



**It is not the will of My Father who is in heaven
that one of these little ones should perish**

Matthew 18:14

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 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. Today is a communion service and it will be station communion due to the restrictions. If you are listening to the broadcast and want to take communion please park on the west side of the church and notify the persons assisting with parking that you would like to commune, communion will be brought out to you. 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

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

Amen

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.

Amen

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.

Most merciful God,

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

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives 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.

Hymn:

“Earth and All Stars!”

LBW #558

**Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets! Sing to the
Lord a new song! Oh, victory!
Loud shouting army! Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain:

**He has done marvelous things.
I too will praise him with a new song!**

**Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm! Sing to the
Lord a new song! Flowers and trees!
Loud rustling dry leaves! Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain

**Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals! Sing to the
Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre!
Loud humming cellos! Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain

**Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers! Sing to the
Lord a new song! Limestone and beams!
Loud building workers! Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain

**Classrooms and labs!
Loud boiling test tubes!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band!
Loud cheering people!
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain

**Knowledge and truth!
Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son!
Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain

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

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor,
Blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and
the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Let us Pray

O Lord, always lead and follow us with your grace, that we may be still more intent on doing good. Grant this, we pray, 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: Ezekiel 33:7-9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

Responsive Reading

Psalm 32:1-6

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**²Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not conceal my guilt.

**⁶I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.”
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

Second Reading: Romans 13:1-10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

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

Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:1-20

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 18th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

Hymn:

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

LBW #333

**Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life’s way;
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.
Without your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.**

**Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;
For you, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.
Close by your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when your hand is guiding, In peace I go.**

**Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,
I know that you will strengthen My steps toward home,
And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!
So, take my hand and lead me Unto the end.**

Let us confess our faith through the Apostles’ Creed

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.**

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always

And also with you.

OFFERING

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

P Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise you name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,

That all those who believe in him should not perish,

But have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation

You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,

That we may receive our Lord

With a living faith as he comes to us

In his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed
Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying;
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people
For the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Father remember us always and teach us to pray;

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed by 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**

Come for the Lord's table is ready.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

**Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with
Shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Let us pray;

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Go in peace; serve the Lord.

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.**

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

- Today 9/6** **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship
- Mon 9/7** **Office Closed ~ Labor Day**
- Tues 9/8** 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
- Wed 9/9** 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
- Thurs 9/10** 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
- Fri 9/11** 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
- Next Sun** **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
8:00 a.m. Property Team Meeting
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship
Happy Grandparents Day!



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 30, 2020

General \$1,032.00, MOM-House of Palms \$150.00, NALC \$75.00, Sunday School \$65.00, Youth \$20.00, Building \$40.00, Reno. \$625.00 **Total: \$2,007.00**

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 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.

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation classes will be starting September 13th at 9:00 a.m. Students who are 6th grade and up are eligible. At least one parent or representative must be present on this day to finalize the details of the class.



Mission of the Month of September



Lutheran Bible Translators Mission Statement

LBT is an independent Lutheran mission organization.

Mission: Lutheran Bible Translators makes God's Word accessible to those who do not yet have it in the language of their hearts.

Vision: God is transforming the lives of people around the world as they read and use His Word in their heart language.

The work they do is not just translating scripture but also involves language development (creating dictionaries, recording history, documenting culture) health developmentall of this to ensure that after the missionaries leave God's work will continue. In some areas they actually have to teach the people to read first, then teach them the Word so they can't just translate and move on they have to stay till the people can teach their own the way of our Lord.

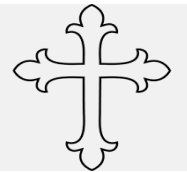
Over one Billion people in the world still do not have a Bible in their language. An estimated 165 million people do not have a single bible verse of Scripture.

They have translated the Bible in 70 languages and have impacted 20 million people.

For seven straight years they have maintained a four star rating with Charity Navigator. Only 4% of their total budget goes to overhead expenses.

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.



Youth Group News



The **September 20th** youth group gathering has been postponed due to confirmation celebrations being held that day. We will update youth group families as soon as new plans have been made. In the meantime, hope everyone's school year is off to a great start!

Wendy & Doug Bishop

St. John Youth Group Sponsors

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.



Congratulations!



Congratulations to Cody Bishop who graduated with magna cum laude honors this past May from Texas A&M University with a bachelor's of science degree in Chemical Engineering. Cody was offered a position with Enterprise Products, Inc. in Houston where he is now living and working as a chemical engineer. He is the son of Doug & Wendy Bishop, brother to Leah & J.R. Bishop, and grandson of Kernell & Elaine Moritz. Wishing God's continued blessings to Cody as he begins this new chapter in life.

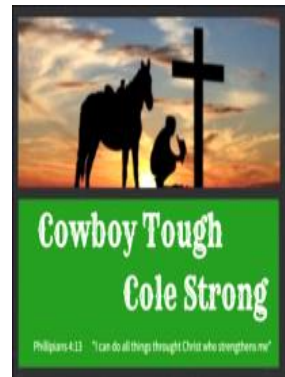


Quilters Service Project needs any unwanted sheets. Please put them on the table on the stage in the Parish Hall. Thank you.



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 30, 2020: \$551,230.80



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 - 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
Glynn Yurick
Kenny Jacob
Cole Ohrt
Carly Waters
Joy Hoy
Marie Liner
Bill Roeske
Janice Turner
Sarah Cooper
Jimmy Caskey

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 14
September 6, 2020



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18 (Year A)

Jesus warned his followers that anyone who caused a child (or one who is childlike in faith) to stumble in the faith would have a worse fate than having a millstone hung around his neck and thrown into the sea. Followers of Christ are called to be humble and to receive the childlike with grace and mercy, even as we are called to be like children who are in awe of the kingdom of heaven.