

A night sky with a deep purple and blue gradient. A bright crescent moon is visible in the lower left quadrant, and a single bright star is positioned in the upper center. The bottom of the image shows the dark silhouette of a mountain range with several peaks and a small structure on the right. The text "PSALM 136:1" is written in a gold, serif font in the upper right corner.

PSALM 136:1

His steadfast love endures forever.

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 25, 2021

Greeter This Week: Beverly Bodden

Greeter Next Week: John & Margie Swannack

Reader This Week: Dwight Jander

Reader Next Week: Wanda Hays

Acolytes This Week: Volunteer Needed

Acolytes Next Week: Volunteer Needed

Altar Guild This Month: Cathie Bettge & Brenda Boor

Altar Guild Next Month: M'Liss Moore & Virginia Abrameit

Communion Assistant This Month: Glenn Ruschhaupt

Communion Assistant Next Month: Obert Sagebiel

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,

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

OPENING HYMN:

“Sweet Hour of Prayer”

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!

**That calls me from a world of care,
And bids me at my Father’s throne
Make all my wants and wishes known.**

**In seasons of distress and grief,
My soul has often found relief
And oft escaped the tempter’s snare
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.**

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,

**Thy wings shall my petition bear
To Him whose truth and faithfulness
Engage the waiting soul to bless:
And since He bids me seek His face,
Believe His Word and trust His grace,
I’ll cast on Him my ev’ry care,
And wait for Thee, sweet hour of prayer.**

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,

**May I Thy consolation share,
Till, from Mount Pisgah’s lofty height,
I view my home and take my flight:
This robe of flesh I’ll drop and rise
To seize the everlasting prize;
And shout, while passing thro’ the air,
“Farewell, farewell, sweet hour of prayer!”**

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, your almighty power is most clearly shown in your mercy and pity. Multiply your grace that we may run to your promises and be made to share in your heavenly joy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off

by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”¹² And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

PSALM READING

Psalm 136: 1-9

¹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever.

²**Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his mercy endures forever.**

³Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his mercy endures forever.

⁴**Who only does great wonders,
for his mercy endures forever;**

⁵Who by wisdom made the heavens,
for his mercy endures forever;

⁶**Who spread out the earth upon the waters,
for his mercy endures forever;**

⁷Who created great lights,
for his mercy endures forever;

⁸**The sun to rule the day,
for his mercy endures forever;**

⁹The moon and the stars to govern the night,
for his mercy endures forever.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith — that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to

know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL VERSE

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

GOSPEL READING: Mark 6:45-56

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 6th chapter.

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

⁴⁵Immediately {Jesus} made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. ⁴⁷And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. ⁴⁸And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, ⁴⁹but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, ⁵⁰for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." ⁵¹And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, ⁵²for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened. ⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. ⁵⁴And when they got out of the boat, the people immediately recognized him ⁵⁵and ran about the whole region and began to bring the sick people on their beds to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

SERMON 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 & 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.**

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father, the 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 arose 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!

(after each petition “Lord in your mercy,” RESPONSE “**HEAR OUR PRAYER**”)

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,

for ever 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**

CLOSING HYMN:

“How Great Thou Art”

LBW #532

**O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow’r through-out the universe displayed;**

Refrain:

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the tree;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;**

Refrain:

**But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;**

Refrain:

**When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, “My God, how great thou art!”**

Refrain:

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

THE DOXOLOGY HYMN:

**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 7/25	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship
Mon 7/26	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Tues 7/27	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Wed 7/28	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:30 p.m. Quilters
Thurs 7/29	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
Fri 7/30	~ Office Closed ~
Next Sun	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship <i>*VBS starts tomorrow, August 2-6, 9:00 – 1:30. Bring a sack lunch. (See article below for more details)</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.

