



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

Traditional Service
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Divine Service Setting Two with Holy Communion
September 11, 2016 – 10:45 a.m.

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

The Pharisees thought that purity brings joy to God. Their entire practice of religion was based on purity. The pure ones were considered to be good, righteous, and close to God, even if they did not love or care one bit about their neighbors' well-being. The impure ones were labeled "sinners." So when Jesus came along and ate with sinners, it blew the Pharisees' minds. How could someone who claims to be godly eat with sinners and expose Himself to such impurity? Jesus told two parables to explain, showing that Jesus and all of heaven rejoice when even one sinner is found and turns to God. The question for us today is: will we grumble like the Pharisees, or will we participate in what Jesus is doing in the world to seek and find the lost, the strayed, the weak—and thereby bring joy to God?

† Prayer Before Worship †

Merciful Lord, You sent Jesus to find the lost and to lead the straying into the arms of Your mercy. Preserve us from placing purity over mercy for those who have gone astray, self-righteousness over welcoming the lost, and pride over humbly joining You in seeking out those who have wandered; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prelude

We Beseech Thee

Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome & Sharing of the Peace

(Please Stand)

Processional Hymn #686 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Confession and Forgiveness

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 30:2-5; antiphon: Psalm 30:11a, 12b*

P: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever!

C: O Lord my God, I cried to You for help, and You have healed me.

P: O Lord, You have brought up my soul from Sheol; You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

C: Sing praises to the Lord, O you His saints, and give thanks to His holy name.

P: For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

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: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever!

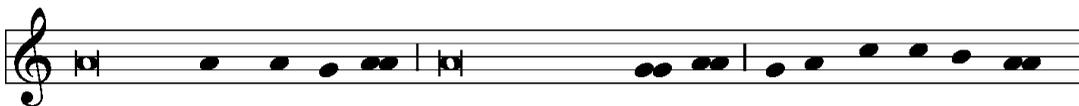
Kyrie



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 – This is the Feast

A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and

hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Be Seated)

Old Testament

Ezekiel 34:11-24

(The Lord promises personally to seek and find the lost.)

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD.

¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.”

¹⁷“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

**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

1 Timothy 1: 12-17

(God was merciful to Paul.)

¹²I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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.

(The lost sheep and coins.)

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



¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus].

²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ⁴“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

(Be Seated)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day #740 "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

Sermon

"Lost?"

Luke 15:1-10

Reception of New Members – Adam & Rachel Orsborn, Madelyn and Hannah

Prayer of the Church

P: ...as we cry,

C: O Lord, hear our prayer.

Offering

Choir Anthem

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Gwyneth Walker

(Please Stand)

Hymn- #781 "We Give Thee but Thine Own", v 1

TODAY WE WILL CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER...

St. Paul wrote, "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup". Ask yourself: Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe that Jesus died for my sins? Am I resolved, by the work of the Holy Spirit, to use the power of Christ which is offered in this Sacrament, to amend my sinful life? St. Paul also wrote, "He who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly". Do you believe that you receive the TRUE/REAL BODY AND BLOOD of Christ in, under and with the bread and wine for the full pardon of sins? (Please use pages 329-330 in the front of your hymn book to examine yourself.) Children are invited forward to receive a blessing.

† Service of the Sacrament †

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.



C And al-so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P: ... evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

C: Amen.

Words of our Lord

Lord's Prayer

Peace of the Lord

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C 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;



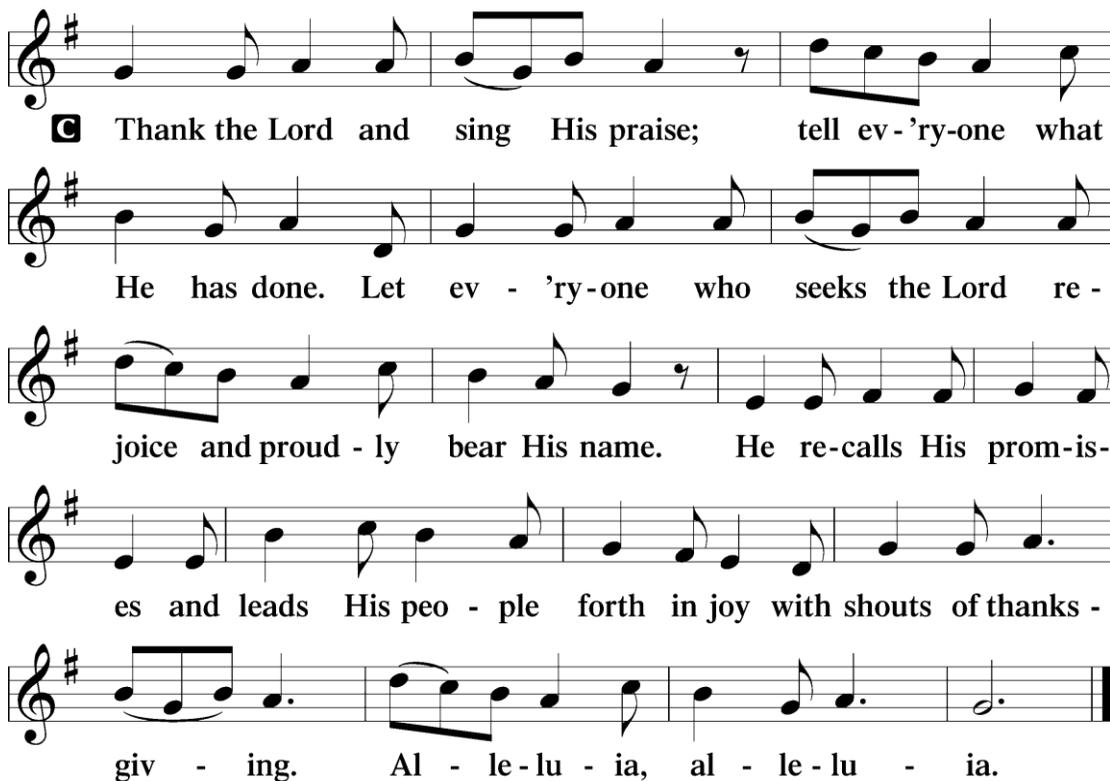
grant us peace, grant us peace.

(Be Seated)

Distribution Hymns: #709 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"
#738 "Lord of All Hopefulness"
#725 "Children of the Heavenly Father"

(Please Stand)

Post-Communion Canticle - *Thank the Lord*



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -
joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-
es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

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 #801 “How Great Thou Art”**Dismissal**

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude***Gigue Fugue***

Buxtehude



Our Sunday Worship - Morning services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. on the first and third Sundays, at 10:45 a.m. on the second and fourth Sundays, and at both services if there is a fifth Sunday in the month.

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

Office Hours:

7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday & Wednesday; 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday;

10:00 a.m. - 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 Morris and Rose Crafton

September Ushers: John Williams, Bob Sparks, Lisa Little, Larry Bowman

Worship Assistants: Don Henderson & Dale Mierisch