



WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

In Jesus' name we welcome you to worship today. May God bless you through his Word of grace and give you the peace and joy that come only from Jesus! Hearing assistance units and large print materials are available from the ushers.

Guests, we ask that you do us the honor of completing a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in pew racks) to leave us a record of your visit with us. Should you desire any further information about St. John's, the pastors will be happy to speak with you after the service.

Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost

August 15, 2010

SUMMER SERIES: THE LIFE OF FAITH

Today's Focus: Sure and Certain Faith Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Abram couldn't see his Savior, yet he believed. The same is true for us! We haven't seen Jesus, yet in him we have a sure hope. Our faith in Jesus means hope for a future in heaven. So we keep the flame of our faith trimmed and burning, anticipating the imminent return of our Bridegroom.

WELCOME & GREETING

OPENING HYMN

"O'er the Distant Mountains Breaking"

CW 220

Please stand for final stanza

LITURGY

Morning Praise

Stand

L O Lord, o - pen my lips.

C And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

L Hasten to save me, O God.

C O Lord, come quickly to help me.

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C Come, oh, come, let us wor - ship.

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COME, OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

Congregation sings refrain & verses in unison

Refrain



Come, oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,



let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;

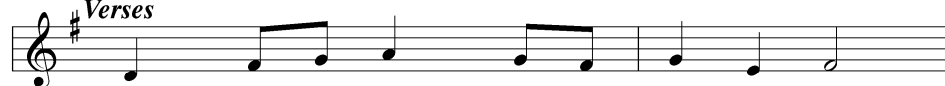


come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,



come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.

Verses



1. You are a great and a won - drous God,
2. Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,



cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.



You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
You are the God whom we call our own,



you made the seas and the dry land.
we are the flock that you shep - herd.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Be Seated

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 15:1-6 (pg. 20)

¹ After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.”

² But Abram said, “O Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

⁴ Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir.” ⁵ He took him outside and said, “Look up at the heavens and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

⁶ Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

PSALM 33

Cantors sing verses, congregation joins in singing the refrain

Cantors: Refrain

Congregation: Refrain

Verse 1: Your words, O God, are truth indeed, and all your works are ever faithful; You love justice and right, your compassion fills all creation. **Refrain**

Verse 2: See how the eye of God is watching, ever guarding all who wait in hope to deliver them from death and sustain them in time of famine. **Refrain**

Verse 3: Exult, you just, and rejoice! For praise is the song of the righteous! How happy your people, O God, the ones whom you have chosen. **Refrain**

Verse 4: Our soul is waiting for God, for God is our help and our shield; May your kindness and love be on us who place our hope in you. **Refrain**

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 11:1-2,8-16 (pg. 1874)

¹Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. ²This is what the ancients were commended for.

⁸By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

¹¹By faith Abraham, even though he was past age—and Sarah herself was barren—was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹²And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

¹³All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. ¹⁴People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

HYMN RESPONSE

♪ *“Jerusalem the Golden”*

CW 214, st. 1 & 4

Jerusalem the golden, With milk and honey blest—
The sight of it refreshes The weary and oppressed.
I know not, oh, I know not What joys await us there,
What radiancy of glory, What bliss beyond compare.

Oh, sweet and blessed country, The home of God’s elect!
Oh, sweet and blessed country That eager hearts expect!
Jesus, in mercy bring us To that dear land of rest;
You are with God the Father And Spirit ever blest.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 12:32-40 (pg. 1618)

³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. ³⁷It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. ³⁸It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. ³⁹But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

HYMN OF THE DAY

♪ *“The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us”*

CW 10

SERMON “God’s Unconditional Guarantee”

Pastor Kirk Lahmann


1. A Promised Son
2. A Promised City

Text: Genesis 15:1-6

Stand

YOU ARE GOD; WE PRAISE YOU *Te Deum*

Congregation sings the entire song in unison.

 **Refrain: You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we acclaim you.
To you, O Father holy, all creation offers praise.**

**Verse 1: With the angels in heaven, We praise you, we praise you!
With the cherubim and seraphim, We praise you, we praise you!
With apostles and prophets, We praise you, we praise you!
With the martyrs and your holy Church, We sing in endless praise! Refrain**

**Verse 2: Creator of all things, We praise you, we praise you!
O Jesus Christ, the Son of God, We praise you, we praise you!
O Spirit most holy, We praise you, we praise you!
To the trinity most blessed, We sing in endless praise! Refrain**

**Verse 3: O Christ, King of glory, We praise you, we praise you!
You became a man to set us free; We praise you, we praise you!
You have risen to free us; We praise you, we praise you!
And with all your saints in glory, We sing in endless praise! Refrain**

**Final Refrain: You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we acclaim you.
To you, O Father holy, all creation offers praise.
All creation offers praise, all creation offers praise.**

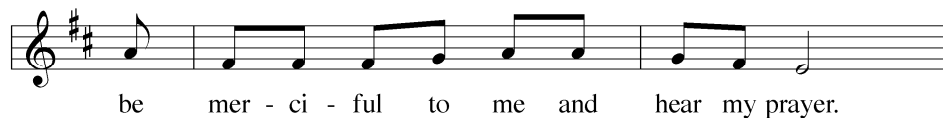
Be Seated

OFFERING

Stand

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH


HYMN

 *"I'm But a Stranger Here"*

CW 417, st. 1-3

PRAYER FOR GRACE

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C:  Amen.



