

**COME  
TO ME  
ALL YOU WHO  
ARE WEARY &  
BURDENED  
AND I  
WILL GIVE  
YOU REST.  
MATTHEW 11:28**

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – July 6, 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**  
**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – July 6, 2014**

*The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with the lowly and outcast. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.*

***Jan Hus, martyr, died 1415***

*Hus was a Bohemian (present-day Czech Republic) priest who spoke against abuses in the church, and was seen by Martin Luther as his predecessor in the reforming movement. He was found guilty of heresy by a council of the church, and burned at the stake.*

**PRELUDE:** *Voluntary on 'Slane' – Gordon Young*

**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 #887: *This Is My Song***

**\*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.

**You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9 – 12** (page 884 in Old Testament)

*The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, they are designated as "prisoners of hope."*

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup>He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 145:8-14**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Beyond all bounds, God's graciousness<br>And kindness still extend;<br>The Lord is ever slow to wrath,<br>His mercy has no end.      | 3. The glory of your kingdom and<br>Your power they proclaim;<br>That peoples all may know your power;<br>The splendor of your reign.          |
| 2. His mercy rests on all his works,<br>His love on everyone;<br>Your faithful servants bless you, Lord,<br>And all that you have done. | 4. Through every age your throne remains,<br>Your kingdom will endure;<br>The Lord shows love in all his deeds,<br>And all his words are sure. |

From: *A New Metrical Psalter*

Tune: *Azmon*

**SECOND READING: Romans 7:15 – 25a** (page 157 in New Testament)

*Life enslaved under sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be bad. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.*

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:16—19, 25--30** (page 11 in New Testament)

*Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>16</sup>But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup>'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

<sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON  
SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #332: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say***

**\* 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**

Strengthened by the Spirit who gives us words to speak and hearts that care, let us bring our hopes and needs to God who listens.

O God, strengthen and empower your church. Where it is weak or timid, raise up leaders. Support it with your gift of inner strength and peace. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God**

Creator God, the earth groans when we do not regard it with loving care. Forgive us for polluting the water and the air, for stripping the land of its natural resources, and for caring more about our own comfort than the long-term health of the planet. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

How beautiful it is when people dwell together in unity. Help us appreciate the differences among us, to seek to understand one another, and to work together for harmony. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Holy source of hope, so many people are in pain today. Give us hearts of compassion, hands that heal, and lips that speak words of comfort and encouragement. Surround with love all those in need, especially Tim, Frieda, Joe, Bill & Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

As you walked with Abraham and Sarah, the magi, and all who follow your call, be with those who travel this day: pilots and truckers, cab drivers and train engineers, those on vacation and those on the road for work. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Alpha and Omega, you are with us from our first breath to our last. We give thanks for the faithful departed who now rest in your loving arms. May the promise of the resurrection sustain those who trust in you. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

We lift our prayers to you, God of mercy, confident that all things are in your hands. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

#### **\*PEACE**

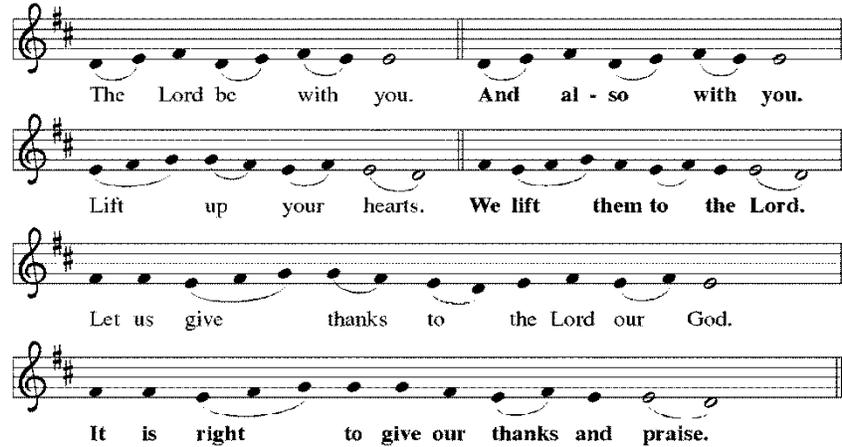
The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

#### **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**

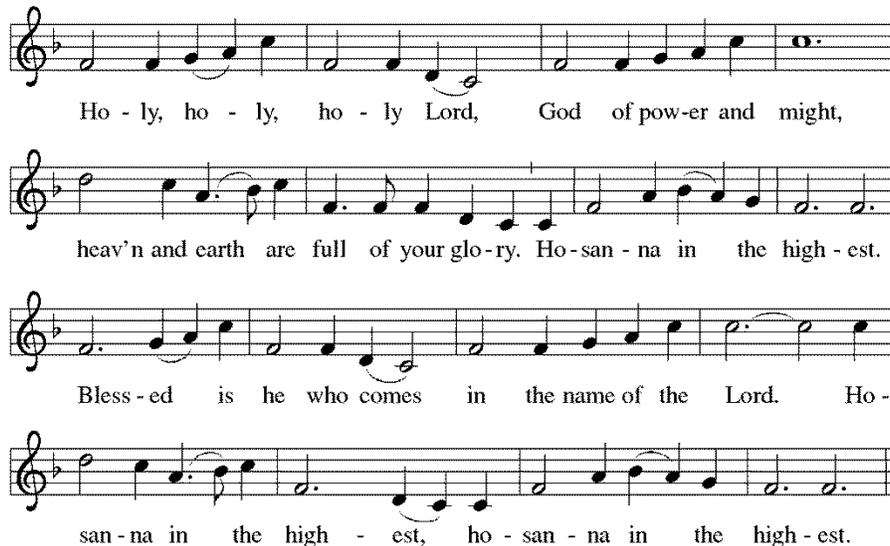


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**\*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. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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 betrayed,  
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 inner ring of individual cups 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 #742: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus***

**\*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.**

**\*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 #890: *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory***

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE HYMN #888: *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies***

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The flowers this week are given by Cindy and Dave Knauff in gratitude for our country's freedom.

**9:00 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Kelly Greb

**Communion Assistant:**

**Acolyte:**

**Lector:**

**Usher:** Cardinal

**Attendance Last Week:** 46

**Attendance last year:** 40

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

**Last Week's Giving:** \$ 1,563.00

**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$ 71,287.27

**Year to Date Receipts:** \$ 72,787.70

**YTD Actual Expense:** \$ 64,815.67

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