



*<sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.*

*Luke 15:10*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

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Rev. Mark Bringman, 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

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

*The grumbling of the Pharisees and the scribes in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God wills to seek and to save the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As Paul's first letter to Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.*

**PRELUDE:** Variations on 'Nettleton' – arr. Gordon Young

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God: the only Sovereign, who dwells in light; Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners; the Holy Spirit, who lives within us.

**Amen.**

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

God of overflowing grace,

**We come to you with repentant hearts.**

**Forgive us for shallow thankfulness.**

**Forgive us for passing by the ones in need.**

**Forgive us for setting our hopes on fleeting treasures.**

**Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness.**

**Bring us home from the wilderness of sin,**

**and strengthen us to serve you**

**in all that we do and say;**

**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

There is joy in heaven over every sinner who repents.

By the grace of God in + Christ Jesus,

who gave himself up for us all,

your sins are forgiven and you are made free.

Rejoice with the angels and with one another!

We are home in God's mercy, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN #807 – *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing***

#### **\*GREETING**

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

beloved children of God:

grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



A - men, a - men.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Exodus 32:7-14**

*While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people and boldly asks mercy for them.*

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" <sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup>Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

<sup>11</sup>But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.

<sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" <sup>14</sup>And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 51:1 -10**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Have mercy in your goodness, Lord,<br/>And in your grace forgive my sin;<br/>Wash me from evil through and through,<br/>Cleanse me, O Lord, without, within..</p> | <p>4. For deep within you look for truth;<br/>In secret make me understand;<br/>Purge out my sin and I shall be<br/>Pure as your holy law demands.</p>           |
| <p>2. All my transgressions, Lord, I know;<br/>I see my sin both day and night;<br/>Against you only have I sinned,<br/>Done what is evil in your sight.</p>            | <p>5. Tell me of joy and gladness, Lord,<br/>And give my broken body ease;<br/>Lord, hide your face from all my sin;<br/>Blot out my iniquities.</p>             |
| <p>3. So when you speak, Lord, it is just;<br/>Your judgments all reveal the truth;<br/>I have been wicked from my birth,<br/>A sinner even from my youth.</p>          | <p>6. Create in my a clean heart, Lord,<br/>Renew a spirit that is right;<br/>Take not your Spirit from my life,<br/>Nor cast me out, Lord, from your sight.</p> |

Tune: Maryton

From "A New Metrical Psalter" by Christopher Webber

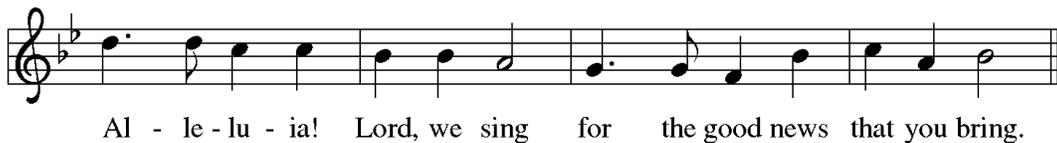
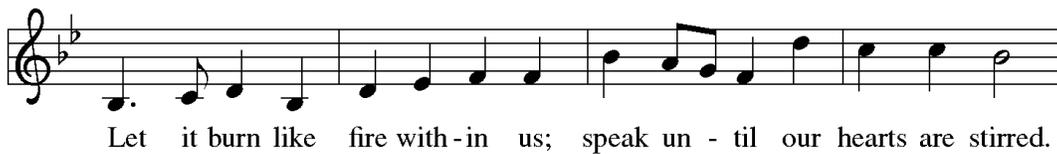
**SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 1:12–17**

*The letters to Timothy are called the Pastoral Epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.*

<sup>12</sup>I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup>even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>4</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners — of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**\*GOSPEL READING: Luke 15:1–10**

*Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that his or her recovery brings joy in heaven.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup>Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #789: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us***

**\* 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.

Holy and faithful God, teach your church to walk in ways of trust and obedience. Plant your presence among us, that the life you intend for us may flourish. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Strengthen fruit-bearing trees and plants, as harvests are gathered. Increase yields, and encourage just distribution of food throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Grant that all who are imprisoned or enslaved would know the freedom that you alone can give. Sustain them, that they would each one day know a safe and joyful homecoming. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gather together all people who feel removed from you because of illness, crisis, or fear especially Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Deliver them to a place of healing, and embrace them with your unfailing mercy. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bless Sunday school teachers and students, Bible study participants, and all teaching ministries. Let your life-giving word be freely shared among all who hunger for it. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Living God, refresh our hearts through the witness of the saints. Build us up as one community in Christ, and lead us to the good that comes from following you. 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.

