



**If any want to
become my followers,
let them deny themselves
and take up their cross
and follow me.**

Mark 8:34, NRSV

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church
Sixteenth Saturday after Pentecost * Sept. 11, 2021 5:00 PM



www.stjohnwilliston.org

419-836-5514

16th Saturday after Pentecost

September 11, 2021

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING 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.**

WE ADMIT OUR HUMAN CONDITION

ALL: God, we are called to follow you but we do not respond. We are commanded to love one another, but we continue in our old ways. We are asked to spread the Good News of your love to every part of our world, but we find the mission too difficult. We do not love you with our whole heart and our neighbors as ourselves. We come today looking for Good News. Forgive our sin.

WE HEAR GOD'S GOOD NEWS

Leader: Today there is Good News! God forgives our sin so we might love each other the way we were intended to love. In our failures and in our desperation, God picks us up and breathes new power into our needy lives. The eternal love of God is ours in the death of Jesus on the cross. The eternal love of God is ours in the resurrection of Jesus from the grave. God's love is the Good News for everyone today.

C: Amen

FIRST READING**Isaiah 50:4-9a**

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

SECOND READING**James 3:1-12**

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

SERMON

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All: We confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and he takes away the sin of the world. By his name and grace we live our lives of mission and witness for the world. We confess God is the creator of all people on earth and has created us to live in a covenant of love established through the Word and Sacraments. Through baptism we begin a new life, active through the community of believers throughout the world. We rejoice with those who rejoice and we stand together with those who grieve. In the body and blood of Jesus we find the real presence of Christ and forgiveness for our sin. Within the church of God we accept our place as missionary, prophet, teacher, helper and friend, in order that we might serve with great purpose the church that presently exists and the church that is to come. Amen.

PRAYERS

SONG

How Great Is Our God

The splendor of the King ... clothed in majesty.
Let all the earth rejoice ... all the earth rejoice.
He wraps himself in light ... and darkness tries to hide.
And trembles at his voice ... and trembles at his voice.

Chorus

How great ... is our God ... sing with me ...
How great ... is our God ... and all will see ...
How great ... how great ... is our God.

And age to age he stands ... and time is in His hands.
Beginning and the End ... beginning and the end.
The Godhead, three in one ... Father, Spirit, Son
The lion and the lamb... the lion and the lamb. **Chorus**

Name above all names... Worthy of our praise.
My heart will sing, how great... is our God.
How great, how great is our God.

OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: God of abundance,
**you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain
from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite
them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so
dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

COMMUNION LITANY

Leader: We come again to the table to be made new. The cup of salvation and the bread of life have been given for all of us to remember the very real presence of Christ with us.

All: Feed us with your heavenly food. Our spirits are hungry for the bread of life.

Leader: We come again, knowing as we confess our sin, God is faithful, and forgives us.

All: Fill us with the cup of love. Our spirits are thirsty and we want to drink from the well giving us eternal life.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: Our Lord, Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed...

All: Jesus, we thank you for life and love, for grace and peace, for joy and contentment. May these gifts be ours as we celebrate your resurrection presence.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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

HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome!

St. John practices "open communion". All who are baptized and instructed are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us today. We are using pre-sealed communion elements. Starting with the right side of the church, followed by the left when they are finished, you may come forward and receive communion from the table. You may consume the elements when you return to your pew or wait until you get outside if that is a more comfortable place for you to eat and drink. Young children are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

BLESSING

Leader: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, one God, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Your Name Is Holy

You, are the sovereign I AM: Your Name is holy.
You, are the pure, spotless Lamb; Your Name is holy!

You, are the Almighty One; Your Name is holy,
You, are the Christ, God's own Son; Your Name is holy ...

In Your Name ... there is mercy for sin,
there is safety with-in ... In Your holy Name.

In Your Name ... there is strength to ... remain ...
to stand in spite of pain ... In Your holy Name.

You, are the sovereign I AM: Your Name is holy.
You, are the pure, spotless Lamb; Your Name is holy!

You, are the Almighty One; Your Name is holy,
You, are the Christ, God's own Son; Your Name is holy...
Your Name is holy..

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace, the living Word dwells in you!

All: Thanks be to God!

Weekly Announcements

This Week at St. John

Tues: Blankets 9:00 AM
Thurs: Church Council 7 PM
Sat: Worship 5:00 PM
Sun: Worship 9:45 AM
Sun: Golf Outing

In our Prayers

Audry S.-medical concerns
Jeff Wheeler– medical concerns
Clarence Smithers– medical concerns
Pat Sievert– medical concerns
Ken Sievert– medical concerns
Marilyn Sandrock– medical concerns
Brad– medical concerns
Betty Roecker– medical concerns
Phil Milbrodt– medical concerns

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers are given in memory of Frederick Sandrock and given by
Marilyn Sandrock and Carolyn Lasseter.

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Lois Base, Mom, Grandma
and Great Grandma, given by Cheryl Berger, Craig, Kelly and Morgan Morse,
Jeremiah Berger and Shelby Barney.

The Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Lois Base and given by
Diana and Christopher Pfaff.

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.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

We are working on the updated church directory. If you have not sent in your form and have not received a phone call from the committee, please do so. Forms are in the Forerunner, by the elevator door and in the back of church. You can also do it on the churches website or simply call in your info. Even if there is no change, please notify us.

BLANKET RAFFLE

Blankets will be on display September 11/12 and 18/19. If you would like to purchase one, we are asking \$25. Give your money to one of the Blanket ladies or put in the offering and mark it for blanket. Raffle tickets will be sold starting on September 11 in the cloister. Also the silent auction will be held for a John Deere blanket and for a Ohio State/ Michigan blanket. Deadline for tickets and auction is September 26.

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.