



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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.
Worship with Holy Communion

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

(Please Rise)

Invocation, Confession, and Absolution

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.

P: 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: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Psalm 139 (vs. 1-17, 23-24) ESV (read responsively)

O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

**²You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

**³You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

**⁴Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.**

**⁵You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.**

**⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.**

**⁷Where shall I go from your Spirit?
Or where shall I flee from your presence?**

8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there!

If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

9 If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

**10 even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me.**

11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light about me be night,"

**12 even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is bright as the day,
for darkness is as light with you.**

13 For you formed my inward parts;
you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

**Wonderful are your works;
my soul knows it very well.**

15 My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

**16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
in your book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them.**

17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

**23 Search me, O God, and know my heart!
Try me and know my thoughts!**

24 And see if there be any grievous way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting!

(Please be seated)

First Lesson: Proverbs 2:1-10 (ESV)

My son, if you receive my words
and treasure up my commandments with you,

2 making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding;

3 yes, if you call out for insight
and raise your voice for understanding,

4 if you seek it like silver

and search for it as for hidden treasures,
⁵ then you will understand the fear of the LORD
and find the knowledge of God.
⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
⁷ he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk in integrity,
⁸ guarding the paths of justice
and watching over the way of his saints.
⁹ Then you will understand righteousness and justice
and equity, every good path;
¹⁰ for wisdom will come into your heart,
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-11 (ESV)

⁴ If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Rise)

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:25-27 (NIV)

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷ “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

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 † everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Sermon: “The Process of the Knowledge of God”

Music for Meditation: “All Things Bright and Beautiful” set by Keith Kolander

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us

together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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

Post Communion Prayer

Benediction

L: 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.

Postlude: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"

set by Johann Pachelbel

Altar Flowers: The two arrangements this week are given to the Glory of God by Steve Covington in memory of Reesa Covington and by Jan Lundmark in honor of Nicole Shannon's birthday.

Worship Leaders:

10:00am – Dale Mierisch; 11:15am – Rich Essbach

Lector:

10:00am – Cheryl Wulfert; 11:15am – Claudia Essbach

Altar Guild for October: Gayle Barcio

Crisis Control Item of the Month: Apple Sauce – No Glass Jars please

If you would like to donate food to Crisis Control Ministry. Please drop the food off in the basket in the back of the church. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

A record of 106 lbs. of food was collected for the month of September! Thank you all for your generous donations!

Confirmation Class:

Pastor Tom begins Confirmation Class today at 12:30pm. The class will be held Sunday afternoons in the church sanctuary.

Hispanic Ministry Update:

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Hispanic Ministry (HM) food drive on October 7. We had enough for **over 30 people to receive a large bag of groceries** and then had enough left over for them to choose additional school supplies and/personal care items. **We donated the excess 80 lbs of food to Crisis Control.**

Our next HM event will be on Wed., Nov. 11 ---when we will distribute items to help the families prepare Thanksgiving Dinner. So please think about donating: instant potatoes, stuffing, cans of corn/beans/cranberries,\$ for gift cards (for turkeys) and any other items you can think of. The box is still in the school lobby. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!**

On-Line Pre-Recorded Service (not streaming) is available

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiFIWqtLWU7IGI-8Xcvl9w>

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.



Our Sunday Worship - Services are at currently 10:00 am (Traditional) and 11:15am (The Well, Contemporary)

Please check our website for any changes to these services

A Great Place to Grow in Christ

*As a part of our outreach ministry, we have a
Preschool/Pre-K program and Kindergarten through 5th grade.
All programs/grades have full-time care available.*

Pastor Thomas Clocker, 301-732-9203, revclocker@gmail.com

Nathan Kottowski, Principal

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.