

If anyone would come after Me,



Let him deny himself and  
take up his cross and follow Me



**ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 30, 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**

HYMN:

*“Lift High the Cross”*

LBW #377

*(Refrain)*

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim Till  
all the world adore his sacred name.**

**1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,  
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.**

**2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.**

**3. All newborn soldiers of the Crucified  
Bear on their brows the seal of him who died.**

**4. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.**

**5. So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory!  
(Refrain)**

## **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 Lord, mercifully continue to purify and defend your Church. Since she cannot stand firmly without your power, govern her always by your grace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach. <sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. <sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation. <sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail? <sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the Lord: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. <sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the Lord. <sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

### Responsive Psalm Reading

#### Psalm 26

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;  
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

**<sup>2</sup>Test me, O Lord, and try me;  
examine my heart and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your love is before my eyes;  
I have walked faithfully with you.

**<sup>4</sup>I have not sat with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of evildoers;  
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**<sup>6</sup>I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,  
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup>Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**<sup>8</sup> Lord, I love the house in which you dwell  
and the place where your glory abides.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not sweep me away with sinners,  
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,

**<sup>10</sup>Whose hands are full of evil plots,  
and their right hand full of bribes.**

<sup>11</sup>As for me, I will live with integrity;  
redeem me, O Lord, and have pity on me.

**<sup>12</sup>My foot stands on level ground;  
in the full assembly I will bless the Lord.**

### **Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21**

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup>Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. <sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. <sup>17</sup>Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

### GOSPEL VERSE

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

### **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 16:21-28**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

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

<sup>21</sup>Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man." <sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. <sup>28</sup>Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### MESSAGE

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come  
down! Fix in us thy humble dwelling, All thy faithful  
mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
Pure, unbounded love thou art; Visit us with  
thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving spirit Into ev'ry troubled  
breast; Let us all in thee inherit; Let us find thy  
promised rest. Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be; End of Faith, as  
its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; Let us all thy life re-  
ceive; Suddenly return, and never, Never more thy  
temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve thee as thy hosts above, Pray, and praise thee  
without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, Pure and spotless let us  
Be; Let us see thy great salvation Perfectly re-  
stored in thee! Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heav'n we take our place, Till we cast our  
crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

#### 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:

*"Now Thank We All Our God"*

LBW #534

**Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and  
voices, Who wondrous things has done, In whom this world re-  
joices; Who, from our mothers' arms, Has blest us on our  
way With countless gifts of love, And still is ours today.**

**2. Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be  
near us, With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to  
cheer us, And keep us in his grace, And guide us when per-  
plexed, And free us from all harm In this world and the next.**

**3. All praise and thanks to God The Father now be  
given, The Son, and him who reigns With them in highest  
heaven, The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n a-  
dore; For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.**

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 8/30**    **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
9:00 a.m.    Sunday School  
10:15 a.m.    Worship
- Mon 8/31**        *Office Closed*
- Tues 9/1**        9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.    Pastor's Office Hours  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.    Office Hours
- Wed 9/2**        10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.    Office Hours
- Thurs 9/3**      10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.    Office Hours  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.    Pastor's Office Hours
- Fri 9/4**        10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.    Office Hours
- Next Sun**      **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
9:00 a.m.    Sunday School  
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, August 23, 2020**

General \$2,427.00, MOM-House of Palms \$325.00, Sunday School \$10.00, Youth \$20.00, Building \$80.00, Reno. \$175.00    **Total: \$3,037.00**

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday until further notice. 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.**

### **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](mailto:jboor25@yahoo.com)*





## Mission of the Month of August



### House of Palms Mission Statement

The House of Palms is a Scholarship Program for homeless women and their children.

The heart of the program is to embrace and strengthen their potential equipping them for a better future. Each resident will be provided with a room and living space for them (and their children if they have children), food, on-site day care and on-site guidance 24/7. They will participate in an Intern Program learning marketable skills that will allow them to become self-sufficient. The home will be a Christ-centered home of second chances, promoting self-sufficiency, emphasizing teamwork in a compassionate, caring, positive and encouraging environment. Women will be able to sustain themselves based on improved skills and technical skills taught at House of Palms. They will learn honor and a healthy self-respect to maximize personal growth and save children from a life of dependency, crime, poverty and hopelessness.

