



“⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.”

~Mark 9: 40-41

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 27, 2015

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Rev. Robert Zimmerman, Pastor

Jacob Gordon, 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

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 27, 2015

Someone is casting out demons in Jesus' name who isn't part of Jesus' own circle, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

PRELUDE: *Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun* – Franklin Ashdown

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose name is majestic in all the earth,
who rescues and heals in every time of trouble,
who does all things well.

Amen.

Let us come before God, seeking forgiveness and life.

Steadfast and saving God,

have mercy on us.

We confess to you all the ways

we turn from you and harm one another.

In your compassion,

forgive our sins and heal our hurts.

Bring forth from us a harvest of righteousness,

the fruits of gentleness and peacemaking,

the sheaves of wisdom and justice;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

In the name of + Jesus, the Son of God,

receive mercy and find grace in your time of need.

Your transgressions are forgiven;

God's love is healing balm for your wounds.

Rejoice, for God raises you up to new life in Christ.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG #807: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing


***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,



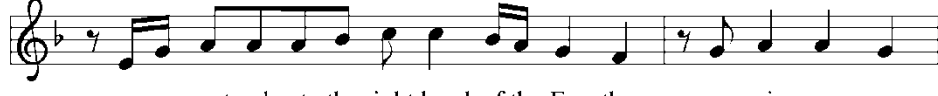
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.




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.

**Generous God,
your Son gave his life
that we might come to peace with you.
Give us a share of your Spirit,
and in all we do empower us
to bear the name of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God’s spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors’? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19

The cantor sings the refrain, and all repeat it.



The com-mand-ment of the LORD gives light to the eyes.

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;
the testimony of theLORD is sure and gives wisdom to | the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | jice the heart;**
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;
the judgments of theLORD are true and righteous | altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,**
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb. R

¹¹By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is| great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one’s | own offenses?**
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a| great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,**
O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer. R

SECOND READING: James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

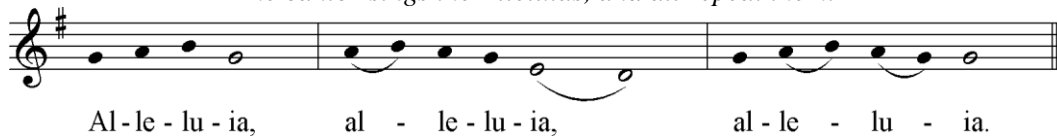
¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The cantor sings the Alleluias, and all repeat them.



Verse (cantor): Your word, O Lord, is truth; sanctify us in the truth. (John 17:7)

***GOSPEL READING: Mark 9:38-50**

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**CHILDREN’S SERMON
SERMON**

***HYMN OF THE DAY #557: Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun**

***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**

Made alive with God in Christ, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

God of all wisdom and truth, send your Spirit on all your people, opening our mouths to prophesy and speak truth to one another. Give us words that make your will known. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Uphold farmers and field workers who harvest as nights grow longer and days get colder. Use their labor to deliver sustenance to humans and animals. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lead public servants and government officials to work on behalf of all people. Send advocates to halls of justice and guide legislation that breaks the bonds of injustice. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Redeem all who are in trouble or danger, especially Susan, Frieda, Jim, Raymond, Wanda Jean, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Fred & Jane, David & Ellen, and those we remember aloud and in our hearts. Speak healing words to them, and restore them to wholeness, that praise may flow from their lips. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill those who are hungry with good things. Enfold those who are weary in communities where their bodies and souls may be fed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have drawn your people into one great community. Show to us the same faithfulness you have shown your saints throughout the ages, and lead us to live faithfully. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gather these concerns and all who are in need into your abundant care, O God, remembering your promise of mercy, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN #817: *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore*

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

***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.

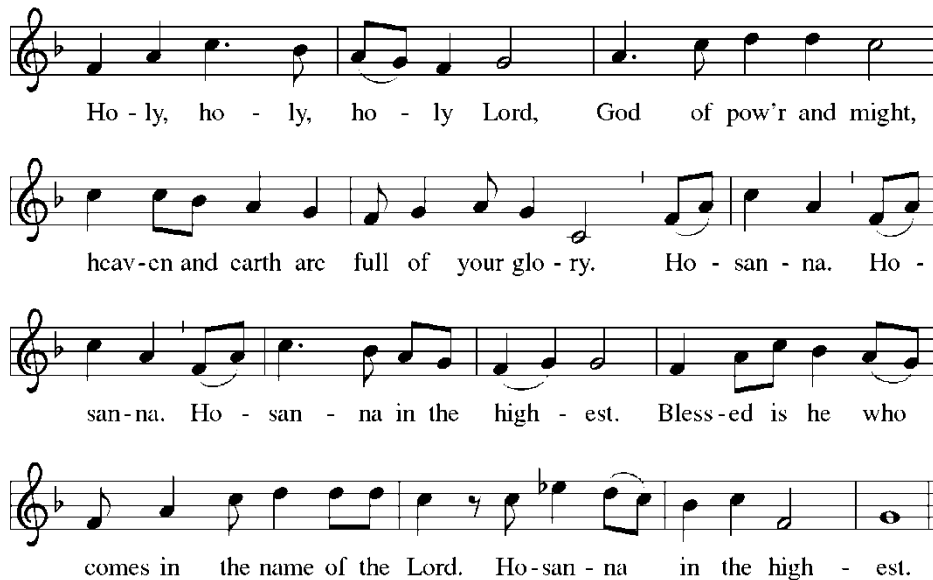
***DIALOGUE**

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 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'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**

God gives food to those who hunger.
Come, be fed, be healed.

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*

The image shows four staves of musical notation for the Communion Song 'Lamb of God'. The music is written in a single treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: '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.' The lyrics are placed below the corresponding notes on each staff.

COMMUNION HYMN #396: *Spirit of Gentleness*

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,
that you welcome us to your table
and satisfy our deepest hunger and thirst.

By your gifts of word and holy meal,
strengthen us to take up the cross
as we go about our callings in this world,
following after Jesus Christ, our servant Lord.**Amen.**

*BLESSING

Like children in the arms of Jesus, receive blessing:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.**Amen.**


*SENDING SONG: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
2 Breathe, o breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry trou - bled breast;
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy life re - ceive;
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;



Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
let us all in thee in - her - it; let us find they prom - ised rest.
sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heav'n we take our place,



vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
pray, and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* – Benjamin Culli

The flowers this week are given by Kim & Reed Richards in honor of the beginning of Autumn.

8:00 am

Assisting Minister: Matt Claus

Communion Assistant:

Acolyte:

Usher: Bill Schulz

Attendance Last Week: 62

Weekly Budgeted Need: \$ 2,755.44

YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$107,462.25

YTD Actual Expense: \$101,809.22

10:30 am

Assisting Minister:

Communion Assistant:

Acolyte:

Usher:

Attendance Last Year:

Last Week's Giving:

YTD Receipts:

Martha Ward

Sally Foster

Jim Ward

87

\$ 2,484.00

\$ 104,022.29

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