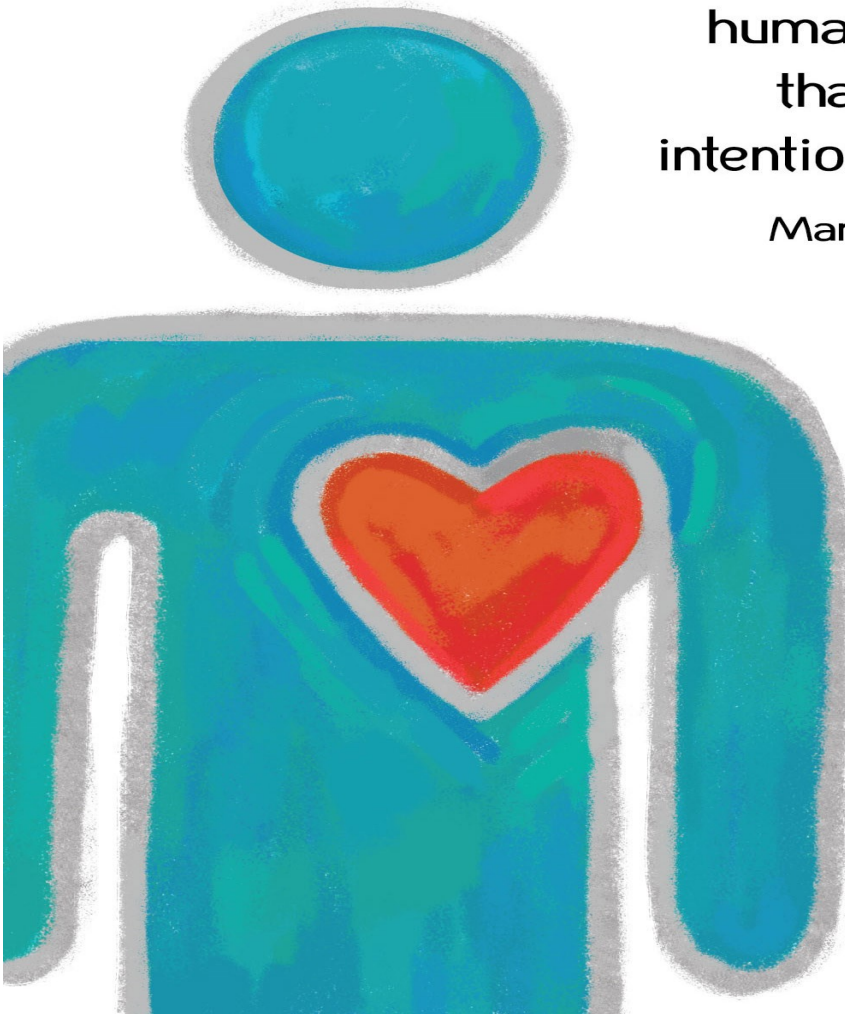


For it is
from within,
from the
human heart,
that evil
intentions come...

Mark 7:21, NRSV



WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourteenth Weekend after Pentecost

Saturday August 28th



www.stjohnwilliston.org

August 28th

Fourteenth Weekend of Pentecost

WELCOME
ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

How Majestic is Your Name

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify your name
Prince of peace, Mighty God, O Lord, God Almighty.

CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

Leader: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: God, our provider,

ALL: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.

Amen.

Leader: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

ALL: Amen.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

SECOND READING

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

SERMON

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

HYMN

HOLINESS

Holiness, holiness, is what I long for. Holiness is what I need.
Holiness, holiness is what You want..from me.

REFRAIN

So take my heart...and form..it. Take my mind...transform..it.
Take my will...conform..it. To Yours, to Yours, O..Lord.

Faithfulness, faithfulness..is what I long for. Faithfulness is what I need.
Faithfulness, faithfulness..is what You want..from me. **REFRAIN**

Brokenness, brokenness, is what I long for. Brokenness is what I need.
Brokenness, brokenness is what You want..from me. **REFRAIN**

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

Leader: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need

A brief silence.

