

Strive to enter through the narrow door

Luke 13:24

## **ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A North American Lutheran Church

1764 Meyersville Road

Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

**CHURCH OFFICE: 361-277-8653**

[stjohnvlutheran@juno.com](mailto:stjohnvlutheran@juno.com)

**PARSONAGE: 361-275-9895**

(Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373)

[jboor1@juno.com](mailto:jboor1@juno.com)

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

### **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

August 21, 2016

**Greeter This Week:** Dickie & Cathie Bettge

**Greeter Next Week:** Marvin & Norrean Sager

**Reader This Week:** Marlene Dreier-Rangnow

**Reader Next Week:** Caden Jander

**Acolytes This Week:** Marlee Blain

**Acolytes Next Week:** Volunteer Needed

**Altar Guild This Month:** Dawn Otto & Kaley Otto

**Altar Guild Next Month:** Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

**Communion Assistant This Month:** Pam Haun

**Communion Assistant Next Month:** Wanda Hays

**Large Print Bulletins** are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher for a copy.

**Busy Bags** are available in the Narthex for all children to enjoy.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We the members of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Meyersville, strive to be witnesses for Christ, a Christian family striving to be models and examples to others, loving one another and trying to be friendly to all; acknowledging that we are sinful, but being patient, faithful, giving, caring, forgiving, and forgiven believers.

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

You are invited to commune with us if, as a baptized Christian, you believe that you are a sinner and in need of God's forgiveness; that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the Sacrament; that this is more than a symbolic act, but a way God proclaims forgiveness to us who are repentant.

*May your participation increase your faith and strengthen your love for God and one another.*

## HOLY COMMUNION

*The Service begins with the first notes of the prelude. Please show your respect with silent meditation at this time.*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISES AND CONCERNS

Stand p. 56: BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION &  
FORGIVENESS

HYMN:

### *His Great Love*

God loves us  
God sent His Son to die for us  
Because of His great love.

God loves us  
God sent his Son to die for us  
Because of His great love.

His great love  
God showed His great love  
By sending Christ to die for us  
While we were still sinners.

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His great love  
His great love  
His great love

p. 57-58: KYRIE

p. 60: HYMN OF PRAISE *“This is the Feast”*

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you,

C **And also with you. (*sung*)**

P Let us pray:

**All: Heavenly Father, in Jesus’ name, I ask for blessings for our children as they return to school. Watch over our young people and keep them safe from all hurt, harm and danger. Create a hedge and a fence of protection over them. Give them instructors who will challenge them and cause them to think and to grow. Lead them to people who will inspire them to do good works and cause them to be mindful that they are an example to others, too. Above all, let them remember that even when they falter, they are loved. Remind them that there is no situation they could ever find themselves in that cannot be alleviated by prayer! Bring them all home safely, at their appointed hour, in peace. In Jesus’ name, AMEN.**

## ***BACKPACK BLESSING***

*(All students in the church are invited to come to the altar and place their backpacks in a designated area at the front of the worship space.)*

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind.*

*Love your neighbor as you love yourself.*

*Matthew 22:37-39*

- L Lord, you have brought us to the start of a new school year.  
C **And so we bring these backpacks and their owners to your altar.**
- L Just as you instructed your disciples to carry your Word and love to the nations,  
C **Bless these children as they carry these backpacks on the journey, filled with the tools they need to learn more about your world and work.**
- L Just as you were God's gift of immense love to bring salvation to fill the world,  
C **May the contents of these backpacks fill and nourish the minds of these faithful young disciples so they may be an abundant blessing of your love to others.**
- L Just as these backpacks will be carried with these students whenever they go to school,  
C **Go with them when they head to classes each day, O God, and be with them in the classroom, the hallways, the cafeteria and the playground that they may know that they are your hands of love wherever they go.**
- L When these backpacks are opened at the start of each day,  
C **Open these students' intellects to the many things you have to teach them and give them an eye for the blessings you have lovingly placed across the day which you have made.**
- L When these backpacks are closed,  
C **Help these students to retain the information that they have been given in school and apply it to their daily lives, so that they may let it frame their experiences.**

L In all these things, Lord, let these backpacks and those who carry them be beacons of your eternal love.

