



**Whoever**  
finds their life  
**will lose it,**  
—— and ——

**Whoever**  
loses their life  
**for my sake**  
**will find it.**

**MATTHEW 10:39, NIV**

*Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church  
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, June 25, 2023*



stjohnwilliston.org

419-836-5514

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 25, 2023

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

P: Merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P: Righteous God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

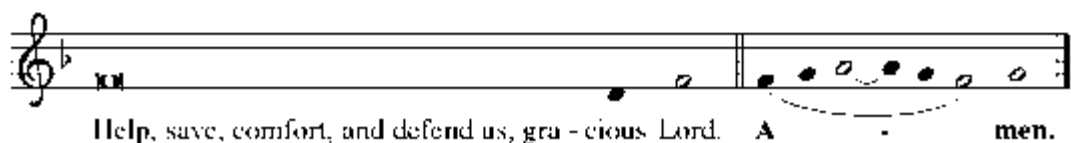
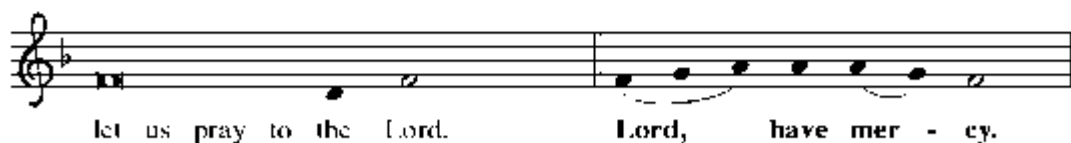
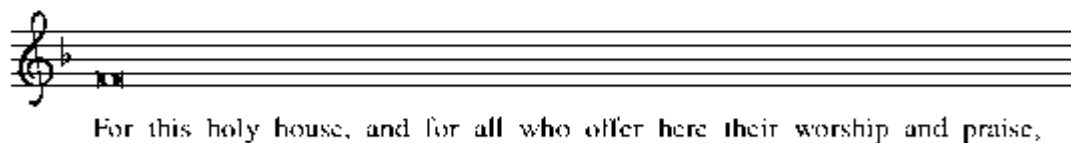
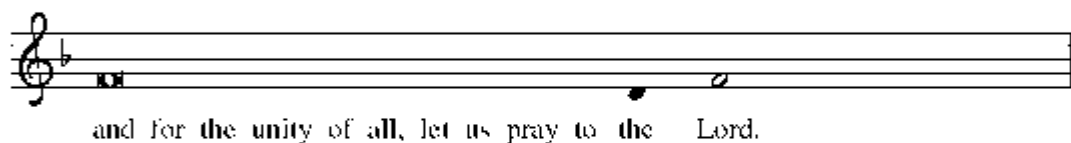
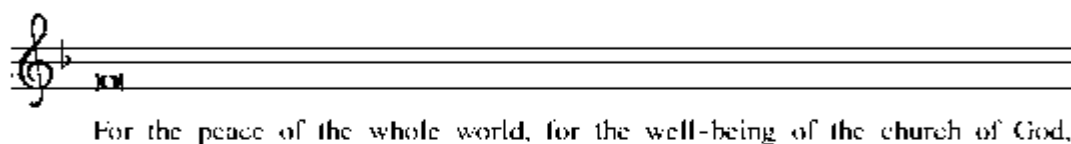
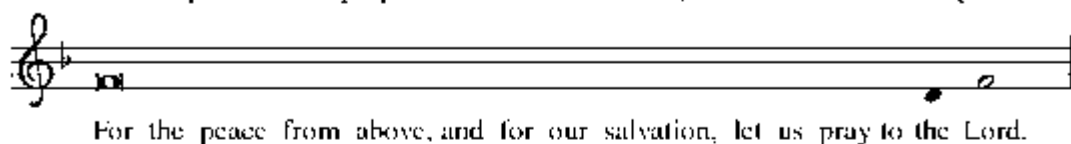
*Children of the Heavenly Father*

*Hymn #781*

## GREETING AND KYRIE

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**



## This Is the Feast

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al-le - lu - ia. al-le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb  
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al-le - lu - ia. al-le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis-dom, and  
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al-le - lu - ia. al-le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of  
God, and join in the hymn of all ere - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,  
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev - er. A - - - men.



