

Sunday Worship
Bulletin
Thirteenth Sunday
After
Pentecost
10:00 a.m.
September 8, 2019



Saint John's Lutheran Church

--- Missouri Synod ---

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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: The book is only twenty-one verse, but the impact of today's Epistle is powerful! In his shortest New Testament letter, Paul appeals to a slave owner named Philemon on behalf of a repentant runaway named Onesimus. Within this bold appeal is the powerful display of Christ's work of redemption for all who seek the renewed favor of their master. The death and resurrection of Jesus make an appeal on our behalf before the Father. For we, like Onesimus, have run away from Him. And we, like Onesimus, are offered restoration, full and free, when we come into Jesus' presence in humble repentance and faith. Let's do that together this day! As repentant runaways, let's gather to receive the restoration our Master alone can give!

✠ OPENING HYMN NO. **660**: *"Stand Up, Stand Up"*

Confession and Absolution

p. 203

Service of the Word

p. 204

Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

✠ PRAYER of the DAY

P: Let us pray. Merciful Father, You gave up Your Son to the sacrifice of the cross in order to restore those who have run away from Your presence. Grant us to faithfully follow Him who offered His life for us all. We pray in the name of 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: Deuteronomy 30:15–20 (*The Lord is your life!*)

"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you

shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

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: Philemon 1–21 (*Paul appeals on behalf of a repentant runaway.*)

Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a bondservant[c] but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that through your prayers I will be graciously given to you.

Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

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 14:25-35 *(We count the cost of being Jesus' disciples.)*

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

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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. **644**: *“The Church’s One Foundation”*

✠ SERMON: *“The Gospel According to Philemon”* Philemon 1-21

(Please Stand)

✠ PRAYER of the CHURCH

P: Paul writes, “I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints.” United in love and faith, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the Gospel of Jesus Christ to reach into every corner of our broken world, that all who are running away from our heavenly Father turn from the path that leads to destruction, and by the Holy Spirit turn to Jesus for redemption and restoration, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Father, strengthen us to turn to You in repentance and faith.

P: For all those within the Church of Jesus, both clergy and laity, that we join as one to share the restoring word of Jesus with those we are sent to serve, embodying the spirit of Paul’s words to Philemon that “the sharing of [our] faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us,” let us pray to the Lord.

C: Father, grant that we know all the good things that come to us as we share Your Word.

P: For all those who seek restoration with others, that the message of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation not only be received in humble faith, but also shared within the relationships we have, knowing that every one of us is dependent upon Christ’s mercy and love, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Father, help us to extend to others the mercy we receive from You.

P: For all who labor in positions of service and leadership in our country, state, and local community, including the members of the armed forces, that they know the constant protection of our gracious God and joyfully serve others in the vocations they have been given, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Father, thank You for serving us through the lives of others.

P: For all who are broken in heart, body, mind, and relationship, including those who are shut-in, hospitalized, in care centers, awaiting surgery, and recovering from medical procedures, that the Lord would refresh the hearts of His saints and work mightily for their good, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Father, grant healing and refreshment to all for whom we pray.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through 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. **702**: *"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

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

† CLOSING HYMN: *"Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah"*

**Guide me, O my great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.**

**Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.**

† POSTLUDE