



*“For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”  
Isaiah 56:7b*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 17, 2014**

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Rev. Mark Bringman, Pastor  
John Thickey, Director of Music

*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**  
**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 17, 2014**

*In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*

**PRELUDE:** *Voluntary on 'Assurance'* – J. Bert Carlson

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

In the presence of God, who sees our hearts and our minds, let us confess our sin.

God our strength,  
**we confess that we are captive to the power of sin  
that dwells within us.  
We put ourselves first and others last.  
What we think will make us happy  
leaves us longing for more.  
Even when we want to do what is good,  
we find ourselves doing the opposite.  
Rescue us from death's grip on our lives,  
and raise us up day by day,  
that we may be alive to God in Christ Jesus.  
Amen.**

Sisters and brothers, all have fallen short of the glory of God; therefore we are justified by God's grace as a gift. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in + Christ Jesus, in whom we have forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. **Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG #532: *Gather Us In***

**\*GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.  
**God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1 –8** (page 686 in Old Testament)

*The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community — not race, nationality, or any other category.*

Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>2</sup> Happy is the mortal who does this, the one who holds it fast, who keeps the sabbath, not profaning it, and refrains from doing any evil.

<sup>3</sup> Do not let the foreigner joined to the LORD say, 'The LORD will surely separate me from his people'; and do not let the eunuch say, 'I am just a dry tree.'

<sup>4</sup> For thus says the LORD: To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant, <sup>5</sup> I will give, in my house and within my walls, a monument and a name, better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.

<sup>6</sup> And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant — <sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 67: 1—3**

1. May God be merciful to us,  
Bless us, shine on us from above;  
Let all earth's people know your ways,  
All nations know your saving love.

2. Let all the nations praise you, Lord,  
Let them praise you, be glad, and sing;  
You judge with equity all lands  
And rule the nations as their King.

3. Let all the nations praise you, Lord;  
And may the earth yield its increase;  
Then God, our God, will bless our land  
And nations worship him in peace.

*From: A New Metrical Psalter*

*Tune: Truro*

**SECOND READING: Romans 11:1 – 2a, 29 -- 36** (page 160 in New Testament)

*God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable, so that while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup> God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. <sup>29</sup> for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup> Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup> For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

<sup>33</sup> O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

<sup>34</sup> 'For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?' <sup>35</sup> 'Or who has given a gift to him, to receive a gift in return?' <sup>36</sup> For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 15: [10-20] 21–28** (page 17 in New Testament)

*Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be pagan and unclean approaches him for help.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>10</sup>Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: <sup>11</sup>it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." <sup>12</sup>Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" <sup>13</sup>He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. <sup>14</sup>Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." <sup>15</sup>But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." <sup>16</sup>Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? <sup>17</sup>Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? <sup>18</sup>But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. <sup>19</sup>For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. <sup>20</sup>These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

<sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." <sup>24</sup>He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup>He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup>She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON  
SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #714: O God of Mercy, God of Light**

**APOSTLE'S 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**

Filled by the Spirit, let us join the whole people of God in Christ Jesus in praying for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Lord, your house is a house of prayer for all peoples, all outcasts, and all who love your name. Reach into our hearts and focus our attention on this central mission of your gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Embrace all of creation in your loving arms and show us a better way to care for your earth. Increase our understanding of the atmosphere and oceans, and help us protect endangered species. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You ask us to maintain justice and do what is right, that all nations know peace. Uphold those international organizations striving to work together for the good of all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shine your face upon those in need of healing for bodies, minds, and spirits, especially Robert, Tim, Frieda, Joe, Bill & Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Strengthen our faith and fill us with hope as we humbly kneel before you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open our hearts to the visitors among us, and to their gifts and questions. Fill them with your welcoming presence. Watch over those who are absent and bring them safely home. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As you gather the faithful who have died into your eternal home, remind us of everything they have taught us in your name. Thank you for their presence among us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

#### **\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

#### **OFFERING**

#### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

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.**

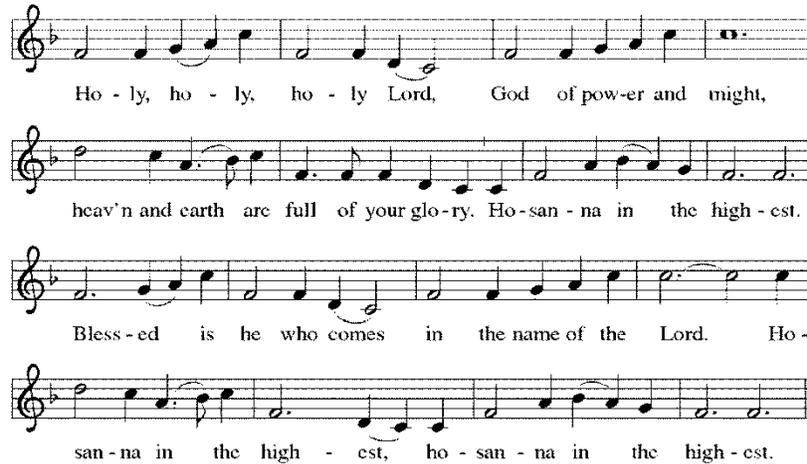
#### **\*DIALOGUE**

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

Everyone who hungers, come to the table. Eat what is good, that you may live.

## 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 area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice.*

### COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*



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 #465: *As the Grains of Wheat*

#### **\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The God of all grace, who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, restore, support, strengthen, and + bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE #884: *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

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.

#### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We thank you, Lord of heaven and earth,  
that you have fed us in a way our hearts can understand,  
with the saving body and blood of Jesus Christ.

Enliven us by your presence in this meal,  
that we may be your presence in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

#### **\*BLESSING**

May God the sower make you good and fertile soil.  
May Christ the seed bloom and grow in your words and actions.  
May the fruitful Spirit bring forth a bountiful yield in your lives.  
God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG #548: *Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen***

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: *Postlude on 'McKee'*** – Robert J. Powell

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**The flowers this week are given by Katie & Todd Niklewicz in honor of Ava's first birthday and Emma's fifth birthday.**

**9:00 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Missy Kramer

**Communion Assistant:**

**Acolyte:**

**Lector:**

**Usher:** Sally Foster

**Attendance Last Week:** 66

**Attendance last year:** 45

**Weekly Budgeted Need :** \$ 2,640.27

**Last Week's Giving:** \$ 2,736.00

**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$ 84,488.62

**Year to Date Receipts:** \$ 89,948.50

**YTD Actual Expense:** \$ 76,608.97

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