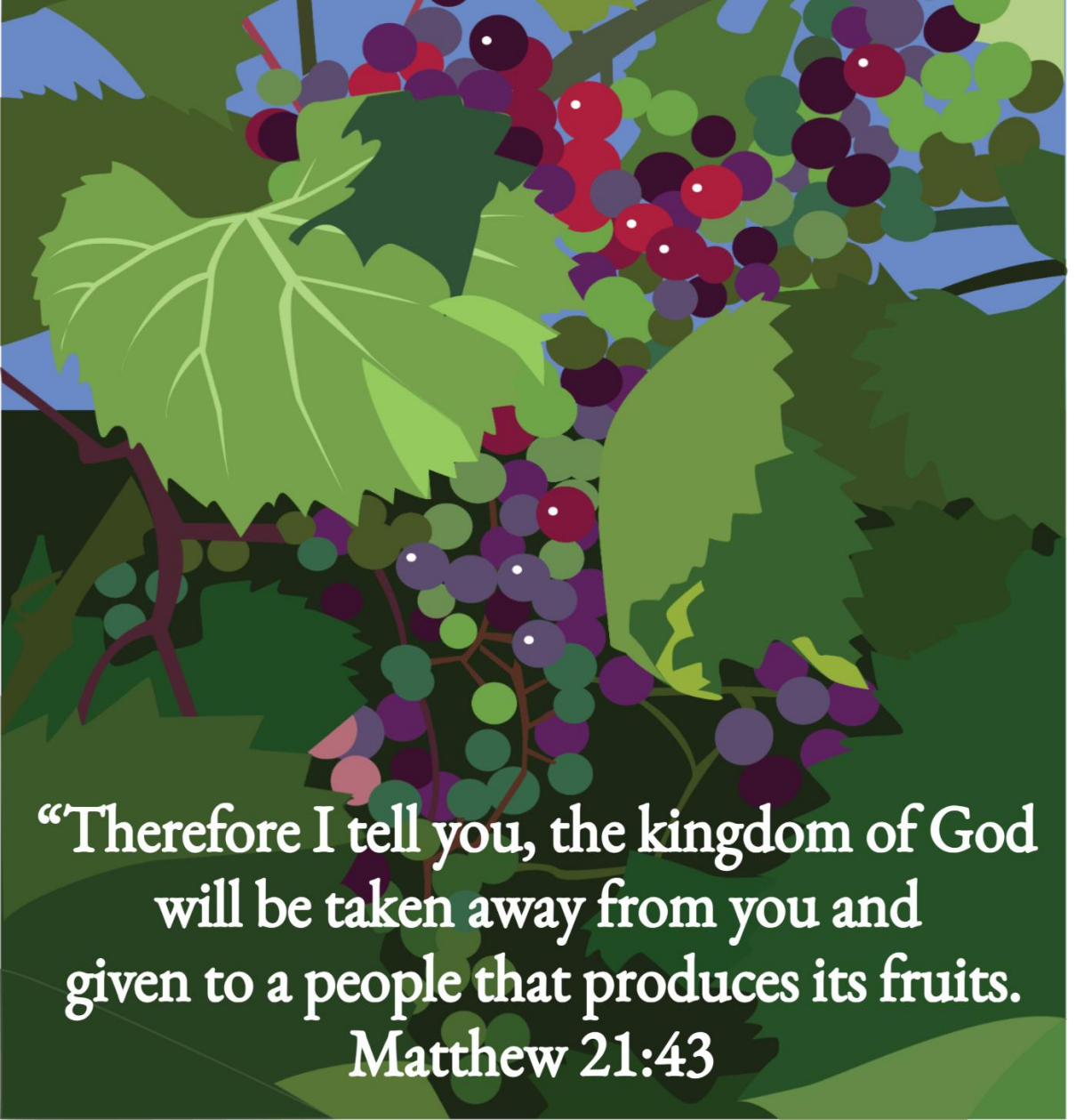




“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God
will be taken away from you and
given to a people that produces its fruits.
Matthew 21:43

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church

Saturday October 3, 2026 5:00 PM

Pentecost 19

Saturday October 3, 2026 *Pentecost 19

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

Shout to the Lord

My Jesus, My Savior, Lord there is none like You;
All of my days, I want to Praise, the wonders of Your Mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, Tower of refuge and strength.
Let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You.

