

**Take up
your cross
and follow
me**



**Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church
Saturday, September 14, 2024 5:00 PM
Pentecost 17**

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GATHERING
ANNOUNCEMENTS
OPENING SONG

Lift Up Your Heads
(Congregation echoes)

Lift up your heads, **(lift up your heads)**
oh you gates **(oh you gates)**
Swing open wide, **(Swing open wide)**
you ancient doors **(you ancient doors)**
Let the King of kings **(Let the King of kings)**
take His rightful place **(take His rightful place)**
Make room, make way **(make room, make way)**
for the King of grace **(for the King of grace)**

Lift up your hands, **(lift up your hands)**
open up your hearts **(open your hearts)**
His victory over sin **(His victory over sin)**
and death is ours **(and death is ours)**
Let the King of kings **(let the King of kings)**
take his rightful place **(take His rightful place)**
Make room, make way **(Make room make way)**
for our King of grace **(for our King of grace)**

Who is this King of glory, Lord of power?
His name is Jesus, our risen King
Who is this King so mighty, Lord of strength?
His name is Jesus, our risen King

Lift up your heads, **(lift up your heads)**
oh you gates **(oh you gates)**
Swing open wide, **(Swing open wide)**
you ancient doors **(you ancient doors)**
Let the King of kings **(Let the King of kings)**
take His rightful place **(take His rightful place)**
Make room, make way **(make room, make way)**
for the King of grace **(for the King of grace)**

King of glory, Lord of power King of glory, Lord of power
King of glory, Lord of power....King of glory, Lord of power

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us.

We admit that while we've spoken words of praise, we have also hurt others with the things we say. The struggles within us lead to conflicts and disagreements. In our desire to come out on top, we end up creating divisions. We often overlook the needs of those who are poor or suffering and seek only what is best for us. Please forgive us. Come close to us with your grace when we need it most, and guide us to follow the path of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

L: God promises to forgive our iniquity and remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the one who brings everlasting healing, your sins are forgiven. **ALL: 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 awakens— awakens 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 yield 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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Hear Us, O God;

C: Your mercy is great.

OFFERING SONG

I Believe in Jesus

I believe in Jesus, I believe He is the Son of God.

I believe He died and rose again, I believe He paid for us all.

I believe He's here now standing in our midst.

Here with the power to heal now and the grace to forgive.

I believe in You Lord, I believe You are the Son of God.

I believe You died and rose again, I believe You paid for us all.

I believe you're here now standing in our midst.

Here with the power to heal now and the grace to forgive.

I believe in You Lord, I believe You are the Son of God.

I believe You died and rose again, I believe You paid for us all.

I believe you're here now standing in our midst.

Here with the power to heal now and the grace to forgive.

I believe you're here now standing in our midst.

Here with the power to heal now and the grace to forgive.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation.

ALL: By these gifts and with our lives,

help us to serve one another and all in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

COMMUNION LITANY

Leader: Welcome to the celebration! God provides for our every need and gives us this meal to share.

All: God, we thank you for the bread of life.

Leader: We come to the table, acknowledging our shortcomings and our need to experience God's presence in bread and wine.

All: God, we thank you for the cup of salvation.

Leader: 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
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

Leader: Jesus invites you to his table. Come, eat and live.

All: Amen



THE DISTRIBUTION

*Come to
the Table*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The love of God overflow in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill you hearts; and the life of the Spirit † bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen

CLOSING 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..

SENDING

Leader: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

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.



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Pastor Shawn O'Brien

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Church Office hours: M-T-W 9 am-3 pm (Thurs hours vary-closed Friday)

LisaAnne Gregg-Office Administrator

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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."***

Worship: Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday Worship 9:45

Sunday School Begins October 6th at 8:30 AM

Sunday School for the whole family will be held on the first Sunday of each month at 8:30 AM October—May.

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