

AGAIN, THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE ...

Matthew 13:45



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

Worship Notes regarding Today's Service:

Thank you for attending. We thank God that we are once again able to gather inside the church. For those who are not comfortable entering the church we are also broadcasting as we have for the past several weeks and you are more than welcome to remain in your car. The service, the organ music, and Pastor John's message will be routed through the church's sound system and broadcast on your car radio on FM channel 101.5. Please follow the service in the bulletin.

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

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

L: Most merciful God,

All: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down Beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I Am, While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for me, And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And through eternity I'll sing on.

GREETING

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

L Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship you, we give you thanks,
We praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world'
Have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father;
Receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord, You alone are the
Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray;

O God, your almighty power is most clearly shown in your mercy and pity. Multiply your grace that we may run to your promises and be made to share in your heavenly joy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 7:6-9

⁶{Moses said to the Israelites,} “For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations”

Responsive Psalm Reading

Psalm 125

¹Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but stands fast forever.

²**The hills stand about Jerusalem;
so does the Lord stand round about his people, from this time forth forevermore.**

³The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the just,
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.

⁴**Show your goodness, O Lord, to those who are good
and to those who are true of heart.**

⁵As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
the Lord will lead them away with the evildoers;
but peace be upon Israel.

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died — more than that, who was raised — who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL VERSE

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13:44 - 52

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

⁴⁴{Jesus said to the disciples,} "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

"Be Thou My Vision"

WOV #776

**Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought...by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always,

And also with you

Offering - If you wish to give an offering it will be received as you leave.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a
Right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your
Presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from' me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
And uphold me with your free Spirit.

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

Lord, listen to Your children praying, Lord, send Your spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to Your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace!

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy;
through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

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.**

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

HYMN:

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

LBW #526

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In
light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most
blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Al
mighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, Nor
wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; Thy
justice like mountains high soaring above Thy
clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; In
all life thou livest, the true life of all; We
blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, And
wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.**

**Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; Thine
angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; All
laud we would render; oh, help us to see 'Tis
only the splendor of light hideth Thee!**

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

THE DOXOLOGY

Hymn #565 LBW

**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.**

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 7/26 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

10:15 a.m. Worship

Mon 7/27 Office Closed

Tues 7/28 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Wed 7/29 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

***6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Sunday School Swim Party**

Thurs 7/30 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours

Fri 7/31 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

Next Sun Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

10:15 a.m. Worship



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.

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.

Sunday, July 19, 2020

General \$2,249.00, MOM \$175.00, Youth \$20.00, Building \$40.00, Reno. \$575.00

Total: \$3,059.00

UPDATE - Worship Team Notes - UPDATE

We will be having church in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. from now on, unless something changes. Communion will be by stations on the 1st & 3rd Sunday. Please note there are certain guidelines that have to be followed. A letter with these specific guidelines has been mailed out, emailed, and is posted on our website & FaceBook page. The service will still be broadcasted on the radio station FM 101.5 for those who wish to stay in their vehicles. The service will also be videoed & posted to the church website on Sundays, after noon sometime. Please continue to check the church website & FaceBook page for updates.



Mission of the Month of July



NALC disaster Relief/ Michigan Flood House Project

Mission Statement

The NALC is refurbishing a home that was severely damaged in the floods where over 11,000 homes were destroyed. This home belongs to an 80 year old couple who have no significant means of support. The gentleman of the couple is suffering from stage 4 Lung cancer. The money will be used to feed the teams of workers who have volunteered to do the work on the project and for materials that are not donated. They have many youth teams who have signed up to work along with the other volunteers. This is the first such project for the NALC.

Sunday School News



Come Join Us for Some Fun in the Sun!!!

St. John's Lutheran Church's Sunday School is hosting a Pool Party at the Meyersville Country Club in lieu of Vacation Bible School. We are inviting all parents and students to join us for a fun filled gathering and a brief parents meeting. And please bring a friend to join in the fun!

When: Wednesday July 29th

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Where: Meyersville Country Club

5195 Mission Valley-Meyersville Rd, Cuero, TX 77954

Pizza and Bottled Water will be provided

Please RSVP to Laurie at 361-277-2418

Hope everyone is having a fun and safe summer! Sunday school does not meet in the Summer, but will hopefully resume in August. Our prayer is that when Sunday school does resume, we will have a full house! Prayers for all during this time.



