



**WELCOME TO
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

2415 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
336-725-1651

www.stjohnswn.com

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 30, 2017 – 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.**

One of the great ironies of our contemporary world is that people can live in close proximity to one another in large cities and yet feel alone. Surrounded by others, many people experience loneliness. Feeling alone can happen because of a broken relationship, a chronic illness, or the death of someone near and dear. Scripture reminds us that God is present for us in the midst of our loneliness. “You are a people holy to the Lord your God,” we hear in Deuteronomy, “chosen . . . to be a people for His treasured possession.” When Paul poses the question in Romans 8, “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?”—the answer is no one! Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord. We gather at the altar today to receive Christ’s body and blood, and He is present with us when we do so. To a lonely world, and to our lonely times, today’s Readings shout, “You are not alone.” Jesus is Immanuel, that is, “God with us.” And no trouble, distress, violence, or persecution can overcome God’s present love for us in Jesus Christ.

† Prayer Before Worship †

Ever-present Lord, You set Your infinite love on us, even though we do not deserve it. Help us to experience Your loving presence in times when we are lonely, so that we glimpse Your promised kingdom and share the joy of it in the midst of this lonely world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prelude “Jesus, Sun of Life, My Splendor”

G. F. Handel

Welcome & 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 Stand)

Processional Hymn #914 “Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten” (Sung to the tune of “Angels from the Realms of Glory”)

Call to Worship/Invocation

P: In the name of God, our Father,

C: **The Creator of all light and life;**

P: And in the name of Jesus, His Son,
C: The Light of the world, our Savior;

P: And in the name of the Holy Spirit,
C: The power of the Light, our faith and our strength;

P: In the name of the one true and only God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

Confession of Sin/Forgiveness/Absolution

P: Jesus has come to be our Light and our Life. He bows in grace to touch the earth, adopting us as the children of God in the water of Holy Baptism and nourishing and strengthening us through the body and blood of His Holy Supper. The light of His Word guides our feet and strengthens our life. Because we are at once saint and sinner, we still sin much and daily need His forgiveness and grace. Join with me then, a sinner in need of forgiveness, in repentant confession:

C: God of mercy and compassion, listen to my confession. I am a sinner. My flesh is by nature broken and corrupt. I have sinned against You by rejecting the full power of Your light in my life. I have sinned against You by thinking lifeless thoughts, speaking words of death, and promoting evil deeds. Lord Jesus, forgive me and increase in me true knowledge of You and of Your will. Grant me the Spirit of Light and Life that I will be obedient to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace I may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, my Life and Light.

P: Be of good cheer! Your heavenly Father has mercy on you and has given Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, who through the gift of His Spirit have grace to become lights of life and light to the world. God has promised and He is faithful to fulfill His Word.

All: Almighty God, we believe Your Word. Empower us to cast away all works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Now in the time of this mortal life, in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility, may our lives reflect the glory of Jesus Christ, our Light and our Life.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; 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

Exodus 13:20-22

²⁰ So they took their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham at the edge of the wilderness. ²¹ And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. ²² He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson

Ephesians 5:18-21

¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

Holy Gospel

John 1:1-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of

men. ⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. ⁸ He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. ⁹ That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. ¹¹ He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. ¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: ¹³ who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

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)

Hymn of the Day #802 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Sermon “The Light of the World”

Sermon Text John 8:12

¹² Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

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!

Voluntary “Jesu, Priceless Treasure”

J. S. Bach

(Please Stand)

Offertory Hymn #805 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

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.

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.

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: 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.

The Words of Our Lord

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Pax Domini

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

C: Amen.

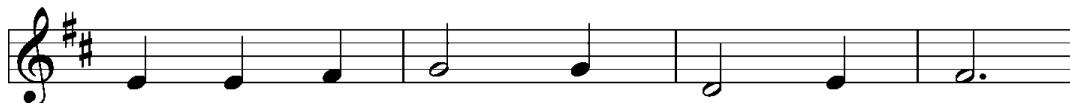
Agnus Dei



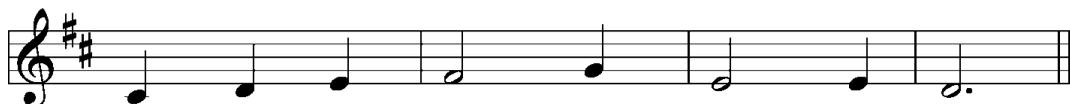
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

Distribution Hymns: #636 “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”
#617 “O Lord, We Praise Thee”

(Please stand)

Post-Communion Collect

P: Amid the many situations in this life that we cannot handle, Your presence, O Lord, sustains us. We thank You for being present with us in the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Help us who experience the presence of Your steadfast love in this Holy Communion to be present for those who need our care; 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 #918 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Dot and Steve Anderson.

Thank you to Joel Becker for the music this morning as Frances continues her recovery.

Today's Ushers: Larry Bowman, Lisa Little, Bob Sparks, John Williams
Ushers for August: Ryan Davidson, Bob Hoisington, Stephanie Kiel, Holly Wilson

Worship Assistants: Steve Anderson, Dale Mierisch

Altar Guild for July: Claudia Essbach, Anita Hoisington
Altar Guild for August: Stephanie Guelzow, Sarah Strahm

Lock-ups for July: Steve Anderson, Don Henderson
Lock-ups for August: Bob Hoisington, Glenn Rullman

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

Nursery is available in Preschool Room 106 during the 10:45 Worship Service for children ages 3 and under.

Crisis Control Item for July: Peanut butter.

Crisis Control Item for August: Jelly.

The collection basket for these items is in the Narthex.

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.
- You may also email your prayer requests to Dale at this address.



St. John's

LUTHERAN

Church & School

Our Sunday Worship - 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 9:30 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, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.