



**WELCOME TO
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**
2415 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
336-725-1651
www.stjohnswns.com

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 18, 2019 – 10:45 a.m.
Worship with Holy Communion

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

Welcome

We are delighted to have you with us as we celebrate God's love for us in Jesus! If you have any questions or needs please feel free to ask an usher, Pastor Tom, or anyone here at St. John's.

As We Worship

Prepare for worship in stillness and prayer.

Enjoy worship by lifting your voice and heart to God.

Close worship by enjoying the fellowship of one another.

After worship, the service begins! Go out and serve the Lord in all areas of life!

"I urge you, in view of God's mercy to you, present yourselves as living sacrifices to God, this is your spiritual act of worship." — Romans 12:1

Please silence all devices. If at any point you need to or prefer to sit, please feel free to do so.

Prelude **"Voluntary"**

John Alcock

Sharing of the Peace We take a moment to greet one another, as brothers and sisters in Christ (often with the words "God's peace be with you"). We enjoy this part of our worship; however, you are free to participate, or not, in any manner with which you are comfortable. *(Please Remain Standing)*

Processional Hymn: #797 **"Praise the Almighty"**

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying:

C: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

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.

(Please be seated)

First Lesson: Daniel 3:16-30

¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. ¹⁷ If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king. ¹⁸ But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.”

¹⁹ Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He spoke and commanded that they heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated. ²⁰ And he commanded certain mighty men of valor who *were* in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, *and cast them* into the burning fiery furnace. ²¹ Then these men were bound in their coats, their trousers, their turbans, and their *other* garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. ²² Therefore, because the king’s command was ^[a]urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. ²³ And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

²⁴ Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste *and* spoke, saying to his ^[b]counselors, “Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?” They answered and said to the king, “True, O king.”

²⁵ “Look!” he answered, “I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the ^[c]Son of God.”

²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the ^[d]mouth of the burning fiery furnace *and* spoke, saying, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come *here*.” Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire. ²⁷ And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king’s counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.

²⁸ Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel ^[e] and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king’s word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not

serve nor worship any god except their own God! ²⁹ Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this.”

³⁰ Then the king ^[i] promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the province of Babylon.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 4:12-19

¹² Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; ¹³ but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. ¹⁴ If you are ^[a] reproached for the name of Christ, blessed *are you*, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ^[b] On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a ^[c] busybody in other people's matters. ¹⁶ Yet if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this ^[d] matter.

¹⁷ For the time *has come* for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ Now “If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?”

¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls *to Him* in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

(Please Rise)

Holy Gospel: Matthew 10:16-32

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁶ “Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless^[a] as doves. ¹⁷ But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. ¹⁸ You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour

what you should speak; ²⁰ for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

²¹ “Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father *his* child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. ²² And you will be hated by all for My name’s sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved. ²³ When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

²⁴ “A disciple is not above *his* teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house [b](#)Beelzebub, how much more *will they call* those of his household! ²⁶ Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

²⁷ “Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. ²⁸ And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in [c](#)hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a [c](#)copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. ³⁰ But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Installation of St. John’s School Staff

P: Would all of the teachers and staff of our Christian Education programs please stand and come forward.

P: God says, “I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not harm you.” The study of God’s Word is a serious task that God desires of all His children. You are to assist the minister of the Word and Sacrament by instructing God’s children according to His Holy Word. God commands pastors and all leaders, as part of the overall ministry of the congregation, to “watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearer” (1 Timothy 4:16). Do you pledge to be a faithful student of God’s Word, listening carefully to what He says to you and striving, with the Holy Spirit’s power, to live accordingly?

Staff: Yes.

P: Do you commit to faithfully carry out your duties in the Lord's name, loving each student as a fellow child of God, with His help?

Staff: Yes.

P: Although on the last Day those who serve Christ will likely say, "We have only done our duty," and "When did we serve You, Lord?" know that you have the support of the ministry staff and this entire congregation as you go about your task. The Lord bless you with joy and peace in your work.

