



*Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain,
growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and
sixty and a hundredfold.*

- Mark 4:8

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 13, 2015
Installation of Reverend Robert F. Zimmerman

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**Liturgy of Holy Eucharist for the Installation of
The Reverend Robert F. Zimmerman
as Pastor of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 13, 2015**

PRELUDE:

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil
Marilyn Biery

Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove
Richard Proulx

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.**

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #526: God Is Here!**

***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

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



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



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.



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.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ
you gave the holy apostles many gifts
and commanded them to feed your flock.**

**Inspire all pastors to proclaim your word diligently
and your people to receive it willingly,
that finally we may receive the crown of eternal glory;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

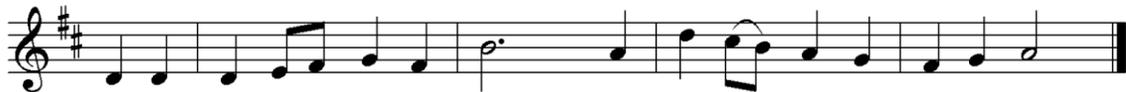
¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM113

*The psalm is sung responsively, with the assembly singing the **bold** verses.
The choir sings the refrain, and all repeat it.*



Let the name of the Lord be blessed from this time forth for - ev - er-more.

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants | of the LORD;
praise the name | of the LORD.

²**Let the name of the | LORD be blessed,
from this time forth for- | evermore.**

³From the rising of the sun to its | going down
let the name of the | LORD be praised.

⁴**The LORD is high a- | bove all nations;
God's glory a- | bove the heavens.**

Refrain

⁵Who is like the | LORD our God,
who sits en- | throned on high,

⁶**but stoops | to behold
the heavens | and the earth?**

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out | of the dust
and lifts up the poor | from the ashes,

⁸**enthroning them | with the rulers,
with the rulers | of the people.**

⁹The LORD makes the woman of a | childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. | Hallelujah! *Refrain*

***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.**

***PRESENTATION**

The pastor to be installed and a representative of the congregation come before the presiding minister and the assembly.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Having been authorized by the church to install Robert Francis Zimmerman,
our co-worker in the gospel,
as Pastor of St. John Lutheran Church,
I now ask for certification of this call.

A representative of the congregation addresses the presiding minister.

After prayerful deliberation, we,
of St. John Lutheran Church,
have called Robert Francis Zimmerman as Pastor.
I present him and this letter certifying the call.

The representative gives the presiding minister the letter certifying that the call has been received and accepted.

The representative moves aside, and the assembly is seated.

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

The presiding minister addresses the pastor being installed.

A reading from John:

Jesus said, "Peace be with you.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you.

Receive the Holy Spirit.

If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them;

if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:21-23)

A reading from Matthew:

Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,

baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

A reading from First Timothy:

Set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

Attend to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching.

Do not neglect the gift that is in you,
which was given to you through prophecy

with the laying on of hands by the council of elders.

Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them,
so that all may see your progress.

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching;

continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers. (*1 Timothy 4:12-16*)

The presiding minister questions the pastor being installed.

Robert, in the presence of this assembly,

will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility,

in the confidence that it comes from God through the call of the church?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures
and with the confessions of the Lutheran church?

Will you carry out this ministry in harmony with the constitutions
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures
and in your use of the means of grace?

Will you love, serve, and pray for God's people,

nourish them with the word and sacraments,

and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you give faithful witness in the world,
that God's love may be known in all that you do?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things,
graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

Amen.

The assembly stands, as the presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God,

will you receive Pastor Zimmerman as a messenger of Jesus Christ

sent to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation?

Will you regard him as a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for him,

help and honor him for his work's sake,

and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

The presiding minister addresses the pastor being installed.

Robert, the office of pastor is now committed to you,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

The newly installed pastor may kneel as the presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep,
by the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will,
working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight;
through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

The pastor stands.

The presiding minister escorts the pastor to the place of baptism. A representative of the congregation says:
You have been called to be among us to baptize, to teach, and to forgive sins.

They proceed to the place of the word. A representative of the congregation says:
You have been called to be among us to proclaim the good news.

They proceed to the place of the meal. A representative of the congregation says:
You have been called to be among us to preside at the Lord's supper.

The presiding minister may address the assembly with these or similar words.

People of God, I present to you Robert Zimmerman, your Pastor.
Let us welcome him in the name of Christ.

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause. The service continues with the prayers of intercession.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

For the holy catholic Church, that it may be filled with truth and love, and by your grace be found without fault at the last day: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all members of the Church, that they may serve you in true and godly lives: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For Elizabeth and Kurt our bishops, and for all those responsible for the care and nurture of your people: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For Robert, a pastor in the Church, that he may faithfully fulfill the duties of this ministry, serve your people, build up your Church, and glorify in your name: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the peace of the Church, that our divisions may be overcome and that we may serve the world as one people in one Lord Jesus Christ: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and understanding may grow among nations and peoples: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, the lonely, the forgotten, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the glorious company of all the saints, those who have died in faith and those who live in certain hope, we praise you. That their witness may give us courage until the day of Jesus Christ: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

***PEACE**

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

OFFERING

This afternoon's offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response: Middle East and Europe Refugee Crisis.

ANTHEM DURING THE OFFERING: Beauty for Brokenness (God of the Poor)

Graham Kendrick

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,
Lord, in Your suffering world, this is our prayer.
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset Your kingdom increase.

Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,
work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills.
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor, friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray,
melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain.
Come change our love from a spark to a flame.*

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,
cities for sanctu'ry, freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing fields, scorched earth to green,
Christ for the bitterness, his cross for the pain.

Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams,
plundered and poisoned, our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness, carelessness, greed,
make us content with the things that we need.

God of the poor...

Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame,
until your justice burns brightly again,
until the nations learn of your ways,
seek your salvation and bring you their praise.

God of the poor...

***OFFERTORY**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

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.

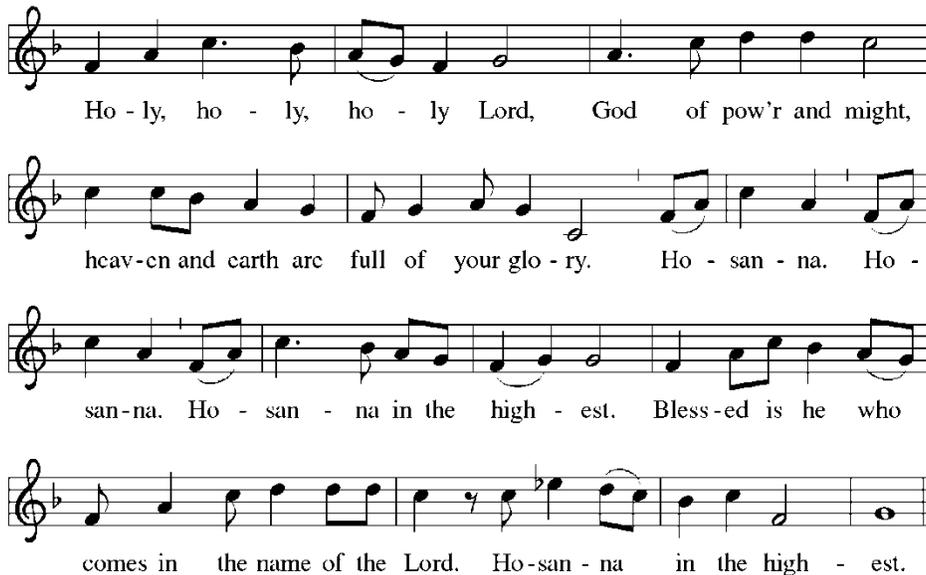
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***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 the great shepherd of your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ;
who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles
to preach the gospel and teach all nations,
and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age.

And so, with the glorious company of the apostles,
with the choirs of angels and all 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'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.



***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

***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**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

#577 – Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove

#401 – Gracious Spirit, Hear Our Pleading

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.
Amen.

*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



☞ Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful- filled.
My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re- veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo- ple Is - ra - el.
Glo- ry to the Fa- ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho- ly Spir - it,
as it was in the-be-gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev- er. A - men

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.
God of abundance,
with this bread of life and cup of salvation
you have united us with Christ,
making us one with all your people.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

Amen.

*RECESSIONAL HYMN #660: Lift High the Cross

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Komm, Gott Schoepfer, Heiliger Geist (BWV 667)

Johann Sebastian Bach

About This Afternoon's Music

This afternoon's first prelude is a setting of our Hymn of the Day, *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*. Contemporary composer Marilyn Biery presents the tune plainly, except for a brief section in the middle of the piece, and uses improvisatory echoes to enhance the arrangement. The second of this afternoon's prelude pieces and the postlude were inspired by the Gregorian chant *Veni, Creator Spiritus* ("Come, Creator Spirit"). This chant has a long association with the Day of Pentecost and is also a traditional hymn for ordinations; its invocation of the Spirit makes it likewise appropriate for the installation of a pastor. The text, which we sing during communion, dates to the 9th century, and the tune itself is even older. In the prelude, Richard Proulx sets the chant in a meditative style. The tune is heard three times: an ethereal, slower version (with doubled note values) is framed by two more lyrical settings; in all three settings the tune is presented in the highest voice. The postlude, by Bach, is a setting of the chorale tune *Komm, Gott Schoepfer, Heiliger Geist* ("Come, God Creator, Holy Ghost"), which is a simplification of the Gregorian tune (see ELW 578); the tune appears first, with some decoration, in the upper voice, and then appears plainly, in longer note values, in the pedals.

The offertory anthem is by Graham Kendrick, a contemporary Christian artist living in the United Kingdom. Kendrick, perhaps most well-known as the author and composer of *Shine, Jesus, Shine*, has said that *Beauty for Brokenness* finds its inspiration in Psalm 113, especially verse 7: "The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes." The song's call – to care for the weak, the broken, and the dispossessed, to treat each other fairly, to restore the earth, and to share the love of Christ Jesus – serves to remind each of us of our own baptismal vows:

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus Christ,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

As we celebrate Pastor Zimmerman's installation as pastor of St. John, we are reminded that *all* the baptized "share in Christ's ministry of love and service." Through this song, we all pray that our love become a flame, providing light, hope, and comfort in our community and in our world.

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Heather Lubold, Conference 2 Dean, Southwestern PA Synod

Assisting Minister: Sally Foster

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Blair Morgan, Director for Evangelical Mission, Southwestern PA Synod

Celebrant: The Rev. Robert Zimmerman

Lector: Jennifer Zimmerman

Communion Assistants: Dominic Cardinal, Madison Cardinal, Anne Olescyski, Martha Ward

Crucifer: Matt Claus

Acolyte: Madison Cardinal

Ushers: Jim Hager, Jim Ward

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