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*“<sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.”*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost – July 31, 2016**

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Rev. Robert Zimmerman, Pastor

Jacob Gordon, Director of Music Ministries

*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. 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**

#### **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost – July 31, 2016**

*Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.*

**PRELUDE:** *Prelude on "All My Hope on God Is Founded" – Arthur Wills*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
abounding in steadfast love toward us,  
healing the sick and raising the dead,  
showering us with every good gift.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection.*

Just and gracious God,  
**we come to you for healing and life.**  
**Our sins hurt others and diminish us;**  
**we confess them to you.**  
**Our lives bear the scars of sin;**  
**we bring these also to you.**  
**Show us your mercy, O God.**  
**Bind up our wounds,**  
**forgive us our sins,**  
**and free us to love,**  
**for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**  
**Amen.**

The apostle Paul assures us:

"When we were dead in our trespasses,  
God made us alive together with Christ,  
nailing the record of our sins to the cross."  
Jesus says to you, + "Your sins are forgiven."  
Be at peace, and tell everyone  
how much God has done for you.  
**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG #589: *All Depends on Our Possessing***

**\*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**



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☒ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we



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



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



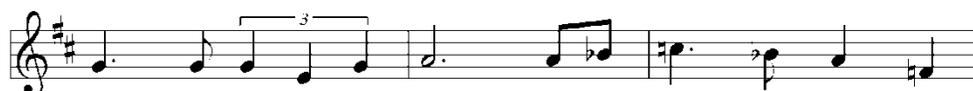
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☒ 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.

☩ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.  
 (I) For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
 (II) 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.  
 ☩ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,  
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Benevolent God,**

**you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives.**

**Teach us to love what is worth loving,**

**to reject what is offensive to you,**

**and to treasure what is precious in your sight,**

**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23**

*The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.*

<sup>2</sup>Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,  
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

<sup>12</sup>I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, <sup>13</sup>applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. <sup>14</sup>I saw all the



slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**\*GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:13-21**

*In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." <sup>16</sup>Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup>Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup>So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #757: *All My Hope on God is Founded***

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

Rooted in Christ and rising to serve, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

O God, enliven the body of Christ with energy and creativity. Work through partnerships across towns, denominations, and ministry contexts, that Christ be shared with all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Guard your creation against greed and over-consumption. Restore polluted air and waters, protect animal habitats, and send new growth where it is needed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Break down barriers between neighborhoods, peoples, and nations. Sustain community leaders, legislators, volunteers, peacemakers, and all who seek the good of their communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Soothe furrowed and fevered brows. Give energy and compassion to caregivers, those who sit at bedsides or wait by the phone. Comfort all in need of healing. We pray especially for Raymond, Wanda Jean, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Fred & Jane, David & Ellen, those beginning to recover from the West Virginia storms, those helping them, and those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Inspire our congregation to live in the present moment, O God, and to trust in you. In committee meetings, classrooms, and all ministries, give us flexibility to follow where you lead. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for those who have died recently and across the ages, and we rejoice in the hope of the resurrection. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**\*OFFERING HYMN #678: *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending***

*All 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 - er and  
might, heav - en 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, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, 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**

Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet.  
Welcome to the feast.

### **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***

☐ 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, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMN #683: *The Numberless Gifts of God's Mercies***

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.  
O God, as a mother comforts her child,  
so you comfort your people,  
carrying us in your arms  
and satisfying us with this food and drink,  
the body and blood of Christ.  
Send us now as your disciples,  
announcing peace and proclaiming  
that the reign of God has come near;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

**\*SENDING OF COMMUNION**

O God of tender compassion,  
as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger,  
bless those who leave this assembly  
to share the gifts of this table  
with our sisters and brothers  
who are sick or homebound.  
May they be sustained by the love and prayers  
of this community,  
and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor  
and+ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG #650: *In Christ There is No East or West***

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** *Fanfare on "In Christ There Is No East or West"* – Charles Callahan

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**9:00 am**

**Assisting Minister:**

**Kelly Greb**

**Communion Assistant:**

**Acolyte:**

**Lector:**

**Usher:**

**Clarence Strabel**

**Attendance Last Week:**

46

**Attendance Last Year:**

50

**Weekly Budgeted Expense:**

\$ 3,374.14

**Last Week's Giving:**

\$ 1,586.00

**YTD Budgeted Expenses:**

\$94,475.82

**YTD Receipts:**

\$ 85,925.26

**YTD Actual Expense:**

\$86,099.02

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