C **Called by you to share your love and your good Word to classmates, teachers, friends and family.**

L Help these students to see that they are bathed in your love and surrounded by your care,

C **And that you guide and direct them lovingly as they journey through life.**

L Help these students to utilize the many talents and skills with which you have gifted them,

C **And to use them to your glory.**

L In this hope, therefore, I bless these backpacks and their owners in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace, children of God, with your backpacks, and remember to love the Lord with all your hearts and love one another.

C **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 66:18-23

<sup>18</sup>“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, <sup>19</sup>and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. <sup>20</sup>And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the Lord, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the Lord, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the Lord. <sup>21</sup>And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the Lord. <sup>22</sup>For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain. <sup>23</sup>From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the Lord.”

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:4-24 [25-29]

<sup>4</sup>In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. <sup>5</sup>And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. <sup>6</sup>For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” <sup>7</sup>It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? <sup>8</sup>If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. <sup>9</sup>Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup>For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. <sup>11</sup>For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. <sup>12</sup>Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, <sup>13</sup>and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. <sup>14</sup>Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup>See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; <sup>16</sup>that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. <sup>17</sup>For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears. <sup>18</sup>For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest <sup>19</sup>and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup>For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” <sup>21</sup>Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” <sup>22</sup>But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup>and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup>and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

[<sup>25</sup>See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. <sup>26</sup>At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” <sup>27</sup>This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken — that is, things that have been made — in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup>Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup>for our God is a consuming fire.]

Stand p. 62 GOSPEL VERSE “Alleluia”

GOSPEL READING

Luke 13:22-30

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.** (*sung*)

<sup>22</sup>{Jesus} went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup>And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, <sup>24</sup>“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. <sup>25</sup>When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ <sup>26</sup>Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ <sup>27</sup>But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ <sup>28</sup>In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. <sup>29</sup>And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup>And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*sung*)

Sit SERMON



HYMN:

*Jesus Loves Me*

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong,  
They are weak but He is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died,  
Heaven's gate to open wide;  
He will wash away my sin,  
Let His little child come in.  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! loves me still,  
When I'm very weak and ill;  
From His shining throne on high,  
Comes to watch me where I lie.  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He will stay,  
Close beside me all the way;  
He's prepared a home for me,  
And some day His face I'll see.  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

Stand p. 65: APOSTLE'S CREED  
p. 65: PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH  
p. 66: SHARING OF THE PEACE

Sit OFFERING

Stand p. 66: OFFERTORY: "Let the vineyards..."  
p. 67: OFFERTORY PRAYER  
p. 68: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING  
p. 70: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER #33 (right column)  
p. 71: LORD'S PRAYER  
p. 72: LAMB OF GOD

Sit DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION  
SOFT HYMNS FOR MEDITATION

Stand p. 72: POST COMMUNION: "Thank the Lord . . ."  
p. 74: PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord  
**People: Thanks be to God**

THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn #565)  
POSTLUDE

St. John Meyersville  
<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>



## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

**Today 8/21**     **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
9:00 a.m.                      Sunday School  
10:15 a.m.                     **Worship-Rally Sunday &  
Backpack Blessing**

**Mon 8/22**        **Office Closed**

**Tue 8/23**        8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours  
7:00 p.m.                      Council Meeting

**Wed 8/24**       8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours  
1:30 p.m.                      Quilters

**Thurs 8/25**     8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

**Fri 8/26**        8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

**Next Sun**      **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
9:00 a.m.                      Sunday School  
10:15 a.m.                     Worship-SOTW

*Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors.  
If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would  
consider St. John's.*

**Sunday, August 14, 2016:**

**Offering:**

Total: \$4,754.78



**Attendance:** Worship- 72    Sunday School- 9    Adults

## **Mission of the Month of August:**



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### **Christian Warriors Retreat** **Mission Statement**

Christian Warriors retreat will be held for the second time at the end of October. It will again be held at the El Shaddi Retreat Center in Yorktown. The retreat is a 72 hour spiritual renewal through Jesus for Veterans by Veterans. This year the veterans who went last year will serve as team members. This will be St. John's fourth year to support this retreat which has grown to include a retreat in the Spring also. We hope to have the warriors at worship on a Sunday in the near future to give testimony on their experience at the retreat.

