



Mark 4:30-31, NRSV

He also said,
"With what
can we
compare
the kingdom of
God ...? It is like
a mustard seed ..."

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Weekend after Pentecost

June 12th and June 13th



www.stjohnwilliston.org

June 12th and 13th

Third Weekend of Pentecost

**WELCOME
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer "Hither by thy help I've come";
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it' prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

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

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:6-17

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

GOSPEL

Mark 4:26-34

[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

SERMON

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

HYMN

Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word

Spread, oh, spread, almighty Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.
Send forth our Creator's call, heaven's gifts extend to all.

Tell of our Redeemer's grace, who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion's price, gave himself as sacrifice.

Tell of God the Spirit giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true, working both to will and do.

Lord of harvest, great and kind, rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gathering nations all see your light and heed your call.

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: Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Leader: Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Leader: Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Leader: Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Leader: Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Leader: Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musicians. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Leader: Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you. We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Leader: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

ALL: AMEN.

OUR OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Jesus, Savior, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

ALL: 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: 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

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your life. In your name we pray.

ALL: 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

Jesus Shall Reign

Jesus shall reign where're the sun does it successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no
more

To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise with ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
And infant voice shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where're he regins; the pris'ners leap to lose their chains;
The weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

DISMISSAL

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Weekly Announcements

This Week at St. John

Mon-Fri: Vacation Bible School
9am-12pm
Tues: Blankets 9:00 AM
Sat: Worship 5:00 PM
Sun: Worship 9:45 AM

In our Prayers

Audry S.-medical concerns
Phyllis Parks– medical concerns
Jeff Wheeler– medical concerns
Ed and Ann– medical concerns
Evelyn Witty– medical concerns
Pat Sievert– medical concerns
Rocky Maix– medical concerns
Carole Ambrose– medical concerns
Betty Roecker– medical concerns
Dilly Schimming– medical concerns
Tim Ueberroth– medical concerns
Frank Komives– medical concerns
Gary Carstensen- medical concerns

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers are given in loving memory of Patricia Delventhal and given by Kent Delventhal and family.

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Earl Johnson and given by Bob and Diane Kapp.

CAT AND DOG FOOD DRIVE!

Christian Community Life is putting on a drive to collect cat and dog food, treats, or kitty litter for seniors who could use a little help with their animals. If you can help please drop off items at St John Church or Genoa Jewelers. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

VIRTUAL LECTORS NEEDED!

We are looking for virtual lectors for August. If you haven't done a reading in a while and you be willing to help out, please contact Pastor Shawn.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL "KNIGHTS OF NORTH CASTLE"

At Knights of North Castle VBS, your students will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they go on a quest in search of the King's Armor. They will become Knights and discover how to serve God and God's mission for their lives.

June 14th-18th, 2021.

9am- noon

Register on St. John's website!

We hope you'll join us on this great adventure!