P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

### FIRST READING

### Jeremiah 20:7-13

O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long.

If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him."

But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

*Reader: The Word of the Lord.... C: Thanks be to God.*

## SECOND READING

**Romans 6:1b-11**

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

*Reader: The Word of the Lord.... C: Thanks be to God.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL

**Matthew 10:24-39**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave

above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the house-tops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,  
and a daughter against her mother,  
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;  
and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

*P: The Gospel of the Lord... C: Praise to you, O Christ.*

## **SERMON**

*Pastor Shawn O'Brien*

## **HYMN**

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

*Hymn #798*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

P: God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of field and forest,

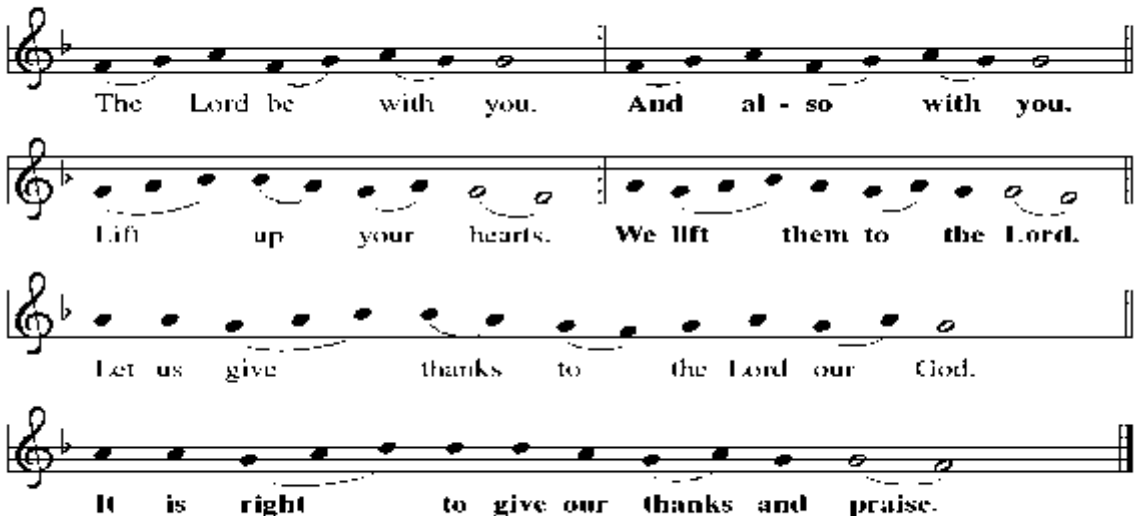
**C: sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## OFFERTORY

## Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

P: 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:





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. 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.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL:** 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



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.

## THE DISTRIBUTION

### ***Welcome!***

St. John practices “open communion”. All who are baptized and instructed are welcome to share the Lord’s Supper with us today. Starting with the right side of the church, followed by the left when they are finished, the pastor will distribute the bread and the communion assistant will serve the wine. We will also have pre-sealed elements available for those who would prefer the more hygienic option (or those who wish to receive grape juice instead of wine). Indicate to the pastor that you would like pre-sealed elements and skip the wine server. Those who wish to receive a blessing should indicate their wishes to the pastor by crossing their arms over their chest.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## BLESSING

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*O Master, Let Me Walk with You*

*Hymn #818*

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE



*Thank you,  
Lord of life,  
for this beautiful summer day!  
May all who worship here  
know the  
warmth of your presence  
and the  
sunlight of your love.*



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***We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church.  
We are..."creating and nurturing life changing relationships  
based on the love of God in Jesus Christ,  
so that we may grow in faith, serve God,  
and serve our neighbor."***

Contemporary Worship: Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday School for all ages returns in September  
Traditional Worship: Sunday 9:00 am

[stjohnwilliston.org](http://stjohnwilliston.org)



Welcome to join

[St. John Lutheran Church - Williston](#)

Facebook Group