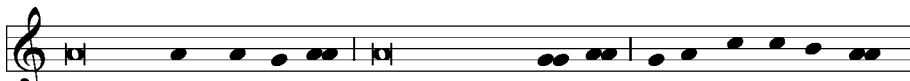
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



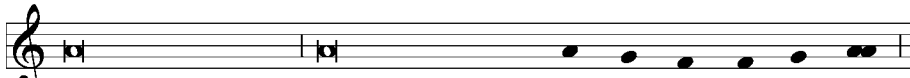
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



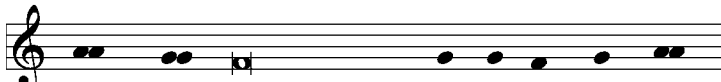
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

Hymn of Praise - Gloria in Excelsis

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of 12 staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words in all caps. The lyrics are: [A] Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. [C] Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Be Seated)

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 66:18-23

(The sign set among the nations.)

¹⁸“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. ²¹And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD.

²²“For as the new heavens and the new earth
that I make
shall remain before me, says the LORD,
so shall your offspring and your name remain.

²³From new moon to new moon,
and from Sabbath to Sabbath,
all flesh shall come to worship before me,
declares the LORD.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**All: Fear the Lord, you His saints,
for those who fear Him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all.**

Epistle Lesson

Hebrews 12:4-24

(God disciplines those He loves by His Word that we may enter and dwell in the eternal joys of Mount Zion)

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.

⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal.

¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

¹⁸For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”

²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,
²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,
²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
 C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:22-30

(Strive to enter the narrow door.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.


²²[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem.
²³And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, ²⁴“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ ²⁶Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ ²⁷But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’

²⁸In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. ²⁹And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God.

³⁰And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C:  Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

(Be Seated)

Hymn of the Day #809 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Sermon

“Messy Forgiveness”

Luke 7:36-50

Offering

Offertory Hymn #781 “We Give Thee But Thine Own,” v. 1

Commissioning & Installation of Benjamin Michael Montgomery as Kindergarten Teacher

(Please Stand)

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: O Lord,
People: hear our prayer.

Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Recessional Hymn #672 "Jerusalem the Golden"

Dismissal

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Trumpet Tune

Henry Purcell



Our Sunday Worship - Morning services are at
8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday School and
Adult Bible Class both begin at 9:45 a.m.

A Great Place to Grow in Christ

*As a part of our outreach ministry, we have a
Preschool/Pre-K program and Kindergarten through 8th grade.
All programs/grades have full-time care available.*

Rev Dr. Keith G. Less

Pastor

7:30-3 p.m. Monday & Wednesday

7:30-1 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday

10:00-1 p.m. Saturday

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Mark Edmiston, Principal

Tom Baldwin, Director of Admissions and Community Relations

Sonia Davidson, Director of Preschool

Michael Zeoli, Director of Music for Contemporary Worship

Frances Burmeister, Director of Music for Traditional Worship

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Mae Elliott.

August Ushers: Bob Hoisington, Holly Richardson, Ryan Davidson, Stephanie Kiel

Lector & Cantor Mark Meier