



“...⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.”

Luke 9: 58

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – June 26, 2016

420 Beaver Street

PO Box 411

Mars, PA 16046-0411

www.stjohnchurchmars.org

Phone: 724-625-1830

email: office@stjohnchurchmars.org

Pastor's cell: 412-585-1628

Pastor's email: pastor@stjohnchurchmars.org

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

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – June 26, 2016

We have no good apart from God. That makes our Lord's call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruits: love, joy, peace, patience, and the like. This is the path of life.

PRELUDE: *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* – David Maxwell

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: *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

1. O Splen - dor of God's glo - ry bright, O liv - ing
 2. Teach us to love with all our might; drive en - vy
 3. As dawn speeds on a - cross the sky, true Dawn, with
 4. All glo - ry be to God Most High; to God the

Spring of light from light: come, ver - y Sun of
 out, re - move all spite; turn to the good each
 haste come from on high. O Word, through whom light
 Son let prais - es rise; the Spir - it blest let

truth and love; come with your ra - diance from a - bove.
 trou - bling care, and give us grace your name to bear.
 came to be, come in your pow'r and set us free.
 us a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

***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-might- y 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;



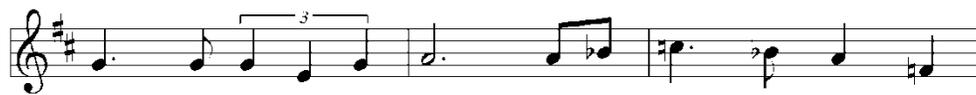
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ 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.
 ① For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 ② 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.

**Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts,
 you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom.
 Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son,
 that, leaving behind all that hinders us,
 we may steadfastly follow your paths,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
 Amen.**

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There the Lord reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.

¹⁵Then the LORD said to[Elijah,] "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

¹⁹So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰He left the oxen, ran

after Elijah, and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” Then Elijah said to him, “Go back again; for what have I done to you?” ²¹He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 16

*The cantor sings the refrain and all repeat it. The congregation sings the verses in **bold**.*

I have set the Lord al - ways be - fore me;
 be-cause God is at my right hand, I shall not be shak - en.

¹Protect me, O God, for I take ref- | uge in you;
 I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good a- | bove all other.”

²**All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land,
 upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.**

³But those who run after | other gods
 shall have their troubles | multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods,
 never take their names up- | on my lips.**

R

⁵O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup;
 it is you who up- | hold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land;
 indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who | gives me counsel;
 my heart teaches me night | after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD al- | ways before me;
 because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken.**

R

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices;
 my body also shall | rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me | to the grave,
 nor let your holy one | see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the | path of life;
 in your presence there is fullness of joy,
 and in your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

R

SECOND READING: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ’s Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

¹For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the

Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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 9:51-62**

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵¹When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ⁵⁹To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶²Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY #798: Will You Come and Follow Me**

***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**

Let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Anointing God, you commission us for our ministry in daily life. You also call us to pass our faith and ministry on to the next generation. Inspire us in our equipping of others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, you have given us all we need. Inspire us to honor your creation as an inheritance and trust. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, the distractions of the world draw our attention away from you. Refocus us in our commitment to your ways and the justice you desire for the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Through the fruits of your Spirit, make us healers in the world. Bring love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control into the lives of all in need. We pray especially for Sally, Raymond, Wanda Jean, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Fred & Jane, David & Ellen, those on our prayer list, and all we remember aloud or in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Steadfast God, guide this congregation by your Spirit. Make us neighbors to each other, ready to be and receive strangers, and show us how to love our neighbors as you intend. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, you have called the saints your own. Gather us, with them, into your kingdom, in the promise of life forever with you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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 #470: *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

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 #697: *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

***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.

***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 #805: *Lead On, O King Eternal!

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* – John Carter

9:00 am

Assisting Minister: **Christine Dishong**

Communion Assistant: **Valerie Cardinal**

Acolyte: **Danielle Dishong**

Lector:

Usher: **Robert Dishong**

Attendance Last Week: 47

Attendance Last Year: 57

Weekly Budgeted Expense: \$ 3,374.14

Last Week's Giving: \$ 1,904.00

YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$87,727.54

YTD Receipts: \$70,268.18

YTD Actual Expense: \$78,682.64

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #39383.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.