L Let us praise the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BLESSING



L The Lord bless and keep you.



C A - men.



L The Lord's face ev - er shine up - on you.



C A - men.



L The Lord grant you peace for all your days.



C A - men.

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CLOSING HYMN

"I'm But a Stranger Here"

CW 417, st. 4

Therefore I murmur not; Heav'n is my home.
Whate'er my earthly lot, Heav'n is my home.
And I shall surely stand There at my Lord's right hand.
Heav'n is my fatherland; Heav'n is my home.

Be Seated

Presiding Minister
Preacher
Organist
Vocalists

Rev. Terry Laabs
Rev. Kirk Lahmann
Marion Getka
Rebecca, Hannah and Monica Rehberger

**Special Voter's Assembly Meeting
Sunday, August 15, 2010
9:15 AM—St. John's Meeting Room**

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Church Council Recommendation
 - a. Worker Student Training Fund Disbursement Recommendation
- III. Adjournment with Prayer

THE GUIDE

weekly news from St. John's

THANK YOU FROM PASTOR RADSEK

We would like to thank you for the prayers, words of comfort and support you provided to us.

We appreciate all those who sent flowers or a card, provided personal services or made a memorial donation. Please know that our family finds healing in God's tender love and embrace and in knowing others loved her and cared.

Love all you hold dear; precious is the time you share. Do not wait for tomorrow, for tomorrow may not be.

May God keep you and bless you!

The family of Kyra Lynn Radsek

SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING

A special voter's meeting will be held today between services in the meeting room. Please see the agenda on page 8 for the items to be discussed.

TRIP TO HOLYLAND

Pastor Lahmann is planning to co-host a study tour in Israel, along with another WELS pastor. Members and friends of St. John's are invited to travel with Pastor Lahmann to visit the very sites where Christ walked, taught, and accomplished our salvation. This 10-day trip of the Holyland takes place February 24—March 5, 2011. Pastor Lahmann is excited to speak with anyone interested in this trip. Please also visit the display in the church narthex for more information.

TEACHERS NEEDED

Preschool Power Hour, our Christian program for children ages 1-4 and their parents, is in need of teachers for this upcoming year. No prior teaching experience is necessary—just a love of young children! Power Hour meets just two mornings per month for one hour. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve our Savior by volunteering for this great program. Contact Karen Vasatko or Cathy Borchardt for more information.

FORWARD IN CHRIST SUBSCRIPTIONS

You may purchase or renew a subscription to the monthly magazine "Forward in Christ" through the church for a yearly price of \$9.00. Just use the envelope included in your contribution envelope box and the church office will add your name to our mailing list. Magazines will be mailed directly to your home.

SENIOR HANDBELL CHOIR PRACTICES

A new season of the senior handbell choir will begin with their first practice on Thursday, September 16th at 6:30 pm. This year we are in need of an additional ringer. If you are interested in joining bells, please come to our first practice or contact choir director, Bill Baker (763-2602).

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Lutheran Pioneers currently has the following opportunities:

Office Manager: the position is a part time paid position of approximately 20+ hours per week. Persons applying for this position should have knowledge of office practices and be comfortable working with Microsoft Office programs or be willing to learn them.

Bookkeeper: this position is a part-time paid position of approximately 3-6 hours per week. The amount of time will vary based on the time of month and year. Persons applying for the Bookkeeper position should have a strong knowledge of regular bookkeeping and accounting practices. A knowledge of Peachtree Accounting programs would be helpful but not necessary.

Accounting and Financial Advisor to the Board of Directors of Lutheran Pioneers: this volunteer person would prepare reports for the Board and advise them in setting up yearly budgets and spending plans. This would take about 3-5 hours a month or less depending on the time of year. This person would also act as an internal auditor for the program.

