

*Master, you
delivered to me
five talents*

Matthew 25:20



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2020

Greeter This Week: Beverly Bodden

Greeter Next Week: John & Margie Swannack

Reader This Week: Beverly Bodden

Reader Next Week: Volunteer Needed

Acolytes This Week: Peyton Diebel & Hayden Leist

Acolytes Next Week: Hayden Leist

Altar Guild This Month: Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

Altar Guild Next Month: Pam Haun & Nikki Carver

Communion Assistant This Month: Johnny Jank

Communion Assistant Next Month: Glenn Ruschhaupt

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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.

Silence for Reflection and Meditation

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:

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

WOV #771

**1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain:

**Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**2 Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.**

Refrain

**3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

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;

Lord God, rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit, that while keeping the end of all things in mind, we may be stirred up to holiness in this life and come to be with you forever in that life to come. 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: Zephaniah 1:7-16

⁷Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice — "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. ⁹On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. ¹⁰On that day," declares the Lord, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." ¹⁴The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

Responsive Psalm Reading

Psalm 90:1-12

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.**

³You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Go back, O child of earth."

⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night.**

⁵You sweep us away like a dream;
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

**⁶In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

⁷For we consume away in your displeasure;
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

**⁸Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**¹⁰The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath?
who rightly fears your indignation?

**¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

GOSPEL VERSE

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

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:14-30

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

¹⁴{Jesus said to the disciples,} "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And he also who had the two talents came

forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

"All Who Believe and Are Baptized"

LBW #194

**All who believe and are baptized Shall see the Lord's salvation;
Baptized into the death of Christ, They are a new creation;
Through Christ's redemption they shall stand
Among the glorious heav'nly band Of ev'ry tribe and nation.**

**With one accord, O God, we pray, Grant us Your Holy Spirit;
Help us in our infirmity Through Jesus' blood and merit;
Grant us to grow in grace each day
By holy Baptism, that we may Eternal life inherit.**

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:

"On What Has Now Been Sown"

LBW #261

**On what has now been sown Your blessing, Lord, bestow;
The pow'r is yours alone To make it sprout and grow.
O Lord, in grace the harvest raise, And yours alone shall be the praise!**

**To you our wants are known, From you are all our pow'rs;
Accept what is your own And pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive And to your Word a blessing give.**

**Oh, grant that each of us, Now met before you here,
May meet together thus When you and yours appear,
And follow you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, Amen! Lord Jesus, come!**

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

Today 11/15	Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship
Mon 11/16	Office Closed 7:00 p.m. Finance Team Meeting
Tues 11/17	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Meyersville 4-H Meeting
Wed 11/18	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 9:00 a.m. Old Stone Church Meeting 6:00 p.m. Mission Team Meeting 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study
Thurs 11/19	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours *Committee Reports Due
Fri 11/20	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours *Newsletter Deadline
Next Sun	Christ the King Sunday 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship ~ Polka Service



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, November 8, 2020

General \$4,192.50, MOM-Christmas Family \$1,350.00, Cemetery \$100.00, Sunday School \$70.75, Organ \$115.00, OSC \$300.00, Building \$140.00, Reno. \$1,842.50 **Total: \$8,110.75**

Attendance: Worship - 75 Sunday School - 17 - Children, 12 - Adults Confirmation - 5



Old Stone Church News

The Old Stone Church Committee is looking for new members! Please join us this Wednesday, November 18th at 9:00 a.m. for a meeting in the Old Stone Church.

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. 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.



Mission of the Month of November



Christmas Family 2020

Mission Statement

Our **first** Christmas family is a grandfather and granddaughter. She is in high school and he is elderly and in poor health. He has sole custody of the granddaughter and is her only close relative. Their needs are great.

Our **second** Christmas family is a single father with four children.

The Mission Team has a list of their wishes. Please see Linda Ruschhaupt, team leader so we can Co-ordinate efforts to make some of their Christmas wishes come true. Monetary donations will help them also.



Meyersville Country Club Fundraiser

The MCC is selling tickets for a pork ribeye dinner next Sunday, November 22nd. The tickets are \$10 each & there will be to go plates only. You can purchase tickets at the Meyersville Store or from any country club member. Thank you for your support!

Christmas Church Decorating

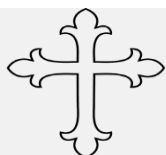
Christmas church decorations will be put up Saturday, November 28th at 2 PM.

Anyone wishing to help is welcome to come!



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 for the Christmas family wish lists for the month of November. Please see Linda Ruschhaupt for details on what is needed. Thank you.

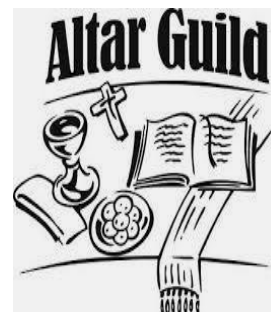


Altar Guild

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.





St. John Lutheran Sunday School & Youth Group Christmas Program Information

Christmas is right around the corner, and it's time to prepare our Sunday School Christmas program! "The Village of Bethlehem" will be held on Sunday December 20th at 6 or 6:30 pm outside under our new covered walkway. Each class will be assigned a booth to create and learn about for

the program. These parts of the play will be practiced during Sunday school starting at the end of October. As an example, our Pre-K and Kinder class will be The Shepherds booth. They will learn in their classroom what a shepherd did, how they took care of their flocks, what the animals ate and drank, etc. They will also be working on decorations for their booth. During the program, the booths will be setup for all attendees to pass by with a list of questions you can ask the students. All the booths will be setup in a village format to allow all attendees to see and visit every booth. The Live Nativity will also be setup to complete our Bethlehem village! Each class will also learn a Christmas song to sing with their class, which will be performed at the beginning and ending of the program so all attendees can watch.

We hope you are as excited about this program as we are! We're looking forward to learning more about each of the booths in the village and seeing all the decorations the students create! It is highly important to keep attending Sunday school from now until the program. Each class will be working on their booths in addition to their daily lessons. The students will also be practicing their songs for the program in their classes. Please contact us with any questions, and we thank you so much for having your child be a part of our Sunday School program.

With God's Love, Johnna Kethan 361-649-4234, Wendy Bishop 361-935-2123, Kathy Dunn 361-275-4322
Laurie Pokluda 361-275-4232, Trish Hood 361-212-7322

Special Prayers for Cole

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:

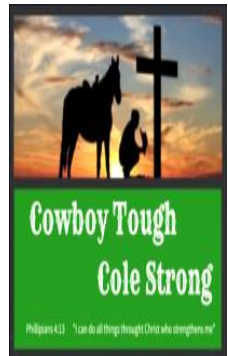
Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual

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 November 8, 2020: \$557,608.30



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, Kuwait
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 - 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
Britany Jank Tomas
Dot Ball (John Swannack's Sister)
Dugan Chandler

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 24
November 15, 2020

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 28 (Year A)

The Day of the Lord is ever upon us, even though believers have been waiting for his return since his ascension long ago. Time for us is vastly different than God's time and so we wait with anticipation and patience for the return of Christ. In the meantime we are encouraged to be good stewards of all that God has given us: investing in others, sharing His Word, and living each day with joy and mercy.



SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

God does all this purely out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him.

- Martin Luther - Explanation to the Third Article of the Creed