

*Whose likeness and*



*inscription is this?*

*Matthew 22:20*

# ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 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:

*"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"*

LBW #439

**What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry Everything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge, Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a solace there.**

## **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, our refuge and strength, since you yourself are the author of our devotion, graciously consider the devout prayers of your Church. May those things which we ask in faith effectively follow 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: Isaiah 45:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: <sup>2</sup>“I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, <sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. <sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your

name, I name you, though you do not know me. <sup>5</sup>I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup>that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the Lord, who does all these things.”

**Responsive Psalm Reading**

**Psalm 96:1-9[10-13]**

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

**<sup>2</sup>Sing to the Lord and bless his Name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.

**<sup>4</sup>For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;  
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

**<sup>6</sup>Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;  
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

**<sup>8</sup>Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him.

**<sup>10</sup>Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is King!  
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity.”**

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**<sup>12</sup>Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes,  
when he comes to judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup>He will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with his truth.

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. <sup>2</sup>We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You

know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. <sup>9</sup>For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

#### GOSPEL VERSE

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

#### GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:15-22

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>15</sup>The Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle {Jesus} in his words. <sup>16</sup>And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" <sup>21</sup>They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

#### MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

***"Blessed Assurance"***

WOV #699

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

***Refrain:***

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

***Refrain:***

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

***Refrain:***

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

## **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:

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

LBW #221

**Sent forth by God’s blessing, Our true faith confessing, The  
people of God from His dwelling take leave.  
The Supper is ended. Oh, now be extended The  
fruits of this service in all who believe. The  
seed of his teaching, Receptive souls reaching, Shall  
blossom in action for God and for all. His  
grace did invite us, His love shall unite us To  
work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving To God ever-living, The  
tasks of our ev’ryday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring, Em-  
bracing his children of each tribe and race. With  
your feast you feed us, With your light now lead us; U-  
nite us as one in this life that we share. Then  
may all the living With praise and thanksgiving Give  
honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

HYMN:

LBW #565

**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

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Today 10/18</b> | <b>Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class<br>9:00 a.m. Sunday School<br>10:15 a.m. Worship   |
| <b>Mon 10/19</b>   | <b>Office Closed</b>   |
| <b>Tues 10/20</b>  | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours<br>10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours<br>6:30 p.m. Meyersville 4-H Meeting   |
| <b>Wed 10/21</b>   | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours<br>6:00 p.m. Mission Team Meeting<br>7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study   |
| <b>Thurs 10/22</b> | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours<br>1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours<br><b>*Committee Reports Due</b>  |
| <b>Fri 10/23</b>   | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours<br><b>*Newsletter Deadline</b>   |
| <b>Sat 10/24</b>   | <b>Youth Group Trip to the Haunted Corn Maze in Moulton</b>  |
| <b>Next Sun</b>    | <b>Reformation Sunday</b><br>9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class<br>9:00 a.m. Sunday School ~ <i>Guest Speaker, Rev. Eric Resien</i><br>10:15 a.m. Worship ~ <i>Guest Speaker, Rev. Eric Resien,</i><br><i>NALS President ~ *Reception for Rev. Resien after Church</i> |



*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, October 11, 2020**

**Total Offering: \$2,238.75**

### 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. These specific guidelines are 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.



### ELECTION 2020

Over 230 years ago, in 1788 and every four years since, an event takes place that has the ability to change the course of our nation. On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the presidential election will take place. Whether it will result in a second term or the election of a new president, it will definitely bring about a change for our country. No matter which candidate or party one associates with, we each have a responsibility to take part in making our voice heard by voting our conscience.





## Mission of the Month of October



### The North American Lutheran Seminary Mission Statement

#### **Confessional. Orthodox. Evangelical. Lutheran.**

You might not expect to find a Lutheran seminary in the hills of western Pennsylvania, yet here we are. We are the seminary of the North American Lutheran Church, housed at Trinity School for Ministry, and we strive to provide our students with an education that is at once shaped by Christian tradition and bound by the Holy Scriptures—and that won't put you thousands of dollars in debt.

