

A vibrant field of sunflowers with bright yellow petals and dark brown centers, set against a backdrop of green leaves and a sky with soft, white clouds. A large, bright yellow circular graphic is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text.

**MATTHEW 9:38 NRSV**

*Therefore, ask  
the Lord of the  
harvest to send out  
laborers into  
his harvest.*

**WELCOME TO**  
**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*Second Weekend after Pentecost*  
*June 13 & 14, 2020*



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

June 13 & 14, 2020

Pentecost 2

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**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING SONG**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in his justice,  
Which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
Are more felt than up in heaven;  
There is no p'ace where earth's failings  
Have such kindly judgment given.

There is welcome for the sinner,  
And more graces for the good;  
There is mercy with the Saviour;  
There is healing in his Blood,  
There is grace enough for thousands  
Of new worlds as great as this;  
There is room for fresh creations  
In that upper home of bliss.

'Tis not all we owe to Jesus;  
It is something more than all;  
Greater good because of evil,  
Larger mercy through the fall.  
If our love were but more simple,  
We should take Him at his word;  
And our lives would be all sunshine  
In the sweetness of our Lord.

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**ALL: Amen.**

Leader: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Leader: Reconciling God,

**ALL: we confess that we do not trust your abundance,  
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

**We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.**

**We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.**

**We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.**

**We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us.**

**We sin in thought, word, and deed.**

**By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.**

**Amen.**

Leader: Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

Our sins are forgiven.

Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

Genesis 18:1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh

yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?” The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh”; for she was afraid. He said, “Oh yes, you did laugh.”

## **SECOND READING**

Romans 5:1-8

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

## **GOSPEL**

Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because

they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

### **SERMON**

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

### **SONG**

Our God

### **OUR OFFERING**

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Merciful God, our ordinary gifts seem small for your greatness, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives. Feed us again through your Word for service in your name, in the strength of the risen Christ.

**ALL: Amen.**

#### **PRAYERS of INTERCESSION**

Leader: Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world. *A brief silence.*

Leader: Holy One, you bring us together and call us your own. Bless theologians, teachers, and preachers who help us grow in faith Guide your church, that we might be a holy people. Hear us, O God.

**ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Holy One, the whole earth is yours. Where there is fire, bring cool air and new growth. Where there is flooding, bring abatement. Where there is drought, bring rain. Inspire us to care for what you have provided. Hear us, O God.

**ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Holy One, we have created divisions you will not own. In places of conflict, raise up leaders who work to develop lasting peace and reconciliation. Encourage organizations and individuals who care for all forced to leave their homes. Hear us, O God.

**ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Holy One, you care for those who are harassed and helpless. Protect and defend those who are abused. Heal those who are sick. Feed all who hunger.

Empower all whose voices go unheard, and help us respond to the pressing needs of our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

**ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Holy One, you provide a plentiful harvest of gifts and resources. Prepare us to labor and gather the fruits of this congregation, that we might discover new ways of living. Minister to us in our work, that we do not lose heart. Hear us, O God.

**ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Holy One, you bring all people to yourself. We give thanks for the holy people who have gone before us. Sustain us in your mission until the day you bear us up to join the saints in light. Hear us, O God.

**ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen**

#### **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**

## **BLESSING**

Leader: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God  
in Christ Jesus.

God, the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

**All: Amen**

## **HYMN**

### O Master, Let Me Walk with You

O Master, let me walk with you  
in lowly paths of service true;  
tell me your secret; help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me your patience; share with me  
a closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong,

In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broad'ning way,  
in peace that only you can give;  
with you, O Master, let me live.

## **DISMISSAL**

Leader: Depart in peace.

Call a neighbor.

Be the church wherever you are.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**



# Our Weekly Announcements

## **This Week at St. John**

Tues: Blankets 9:00 AM

Tues: Supplemental Food Bag Distribution 11:00

Thurs: Council Meeting 7:00 PM

## **In our Prayers**

Virgil Roecker-medical concerns

Joe Brossia-medical concerns

Helen Jean Rollins-medical concerns

Heather DeWitz-medical concerns

Terry Gast-medical concerns

Janice Sheahan-medical concerns

Riley Brossia-medical concerns

Ken Sievert-medical concerns

Franny Cranfield-medical concerns

Dave Maix-medical concerns

Clarence Smithers- medical concerns

Karen Densic-medical concerns

## **Worship Schedule**

We hope you will rejoin us for Worship on Saturdays at 5 PM or Sundays at 9 AM, however, if you do not feel comfortable coming to church...that's ok! You will still be able to join us on Facebook or on our YouTube channel for a live stream of worship.

The weekly bulletin is also available on our website. [www.stjohnwilliston.org](http://www.stjohnwilliston.org)

If you or someone you know would like a recording of the worship service, please let the office know and we will drop off or mail you a CD and bulletin.

## **Helping Our Neighbors**

We are handing out Supplemental Food Bags to the community on **TUESDAYS** beginning at 11:00 AM and we will continue through June. Each bag contains cereal, mac and cheese, soup, veggies, fruit, Spaghetti and sauce, peanut butter and jelly and misc. items.

We are also taking financial donations to continue this ministry.

**We are always collecting: Jelly, Spaghetti Noodles, canned fruit, veggies, Spaghetti Sauce (cans) Peanut Butter (small jars), and boxes of cereal. Thank you!!**

## **The St. John Mini Pantry /Blessing Box is Open!**

Did you see our new Mini Pantry on the west side of the parking lot? Thanks to **Richard Phillips** who constructed and installed the box.

The St. John Mini Pantry will be stocked with ready to eat or easily prepared food items and hygiene items available to those in our community who may need a little help. We will stock it with much of the same items we distribute in our Tuesday Food bags and will accept donations of these items anytime. We are also accepting donations of travel size personal items like toothpaste, toothbrushes, soaps, travel size tissues and shampoo.



**Located in the parking lot of  
St. John Lutheran Church**

for the Williston community

### **Office Hours**

At this time, Pastor O'Brien and LisaAnne will maintain office hours Mon-Fri from 9 am to 3 pm. If you need something, please call 419-836-5514 ahead of time. If the door is locked, please ring the bell.

You may also email/text Pastor O'Brien 419-378-1112  
**[pastorobrien@stjohnwilliston.org](mailto:pastorobrien@stjohnwilliston.org)**  
Or email the office at **[office@stjohnwilliston.org](mailto:office@stjohnwilliston.org)**

### **Online Giving Option**

Please consider giving online. There is a link on our website at **[www.stjohnwilliston.org](http://www.stjohnwilliston.org)**.

It is fast, easy and secure! In addition, you can also mail your offering to the church (PO Box 235, Williston 43468).

Thank you for your continued support of St. John!



### *Altar and Chancel Flowers*

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Patricia Delventhal by Kent Delventhal.

The Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jim Witty by Evalyn Witty.

**St. John**  **Lutheran Church**  
Williston, Ohio

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Pastor Shawn O'Brien  
[www.stjohnwilliston.org](http://www.stjohnwilliston.org)  
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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."***

Saturday Worship 5:00 pm \* \* Sunday Worship 9:00

Worship services are recorded and streamed  
on our Facebook Page and our YouTube channel.



***We are a Stephen Ministry Church.  
"Christ Caring for People through People"***

***If you need someone to talk to during this stressful  
time, please call Pastor O'Brien or the church office and  
we will connect you with one of our Stephen Ministers.***