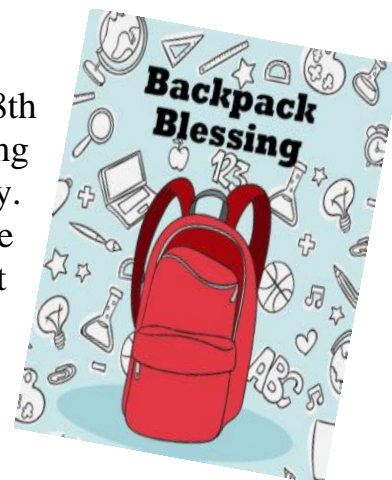
July 18, 2021 General \$3,215.00, MOM-House of Palms \$35.00, VBS \$75.00, Organ \$265.00, OSC \$200.00, Building \$410.00, Reno. \$545.00
Total: \$4,745.00

Attendance: Worship - 175 Adult Sunday School – No class



Rally Sunday & Backpack Blessing

Rally Day Sunday is Sunday, August 8th starting at 9:00 am. The backpack blessing will be during the church service that day. The counselors and VBS students will be sharing what they learned at VBS at church on Rally Sunday as well. Hope to see you all there, don't forget your backpacks! 😊



Mission of the Month of July

Our Church Mission

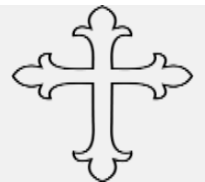


House of Palms Mission Statement

It is a 24/7 residential program that instills faith based confidence and vision for expectant teen mothers. It provides the academic and life skills training, encouragement, and physical support these mothers need to move them from instability to stability. The program is designed to accommodate up to 7 high school juniors or seniors from Victoria Independent School District and surrounding counties. As a 501C3 organization it is under the leadership of Faith Family Church in Victoria. The current executive director is JoLynn Meadows.

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 toothbrushes and toothpaste for the month of July. Thank you!



NEW UPDATE: Worship Team Notes

Worship services will be in the church sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. Communion will go back to the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month by stations. The service will still be broadcasted on the radio station FM 101.5 for those who wish to stay in their vehicles. We will continue to commune those worshipping remotely “in the parking lot” in their vehicles. Please note state and local guidelines are subject to change and we will continue to attempt to follow those for the health and safety of all. Guidelines and changes in those will be posted in the bulletin, on our website & FaceBook page. Please check these for changes and updates. Please Note: The service will NO longer be videoed & posted to the church website.





BE BOLD IN THE LORD
St. John's Vacation Bible School
Monday, August 2nd to Friday, August 6th
Time 9:00 – 1:30
Bring sack lunch
Snacks will be provided
Return registration forms by July 15th
We welcome all children ages 6-12
Pick up extra registration forms in back of church

***Please note the VBS form says it starts at 8:30, but the start time is 9:00 am.**

For those with kids interested in attending, mark your calendars. Sign up forms were mailed out. We'll be taking all kids in this age range, including friends and family members of church members. For those with kids who are older, we need as much help as possible. We need help with class leaders, song leaders, and activity leaders. Please contact Laurie Pokluda, Trish Hood, or Johnna Picard if your child is interested in helping out during camp. And for all adults who'd like to help, we need as many volunteers as possible. We are not enlisting the help of outside councilors; we are managing all work with church members. So if you can help out the whole week, a few days, or just one day, please reach out to Laurie, Trish, or Johnna because we need all available hands!

We're looking forward to an amazing Vacation Bible School and can't wait to rejuvenate our faith this summer!

MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

We have been discussing ways to enhance the giving process for our members even on those Sundays when you are unable to attend in person. We have come up with two methods and would like to get your feedback before we proceed.

1. For those of you who use online banking and checking services you can set up a one time or recurring check to be mailed to the church. The church would not incur any additional charges for this method.
2. We could also set up a place on the church website where you could make one time or recurring payments using a credit card. This process would use a third party service that would charge an estimated \$10 to \$30 per month to the church depending on usage.

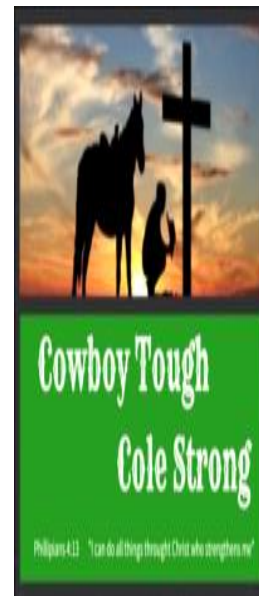
Please send your thoughts to charlesegg99@yahoo.com or call me at (281) 844-3358.





