

*"Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – October 19, 2014**  
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Mars, PA 16046-0411  
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Rev. Deborah Byrum, Guest Pastor  
Matt Claus, Guest Musician

*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**

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – October 19, 2014**

*In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.*

**PRELUDE:** 'Hymn to Joy' – Ludwig van Beethoven – arr. by Joel Raney

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Sovereign over all the earth, the Wisdom from on high, our merciful Judge and Savior. **Amen.**

Let us boldly approach the throne of grace, trusting in God's mercy and love.

Generous and faithful God,  
**we confess to you all the ways,  
known and unknown,  
that we reject and undermine your steadfast love.  
Though you made us your people,  
we treat strangers with suspicion.  
Though you forgave our debts,  
we collect without mercy.  
Yet we are quick to pass judgment on others.  
Have mercy on us, O God,  
and remember your promise to us,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.**

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Through the living Word, + Jesus Christ, God forgives your every debt, your every sin, and gives you a new heart and a new spirit. **Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG #413: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!***

#### **\*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.**

## \*GLORY TO GOD



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.

**Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1–7 (page 674 in Old Testament)

*The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.*

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him — and the gates shall not be closed: <sup>2</sup>I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,

<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. <sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 96: 1-9**

1. Sing to the Lord new songs of praise,  
Let all the earth sing to the Lord;  
Sing out and praise God’s holy Name,  
Proclaim good news with one accord.

2. Declare God’s glory far and wide,  
God’s wondrous acts and holy law;  
For God is greatly to be praised  
And then beheld with greatest awe.

3. The gods that other nations serve  
Are idols made of wood and stone;

But it is God the Lord who made  
The heavens above us, God alone.

4. Magnificent God’s presence here,  
With splendid courts in glorious light;  
Ascribe to God all peoples, tongues,  
Ascribe to God all power and might.

5. Ascribe all honor to the Lord;  
Bring gifts into the holy place.  
In holy beauty worship God;  
Bow down with awe before God’s face.

*From: A New Metrical Psalter*

*Tune: Puer nobis*

**SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10** (page 203 in New Testament)

*Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul is giving pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic pagan environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities*

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The word of the Lord.  
**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: Matthew 22:15 – 22** (page 24 in New Testament)

*After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality." <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" <sup>21</sup>They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON  
SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #713: O God of Every Nation**

**\*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.

Lord of the church, help us to give to you what is yours. Make us faithful stewards of our time, talents, and treasures. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of creation, help us to share our bounties. Plant in us a willing and able desire to utilize the world's resources wisely and without bias. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of the nations, help us to put aside malice. Teach us to fight for justice, to liberate the oppressed, and to advocate for those who have no voice. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of life, help us in our need. Restore the minds, bodies, and spirits of those who are sick and soothe those who despair especially, John, Robert, Frieda, Joe, Bill & Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of all, help us to support one another. Bless our communities, sustain local businesses, and remove enmity between neighbors. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of the resurrection, help us to rejoice in your promises. Gladden the hearts of those who grieve. Greet those who die with your reviving grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your mercy and goodness, we bring before you these prayers and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of the one who sets us free, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

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

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY HYMN #686: *We Give Thee but Thine Own***

(All stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward)

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

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 also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

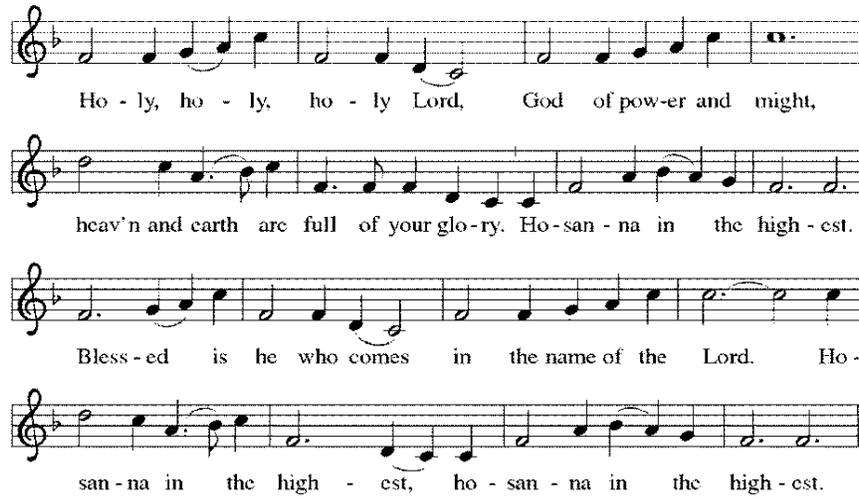
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**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 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 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 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**

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 #474: *Bread of Life from Heaven***

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

May you be strengthened by this meal of grace until all are one in the kingdom of heaven. **Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

O God, the host at every meal, at this table you spread out a feast for all peoples, the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Send us from this banquet to invite others into these good things, to let justice roll down like waters, and to care for the least of our sisters and brothers; through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and our Savior.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

The blessing of almighty God,  
the Father of glory,  
+ Jesus Christ our peace,  
and the Spirit of truth,  
be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG #705: *God of Grace and God Of Glory***

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: 'Today We Are All Called to be Disciples' (Kingsfold) – Jason W. Krug**

**The flowers this week are given by Janet Senka in memory of her mother, Virginia Closshey.**

**8:00 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Dave Knauff  
**Communion Assistant:**  
**Acolyte:**  
**Lector:**  
**Usher:**  
**Attendance Last Week:** 44  
**Weekly Budgeted Need:** \$ 2,640.27  
**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$110,891.31  
**YTD Actual Expense:** \$105,091.85

**10:30 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Sally Foster  
**Communion Assistant:** Denise Hager  
**Acolyte:** Madison Cardinal  
**Lector:** Keith Cardinal  
**Usher:**  
**Attendance last year:** 56  
**Last Week's Giving:** \$ 1,030.00  
**Year to Date Receipts:** \$112,382.50

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