



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

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

www.stjohnsws.com

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 23, 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: #660 “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

Invocation/Confession/Absolution

P: “Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left. Do not turn to false gods but you are to hold fast to the Lord your God. (Joshua 23:6-8)

C: Lord, we confess that as we live life we serve many other “gods”. We serve the “god of self”, doing what we want, doing that which pleases ourselves. We serve the “god of stuff”, our lives are driven in the pursuit of more money and more stuff. We serve the “god of pleasure” our lives are driven in the pursuit of pleasure that satisfies our flesh, Lord, we serve the “gods” of this world whenever we make anything more important than You! Forgive us!

P: Be careful, then, to love the Lord your God. (Joshua 23:11)

C: We have not always loved you with our whole heart.

P: You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the Lord your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed. (Joshua 23:14)

C: We thank you, God, that You keep all Your promises! Especially Your promise to forgive us – for Jesus' sake!

P: If you violate the covenant of the Lord your God...and go and serve other gods...the Lord's anger will burn against you. (Joshua 23:16)

C: Father God, we confess that we continually break Your Law and violate Your Covenant. We have no hope except Your mercy and forgiveness in Jesus! Forgive us for Jesus' sake.

P: Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. (Joshua 24:15)

C: Far be it from us to forsake the Lord to serve other gods. We, too, will serve the Lord because He is our God. (Joshua 24:16-18)

P: You are not able to serve the Lord. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. (Joshua 24:19)

C: We will serve the Lord. (Joshua 24:21) And may God forgive us when we do not!

P: Rejoice! God's holy anger against sin was satisfied by the price Jesus paid in your place. Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus! (Romans 8:1) Your sin is forgiven! Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

C: Amen.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry, "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

(Please be seated)

First Lesson: Joshua 7:1-14 (Israel punished for Achan's Sin)

But the children of Israel ^[a]committed a trespass regarding the accursed ^[b]things, for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of ^[c]Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed things; so the anger of the Lord burned against the children of Israel.

² Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which *is* beside Beth Aven, on the east side of Bethel, and spoke to them, saying, "Go up and spy out the country." So the men went up and spied out Ai. ³ And they returned to Joshua and said to him, "Do not let all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not weary all the people there, for *the people of Ai are few.*" ⁴ So about three thousand men went up there from the people, but they fled before the men of Ai. ⁵ And the men of Ai struck down about thirty-six men, for they chased them *from* before the gate as far as Shebarim, and struck them down on the descent; therefore the ^[d] hearts of the people melted and became like water.

⁶ Then Joshua tore his clothes, and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the Lord until evening, he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads. ⁷ And Joshua said, "Alas, Lord ^[e] God, why have You brought this people over

the Jordan at all—to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? Oh, that we had been content, and dwelt on the other side of the Jordan! ⁸ O Lord, what shall I say when Israel turns its ^[i]back before its enemies? ⁹ For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear *it*, and surround us, and cut off our name from the earth. Then what will You do for Your great name?”

¹⁰ So the Lord said to Joshua: “Get up! Why do you lie thus on your face? ¹¹ Israel has sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant which I commanded them. For they have even taken some of the ^[a]accursed things, and have both stolen and deceived; and they have also put *it* among their own stuff. ¹² Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, *but* turned *their* backs before their enemies, because they have become doomed to destruction. Neither will I be with you anymore, unless you destroy the accursed from among you. ¹³ Get up, sanctify^[h] the people, and say, ‘Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the Lord God of Israel: “*There is* an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you.” ¹⁴ In the morning therefore you shall be brought according to your tribes. And it shall be *that* the tribe which the Lord takes shall come according to families; and the family which the Lord takes shall come by households; and the household which the Lord takes shall come man by man.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Song of Response: #739 “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Second Lesson: Joshua 7:19-26 (Achan punished for his sin)

¹⁹ Now Joshua said to Achan, “My son, I beg you, give glory to the Lord God of Israel, and make confession to Him, and tell me now what you have done; do not hide *it* from me.”

²⁰ And Achan answered Joshua and said, “Indeed I have sinned against the Lord God of Israel, and this is what I have done: ²¹ When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I ^[a]coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it.”

²² So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and there it was, hidden in his tent, with the silver under it. ²³ And they took them from the midst of the tent, brought them to Joshua and to all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the Lord. ²⁴ Then Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, the silver, the garment, the wedge of gold, his sons, his daughters, his oxen, his donkeys, his sheep, his tent, and all that he had, and they brought them to the Valley of Achor. ²⁵ And Joshua said, “Why have you troubled us? The Lord will trouble you this

day.” So all Israel stoned him with stones; and they burned them with fire after they had stoned them with stones.

²⁶ Then they raised over him a great heap of stones, still there to this day.

So the Lord turned from the fierceness of His anger. Therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of ^[b]Achor to this day.

L: This is the Word of the Lord


C: Thanks be to God

(Please Rise)

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:7-9 (Causing others to sin)

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord

⁷ Woe to the world because of ^[a]offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes!

⁸ “If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast *it* from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast *it* from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into ^[b]hell fire.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**C 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)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: #567 "Not What These Hands Have Done"

Sermon: “No Harm – No Foul” (The Cost of Sin)

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 “I Will sing with the Spirit”

John Rutter

Ranara Rahimova, soprano

(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 †

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:

Sanctus



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!

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

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: #543 “What Wondrous Love Is This”
#555 “Salvation unto Us Has Come”**

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: #700 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Postlude “Dialogue sur les grands Jeux”

Nicholas de Grigny

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Alex Sawicki in honor of his Dad's (Bruce) birthday.

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

Worship Assistant: Early Service – Mark Edmiston, Rich Essbach Late Service – Larry Bowman, Don Henderson

Lector: Early Service – Jenelle Lanham Late Service – Joel Becker

Altar Guild for September: Renee Henderson, Jackie Downey

Lock-ups for September: Wes Walker, John Williams

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

Crisis Control Item for September: Grits/Oatmeal – Thank you for your August contributions – 44lbs of food was 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.