



St. John's LUTHERAN

Church & School

*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
725-1651 x406 (office)
443-480-3075 (cell)
revkeith54@gmail.com*

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 Bob & Cora Kretzchmar in honor of their
38th wedding anniversary

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

Worship Assistants Rich Essbach & Bruce Sawicki



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

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 7, 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.***

Life brings many things to worry about: money, health issues, politics, relationships, choices, and so much more. Today we see the worry of Abram and Sarai: would God's promise to them actually come true, since they had no son yet? "O Lord GOD, what will You give me, for I continue childless," lamented Abram. Amid their worry, Abraham "went out not knowing where he was going. . . . By faith he went." Jesus teaches us, "Do not be anxious about your life." Like Abraham and Sarah, we live by faith in the midst of all there is to worry about in our world. Worry freezes us. Worry turns us in on ourselves. The alternative to worry is to venture out toward the people in need around us, believing, by faith, that God will use us to bless the world as He blessed the world through Abraham and Sarah and their ultimate descendant, our Lord Jesus Christ.

† Prayer Before Worship †

Lord God, You are eternal and You love the human beings You have created with a strong and unfading love. Help us, when faced with the challenges, disappointments, and heartaches that sometimes come our way, not to become so self-absorbed by worry that we forget Your goodness. Replace our worries with confident faith that no matter what the circumstances of our lives, Your love for us endures; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prelude

Create In Me A Clean Heart, O God Paul Bouman
(from Psalm 51:10-12 – see Page 11 for words)

Welcome

(Please Stand)

Processional Hymn #720 "We Walk by Faith"

Confession and Absolution

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.**

**Thy kingdom come, (pause)
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven; (pause)
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 #729 "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

Dismissal

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Joel Beck, Organist
Beth Meier, Soprano & Cantor
Meghan George, Alto

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Grant unto me the joy of Thy salvation; uphold me with Thy free Spirit.

Psalm 51:10-12

The church secretary's computer crashed this week and it is possible that all opened emails have been lost. If you sent an email about something that is needed after this Sunday for the *Weekly News* or calendar, please re-send it. Thank you.

Pastor: For those who serve in the armed forces of our nation, for innocent victims of warfare and persecution, and for our enemies, that all experience the peace of God which surpasses human understanding. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For our loved ones and friends who are sick or in any kind of trouble: those in the hospital, those suffering chronic illness, those with mental illness, and those who are dying. Calm their worried hearts and ours, with Your promise that You will never leave them nor forsake them. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For students who are preparing to go to college, either for the first time or as returning students, that Your Holy Spirit guide them into all truth as they learn and mature. Bless their families from whom they will be separated, and allay all of their fears. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For all who travel, that they arrive and return safely to and from their destinations. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Additional petitions may be added.

Pastor: For all who know they should not worry, but who struggle with worry about someone or something in their lives: calm their fears, remind them of Your enduring presence, and guide them to confide in close friends and thereby find strength through the mutual conversation and consolation of Christian brothers and sisters. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For all those who have walked before us by faith: Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, [*names of those who died recently*], and so many others, we give thanks. Let their walking by faith inspire us to follow the ways in which they followed Jesus, until that day when all who lived by faith join together singing eternal praise to God and to the Lamb. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O Lord, You kept Your promise to Abraham and Sarah. You promise that our lives are precious to You. You call us to seek first the kingdom of God. By faith, we entrust our prayers to Your good and gracious will, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,**

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 the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit Psalm 147;8-10 antiphon: v 147:7

P: Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!

C: He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth; he makes grass grow on the hills.

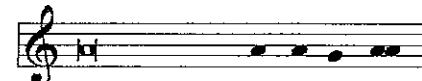
P: He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry.

C: His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

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: Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!

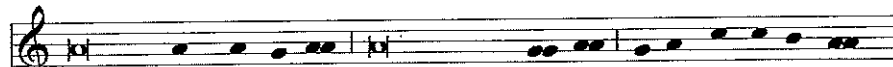
Kyrie - Cantor sings the A sections; congregation responds on the C sections



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



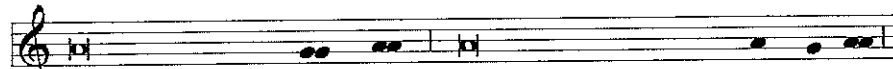
C Lord, have mer - cy.



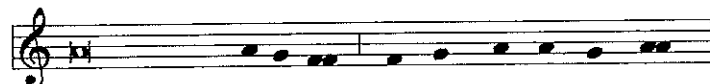
A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



G 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.



G 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.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



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



G A - men.

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 #739 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Sermon

"Get out of the Boat"

Matt 14:22-33

Offering

Choral Voluntary Litany (Ancient Irish Melody) Thomas Pollock/Arr. Lloyd Pfautsch

Prayers of the Church

Pastor: Created in the image of God, redeemed by the blood of Jesus, and sanctified by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the Church throughout the world and for all people according to their needs.

For the leaders of our church, [*Synod president's first name*] and [*District president's first name*], and for Christians leaders throughout the world, that You give them the strength to lead Your people with patience and conviction in the midst of this broken world. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the leaders of our nation, [*president's first name*], and our state, [*governor's first name*], and for our local elected officials, that they strive for a just society and tend to the most vulnerable people among us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the leaders of nations throughout the world, that they, too, seek peace and goodness for all of the people under their authority. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:22-34 (35-40)

(Fear not, little flock.)

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



C: **G** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²²And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. ²³For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? ²⁷Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ²⁸But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! ²⁹And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. ³⁰For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. ³²"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: **G** 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,

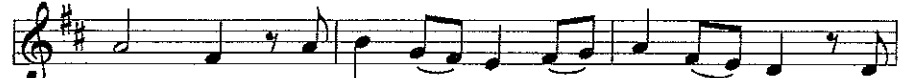
Hymn of Praise - Gloria in Excelsis



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



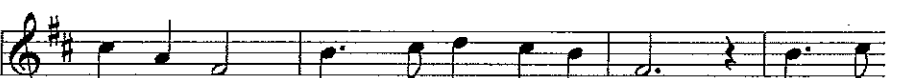
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



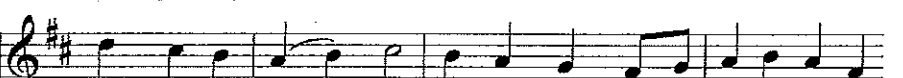
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the



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.

Almighty and merciful God, it is by Your grace that we live as Your people who offer acceptable service. Grant that we may walk by faith, and not by sight, in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

(Be Seated)

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 15:1-6

(God reiterates His promise to Abram.)

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." ⁴And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." ⁵And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." ⁶And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Psalm 34:9, 19*

**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 11:1-16

(By faith)

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²For by it the people of old received their commendation. ³By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of

things that are visible. ⁴By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. ⁵By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. ⁶And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ⁷By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. ⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. ¹¹By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore. ¹³These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

Alleluia and Verse

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.