



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

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

[www.stjohnswns.com](http://www.stjohnswns.com)

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
October 1, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.**

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

## † Prayer Before Worship †

You, O Lord God, are the author of all that exists. Fix our thoughts and our hearts on our Savior Jesus Christ, that, recognizing His ultimate authority of self-sacrificing love, we humbly look not only to our own needs, but also to the needs of others; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Prelude “Adagio”

Mozart

**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 Remain Standing) If at any point you need to or prefer to sit, please feel free to do so*

### Processional #802 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

#### Invocation/Confession/Forgiveness

L In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

L 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.**

L 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.**

L In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C Amen.**

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*(Be Seated)*

### **First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43**

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism <sup>35</sup> but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. <sup>36</sup> You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

<sup>39</sup> "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. <sup>41</sup> He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> **All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.**"

## Second Lesson: Romans 6:3-8

<sup>3</sup> Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with,<sup>[a]</sup> that we should no longer be slaves to sin— <sup>7</sup> because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

<sup>8</sup> Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn of Response: #577 "Almighty God Your Word is Cost"**

*(Please Stand)*

**Holy Gospel Matthew 18:21-35**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, 18th chapter

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>23</sup> "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold<sup>[b]</sup> was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup> "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' <sup>27</sup> The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

<sup>28</sup> "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.<sup>[c]</sup> He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

<sup>29</sup> “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

<sup>30</sup> “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

<sup>32</sup> “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ <sup>34</sup> In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

<sup>35</sup> “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **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 T everlasting. Amen.**

*(Be Seated)*

**Hymn of the Day #649 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"**

**Sermon: Forgiveness is "Christ in You"**

**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 "tithes" 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 worshipping with us!

**Offertory Anthem "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"**

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.

## 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.

## 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 #829 "Christ the Eternal Lord" vs. 1-2, 4-5

Postlude "Fanfare"

Antonio Soler

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God in honor of Pastor Tom's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday by the Clocker & Taylor families.

**Today's Ushers:** Bob Hoisington, Holly Wilson, Ryan Davidson, Stephanie Kiel

**Worship Leader:** Thank you to Rich Essbach for serving us today by delivering God's Word.

**Lector:**

**Altar Guild for October:** Mary Rochester, Kae & Mae Elliott, Jackie Downey

**Lock-ups for October:** Don Henderson & Steve Anderson

**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 October:** Boxed Dinners (ex: Hamburger Helper). The collection basket is in the Narthex.

**The Sermons** are available on-line at <http://stjohnsww.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](mailto:wb9szl@triad.rr.com) and include "St John's Prayer and Care Notes Subscription" in the subject line of your email.
  - You may also send 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.  
*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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.