



*“...‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’  
10 Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over  
one sinner who repents.”*

*Luke 15:9-10*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 11, 2016**

420 Beaver Street

PO Box 411

Mars, PA 16046-0411

[www.stjohnchurchmars.org](http://www.stjohnchurchmars.org)

Phone: 724-625-1830

email: [office@stjohnchurchmars.org](mailto:office@stjohnchurchmars.org)

Pastor's cell: 412-585-1628

Pastor's email: [pastor@stjohnchurchmars.org](mailto: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**

#### **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 11, 2016**

*The grumbling of the Pharisees and the scribes in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God wills to seek and to save the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As Paul's first letter to Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.*

**PRELUDE:** *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling* – Robert Lau

### **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 #834: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

**\*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**

**I** 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.

**II** 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.

**I** 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.

**III** 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.

**O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion,  
 you lead back to yourself all those who go astray.  
 Preserve your people in your loving care,  
 that we may reject whatever is contrary to you  
 and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son,  
 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
 Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Exodus: 32:7-14**

*While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people and boldly asks mercy for them.*

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " <sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup>Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

<sup>11</sup>But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people,

whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth?’ Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’” <sup>14</sup>And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 51

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



Have mer-cy on me, O God, ac-cord-ing to your stead-fast love.

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me | from my sin.

<sup>3</sup>**For I know | my offenses,  
and my sin is ev- | er before me.**

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.** R

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my | mother’s womb.

<sup>6</sup>Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.

<sup>7</sup>**Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.**

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear | joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face | from my sins,  
and blot out | all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean | heart, O God,  
and renew a right spir- | it within me. R

## SECOND READING: 1Timothy1:-12-17

*The letters to Timothy are called the Pastoral Epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.*

<sup>12</sup>I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup>even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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 15:1-10

*Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that his or her recovery brings joy in heaven.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.]<sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup>“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

### SERMON

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #608: *Softly and Tenderly***

**\*BLESSING AND SENDING OF QUILTS**

### \*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**

Rejoicing in the Spirit's work among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious God, we thank you for your word that strengthens the weak and the faint in heart. We thank you for your word that encourages the believer and saves sinners. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those places in our world ravaged by fires or flood, especially those recovering from recent storms. Restore the land, and bless the efforts of those who work to save and protect it. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the leaders of nations and all those in positions of authority. Guide them as they make decisions for the good of all. Lead them in the ways that make for peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who suffer as the result of war, violence, terrorism, or natural disaster. And we pray for those who willingly serve others in dangerous situations: first responders, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, members of the military, law enforcement. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for our congregation. Prepare us to welcome newcomers. Make this a place of hope for the least of these in our community. Be with those who are sick, injured, or in any need, and for those who have asked for our prayers. We pray especially for Jim & Davena, Raymond, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Jane, David & Ellen, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Let us remember with thanksgiving the blessed dead who rest from their labors. Gladden us by their lives of faith, and at the last day unite us in the joy of heaven. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

**\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**\*OFFERING HYMN #484: *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart***

*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**

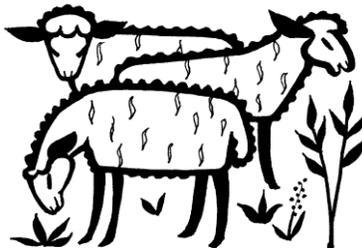
#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

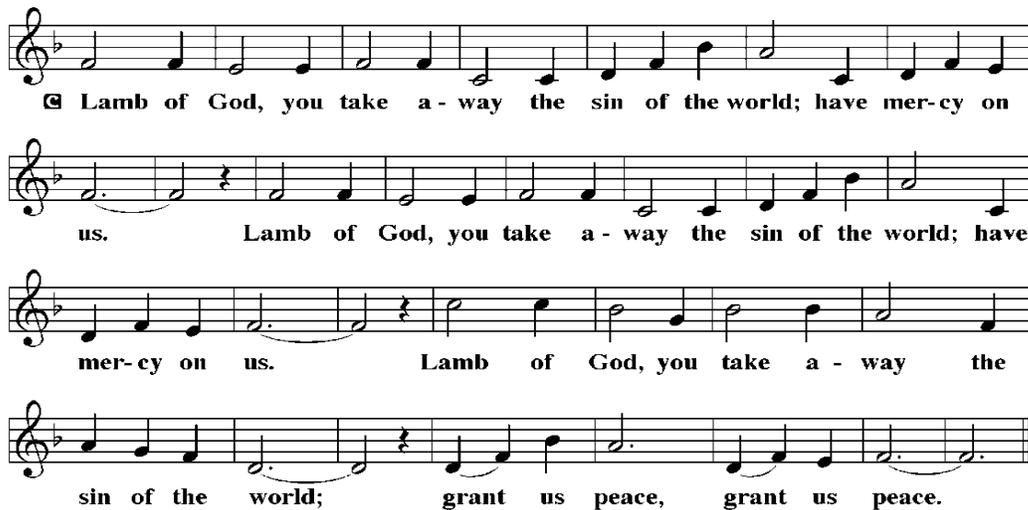
#### **COMMUNION**

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 #502: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is***

**\*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 #676: *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak***

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* – J. Bert Carlson**

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**The flowers this week are given by Ruth Ann Tully and John Tully in honor of all teachers and students.**

**9:00 am**

**Assisting Minister: Matt Claus**

**Communion Assistant: Valerie Cardinal**

**Acolyte:**

**Lector:**

**Usher: Bill Schulz**

**Attendance Last Week: 45      Attendance Last Year: 60**

**Weekly Budgeted Expense: \$ 3,374.14      Last Week's Giving: \$ 4,164.75**

**YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$124,843.04      YTD Receipts: \$103,851.30**

**YTD Actual Expense: \$118,830.52**

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