

*Ten virgins...  
took their  
lamps and  
went to  
meet the  
bridegroom*

*Matthew 25:1*



**ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**

**November 8, 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.

*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:

***"Here in This Place"***

WOV #718

***Gather Us In***

**Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness  
vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought here to you in the light of this day.**

**Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in,  
the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of hist'ry,  
called to be light to the whole human race.**

**Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in,  
the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.**

**Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.**

**Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat  
the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven,  
light years away here in this place the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.**

**Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in  
and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

## **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;

**Almighty, eternal God, show mercy to your children who humbly pray, that we who have no confidence in our worth may not be judged but tenderly received. 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: Amos 5:18-24**

<sup>18</sup>Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why would you have the day of the Lord? It is darkness, and not light, <sup>19</sup>as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. <sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? <sup>21</sup>“I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. <sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. <sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

**Responsive Psalm Reading  
Psalm 70**

<sup>1</sup>Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;  
O Lord, make haste to help me.

**<sup>2</sup>Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed;  
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**

<sup>3</sup>Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me turn back,  
because they are ashamed.

**<sup>4</sup>Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;  
let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the Lord!”**

<sup>5</sup>But as for me, I am poor and needy;  
come to me speedily, O God.

**<sup>6</sup>You are my helper and my deliverer;  
O Lord, do not tarry.**

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

<sup>13</sup>We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup>For the

Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

#### GOSPEL VERSE

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

#### **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:1-13**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>{Jesus said to the disciples,} “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

#### MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

*“Come, Thou Almighty King”*

LBW #522

**Come, thou almighty King, Help us thy name to sing;  
Help us to praise; Father all glorious, O'er all victorious,  
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.**

**Come, thou incarnate Word, Gird on Thy mighty sword;  
Our prayer attend. Come and thy people bless, And give thy  
Word success, And let thy righteousness On us descend.**

**Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness  
Bear In this glad hour! Thou, who almighty art, Now rule  
in ev'ry heart, And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.**

**To Thee, great One in Three, Eternal praises  
Be Hence evermore! Thy sov'reign majesty May we in  
glory see, And to eternity Love and adore.**

#### 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:

*“Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus”*

LBW #219

**Come with us, O blessed Jesus, With us evermore to be.  
And, in leaving now thine altar, Let us nevermore leave thee!  
Let thy bright celestial chorus Never cease the heav’nly strain;  
But in us, thy loving children, Come, bring peace, good will to men.**

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 11/8</b>	<b>Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:00 a.m. Property Team meeting 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship
<b>Mon 11/9</b>	<b>Office Closed</b>
<b>Tues 11/10</b>	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
<b>Wed 11/11</b>	~ <b>Veteran's Day</b> ~ 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
<b>Thurs 11/12</b>	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
<b>Fri 11/13</b>	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
<b>Next Sun</b>	<b>Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 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, November 1, 2020**

General \$2,087.00, MOM-Christmas Family \$380.00, NALS \$200.00, NALC \$100.00, Postage for Christmas Shoeboxes \$300.00, Sunday School \$16.00, Organ \$20.00, OSC \$20.00, Building \$105.00, Reno. \$350.00 **Total: \$3,578.00**

**Attendance:** Worship - 65    Sunday School - 10 - Children, 16 - Adults    Confirmation - 5



*We hold Marv & Norrean Sager in our thoughts & prayers over the loss of their son Jeff. May God comfort them & their family during this time of loss.*

### **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.**





## 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 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 on Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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

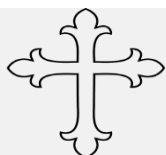
Christmas church decorations will be put up Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.

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.

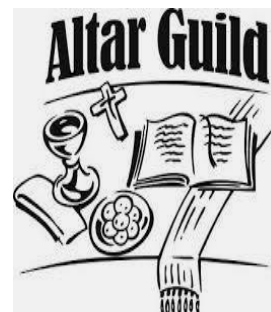


#### Altar Guild

#### 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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

#### ~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:**

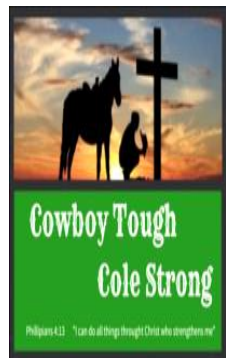
*Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual*

*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 November 1, 2020: \$555,765.80



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

## **Pentecost 23**

**November 8, 2020**

### **Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 27 (Year A)**

The question of how to be prepared for Jesus' return is answered four times in today's lessons. Being ready for Jesus' return is not passivity on our part; instead, it is an active preparing, an active waiting, serving, and discipling others in the name of Christ. There is no reason to fear anything. Christ promised he would return in due time. We await this moment with an active and vibrant faith.



## **SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER**

