



**WELCOME TO**  
**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
2415 Silas Creek Parkway  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
[www.stjohnswn.com](http://www.stjohnswn.com)

**THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**September 18, 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.***

Today's Readings celebrate the generosity of God and our calling to reflect His generosity in our lives. Amos the prophet reminds us that God has a big heart for the poor; He is just and desires that we conduct our life's business with honesty, integrity, fairness, and generosity toward the poor. Paul's guidance to Timothy includes amazing statements of God's generosity: God our Savior desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth, and Christ Jesus gave Himself as a ransom for all. Finally, in the Gospel, we hear the strange parable of the unjust manager, in which the master was generous to the unjust manager and to all the debtors. So is our God generous to us, calling us to use whatever wealth is entrusted to us to accomplish His work in the world.

### † Prayer Before Worship †

Lord God, Your generosity exceeds our understanding. Guide Your people to practice generosity wisely and abundantly, so that the world may catch a glimpse of Your unfathomable generosity through us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Prelude**

*“Pavana, Galiado, and La Volta”*

William Byrd

### **Welcome & Sharing of the Peace**

*(Please Stand)*

**Processional Hymn #901 “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”**

### **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 Ps. 119:137-140, 142; antiphon: Ps. 119:144*

P: Your testimonies are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.

**C: Righteous are You, O Lord, and right are Your just decrees.**

P: You have appointed Your testimonies in righteousness and in all faithfulness.

**C: My zeal consumes me, because my foes forget Your words.**

P: Your promise is well tried, and Your servant loves it.

**C: Your righteousness is righteous forever, and Your law is true.**

**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: Your testimonies are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.





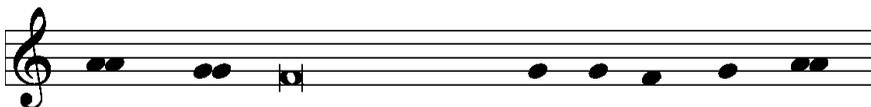
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



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



**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.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.  
O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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**

**Amos 8:4-7**

*(A word to those who trample on the needy.)*

<sup>4</sup> Hear this, you who trample on the needy  
and bring the poor of the land to an end,  
<sup>5</sup> saying, "When will the new moon be over,  
that we may sell grain?  
And the Sabbath,  
that we may offer wheat for sale,  
that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great  
and deal deceitfully with false balances,  
<sup>6</sup> that we may buy the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals  
and sell the chaff of the wheat?"

<sup>7</sup> The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
"Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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

1 Timothy 2:1-7

*(Pray for all people, for God desires all to be saved.)*

<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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 16:1-15

*(The cost of discipleship.)*

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



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

He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. <sup>2</sup> And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.'<sup>3</sup> And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.'<sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup> He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.'<sup>7</sup> Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'<sup>8</sup> The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

<sup>10</sup> "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. <sup>11</sup> If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? <sup>13</sup> No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

<sup>14</sup> The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



## Apostles' Creed

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



## 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

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 #917 *“Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise”*

## Dismissal

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

**“Fugue”**

John Beckwith

We thank Pastor Eric Hollar of Bethel Lutheran Church, Claremont, NC, for leading us in worship and Bible study today during Pastor Keith's absence.



# St. John's

## LUTHERAN

Church & School

**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 Nancy & Gary Brake.

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

**Lector:** Beth Meier; **Cantor:** Teresa Bonavita; **Crucifer:** Mark Meier