



**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)

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**September 3, 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.**

## † Prayer Before Worship †

Gracious God and Father, You have called us and all people to turn away from the darkness of sin, to repent and turn to Your invitation of life. Grant that we turn to You, take up our cross, and follow Christ every step into our future days to Your glorious promised inheritance; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Prelude “Prayer”

Arcadeldt/Liszt

**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)*

### Processional Hymn #807 “When Morning Gilds the Skies”

#### Confession and Forgiveness

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

**C: Amen.**

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the

command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**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, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; 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)*

### **Old Testament Lesson**

### **Psalms 53**

The fool has said in his heart,  
"There is no God."

They are corrupt, and have done abominable iniquity;  
There is none who does good.

<sup>2</sup> God looks down from heaven upon the children of men,  
To see if there are any who understand, who seek God.

<sup>3</sup> Every one of them has turned aside;  
They have together become corrupt;

There is none who does good,  
No, not one.

<sup>4</sup> Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge,  
Who eat up my people as they eat bread,  
And do not call upon God?

<sup>5</sup> There they are in great fear  
Where no fear was,

For God has scattered the bones of him who encamps against you;  
You have put them to shame,  
Because God has despised them.

<sup>6</sup> Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion!  
When God brings back the captivity of His people,  
Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Lesson

**Ephesians 2:8-10**

<sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not of works, lest anyone should boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please Stand) If at any point you need to or prefer to sit, please feel free to do so*

## Holy Gospel

**Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

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

<sup>24</sup>Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; <sup>25</sup>but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. <sup>26</sup>But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. <sup>27</sup>So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' <sup>28</sup>He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' <sup>29</sup>But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn."'"

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."

<sup>37</sup>He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.

<sup>38</sup>The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked *one*. <sup>39</sup>The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. <sup>40</sup>Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, <sup>42</sup>and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There

will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

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)*

### **Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day #573 "Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee"**

**Sermon "The Wheat and the Tares"**

**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 "The Gift of Love"**

trad. American arr. Hopson

*(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.



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: #555 "Salvation Unto Us Has Come", vs. 1-5**  
Short break  
**Vs. 6-10**

*(Please stand)*

### **Post-Communion Collect**

P: You have called us, O Lord, to the blessed way of taking up our cross and following You. We give You thanks for Your gifts of repentance, faith, and the strengthening of our faith, that we may walk in newness of life today, tomorrow, and forever; 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 #744 “Amazing Grace”**

**Postlude “What God Ordains is Always Right”**

Johann Walther

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Jane Davidson in memory of Dewey Davidson.

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

**Worship Assistants:** Steve Anderson, Mark Meier

**Lector:** Stephanie Guelzow

**Altar Guild for September:** Gayle Barcio, Renee Henderson

**Lock-ups for September:** Wes Walker, John Williams

**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 September:** Grits and oatmeal. The collection basket is in the Narthex.

**The Sermons** are available on-line at <http://stjohnswws.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.  
*Please note that there will not be Sunday School for the children today,  
but will resume next Sunday, September 10.*

***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.

**But closed tomorrow for Labor Day**