



*<sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*Romans 6:23*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Third Sunday after Pentecost – June 29, 2014**

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Rev. Ralph Storm, Guest Pastor

Jacob Gordon, Guest Organist

*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**  
**Third Sunday after Pentecost – June 29, 2014**

*The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.*

***Peter and Paul, Apostles***

*These two strong-willed apostles are the pillars of the church in the first generation after Christ. Peter was one of the Twelve, one who both offered a glorious confession of faith and later denied knowing Jesus. Paul once led the persecution of Christians, then was converted and helped bring the faith to non-Jewish people.*

**PRELUDE:** 'Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service' – by Janet Linker

**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 #641: All Are Welcome**

**\*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.

**O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 28:1b – 17** (page 730 in Old Testament)

*Through a symbolic action, Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon. Hananiah contradicted Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the prophet Hananiah to death.*

The prophet Hananiah son of Azzur, from Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the LORD, in the presence of the priests and all the people, saying, <sup>2</sup>‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon. <sup>3</sup>Within two years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the LORD’s house, which King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon took away from this place and carried to Babylon. <sup>4</sup>I will also bring back to this place King Jeconiah son of Jehoiakim of Judah, and all the exiles from Judah who went to Babylon, says the LORD, for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.’

<sup>5</sup> Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, ‘Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfil the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.’

<sup>10</sup> Then the prophet Hananiah took the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, and broke it. <sup>11</sup>And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD: This is how I will break the yoke of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon from the neck of all the nations within two years.’ At this, the prophet Jeremiah went his way.

<sup>12</sup> Some time after the prophet Hananiah had broken the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: <sup>13</sup>Go, tell Hananiah, Thus says the LORD: You have broken wooden bars only to forge iron bars in place of them! <sup>14</sup>For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I have put an iron yoke on the neck of all these nations so that they may serve King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, and they shall indeed serve him; I have even given him the wild animals. <sup>15</sup>And the prophet Jeremiah said to the prophet Hananiah, ‘Listen, Hananiah, the LORD has not sent you, and you made this people trust in a lie. <sup>16</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD: I am going to send you off the face of the earth. Within this year you will be dead, because you have spoken rebellion against the LORD.’

<sup>17</sup> In that same year, in the seventh month, the prophet Hananiah died.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## PSALM 87

1. Upon the holy mountain stands  
God's city in its walls;  
He loves the gates of Zion more  
Than all of Jacob's halls.
2. Your glory shall be told abroad,  
O city of our King;  
Egypt and Babylon and Tyre,  
They all from Zion spring.
3. Of Zion this yet be said:  
"In her were born all lands;  
The Lord Most High himself shall now  
Sustain her in his hands."
4. The Lord as he enrolls the lands  
Will say, "These were born there;"  
The singers and the dancers say,  
"My fresh springs are in her."

From: *A New Metrical Psalter*

Tune: *Land of Rest*

### **SECOND READING: Romans 6:12 – 23** (page 156 in New Testament)

*Sin is an enslaving power that motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.*

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. <sup>13</sup>No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

<sup>15</sup>What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, <sup>18</sup>and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **\*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 10:40 – 42** (page 11 in New Testament)

*When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>40</sup>Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup>Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup>and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple — truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #802: *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus***

**\* 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.

For those who endure suffering and hardship for the sake of the gospel, that they be strengthened for their courageous witness. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the marvel of all living things that inhabit our planet, that we will preserve and protect the common life we share with all creation. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations of the world, that despite differences of color, creed, and custom, we live in peace; and for wisdom for all world leaders. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those who struggle with doubt, despair, and the search for meaning, that they bring their questions and find their answers in you. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

We pray for healing rest for those whose bodies and spirits are weary and in pain especially Tim, Frieda, Joe, Bill & Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Surround them with your care and love. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For all who long for Christian community, and for the people in this congregation who with their hospitality and caring provide it. Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

With thanksgiving for the saints who have kept the faith and now rest in you especially the apostles Peter and Paul, and for courage to run the race set before us. 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 HYMN #712: *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service***

**\*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 #810: *O Jesus, I Have Promised***

**\*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 #676: *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak***

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: 'Let Us EverWalk with Jesus' – by Thomas Gieschen**

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**The flowers this week are given by Janet and Henry Ford in celebration of their 51<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary.**

**9:00 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Christine Dishong

**Communion Assistant:** Sally Foster

**Acolyte:** Nick King

**Lector:**

**Usher:** Dishong

**Attendance Last Week:** 46

**Attendance last year:** 40

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

**Last Week's Giving:** \$ 1,798.00

**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$ 66,066.73

**Year to Date Receipts:** \$ 71,224.70

**YTD Actual Expense:** \$ 57,615.67

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