Chorus

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing,
Power and majesty, praise to our King.
Mountains bow down, and the seas will roar,
At the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy, at the work of Your hands.
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have, in You.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: we confess that we don't always live the way you have called us to live. We have taken more than we need and forgotten our responsibility to care for your creation. We have let jealousy, anger, and bitterness get in the way of our relationships. We have seen injustice and chosen silence because it was easier than speaking up. We have allowed our differences to divide us instead of looking for the love we share in you. Forgive us, God. Turn our hearts back toward you. Heal what is broken in our lives, in our relationships, and in your world. Give us courage to seek justice, compassion to love our neighbors, and grace to follow the way of Jesus. Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God does not hold our sins against us.

P: We have peace with God through Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only the promise of kingdom life. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's grace is yours—not because you have earned it, but because God loves you. **ALL: Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

- ¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
- ² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.
- ³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.
- ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?
- ⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.
- ⁶ I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.
- ⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah are his cherished garden;
he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

- [Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:
⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
- ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.
- ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of

knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow, I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:33-46

[Jesus said:] ³³ "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?"

⁴³ "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**All: We believe in God—the Maker of all things, seen and unseen, who
breathed life into dust and called it good.**

**A God whose love has no limits,
whose mercy stretches beyond the stars.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ—
God from God, Light from Light, Love made flesh.
He came as one of us, walked among the broken,
blessed the forgotten and showed us the heart of God.
He suffered under the weight of the world,
was crucified and laid in the grave.**

But love cannot be buried.

On the third day, he rose—alive, breaking the grip of death.

**He ascended in glory, and he will come again
to restore all things and set creation free.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit—God with us, now and always.

**The Spirit breathes in us, stirs us to courage,
gathers us into community, and leads us into truth.**

**We believe in grace that never runs dry,
in hope that will not let go,
in life that breaks through death.**

Amen.

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

P: Hear Us, O God

ALL: Your mercy is great.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*(Please offer those around you a sign of peace as you are comfortable..
this can be a handshake, a thumbs up, a fist bump or simply a smile...)*

OFFERING SONG

Eagle's Wings (Here I Am Waiting)

Here I am waiting ... Abide in me I pray
Here I am longing ... for You.
Hide me in Your love ... Bring me to my knees
May I know Jesus ... more and more.

Chorus

**Come live in me ... all my life ... take o-ver,
Come breathe in me ... and I will rise ... on ea-gles wings.**

(Repeat Chorus)

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of creation,

C: You send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

COMMUNION LITANY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Holy and loving God, Jesus Christ our Savior overcame death and the grave, and opened for us the way to new and everlasting life.

With all creation, and with your people throughout the ages

C: We praise you, O God.

P: The heavens and the earth declare your glory. Your faithfulness carries your people through every generation.

C: We praise you, O God.

P: Above all we give you thanks for Jesus, who came to us, who walked among us, who stood with those who suffered, and who continues to abide with us.

C: We praise you, O God.

P: In the night when he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them 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 to remember me.

Send your Spirit among us, O God, and into this holy meal.

Make us one in Christ, called, forgiven, and sent into the world to love and serve our neighbors as you have loved us.

ALL: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen

THE DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Sustaining God,

C: with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.

Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.



BLESSING

P: The God of love bring us together in love and unity, as the body of Christ.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope give you strength and joy, in whatever you face, through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace † bless you and be with you, now and always.

ALL: Amen

SENDING SONG

Go Out and Serve

Filled with the spirit, filled with God's grace,
Filled with the friendship we find in this place;
Called as disciples, go now in faith,
Jesus will show the way.

Refrain:

Go out and serve him, serve him
Carry his word into all of the world
Go and serve him, serve him
Go out and serve the Lord
(Repeat refrain)

Go serve the Lord

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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.