



TEACH US TO PRAY."

LUKE 11:1

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church
Seventh Weekend after Pentecost
Saturday July 23rd, 2022



www.stjohnwilliston.org

419-836-5514

Seventh Weekend of Pentecost * July 23rd, 2022

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

Celebrate Love

Refrain

**Celebrate love, love, love ... Celebrate love, love, love
Celebrate love ... so amazing,
He's creating, his wonderful love in you.**

We can celebrate his love today ... Jesus loves ev-'ryone
We can celebrate his love today ... Jesus loves ev-'ryone **Refrain**

We can sing about his love today ... Jesus loves ev-'ryone
He is living here inside of us ... Jesus loves ev-'ryone **Refrain**

WE CONFESS OUR SHORTCOMINGS

God, today we pause to confess our shortcomings in life and in loving one another. We want to live life to the fullest, but we always seem to become disillusioned or disappointed. We want to have deep, meaningful relationships, but we seem to short circuit those we love with our own selfishness. God, we need the power to change, but we realize now we cannot do it on our own. We fall short of the mark. We ask for your forgiveness.

Time for silent reflection

WE HEAR GOD'S FORGIVING PROMISES

The God of all creation has entered our human existence in the person of Jesus Christ and proclaimed forgiveness. Through him and his love for us we have been given new possibilities of faith and life.

By his death and resurrection, the guilt and shame of our sin has been erased completely and we stand before God as new people. The Holy Spirit is present with us and in us to give us power to live out this new life. By the Spirit we have life. Praise God.

C: Amen

FIRST READING

Genesis 18:20-32

Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

SECOND READING

Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

SERMON

Pastor O'Brien

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All: God is love, and in God is the source of all goodness and truth. God is the creator of the universe and continues to recreate a community of compassion for all humankind. Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was born of Mary and lived a life of kindness and concern. Jesus died a cruel death on an executioner's cross and was raised to new life on the third day. Because of his death and resurrection, now we can live a life of kindness and concern. Now we can die and be raised to new life. Now we can live as forgiven sinners, confident in our place in God's Kingdom. The Holy Spirit is alive and at work, establishing and building the church of God on this earth. The Spirit of God leads us into the true faith, guides us through the difficult choices of life, and comforts us when we feel as if we cannot go on. God is with us, living inside each of us, through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS

Leader: Merciful God,

ALL: receive our prayer.

OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: God of abundance:

All: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to the labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

SONG

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first, the kingdom of God ... and it's righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto you ... Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you ... Seek and you shall find.
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you ... Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia.

We do not live by bread alone ... But by every word,
That proceeds from the mouth of God ... Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia.

Knock and the door shall be opened unto you ... Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia.

COMMUNION

Leader: Jesus bids us to gather for this holy meal.

All: In response to the call of God, the command of Christ, and the bond of our common faith, we come to the table.

Leader: On the night when he was betrayed, Jesus took unleavened bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his friends saying, "Take this and eat it, this is my body given for you. Do this to remember me."

All: In response to the love of our Creator and remembering the death and resurrection of Jesus, our Savior, we come to the table.

Leader: In a similar manner Jesus took a cup and after giving thanks he said, "Drink this; this is the new covenant I am establishing to bind us together now and throughout eternity. Do this to remember me."

All: Gracious God, we are thankful for these gifts of love and sacrifice, and we are reminded of you and your love for us. May your love fill us with power to become more like you and may your love enable us to make a difference in the coming week. 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

BLESSING

Leader: The God of peace, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

ALL: Amen

SENDING SONG

Step By Step

O God, you are my God, And I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God, And I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, And I will learn to walk in your ways.

And step by step you'll lead me, And I will follow you all of my days.

(Repeat)

And I will follow you all of my days, And I will follow you all of my days,

And step by step you'll lead me, And I will follow you all of my days.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Weekly Announcements

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

Mon: Bible Study 10 AM

Tues: Blankets 9 AM

Wed: McDonald's 7 AM

Sat: Worship 5 PM

Sun: Worship 9 AM

Serving This Week

Usher Jack Mathews

Lector

Acolyte Emma Morgan

In Our Prayers

Audry S.-medical concerns

Marilyn Sandroock- medical concerns

Carolyn Lasseter- medical concerns

Dan Jeffers- medical concerns

Betty Roecker- medical concerns

Gary Carstensen- medical concerns

David Witty- medical concerns

Brenda Powell- medical concerns

Michelle Maix- medical concerns

Arline Sabin- medical concerns

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the glory of god, and in memory of our daughter

Megan Elizabeth Goldstein on her birthday and given by Beckie and Jerry Goldstein, Rachel, Mirandon, Cadan, Michaela, Caisa Grace, Caleb and families.

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of god, and in celebration of Alice Witt's birthday and given by Ron and Diane Gerkenmeyer.

USHERS AND LECTORS

Our plan is to resume our usher and lector rotations starting in August. Please watch the newsletter or Monday email to see when you are scheduled to serve.

If you are willing to be added to the list, please let Pastor O'Brien know or contact the church office.

LUTHER HOME GOLF OUTING

The Luther Home of Mercy Golf Outing is Friday, August 26 at Maumee Bay. Foursomes are invited to join Luther Home for continental breakfast, golf and a delicious lunch overlooking the Lake; all in support of their programs and services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Not a golfer? They are also looking for help with: Cart Sponsors (\$50 each): Your name will be featured on a cart and in the Outing Program. Hole Sponsors: (\$100 each) Your name will be featured on a sign at one of the 18 holes and in the Outing Program. More information and registration can be found at their website, lutherhome.org or by contacting Megan O'Brien: mobrien@lutherhome.org 419-972-4436.

OUR BLESSING BOX

Mini Pantry has been used quite a bit recently.

To help restock we need

Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Fruit, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, and Toilet Tissue. When you are shopping this week, consider purchasing a few extra items and bringing them to the church.

Seven Faith Practices

I will strive to...

1. PRAY daily
2. WORSHIP weekly
3. READ and study the Bible
4. SERVE at and beyond St. John
5. INVITE others into a loving relationship with Jesus
6. GIVE of my time, talents, and resources
7. ENCOURAGE spiritual growth in others