The home will be able to house 13 to 15 women, and have two paid staff members.

House of Palms is a 501C3 organized under the leadership of Faith Family Church in Victoria.

Col. Mike Petrich is the Administrator (not paid)

### “Breaking News” concerning The House of Palms

#### From: Barbara Breazeale

It is with grateful hearts that we announce the hiring of JoLynn Meadows as our Executive Director of Victoria House of Palms, a residential home for pregnant women.

JoLynn Meadows, a native of Victoria, has dedicated twenty- eight years of love and service to young girls and women in their childbearing years at a crisis pregnancy center in Mobile, Alabama. She has returned to Victoria to join with the VHOP Board and Pastors Jim and Tamara Graff to provide programs of excellence to Teen Moms to achieve the goals of a high school diploma and beyond. All of this will be achieved in a loving, Christian, confidential and non- judgmental environment.

This process has been very long and at times we were so disheartened. It seemed that the devil himself was keeping us from opening this much needed home for pregnant teens.

First a hurricane, then we had the home done, furnished by the Streiff family of Ashley’s Furniture. We only had to hire an Executive Director and on the surface it seemed so easy. But as they say that was not the end of the story.

The State of Texas is very vigilant and strict when it comes to underage children. Their job description was almost impossible for us to find the right person. We tried and kept failing. We came up with an idea that was a bit different and we found success in JoLynn Meadows. We decided to take teens who were 18 and older so that these young women were looked upon as adults, not minors. The mountain of state requirements we had to climb suddenly became attainable.

JoLynn has been on the job a month and we look forward to hearing great things from her. She is making the right connections and we will keep you in the loop.

Once more, thank you for supporting us through all of this. You were there with prayers, monetary support and understanding. We cannot wait to have our first teen walk through those doors!

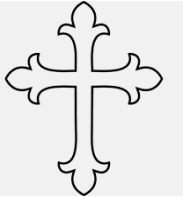


### Sunday School News

By the time you are reading this, Rally Day and Back Pack Blessing has already happened. We are praying for a meaningful Sunday School program again this year! Joie Caskey is taking a break to help her husband recover from back and neck surgery, but fortunately Trish Ideus Hood has stepped up to join our teaching staff.



### 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 August. Please bring colored towels only. Thank you.

### 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.

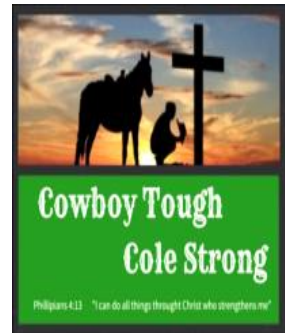


Quilters Service Project needs any unwanted sheets. Please put them on the table on the stage in the Parish Hall. Thank you.



### 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*

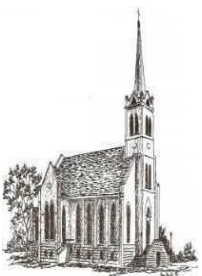
*The drive to keep trying (perseverance)*

### Church Renovation Update

Remaining items for the construction progress are to complete the canopy and final grade the site. After completion, a final walk through will be held to address any items that need to be touched-up. The estimated costs for construction, change orders, materials testing, architect, and incidentals is \$599,553. We are required to pay as construction progresses so the bills are coming in on a regular basis. This project received almost unanimous support so we ask that you prayerfully consider giving generously to this project.

GOAL: \$599,553

RECEIVED AS OF August 23, 2020: \$550,605.80



**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, 2-4 CaB, Charlie Company, Black Hawk Medevac Pilot, Fort Carson, Colorado  
Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force  
Michael Petrash II - 1<sup>st</sup> 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  
Sarah Cooper

**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](http://stjohnmeyersville.org)



## **Pentecost 13**

**August 30, 2020**

### **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 17 (Year A)**

Life in Christ is not an easy way to live. On the contrary, to be a disciple of Jesus is a costly endeavor! It means being tested and tried, it requires great patience and perseverance, and it means acting the opposite of what our most basic instincts tell us to do. Instead of being vengeful, we forgive. Instead fighting, we work for peace. As Jesus taught his closest friends, if we want to find our lives, we must be ready to lose them.