If interested please contact Dale Lorfeld at 262-534-5124 or at lpexecdir@tds.net for more information and an application form. Positions will begin as soon as possible.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

8/15—Jacob Link, Tom Rouce, Ralph Voss

8/16—Jeremie Steffen

8/17—Robert Koenecke, Richard Kroken, Peyton Weatherford

8/18—Zach Erdmann, John Marshall

8/19—Ross Canales, Scott Neumann, Julie Reuter, Joel Voss

8/20—Joann Friend, Matt Neal, Jason Schuttenhelm

8/21—Vito Colano, Laura Gentele, Gordon Gill, Laura Lois, TJ Markham

ANNIVERSARIES

8/15—Tom & Kim Rouce (12)

8/16—Robert & Joyce Bulow (41)

Dale & Sharon Lorfeld (41)

8/17—Norm & Sandy Callies (36)

8/18—Bruce & Audrey Peterson (37)

Rev. Paul & Leanne Prange (20)

8/19—Gabe & Beth Malliet (10)

8/20—Tim & Rozanne Bird (33)

Lynn & Connie Recknagel (22)

BIBLE STUDIES AT ST. JOHN'S

Watch upcoming bulletins for our new fall Bible studies!

Tuesdays

Breakfast Bible Study—6:00 AM—Gospel of St. John

Lucky Star, Burlington

Join us Tuesday mornings as we focus on the Gospel of St. John. John's purpose in writing is to present the grace of God revealed in his Son: "These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). John's eyewitness recollections of Jesus' life, ministry and teaching have much to tell us about Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Led by Pastor Laabs.

Wednesdays

Morning Bible Study —8:45 AM—Study of 1 Samuel

Meeting Room

God called Samuel, even as a child, to be a prophet and judge for the Israelites, who wanted a king. The books of Samuel outline the history of Israel's first kings, Saul and David. Through many acts of deliverance and forgiveness, God kept safe the line of the King of kings, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Led by Pastor Lahmann.

Men's Bible Study & Fellowship—8:00 PM—Book of 1 Samuel

St. John's Gym

Next class on August 25th. Led by Bob Edgington.

St. John's Lutheran Church Picnic

- Kids Games
- Prizes
- Bouncy Castle
- Water Balloons
- Potluck Picnic (meat & buns provided)

Please use the sign-up sheet to RSVP and indicate your potluck dish.

Please bring your dish to pass & lawn chairs.

Suggested donation of \$3 per person to cover the cost of expenses.

Sunday, August 22nd

Church Picnic beginning after the
9:30 Outdoor Service (weather permitting)

Bring lawn chairs
(and bug spray!) for the service.

Lunch will begin serving
between 11:00– 11:30.



The 3rd Annual St. John's Lutheran School Golf Outing

Friday, August 20th
Evergreen Golf Club in Elkhorn

- ◇ Lunch,
- ◇ 18 holes of golf
- ◇ Steak dinner
- ◇ Silent auction

All proceeds will go to benefit classroom technology and instruction at St. John's.

Brochures with more information and registration forms can be found in your church mailboxes or at the display in the church entryway.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“St. John’s Lutheran Church exists to BUILD UP THE BODY OF CHRIST so that we might know Christ and make Him known.”

We Love Him Because He First Loved Us

ATTENDANCE (week of August 8)

8:00	172
9:30	124
<u>Monday</u>	<u>80</u>
Total Attendance at Worship Services	376
Wednesday Bible study	15



How to Contact Your Staff

Pastor Terry Laabs

E-mail: ptl@stjohnsburlington.org
Cell phone: 262-210-5789

Pastor Kirk Lahmann

E-mail: pastorlahmann@stjohnsburlington.org
Cell phone: 262-210-2018

Principal, Phillip Rehberger

E-mail: principal@stjohnsburlington.org
Cell phone: 262-757-3695

Church office

Phone: 262-763-8229
E-mail: office@stjohnsburlington.org

School office

Phone: 262-763-2377
E-mail: school@stjohnsburlington.org

www.stjohnsburlington.org

Those Who Serve

GREETERS NEXT WEEK

8:00—Open 9:30—Open

Please visit the sign-up table in the church entryway to sign-up for a Sunday or Monday to greet.

COUNTING TEAM for August 16

Team #4: Kim Friedel, Kris Fischer, Joyce Tigges, Millie Umnus

USHER SCHEDULE for August 22

8:00 AM - Team A: Bob Edgington, Charles Wollmer, James Wollmer, David Schwartz, Bob Musgrave, Steve Vasatko, Jeff Sibley

9:30 AM - Team F: Chuck Meinke, Roger Runkel, Dwight Beuthling, Rick LaBadie, Travis LaBadie, Randy Hofberger, Will Meinke

AUGUST ALTAR GUILD

Allison Sorensen (539-2288) & Joette Mather (763-5000)

Please call one of the women listed above if you would like to have flowers placed in the church in memory of a loved one or to honor an event. Please contact the church office if you would like the flowers listed in the bulletin.