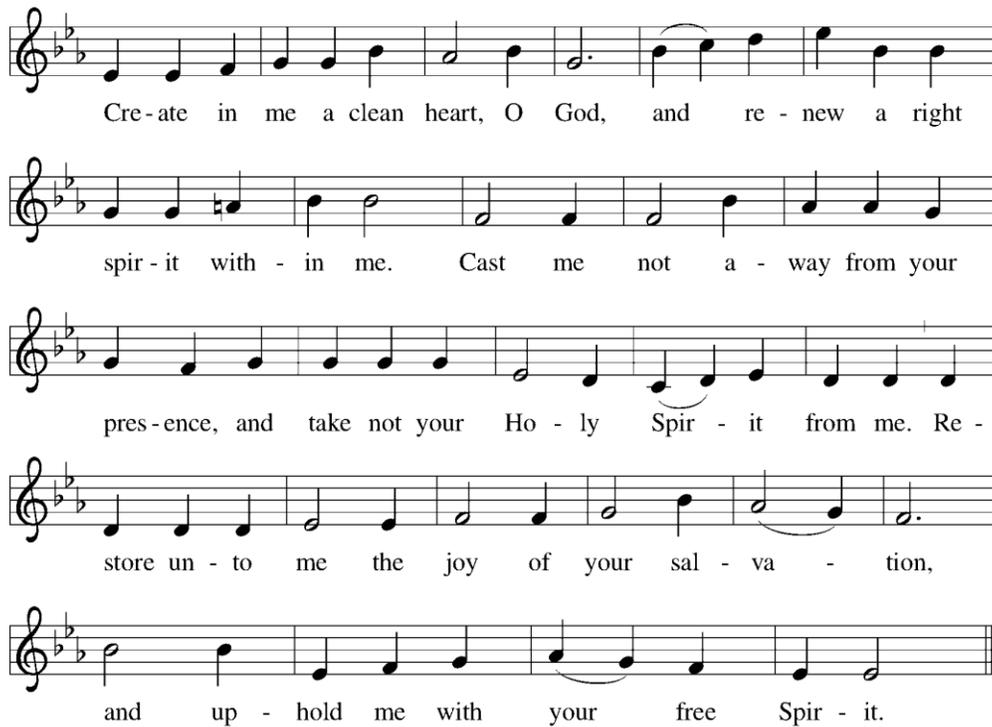
**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**OFFERING HYMN #188** *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Create in Me a Clean Heart



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -  
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,  
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

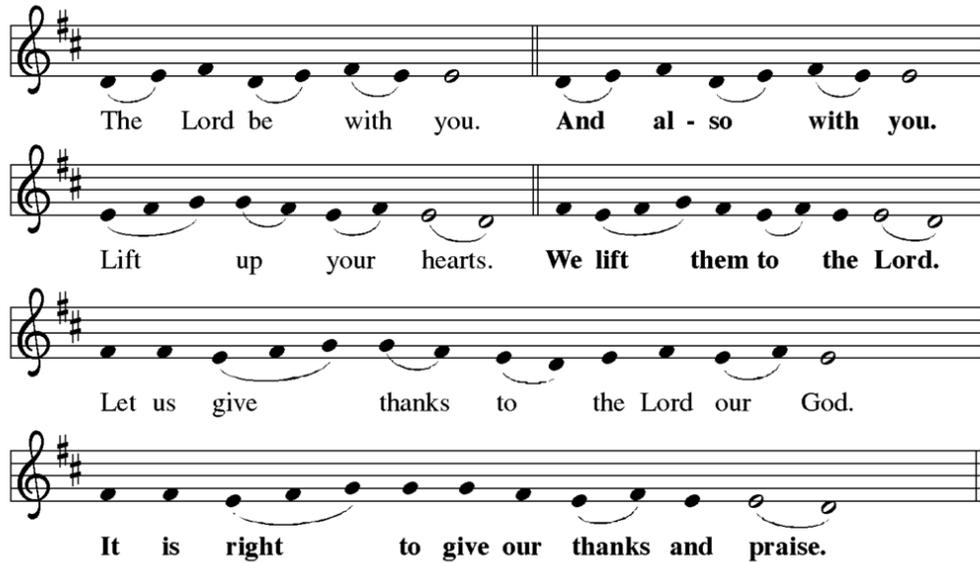
Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**Amen.**