+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole

Cole is at home doing well surrounded by the love and support of all his family and friends. He continues to have therapy on a daily basis at his home and is now receiving therapy in Victoria on his new fabulous walking machine, the Lokomat Pro. This machine is a robotic training system that allows Cole's legs to be attached to robotic legs that assist with basic walking functions. It's an awesome machine and God has truly blessed Cole once again. Cole and his family want others, in need of this type of therapy, to share in this wonderful blessing and be able to also use this machine. God is truly at work thru Cole. 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

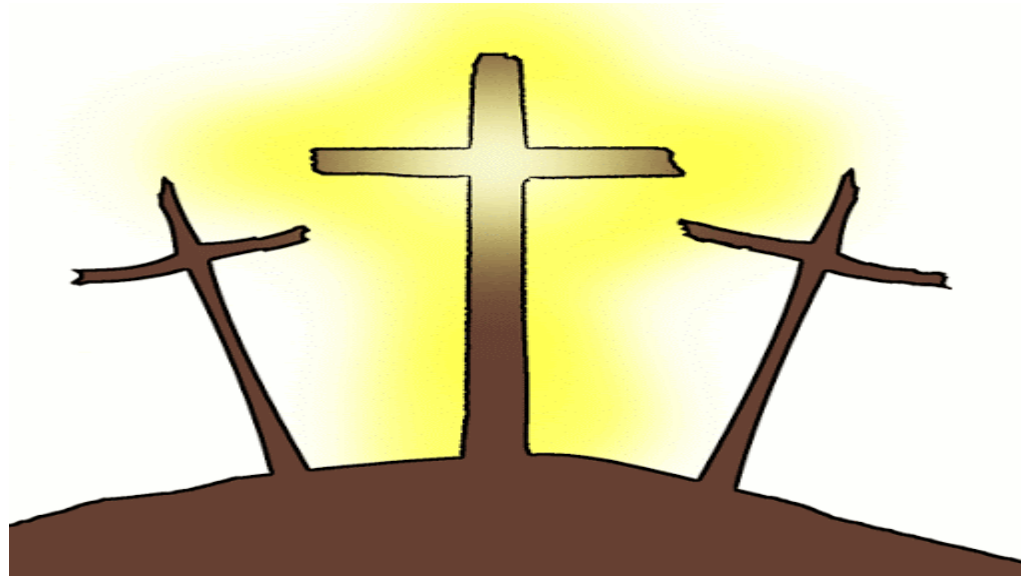
Patience

Stay positive

The drive to keep trying (perseverance)

NEW Church Renovation Update

Remaining items for the construction progress are to correct construction errors related to landing elevation and drainage, modification of steps to meet original architectural plans, and elimination of flatwork ponding on approach to elevator, at contractor's cost. After completion, a final walk through will be held to address any items that need to be touched up. The current invoiced total for cost of construction, change orders, materials testing, architect, grass planting, and incidentals is \$600,850.80. Designated giving and memorials received to date total \$598,623.30.



PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have a prayer request or wish to be on the prayer chain please contact Mary Wagner (361)275-9500 or Pastor John (361)243-0373. 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.

Our Military and their families:

Jeff Zengerle - U.S. Army NG
Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Hawaii
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Virginia
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, North Carolina



Please Pray for: Adam Womble
Hunter Jacob
Kenny Jacob
Cole Ohrt
Carly Waters
Joy Hoy
Marie Liner
Bill Roeske
Britany Jank Tomas
Bea Fagg
David Diebel
Bobby Zengerle
Clint Coles
Elizabeth Beard
Pam Rutkowski

Nursing Home:

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Alfred Rangnow, Marjorie Ideus



Keep up with St. John online
St. John Meyersville
<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>
Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

Pentecost 9

July 25, 2021

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 12 (Year B)

God's steadfast love has been exhibited to humanity repeatedly. He chose Noah and his family to enter the ark before the floodwaters raged, and as they reached dry land, God promised never to destroy the earth that way again. Through Jesus we see the truest, deepest love of God. Jesus healed the sick and restored relationships. In Jesus Christ we are rooted and grounded in God's sacrificial love.



SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

Almighty eternal God, who according to thy righteous judgment didst condemn the unbelieving world through the flood and in thy great mercy didst drown hardhearted Pharaoh with all his host in the Red Sea. . . has consecrated and set apart the Jordan and all water as a salutary flood and a rich washing away of sins...

- Martin Luther - The Flood Prayer, LW 53, p. 97