



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 26, 2021 – 10:30 a.m.

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

(Please Rise)

Opening Hymn: #790 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Invocation/Confession/Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

L: 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.

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

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

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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.

Matins – Common Versicle

L: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

L: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: make haste to help me, O Lord.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

L: Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: O come, let us worship Him.

Psalm 104:27-35

²⁷ All creatures look to you to give them their food at the proper time.

²⁸ When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things.

²⁹ When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust.

³⁰ When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

³¹ May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works—

³² he who looks at the earth, and it trembles, who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

³³ I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD.

³⁵ But may sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked be no more.

Praise the LORD, my soul. Praise the LORD.^[a]

(Please Be Seated)

First Lesson: Leviticus 26:1-3, 9-13

'You shall not make idols for yourselves;

neither a carved image nor a *sacred* pillar shall you rear up for yourselves;

nor shall you set up an engraved stone in your land, to bow down to it;

for I *am* the LORD your God.

² You shall ^[a]keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary:

I *am* the LORD.

³ 'If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments, and perform them,

⁹ 'For I will look on you favorably and make you fruitful, multiply you and confirm My covenant with you.

¹⁰ You shall eat the old harvest, and clear out the old because of the new.

¹¹ I will set My ^[a]tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you.

¹² I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people.

¹³ I *am* the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that *you* should not be their slaves;

I have broken the bands of your yoke and made you walk ^[b]upright.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

¹⁴ Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what ^[a]fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what ^[b]communion has light with darkness? ¹⁵ And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you^[c] are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

“I will dwell in them
And walk among *them*.
I will be their God,
And they shall be My people.”

¹⁷ Therefore

“Come out from among them
And be separate, says the Lord.
Do not touch what is unclean,
And I will receive you.”
¹⁸ “I will be a Father to you,
And you shall be My sons and daughters,
Says the LORD Almighty.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Rise)

Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:43-48

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ ^[a]But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet your ^[b]brethren only, what do you do more *than others*? Do not even the ^[c]tax collectors do so? ⁴⁸ Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

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)

Children's Message

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

⁹ For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, *you are* God's building. ¹⁰ According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. ¹¹ For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³ each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? ¹⁷ If anyone [a](#) defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which *temple* you are.

Sermon: "Relationships with God" (Pastor Tom video)

Offering Plates are in the back of the church on the tables and as you come forward for communion.

Music for Meditation: "All Glory Be to God on High"

Hymn #790

set by Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, keep us from craving and weeping after what we no longer possess, but instead give us contentment in the daily bread You so graciously rain down upon us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Cause Your Holy Spirit to rest upon us and our pastors, that they may prophesy Your Word publicly and faithfully among us and we, in turn, may prophesy Your Word in our homes and vocations. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

O Lord, bless our elders and church council with the necessary gifts of Your Spirit, that they may faithfully serve the congregation, support our pastor(s) and uphold the ministry of the Word amongst us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Send forth Your Spirit, Father, over all couples who desire the gift of children, that they may be fruitful and bring up their children in Your fear and knowledge. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

O Lord, uphold _____ and those who bear the sword in our land, that sin and wickedness may be kept at bay and we may live peaceable lives in security. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Save and raise up those who are suffering or sick [*especially* _____].

Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Grant, Lord, that all who come to the altar today to receive the heavenly manna of Christ's body and blood would be well salted with repentance and faith and at peace with one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God 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.

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.

Closing Hymn: #643 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

Postlude: "Toccata in C"

Carlos Seixas

Thank You to Nathan Kottowski!

Thank you, Nathan, for leading worship today while Pastor and Gwen enjoy their vacation!

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Gary Brake in memory of Nancy.

Worship Assistants: 8:30am – none; 10:30am – none

Lector: 8:30am – Maddie Orsborn; 10:30am – Allen Hall

Altar Guild for September: Claudia Essbach, Mary Rochester, Sandra Linder

Pew Pads: Please remember to sign the pew pads and notate any changes.

Crisis Control Item for September: Applesauce – no glass jars!

If you would like to donate food to Crisis Control, please drop the food off in the basket in the back of the church. – **93 lbs. of pasta were collected for the month of August.**

Thank you for your donations!



***Our Sunday Worship - Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Class begins 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 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.