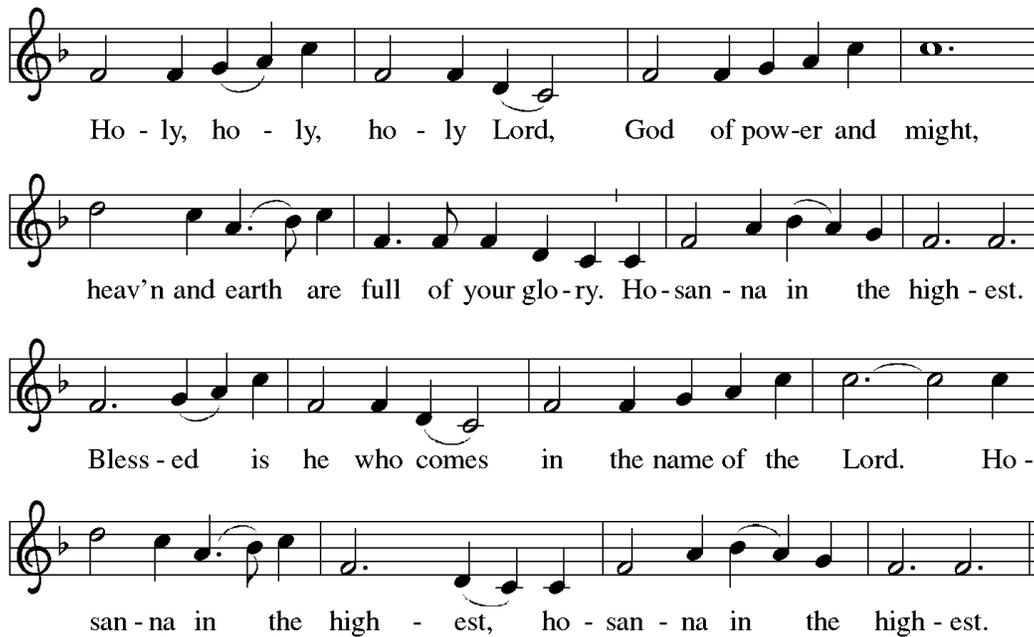


**\*DIALOGUE**


The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,  
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,  
 and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.  
 You sent your Son to eat with sinners  
 and to become food for the world.

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 life given for us  
 and his rising from the grave,  
 we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:  
 strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,  
 and by this bread and cup make of us the body of 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, 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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Take hold of the life that really is life.  
 Come, take your place at the table.

**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 #779: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound****\*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.

We come again to you, O God,  
 giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy  
 you have embraced us and healed us,  
 making us one in the body of Christ.

Go with us on our way.

Equip us for every good work,  
 that we may continue to give you thanks  
 by embracing others with mercy and healing;  
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

God Almighty send you light and truth  
 to keep you all the days of your life.

The hand of God protect you;  
 the holy angels accompany you;  
 and the blessing of almighty God,  
 the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
 be with you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG #535: Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises**

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** Variation on '*Nettleton*' – G. Young

The flowers are given by Denise Hager in celebration of Jamie Weaver for his birthday on September 15.

**8:00 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Laurie Passione

**Communion Assistant:** Marlene Strabel

**Acolyte:** Laura Greb

**Usher:** Dave Knauff

**10:30 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Martha Ward

**Communion Assistant:** Jim Ward

**Acolyte:**

**Usher:** Frieda Carbo

**Attendance Last Week:** 83

**Weekly Budgeted Need:** \$2,669.62

**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$90,766.92

**Attendance last year:** 78

**Last Week's Giving:** \$2,359

**Year to Date Receipts:** \$101,757.41

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