Staff: Father in Heaven, You love me and have taught me to love. Help me to share your love with my students, their families, and those who minister with me. I need your help, for without it I would have failed miserably long ago. By Your Spirit empower me to teach Your children, This is a high calling filled with great responsibility. Take my words, my actions, and meditate on Your Word. I need it. Help me always love to teach it. I dedicate my life and my teaching to You. Be with me every day, both in and out of my classroom. I praise and thank You for giving me my abilities and my ministry as a teacher. Use me as an instrument of Your will. I rely on Your promise to stay beside me. Amen.

Commitment of Congregation

P: Would all those who are not part of the teaching service of this church please stand.

P: God says, "I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not to harm you." Jesus reminds teachers that "He who listens to Me; he who rejects you rejects Me: (Luke 10:16). God commands us not to "despise preaching and His Word." Do you pledge to support and honor the teachers and participate willingly and gladly in the educational opportunities of this congregation, knowing that it is God's will that "your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing" (2 Thessalonians 1:3)?

C: Yes

P: May your life be richly blessed in every way.

(Please Rise)

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.

(Please Be Seated)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: #719 "I Leave All Things to God's Direction"

Sermon: "God is in the Fire" God's Presence in Trials

Offer Unto the Lord! The Bible gives these guidelines on our financial giving:

- 1) *"First Fruits": i.e. Set aside a portion for God FIRST. He gets the best, not the leftovers.*
- 2) *"Portion/Percentage giving": Give to God a percentage of our gross income; the Old Testament "tithe" was 10%; certainly "this side" of the cross we should be just as motivated, or more so, than the Old Testament believers!*
- 3) *"God's Blessings": God promises if we are faithful in our giving, He will pour out blessing/abundance to us overflowing!*

Offering

Please take this time to sign the Pew Pads in your row and pass them down. We thank God for our visitors and guests. Please share your e-mail with us so that you can receive a weekly note of activities/announcements. Thank you for worshiping with us!

Offertory Anthem "Partita"

George Bohm

(Please Rise)

Offertory Hymn: #775 “Be Present at our Table, Lord”

Be present at our table, Lord;
Be here and ev’rywhere adored;
Thy creatures bless, and grant that we
May feast in paradise with Thee.

TODAY WE 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.
Please take a moment to sign the attendance pad in your pew.

† Service of the Sacrament †

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also 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.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

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.

Words of Institution

(Please Be Seated)

**Distribution Hymns: #966 "Before You, Lord, We Bow"
#730 "What is the World to Me"
#632 "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"**

Post-Communion Collect

P: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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: #738 "Lord of All Hopefulness"

Postlude "Voluntary"

Alcock

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Jan Lundmark in memory of husband Dave.

Today's Ushers: Larry Bowman, Holly Wilson, Stephanie Kiel, Bruce Sawicki

Worship Assistants: Early Service – Mark Edmiston, Bob Burke; Late Service – Dale Mierisch, Steve Anderson

Lector: Early Service – Kris Gartley, Late Service – Allen Hall

Altar Guild for August: Mary Rochester, Claudia Essbach

Lock-ups for August: Don Henderson

Pew Pads: Please remember to sign the pew pads. Thank you.

Nursery is available in Preschool Room 101 during the 10:45 Worship Service for children ages 3 and under.

Crisis Control Item for August: Cooking Oil

The Sermons are available on-line at <http://stjohnsws.com/weekly-sermons-2/>

St. John's Prayer and Care Notes are distributed each Saturday. If you would like to receive this document and be listed on the email distribution, please send a request to:

- Dale Mierisch at wb9szl@triad.rr.com and include "St John's Prayer and Care Notes Subscription" in the subject line of your email.

(Restrooms: Exit the left-side door on the pulpit side. Go straight thru the Fellowship Hall and the two doors leading to our school building. Restrooms are on your right in the school lobby)



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

Pastor Thomas Clocker, 301-732-9203, revclocker@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

Church Office Hours Monday through Thursday,
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.