



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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 2, 2018 – 10:45 a.m.

***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

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)*

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

Processional Hymn: #818 “In Thee is Gladness”

Call to Worship (From Psalm 130)

P: Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord;

C: Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

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

C: But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

P: I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

C: I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watch wait for the morning.

P: Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

C: He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

P: We worship this day in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession/Forgiveness (Psalm 139)

C: O Lord, you have searched me and you know me.

P: O Lord, You have looked us over from top to bottom, inside and out. You know us completely. You know the sins we have committed. You know the sins of things we have not done, that You have told us to do. You know what is in our heart. O Holy and sinless God, because You do know us completely, we repent of our sin and ask Your forgiveness.

C: Lord, have mercy!

C: You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

P: O Lord, we are grieved by the reality that You perceive and know all our thoughts. Every thought of evil. Every thought about others, not born of complete love, Every thought of racism. Every thought of pride or looking down at others. Every thought of lust. Every thought of hatred and bitterness. Every selfish thought. Lord, it is troubling that You perceive our every thought. We repent of our sinful thoughts and ask Your forgiveness.

C: Christ, have mercy!

C: You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

P: O Lord, we are saddened to realize that You are familiar with all of our ways; the way we manipulate others to get our own way, the way we avoid serving and witnessing to others, the way we choose the easier path, the way we treat those who are different, the way we give more to the lottery, our hobbies, and our sports, than we do to Your work, the way we ignore the hurting, the homeless and the helpless all around us. Lord, we are saddened to realize that You are familiar with all of our ways, We repent and ask Your forgiveness.

C: Lord, have mercy!

C: Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O Lord.

P: O Lord, we are horrified that You know the words on our tongue and spoken from our lips: the words of gossip and criticism of others, the words of lashing out in anger, the words of grumbling and complaint, the words of boasting and self-promotion, the words of bigotry and prejudice, the words of cursing and filth. O Lord, we are horrified that Your holy and righteous ears listen and hear every word we speak. Hear us now, as we speak these words of repentance and seek Your forgiveness.

C: Almighty Father, have mercy!

C: You hem me in – behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.

P: Lord there is nothing more fearful than to be under Your correcting hand. In our disobedience,

C: Precious Savior, have mercy!

C: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

P: Lord, we confess that we often insist on answers to all of our questions on faith, life, and circumstances. But we acknowledge that Your ways are higher than our ways.

C: Holy Spirit, have mercy!

C: Forgive us! We trust in Your cleansing grace in Jesus Christ.

P: Forgiveness

(Please be seated)

First Lesson: Jonah 1:17-2:6, 10

¹⁷ Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

2 Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the fish's belly. ² And he said:

"I cried out to the Lord because of my affliction,

And He answered me.

"Out of the belly of Sheol I cried,

And You heard my voice.

³ For You cast me into the deep,

Into the heart of the seas,

And the floods surrounded me;

All Your billows and Your waves passed over me.

⁴ Then I said, 'I have been cast out of Your sight;

Yet I will look again toward Your holy temple.'

⁵ The waters surrounded me, *even* to my soul;

The deep closed around me;

Weeds were wrapped around my head.

⁶ I went down to the ^[a]moorings of the mountains;

The earth with its bars *closed* behind me forever;

Yet You have brought up my life from the pit,

O Lord, my God.

¹⁰ So the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry *land*.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Second Lesson: Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

⁹ Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came ^[a]to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the ^[b]bride, the Lamb's wife." ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain,

and showed me the ^[c]great city, the ^[d]holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God. Her light *was* like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. ¹² Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are *the names* of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: ¹³ three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.

¹⁴ Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the ^[e]names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

²¹ The twelve gates *were* twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city *was* pure gold, like transparent glass.

²² But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine ^[a]in it, for the ^[b]glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb *is* its light. ²⁴ And the nations ^[c]of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor ^[d]into it. ²⁵ Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶ And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into ^[e]it. ²⁷ But there shall by no means enter it anything ^[f]that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Hymn of Praise: #606 "I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

(Please Rise)

Holy Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord

And again He entered Capernaum after *some* days, and it was heard that He was in the house. ² ^[a]Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive *them*, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. ³ Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four *men*. ⁴ And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." ⁶ And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, ⁷ "Why does this *Man* speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

⁸ But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, “Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Arise, take up your bed and walk’? ¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has ^[b]power on earth to forgive sins”—He said to the paralytic, ¹¹ “I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.” ¹² Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw *anything* like this!”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You O Christ.

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day: #611 “Chief of Sinners”

Sermon: “Lord, I’m Stuck!”

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)

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 worshiping with us!

Offertory Solo Andrew René, baritone

(Please Rise)

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.

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 †

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

(Be Seated)

Distribution Hymns: #609 "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"
#610 "Lord Jesus Think on Me"

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: #477 "Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

Postlude: "Voluntary in G Major"

Robert Broderip

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Barbara Byrnes in honor of my mother, Nancy Roberts, birthday!

Today's Ushers: John Williams, Bob Sparks, Lisa Little, Larry Bowman

Worship Assistant: Early Service – Bruce Sawicki, Mark Edmiston Late Service – Mark Meier, Steve Anderson

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

Altar Guild for September: Renee Henderson, Jackie Downey

Lock-ups for September: Wes Walker, John Williams

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

Crisis Control Item for September: Grits/Oatmeal – Thank you for your July contributions – 66lbs of food were collected!

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 send your prayer requests to Dale at this address.

(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.