



The Lord looks down from heaven.

Psalm 142

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021

Greeter This Week: Marvin & Norrean Sager

Greeter Next Week: Youth Group

Reader This Week: Johnna Picard

Reader Next Week: Dickie Bettge

Acolytes This Week: Volunteer Needed

Acolytes Next Week: Volunteer Needed

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

Altar Guild Next Month: Dawn Otto & Kaley Coker

Communion Assistant This Month: Obert Sagebiel

Communion Assistant Next Month: Brian Wendel

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:

“The Church’s One Foundation”

LBW #369

**The Church's one Foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation, By water and the Word.
From heav'n he came and sought her To be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.**

**Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses With ev'ry grace endued.**

**Though with a scornful wonder This world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.**

**Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation Of peace for evermore;
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious Shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
That we, like saints before us, May see you face to face.**

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;

Care for your Church, O Lord, with perpetual mercy. Since we totter and are sure to fall without your grace, remove what will harm us and arrange what will make us whole. 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: Isaiah 29:11-19

¹¹The vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." ¹²And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read." ¹³And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, ¹⁴therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden." ¹⁵Ah, you who hide deep from the Lord your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" ¹⁶You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? ¹⁷Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? ¹⁸In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. ¹⁹The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

PSALM READING

Psalm 14

¹The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts; there is none who does any good.

**²The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all,
to see if there is any who is wise, if there is one who seeks after God.**

³Everyone has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad;
there is none who does good; no, not one.

**⁴Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers
who eat up my people like bread and do not call upon the Lord?**

⁵See how they tremble with fear,
because God is in the company of the righteous.

**⁶Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted,
but the Lord is their refuge.**

⁷Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion!
when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:22-33

²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. ²⁵Husbands, love

your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” ³²This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

GOSPEL VERSE

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

GOSPEL READING: Mark 7:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 7th chapter.

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

¹When the Pharisees gathered to {Jesus}, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, ²they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, ⁴and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) ⁵And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ ⁸You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.” ⁹And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! ¹⁰For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ ¹¹But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God) — ¹²then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, ¹³thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

LBW #230

**Lord, keep us steadfast in your word; Curb those who
by deceit or sword Would wrest the kingdom from your
Son And bring to nought all he has done.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, For you are
Lord of lords alone; Defend your holy church, that
we May sing your praise triumphantly.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and
unity on earth; Support us in our final
strife And lead us out of death to life.**

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:

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

LBW #370

Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love;
The unity of heart & mind Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows The sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil and pain, And sin, we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign Through all eternity.

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 8/22	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship
Mon 8/23	~ Office Closed ~
Tues 8/24	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
Wed 8/25	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:30 p.m. Quilters
Thurs 8/26	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
Fri 8/27	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Next Sun	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 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.

August 15, 2021 General \$1,540.00, MOM-NALC Disaster Response Warehouse \$510.00, VBS \$125.00, Sunday School \$263.70, Organ \$50.00, NALC \$100.00, OSC\$ 25.00, Reno. \$670.00, **Total: \$3,158.70**

Attendance: Worship - 59 Sunday School - 5 - Children, 17 - Adults



YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group Pizza Pool Party Saturday, August 28th at the Meyersville Country Club from 6 to 8 pm. Bring a friend. Text Laurie Pokluda at 361-275-4232, so we know how many to plan for. See you there!



Gospel Sing-a-Long

There will be an All County Church Picnic and Gospel Sing-a-Long on Sunday, September 26, 2021 at The Presbyterian Church Pavilion and Grounds on the Corner of Clinton and Courthouse in Cuero. The event starts at 1:00 pm. Bring your own picnic lunch and be ready to sing!

WANTED: Singers!

For DeWitt County's 175th Birthday Celebration

Music reading skills required

Choral experience preferred

REHEARSALS – First Baptist, Cuero

Sunday, 9/12 4-5:30

Sunday, 9/19 4-5:30

Thursday, 9/23 5:30-6:30

PERFORMANCE in Cuero

Sunday, 9/26 1-2:30

Contact Rebecca Dawson at 210-705-3911 if interested **BY SUNDAY 9/5**



Mission of the Month of August



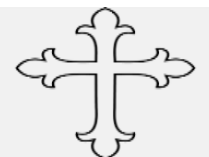
NALC Disaster Response Warehouse

Mission Statement

The Rosenberg Warehouse needs your help! Hurricane season is here and Michael and Pat Dittrich are working hard in the warehouse to increase the number of supplies so they will be more prepared when the need arises. Through your giving you are serving and being the hands and feet of Jesus when families lose everything in a disaster. At this time some of the items needed are paper towels and cotton gloves to fill flood buckets. Please consider giving these items for the NALC collection for the month of August.

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 paper towels and cotton gloves for the month of August. Thank you!



Sunday School



Dear parents,

This week our students took a little tour through John 15, where Jesus declared that he is the vine and his followers are the branches. He taught his disciples that apart from him, no one can do anything of eternal, lasting consequence. We were created to be one with God. But sometimes, we choose to walk away from him. We separate ourselves from the vine.

Engage your teenager in thinking through this concept by using some authentic conversation. Here are some ideas that could help:

- Talk about a time when you walked away from God. Discuss why it happened, how you felt, and why you decided to come back. Discuss what that relationship means to you now.
- If you have yard work to do this week, you can reinforce active learning. As you trim shrubs or trees—or even as you mow the lawn—use those separated pieces to remind your teenager about what happens to branches that are separated from the primary plant and its root system.
- For continued reminder, purchase a small houseplant to keep in a common area. Use a craft stick and an index card to make a small sign saying “John 15:5.” Place it in the soil of your potted plant as a reminder to stay connected to Jesus.

As always, thank you for allowing us to make a small investment in the spiritual life of your family. It’s an honor to come alongside you as you continue to show your teenager the walk of a Christ-follower.

Thank you,
Johnna Picard

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.

NEW UPDATE: Worship Team Notes

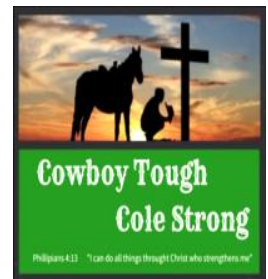


Worship services will be in the church sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. Communion will go back to the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month by stations. The service will still be broadcasted on the radio station FM 101.5 for those who wish to stay in their vehicles. We will continue to commune those worshipping remotely “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.

+ 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 \$602,343.30

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
Joy Hoy
Marie Liner
Bill Roeske
Britany Jank Tomas
Bea Fagg
Clint Coles
Mrs. Stiles
Ryon Preslar

Nursing Home:

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Alfred Rangnow, Marjorie Ideus



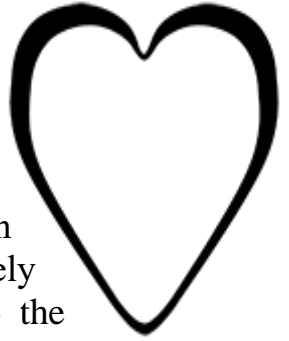
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Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

Pentecost 13

August 22, 2021

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 16 (Year B)

The Word of the Lord is wisdom to those who believe, and yet those who are intelligent or wise by the world's standards often do not understand it. An element of faith is necessary for interpreting God's will among us; when we rely on our own wisdom, we end up being foolish. Jesus taught this lesson to the religious leaders who censured his followers for not following the traditions of ritual washing.



SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

This life is full of endless offenses; this is seen primarily in domestic relations. Therefore those who are married should be prepared to condone and forget their mutual offenses, no matter how great they may be, and should resume their customary loving behavior in their association with each other.

- Martin Luther - WA 43