Leader: We pray for the church, that it is a safe haven for all who seek your presence. Fill it with pastors, deacons, and leaders who echo your expansive and generous welcome. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for the whole of creation, that plants and animals have the habitat and resources to thrive and flourish. Inspire us to protect threatened habitats and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for individuals in positions of authority. Raise up wise and discerning leaders in federal, state, and local governments and guide them to seek the benefit of every person. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for all who are in need. Support and encourage those who are unemployed, underemployed, or experiencing poverty. Bring food, shelter, clothes, and stability for daily life. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for this congregation, especially those beginning a new school year. Empower teachers and school administrators. Guide students in their learning and development. Accompany parents, foster parents, and caregivers who provide encouragement and love. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer

Leader: We give thanks for the faithful departed who showed us how to honor God with our heart. Inspire us by their example and renew our faith, trusting that we will be united with them in glory. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer

Leader: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: hear our prayer

OUR OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray. Merciful God...

ALL: everything in heaven and on earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you!

C: **And also with you!**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: 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.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: **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**

BLESSING

Leader: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever.

All: Amen

CLOSING SONG

ALL DAY SONG

Love him in the mornin' when you see the sun-a-risin;
Love him in the evenin' cause he took you through the day.

And in the in between times when you feel the pressure comin'
Remember that he loves you and he promises to stay.

When you think you have to worry 'cause it seems the thing to do,
Remember he's not in a hurry, He's always got time for you.

Love him in the mornin' when you see the sun-a-risin;
Love him in the evenin' cause he took you through the day.

And in the in between times when you feel the pressure comin'
Remember that he loves you and he promises to stay.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Weekly Announcements

This Week at St. John

Tues: Blankets 9:00 AM

Sat: Worship 5:00 PM

Sun: Worship 9:00 AM

In our Prayers

Audry S.-medical concerns

Jeff Wheeler– medical concerns

Carole Ambrose– medical concerns

Gary Carstensen- medical concerns

Clarence Smithers– medical concerns

Pat Sievert– medical concerns

Ronnie– medical concerns

Ken Sievert– medical concerns

Marilyn Sandroock– medical concerns

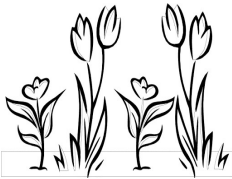
Frank and Joyce– medical concerns

Ray Fredrickson– medical concerns

Chuck Peart– medical concerns

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers are given in celebration of Elaine Gruetter's birthday and given by the Robaszkiewicz, Jensen and Hagar families.



CHANCEL FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Joe Vargo's birthday and given by Rocky and Michelle Maix and family, Joe and Denese Vargo and family, Mike and Tracy Donnelly and family and Carol Vargo.



Esther Circle meeting will be on
Tuesday, Sept 7th at 2 PM in the Social Hall

Rebekah Circle meeting will be on
Tuesday, Sept 7th at 7 PM in the lounge.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH
GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

If you would like to volunteer please sign up outside Pastor O'Brien's office or contact the church office.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH
SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY
8:30am



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH
St John Annual Golf Outing

For information on registering a team or sponsoring a hole, please pick up forms outside the church office, view them online, or call the church office.

USHERS AND LECTORS NEEDED

If you would be willing to help , please sign up outside the church office. Now accepting volunteers through October. If you have any questions please see Pastor Shawn or contact the church office.

CAT AND DOG FOOD DRIVE!

Christian Community Life has delivered the supply of contributed Cat and Dog Food to Senior Resources in Oak Harbor. They were absolutely thrilled with the donation that will be given to seniors in Ottawa County who "need a little help" with their pets. If you can continue to help with this caring for pets, please drop off cat and dog food, treats and/or kitty litter at St. John/Williston (near the office) or to Genoa Jewelers. Your continued help will be greatly appreciated by our Ottawa County Seniors and their pets.