



¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.

Luke 14:13

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 1st, 2013

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Rev. Mark Bringman, Pastor

Rev. Ralph Storm, Guest Pastor

John Thickey – Music Director

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 1st, 2013

Invited and inviting – that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

PRELUDE: *‘Voluntary on ‘Two Oakes’ – arr. Ron Schmoltze
 ‘All Are Welcome’*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
abounding in steadfast love toward us,
healing the sick and raising the dead,
showering us with every good gift.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Just and gracious God,
we come to you for healing and life.
Our sins hurt others and diminish us;
we confess them to you.
Our lives bear the scars of sin;
we bring these also to you.
Show us your mercy, O God.
Bind up our wounds,
forgive us our sins,
and free us to love,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

The apostle Paul assures us: "When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross." Jesus says to you, + "Your sins are forgiven." Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN #521 - *O Day of Rest and Gladness

***GREETING**

From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,
grace and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
 Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
 or stand in the place of the great;
⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
 than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.
 What your eyes have seen

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112

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| <p>1. Hallelujah! Happy are they
Whose joy is God's command;
Their children will be always blessed
And mighty in the land.</p> <p>2. Riches and wealth will bless their house,
Their justice will endure,
And they are merciful. Light shines
In the darkness for the pure.</p> <p>3. In justice do they rule their lives
And freely do they lend;
Unshaken they, their memory
Is treasured without end.</p> | <p>4. Heart firm, they fear no evil news;
In God they put their trust;
Their heart secure, they will not shrink
Until their foes are crushed.</p> <p>5. The righteous spread their gifts abroad,
Give freely to the poor;
With honor will their heads be raised;
Their justice will endure.</p> <p>6. The wicked will see all these things
And rage and pine away;
Their anger and their based desires
Will perish in a day.</p> |
|--|--|

Tune: Richmond

From "A New Metrical Psalter" by Christopher Webber

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

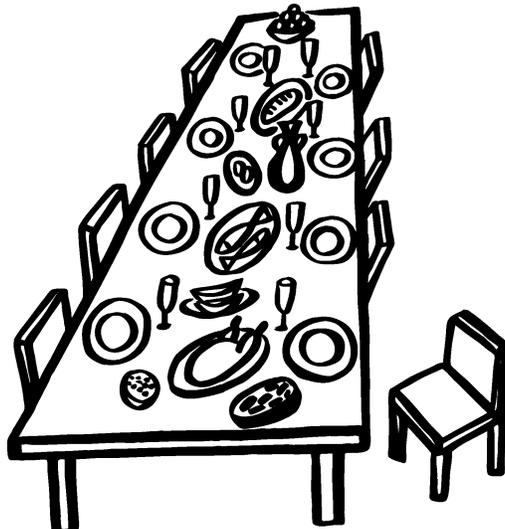
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

***GOSPEL READING: Luke 14:1, 7-14**

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to mimic God's gracious hospitality to the poor and the broken.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Dear God, as we get ready to start another year in school, we ask your blessing on these backpacks, and especially on these children who will wear them.

As they do the very important work of being students, bless them with:

- eagerness to learn,
- that their world may grow large;
- respect for teachers and students,
- that they may form healthy relationships;
- love for nature,
- that they may become caretakers of your creation;

happiness when learning is easy
and stick-to-it-iveness when it is hard;
faith in Jesus as their best teacher and closest friend.

