

Sunday Worship  
Bulletin

**Twelfth Sunday  
After  
Pentecost**

10:00 a.m.

September 1, 2019



## Saint John's Lutheran Church

---- *Missouri Synod* ----

60 Broad Street, Westfield, MA  
(413)568-1417

Rev. David Riley, Pastor  
125 Glenwood Drive, Westfield, MA 01085

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Music Ministry Site: [stjohnsmusic.org](http://stjohnsmusic.org)

**Radio Broadcast at 7:30 a.m. on WHYN 560 AM**

### **WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS, OUR LORD**

We pray that our worship this day will be an inspiration to every one of us.

If you are a visitor or the guest of someone, please sign our Guest Book at the round table in the Foyer. Requests for prayers in this morning's service may be made by writing them on the Prayer Request form in the entryway of the church.

A Nursery for infants and toddlers is available in Room 4 on this level.

**Jesus said: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you are also to love another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."**

*John 13:34-35*



## The Order of Morning Worship – Setting Four

TO OUR VISITORS AND GUESTS: The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at this congregation is administered in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive into our mouths, not just bread and wine, but as our Lord promises His true Body and Blood "through and in which we obtain the forgiveness of sins". If you are not a member of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we kindly ask that you arrange for a time to speak with Pastor Riley if you are interested in receiving Holy Communion.

**AS WE GATHER:** "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 14:11). We are urged to a path of humility, not thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought and thinking of others before us. With this very purpose, Jesus heals a man on the Sabbath and reveals the character of God's patient and powerful love. We are invited to follow Christ's own example and to be people of such love and humility that God is glorified and the mercy of God is exalted.

✠ OPENING HYMN NO. **744**: *"Amazing Grace"*

### ***Confession and Absolution***

*p. 203*

### ***Service of the Word***

*p. 204*

Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

✠ PRAYER of the DAY

P: Let us pray. O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

***(Be Seated)***

✠ OLD TESTAMENT READING: Proverbs 25:2–10 (*In pride you will be put to shame.*)

It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out. As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable. Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel; take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness. Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do

not reveal another's secret, lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

† GRADUAL: *(Sung by All)*

**Fear the LORD, | you his saints,  
for those who fear him lack | nothing!  
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,  
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.**

† EPISTLE: Hebrews 13:1–17

*(Let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name.)*

Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

***(Please Stand and Sing Alleluia and Verse on Page 205)***

† HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 14:1–14

*(Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.)*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

**C: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" And they could not reply to these things.

Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

† STATEMENT of FAITH: Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, Begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead whose kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**(Be Seated)**

✠ HYMN of the DAY No. **842**: *“Son of God, Eternal Savior”*

✠ SERMON: *“The Truest Glory”* Luke 14:1–14

**(Please Stand)**

✠ PRAYER of the CHURCH

P: In humility and faith we come, O Lord, before Your throne of grace, and we ask You to hear us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Kill the pride that would cut us off from Your grace and teach us the humility of faith that we serve You and delight in Your will here on earth and live in peace and love with all people. Lord, hear our prayer,

**C: and grant our supplication.**

P: Guard Your Church against such pride and raise up able and humble leaders that she may have faithful pastors to speak Your Word, faithful servants to accomplish her mission, and faithful support to provide the resources to accomplish such work. Lord, hear our prayer,

**C: and grant our supplication.**

P: Give to our president, Congress, governor, and all elected and appointed public servants a heart for Your people, a desire for justice, and a passion for service. Give special blessing to all emergency and disaster workers who serve us in our greatest moments of need and protect those who defend us at home and abroad. Lord, hear our prayer,

**C: and grant our supplication.**

P: Guide us to look beyond ourselves and to behold the poor and those in need. Give us voices to speak on their behalf and give us generous hearts to supply their need from our abundance. Lord, hear our prayer,

**C: and grant our supplication.**

P: Govern our lives by Your Word so that we know the truth and keep it in holy hearts. Bless especially our Sunday School, catechumens, Bible studies, parochial schools, universities, and seminaries that our learning be directed by Your Word. Lord, hear our prayer,

**C: and grant our supplication.**

P: Give us grateful hearts so that we not presume to come to this Table of the Lord trusting in our own merits but solely in the merits and mercies of Jesus Christ, who gives Himself to us in this bread and cup. Help us to be people of love, and strengthen us in this love by this blessed Communion. Lord, hear our prayer,

**C: and grant our supplication.**

P: Guard the hearts of the mentally ill, give to the suffering relief, grant healing to the sick and those recuperating, and guard the dying in Your peace, that all be healed according to Your will, sustained in their hour of need by Your grace, and kept to everlasting life. Lord, hear our prayer,

**C: and grant our supplication.**

P: Give us a grateful heart for the gift of labor and for the fruits of our labors we enjoy. Give to the unemployed and the underemployed the work they seek, and guide us all to use well and wisely the resources this labor provides, that we honor You both with the songs of our lips and the tithes and offerings we bring. Lord, hear our prayer,

**C: and grant our supplication.**

P: Guard Your people in their journey of faith, from the baptismal new birth until we rest in Your almighty arms, and bring us with the saints into the joy of Your everlasting presence on that blessed day when Jesus comes again to finish His new creation. Lord, hear our prayer,