Confirmation Class

There will be **NO** Confirmation Class next Sunday, August 2nd.



We keep the family of Johnny Pokluda in our thoughts & prayers. May God comfort his family at this time of loss.

ALTAR GUILD OPPORTUNITY/PLEA

One of our faithful Altar Guild teams is no longer able to serve. Therefore, the Altar Guild is urgently asking for each of you to prayerfully and seriously consider being a part of a team to serve on the Altar Guild. Please contact Carol Ann Sagebiel or any Altar Guild member for more information, etc. Thank You.



Quilters Service Project needs any unwanted sheets. Please put them on the table on the stage in the Parish Hall. Thank you.



New Office Hours for Pastor

Pastor John will have new weekly office hours at the **Parish Hall** every Tuesday & Thursday. The hours are as follows:

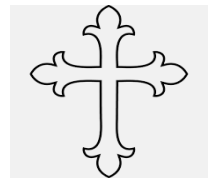
Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Thursdays 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Please note: Pastor's NEW email: jboor25@yahoo.com*

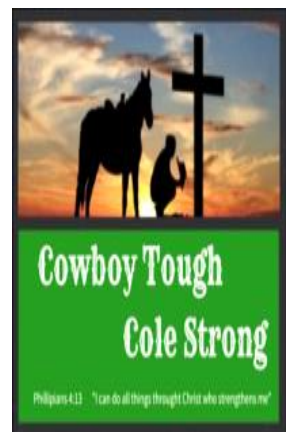
NALC Warehouse and Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

We will be collecting for these charities all year. Each month we will feature items to be donated. We will be collecting towels for the month of July. Please bring colored towels only. Thank you.



Special Prayers for Cole
~NEW UPDATE~

Cole is at home doing well surrounded by the love and support of all his family. He continues to have therapy on a daily basis at his home and will soon also be doing therapy in Victoria. God continues to be with Cole each and every day strengthening his faith, patience, and courage as he travels down this long and difficult journey. We thank each and every one again for all your prayers, concerns, and support for Cole and his family. We ask for you to continue praying for Cole's healing and for strength and patience for him and his family. Thank you and God Bless.



+Please pray at 12:00 PM daily for Cole+

At his request, these are the prayers he has on his list:

Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual

To help family stay strong

Patience

Stay positive

The drive to keep trying (perseverance)

PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have a prayer request please contact Evelyn Diebel (361-275-5979) Or Linda Ruschhaupt (361-275-4990) or the Pastor. We ask that you would update the prayer request regularly. If we do not have an update, in an effort to keep our list current and up to date, we will presume the situation has improved and remove the request after 30 days. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you wish to receive the Prayer Chain requests, please contact Evelyn Diebel at (361)275-5979.

Our Military and their families:

Jeff Zengerle - U.S. Army NG, Egypt
Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Jennifer Cornett - U.S. Air Force
Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant, Fort Rucker, AL, going to Warrant Officer Candidate School then to Army Aviation Flight School
Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force
Michael Petrash II - 1st LT, United States Army
Andrew Washington, L CPL - USMC, Pensacola, FL
Jacob Redmond - USMC, San Diego, CA
Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, San Diego, CA



Please Pray for: Adam Womble
Nate Boehl
Hunter Jacob
Kenny Jacob
Cole Ohrt
Carly Waters
Joy Hoy
Marie Liner
Bill Roeske
Janice Turner
Cliff Jacob

Nursing Home: Elmcroft-Victoria ~ Bette Jo Haun
Stevens Healthcare of Yoakum ~ Marjorie Ideus
Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Alfred Rangnow

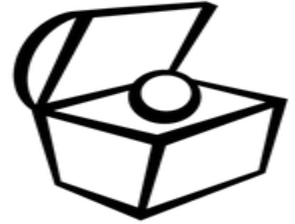


Keep up with St. John online
St. John Meyersville
<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>
Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

Pentecost 8

July 26, 2020

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 12 (Year A)



When God makes a promise, he keeps it for all time. That is evidenced in the scriptures for today's worship. His love, care, and protection mean that he will never abandon those he calls his own, those he ushers into the kingdom of heaven. Jesus teaches his disciples that this kingdom is often hidden from view, but it is like a priceless treasure that is to be cherished and valued above all else.