We ask that you would protect these, your own children. Watch over them and keep them safe as they travel to and from school. As they learn, help them also to discover the different gifts that you have given each one of them to be used in your work in the world. As they hear the many voices that will fill their days, help them to listen most carefully for your voice, the one that tells them you will love them always, no matter what.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY #641: *All Are Welcome

*** APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

O wise and wonderful God, continually turn the hearts of your people back to you. Mold the church to be your gracious, merciful, and righteous presence in the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Fill all banquet tables with the bounty that you raise up in your creation. Feed all people with food that will sustain them, even as you feed them with your compassion. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send your Spirit of humility to the halls of legislation, governance, and justice in every land. Stir up in leaders and citizens a will to serve, and let your peace reign. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Raise up people who will extend your hospitality to those in prisons, in hospitals, and in situations of abuse especially Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Give to all who suffer your lasting comfort. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire contentment in all who have employment; grant your provision to those who are unemployed or underemployed. Create new opportunities for all to earn their livelihood. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Remembering the saints who pointed us to Christ in the past, we beg for his presence among us today, while we long for the day when he will make all things new. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O Holy One, we entrust all for whom we pray, confident in your abundant and abiding mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN #462: *Now We Join in Celebration*

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray, God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

Amen.

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

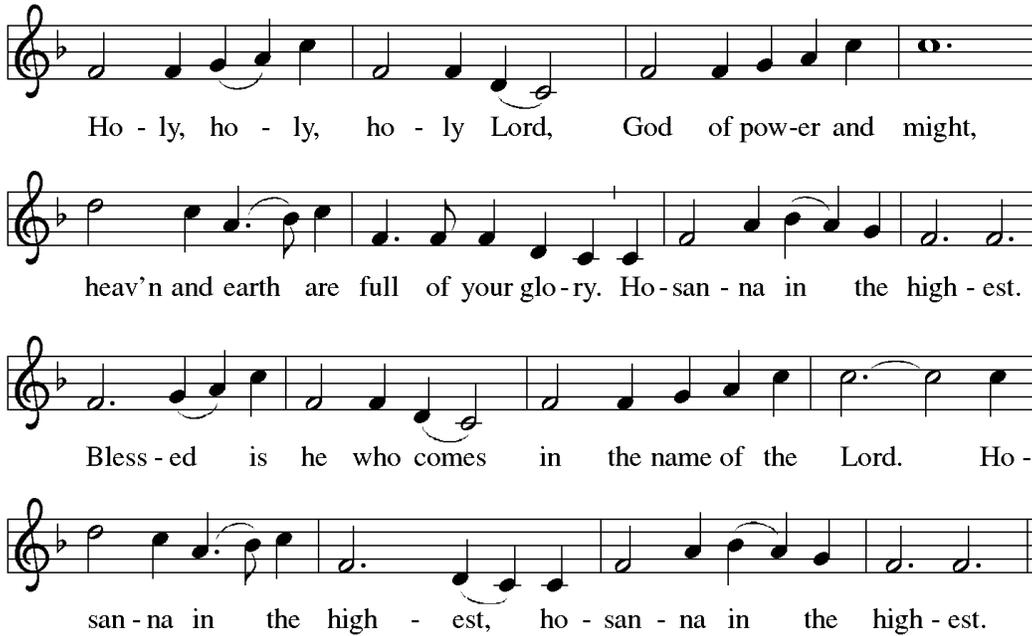
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
 in the harmonious world of your creation,
 the plants and animals,
 the seas and stars
 were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,
 you sent your Son to heal our ills
 and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was handed over,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
 his acts of healing,
 his body given up,
 and his victory over death,
 we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
 will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
 as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
 so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
 that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
 Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
 in your holy Church,
 both now and forever.

Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet.
 Welcome to the feast.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The inner ring of individual cups has grape juice.

COMMUNION SONG



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN #522: As We Gather at Your Table***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace. **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

O God, as a mother comforts her child,
so you comfort your people,
carrying us in your arms
and satisfying us with this food and drink,
the body and blood of Christ.
Send us now as your disciples,
announcing peace and proclaiming
that the reign of God has come near;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and + give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG #845: Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *'Allegro ben Moderato' from Six Organ Pieces – Frank Bridge*

Assisting Minister:	Martha Ward	Communion Assistant:	Laurie Passione
Usher:	Dave Knauff and Frieda Carbo	Acolyte:	Madison Cardinal

Attendance Last Week:	53	Attendance last year:	57
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