**C: and grant our supplication.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

✠ SHARING of the PEACE

*(Be Seated)*

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Offering**

We respond to God's love with our OFFERINGS

*(Please Stand)*

### **Service of the Sacrament (p. 208)**

*At the time of DISTRIBUTION, all those wishing to receive Holy Communion will come forward as the ushers direct. The bread/Body of the Lord will be served in your hand. If you wish to receive the Lord's blood from an individual glass rather than from the common cup, indicate so when Pastor comes to you and he will hand you a glass from which you then drink and place back in the tray carried by the acolyte. If you are not a member of this congregation or a sister congregation within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, it is suggested that you speak to the Pastor before partaking of Holy Communion.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN No. **741**: "Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense"

***At the end of the Distribution we stand and continue with  
the NUNC DIMITTIS on p. 211***

† CLOSING HYMN: *"I Come to the Garden Alone"*

**I come to the garden alone  
while the dew is still on the roses,  
and the voice I hear falling on my ear,  
the Son of God discloses.  
And he walks with me, and he talks with me,  
and he tells me I am his own;  
and the joy we share as we tarry there,  
none other has ever known.**

**He speaks, and the sound of his voice  
is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
and the melody that he gave to me  
within my heart is ringing.  
And he walks with me, and he talks with me,  
and he tells me I am his own;  
and the joy we share as we tarry there,  
none other has ever known.**

**I'd stay in the garden with him  
though the night around me be falling,  
but he bids me go; thru the voice of woe  
his voice to me is calling.  
And he walks with me, and he talks with me,  
and he tells me I am his own;  
and the joy we share as we tarry there,  
none other has ever known.**

† POSTLUDE

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**SERVING US AS WE WORSHIP TODAY:**

Assisting Elders – Paul Brose & Bill  
Schneeloch

Lay Reader – Robin Greenspan  
Altar Care – Jane McClure

Acolyte – Mason Quinn

**REFLECTIONS for the WEEK: *We Are Humbled and Exalted by the Cross of Christ***

*"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,"* Jesus proclaims, but *"he who humbles himself will be exalted"* (Luke 14:11). For your hope is in the name of the Lord, who humbled Himself unto death on the cross and was exalted in His resurrection. So, are you humbled by His cross, and *"at the resurrection of the just,"* He will say to you, *"Friend, move up higher"* (Luke 14:10, 13–14)? By His grace, the King will honor you *"in the presence of a noble,"* where your eyes will gaze upon the Prince, His dearly beloved Son (Prov. 25:7). As He has dealt so graciously with you, *"do not neglect to do good and to share what you have"* (Heb. 13:16) and *"do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers"* (Heb. 13:2). Humble yourself and exalt your neighbor.

## **MID-WEEK ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Pastor Riley will be resuming his mid-week Bible Study this Tuesday, September 3, 2019. The morning group will meet at 10 AM. The evening group will meet at 6 PM. We will be studying the last book of the Holy Bible –the Revelation given to the Apostle John. As we examine this divinely inspired Scripture, we will rejoice at the ultimate defeat of Satan and all the forces of evil. We will be reassured in the confident hope which we, and all believers, have in our reigning Savior Jesus. We can look forward to sharing in the final, glorious destiny of all those who trust in Jesus for their eternal salvation.

## ***St. John's BACKYARD PICNIC***

Everyone is invited to join in the fun at St. John's backyard picnic to be held directly after our worship service on September 22. Inclement weather, activities will move inside. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served along with condiments and ice-cold beverages. An ice cream treat will be dessert. Every family attending is asked to bring their favorite picnic dish. Don't forget your lawn chairs. We are asking for volunteers to help set up, barbecue, games, clean up, etc. Children be ready for water games. There will be a sign-up sheet in the church foyer so the correct amounts can be purchased. Invite your family and friends to join us.

**RADIO MINISTRY:** There are many Sundays coming up that are available for sponsorship. Please help in the continuing outreach mission project of our Radio Broadcast of Sunday morning Worship. Broadcasts can be heard each Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on WHYN (560 AM). The cost for the program is now \$125 per week. If you are interested in sponsoring a broadcast (or a part of a broadcast) in memory of or in honor of anyone please call the church or sign up on the sheet outside the office door. Donations of any amount are welcome.

**ALTAR CARE:** A sign-up sheet is located in the foyer for those who are willing to volunteer to clean our church altar during the month of October or December. Please consider helping. If you are unable to do a full month, two weeks would be fine. All are encouraged to help with the task. Training will be provided if needed.

## **JOIN THE CHOIR FOR THE 2019 - 2020 CHOIR SEASON!**

The choral choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 4th, 2019 at 7:15 PM in the lounge. Rehearsals are held in the lounge on Wednesdays September through June beginning at 7:15 PM. We invite you to join us for choir as we join our voices to tell of the greatness of our God!

The Hand Bell Choir is also looking for any members who would like to join. All you need to know is how to do is count 1,2,3,4. Rehearsal begin this Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Please see Linda Slozak if you have any questions.