- Founded in 2014, the NALS is the seminary of the North American Lutheran Church.
- The NALS offers an MDiv, an MAR in Church History and Theology, a Diploma in Lutheran Studies, and a Certificate in Lutheran Studies.
- In conjunction with Trinity School for Ministry and the NALC Candidacy Committee, the NALS offers robust scholarships that will keep students from accumulating large amounts of debt.
- Daily worship and weekly Eucharist brings the entire community together under the proclamation of the Gospel.

We will have Rev. Eric Resien, President of the Seminary as our speaker on reformation Sunday, October 25, 2020.

Pastor Eric Riesen is the president of the North American Lutheran Seminary centered at Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, PA. Pastor Eric is married to Terry and they have three grown children.

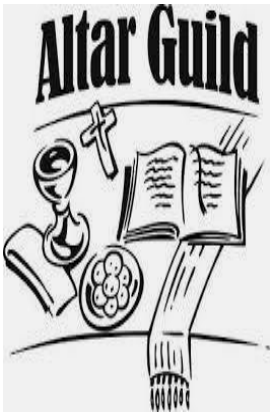
He was a parish pastor for 34 years, and is author of *The Christian Faith: A Catechism for the Curious*.

#### Youth Group News



St. John's Youth Group will be going to the haunted corn maze in Moulton on Saturday, October 24th. Before heading out to the maze, we will meet in the Parish Hall to work on a service project that will be included in care packages for U.S. soldiers. Youth are asked to collect and bring new decks of playing cards on October 24th that we will wrap with "The Deck of Cards Bible Story". These mini presents will go into care packages to be mailed overseas. Sharing this story and card decks will allow our soldiers to practice their Christian faith while deployed to foreign countries where Bibles are not allowed. More details about the trip to follow. Looking forward to a fun evening!

-Doug & Wendy Bishop, St. John Youth Group Sponsors



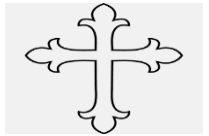
**Altar Guild**  
**DECEMBER Altar Guild volunteer needed!**

**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. You and your teammate (as do the 5 other teams) serve approximately 2 months per year setting up communion before and cleaning up afterward and filling candles. Please contact Carol Ann Sagebiel (361)243-0122 or any Altar Guild member for more information, etc. Thank You.

**NALC Warehouse and**  
**Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes**

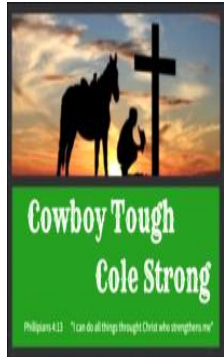
We will be collecting for these charities all year. Each month we will feature items to be donated. We will be collecting toys for the month of October. Thank you.



**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 October 4, 2020: \$554,630.80



**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  
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  
Glynn Yurick  
Kenny Jacob  
Cole Ohrt  
Carly Waters  
Joy Hoy  
Marie Liner  
Bill Roeske  
Janice Turner  
Sarah Cooper  
Jimmy Caskey  
Britany Jank Tomas  
Dot Ball (John Swannack's Sister)

**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 20**  
**October 18, 2020**

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 24 (Year A)**

Though King Cyrus of Persia did not know the God of Israel, God still used him to bring His people back into a covenant relationship. God can and will use foreign rulers to accomplish his will in the world. It does not matter that the person knows nothing of the Lord. All power and authority belong to the one who created light and darkness and he will care for his chosen ones by any means necessary.



## **SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER**

But the wise people met with a wisdom they neither knew of nor looked for; it was divine wisdom. Christ seizes the spear and club in their hands and turns their weapons against themselves, answering neither yea nor nay, but compelling them to give an answer which indicts themselves. -

Martin Luther –

House Postil: Matthew 22:15-22