



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

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 4, 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.***

We go through life accumulating things and friends and reputation. Too often we make decisions based on how well we will be able to hold on to them. At those times, Moses' and Jesus' words "Ready to give up?" are a challenge to us. Are you ready to give up your allegiance to people, possessions, and self in order to be given something much greater we do not deserve—the grace of God and the promised land, heaven itself? Although the faith-informed decision might seem fraught with dangerous cross-bearing, it is the natural thing for the believer.

† Prayer Before Worship †

O merciful Lord, Your Son has called us to follow no matter the cost. Grant us open eyes to see beyond the cross to the promised land that awaits us because of His sacrifice on our behalf; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prelude

“The Lake of Wallenstadt”

Franz Liszt

Welcome & Sharing of the Peace

(Please Stand)

Processional Hymn #918 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

Confession and Absolution

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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. 119:28–32; antiphon: Ps. 119:27*

P: Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

C: My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word!

P: Put false ways far from me and graciously teach me your law!

C: I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your just decrees before me.

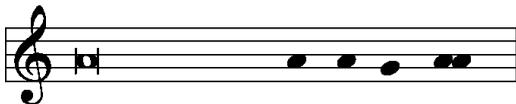
P: I cling to your testimonies, O LORD; let me not be put to shame!

C: I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart!

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: Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

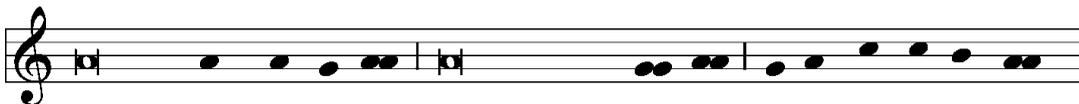
Kyrie



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.



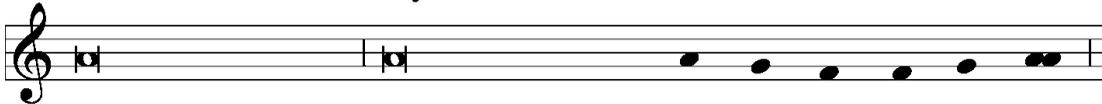
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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

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 merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

(Be Seated)

Old Testament Lesson

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

(Choose life; obey God.)

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in His ways, and by keeping His commandments and His statutes and His rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I

declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying His voice and holding fast to Him, for He is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

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

Philemon 1-21

(Paul sends a slave to his master to live as a brother.)

¹ Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ² and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, ⁶ and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷ For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸ Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹ yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— ¹⁰ I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹ (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹² I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³ I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. ¹⁵ For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might

have him back forever, ¹⁶ no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹ I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹ Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?'. The second staff continues the melody for 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.' and ends with a double bar line.

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:25-35

(The cost of discipleship.)

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



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

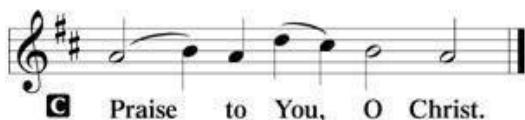
The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major (one sharp) with a common time signature 'C'. It contains the melody for 'Glo - ry to You, O Lord.' and ends with a double bar line.

²⁵ Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever

does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴ "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵ It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day #707 "O, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

Sermon

"Willing to Risk It"

Luke 14:25-35

Offering

Solo - "Come Unto Him, All Ye that Labor" from *Messiah* – George Friedrich Handel

(Please Stand)

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

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

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

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 #921 *“On What Has Now Been Sown”*

Dismissal

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

The “Fanfare” Fugue in C

J. S. Bach



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 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 Jane Davidson.

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

Lector: Don Henderson

Cantor: Jennifer Anderson