### **Notes from the Worship Team**

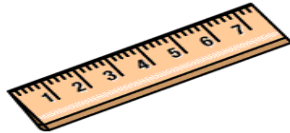
Each week our organist, Bruce Weise, chooses the music for the prelude, offertory, and postlude. There are various reasons he chooses what he does for each. He has been selecting music, when he can, for the offertory that has the Psalm for the day as its scriptural basis. We don't sing this and unless you actually put the words down with the music I couldn't tell you how it matches. But even if we are not able to "sing along" this might be a good time to pick up the lessons and review the Psalm as you are waiting for the offering plate or preparing for the remainder of the service. The music, which actually has a connection to the Psalm can be our background to a second look at the message from the Psalm.



STUDENTS KEEP IN MIND TO.....



**LET JESUS BE THE**



**OF YOUR LIFE!**



Today marks the beginning of our new Sunday School year after the Summer break! We are hoping to have better attendance and a great year ahead! Please make Sunday School a priority in your life. Jesus will be glad you did!



Council has voted to hold a called congregation meeting immediately following the service on **Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>**. The sole agenda item will be consideration of Council's recommendation to establish a fund for donations and/or pledges dedicated toward moving forward with the proposed **Elevator/Awning/Basement Project** for our church. Copies of detailed information developed to date on the project are available in the narthex.

### Youth Group News

We hope everyone had a great Summer! Youth Group will start back up in September. We will meet on **September 14<sup>th</sup>** in the Parish Hall from 6-8. Hope to see you there!



### Cross Trails Ministry



Invites you to our Fifth Annual Fall Festival 5K! You can choose to run, walk, jog, hop, skip, jump or even sleep in for camp if you want! This fun, chip-timed run through Fredericksburg, is to raise funds for improvements to our sites—Camp Chrysalis and

Ebert Ranch Camp. This race will kick off our Annual Lutheran Fall Festival in Fredericksburg on **September 17<sup>th</sup>**. Check in for the 5K begins at 7:30, and the run starts at 9:00. The cost is \$25 for all ages participating in the 5K. After the 5K, stay to enjoy the live music, activities for the kids, arts & crafts booths, silent auction, quilt show, chili cook-off, and great food! Runners needing a place to stay Friday evening can stay at Camp Chrysalis or Ebert Ranch for a minimal fee. **Online registration will open July 1, 2016 at [www.CrossTrails.org](http://www.CrossTrails.org).**



\*Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex for more information.

### ACOLYTES



Please sign up to acolyte for the upcoming months. Thank you.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, contact Evelyn Diebel. And please update your request at least once a month so the list can be kept current and up to date. If you wish to receive the Prayer Chain requests, please contact Evelyn Diebel (361-275-5979)

*A Special*  
**THANK YOU**

*The family of Brad Haun would like to express our gratitude for the cards, flowers, food, memorials, thoughts and prayers shown at his recent passing. Your support is appreciated and of comfort to our family. Thanks also to Pastor Boar, Bruce Weise and the staff at Freund Funeral Home for their services.*

*Bette Jo & Clifford Haun  
Lesley & David Bruns Family  
Michele Pargmann & Clay Haun  
Christine & Lauren Haun*

**Our Military and their families:**

Nicholas Jacobs - U.S. Air Force, Deployed to Afghanistan

Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves

John Otto - USMC, Cuba

Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army

Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, USS Philippines

Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy



**Please Pray for:** Lisa Kincart  
Adam Womble  
Nate Boehl

**Homebound:** Cleo Wendel, Helen Mae Egg, Bette Jo Haun

Prayer request cards are available in the pews and can be filled out and handed to an usher during the first hymn for your request to be included in the day's prayer. If you have a private prayer request please fill out the appropriate side and give to the pastor.

# **Pentecost 14**

August 21, 2016

## **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 16 (Year C)**



The scriptures appointed for today's worship are ones that are hard to hear. Words about judgment, discipline, and a narrow way can cause us to fear that we aren't doing enough for the Lord. The Good News for us is what we need to be continually reminded of — we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord and not by our works. The narrow door is the path of faith and complete trust in Christ.