

The Pentecost Season

September 10, 2017

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

- Gathering -

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*Mission Statement of St. John*)

Living in service to Christ, St. John is a caring and welcoming community whose life is grounded in God's amazing grace and through inspiring worship.

We foster deep relationships that bring a spirit of encouragement and healing to all.

We believe that faith is best nurtured and grown in the home,
and we encourage a culture of generosity so that we can advance the mission of the church both locally and globally.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power. (*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*)

Source of all life, **we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ☩ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn – #835 (V. 1-4) All Creatures Worship God Most High!

Greeting and Hymn of Praise (*Glory to God*) – Page 121

Prayer of the Day – see insert

- Word -

God speaks to us in Scripture, reading, preaching and song.

Scripture Readings – see insert (*Response: Thanks be to God.*)

Gospel Acclamation – Page 124

Proper Verse (*sung*): **In Christ God was reconciling the world | to himself,*
entrusting the message of reconcilia- | tion to us.**

Gospel (*before reading: Glory to you, O Lord. after: Praise to you, O Christ!*)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – #603 God, When Human Bonds Are Broken

(Sung to the tune #494 For the Bread Which You Have Broken)

(8:00 a.m.) Sacrament of Holy Baptism – Page 227 (*Everly Rae Hinkle*)

(10:30 a.m.) Sacrament of Holy Baptism – Page 227 (*August Leonard Hibel,
Taylor Marie Vernon, and Abigail Eleanor Vernon*)

Hymn – #677 (V.1) This Little Light of Mine

Prayers of the People and Sharing the Peace (*Response: And also with you.*)

- Meal -

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Offertory Hymn – #359 (V. 1-2) Where Charity and Love Prevail

Offering Prayer, Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – Page 129-130

Lamb of God – Page 135

Distribution of Bread and Wine

All who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Hymns – #462, #464, #732

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

- Sending -

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Closing Blessing

Sending Hymn – #731 (V. 1, 4, 5) Earth and All Stars!

Dismissal (*Response: Thanks be to God!*)

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dickinson, North Dakota

www.stjohnecl.org (701)225-6747

Mission Statement: "Living in Service to Christ"

Welcome to Worship at St. John!

If you are worshipping for the first time, we hope you feel joyfully welcomed! Worship is the most important thing we do together: Gathering in God's Name, Hearing God's Word, Sharing in the Holy Meal, and then Sending You to Shine Christ's Light in the World.

We believe worship brings abundant life and freedom to you and to your neighbor. There are four worship services offered each week at St. John, providing a variety of ways to worship. We encourage you to try them all to find the right fit for you.

**To learn more about worship and St. John's story,
click on the GET TO KNOW US page at www.stjohnelc.org**

~ To Assist You at Worship ~

- *If you are considering becoming a member at St. John*, we ask that you begin by visiting with a pastor and attending a *new member coffee*, held four times each year. For details, click on the MEMBERSHIP link on the GET TO KNOW US page at www.stjohnelc.org.
- *Personal amplifiers for the hearing impaired are available*. Please ask an usher.
- *Children's worship bags* are in the narthex and the Commons Area.
- *Childcare*: Children are always welcome in worship, but if a parent feels that little hands, feet and voices are making it difficult for others to worship, the nursery is open and staffed at the 10:30 a.m. service. If a child needs a shorter break, there is wiggle room and a glider chair in the narthex.
- *Holy Communion* is celebrated at each worship service. The table is open to all who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love. You may stand or kneel and receive the bread and wine. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer or grape juice, simply ask the person serving.
- *The decision about when a child should commune is made by the parent*. We encourage families to visit with a pastor to learn about the sacrament before communing for the first time. Children communing should extend their hands. Children not communing are invited to fold their hands.
- *Coffee is served* in the Commons Area before Sunday worship services.
- St. John is a member congregation of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** and part of the **Western North Dakota Synod**. St. John is a corporate member of Badlands Ministries Bible Camp and St. Luke's Nursing Home. Congregations in the WND and Eastern North Dakota Synods, including St. John, own Lutheran Social Services of N.D., a private, nonprofit social services agency.

~ Introductions to the Readings ~

Ezekiel 33:7-11 - God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

Romans 13:8-14 - The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

Matthew 18:15-20 - Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should show wrongdoers their need for repentance.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Presiding Minister	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Thursday
Presiding Minister.....	Pastor Joe Natwick	Sunday
Preaching Minister.....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Sunday
Assisting Minister.....	Gayle Homiston	Thursday
	Dann Greenwood	8:00 AM
	Russ Murphy	10:30 AM
Deacons.....	Darlene Pelton	8:00 AM
	Susan Moberg	10:30 AM
Organist.....	Carrie Mitzel	Thursday
	Michael Stevenson	Sunday
Servers.....	Jack Homiston	Thursday
	Ian Graves & Maddy Hanson	8:00 AM
	Aiden Healy & Dawson Heiser	10:30 AM

WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*: Thursday 47, and Sunday 211.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE beginning September 13th

The night starts with a fellowship meal at 5:30 pm which is a great time for families to relax and have a nice meal together.

We will begin in the classrooms at 6:00 pm. Church School students will be doing activities, crafts, and having conversations about each week's Bible lesson. However, this year we will only stay in the classrooms for a half hour of Bible-based activities before *all classes head down to worship together at 6:30 pm.*

Worship will be a required component of Church School this year for all kids, since it is the place we will have large group activities and instruction. All parents or guardians should plan to attend worship with their kids each week at 6:30 pm.

Confirmation activities are held 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, Sept 11	7:00 PM	Scouts
Tuesday, Sept 12	8:30 AM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting
	7:00 PM	Financial Peace University meeting Scouts Roundtable
Wednesday, Sept 13	9:30 AM	Monthly Staff Meeting
	5:30 PM	Supper
	6:00 PM	Church School
	6:30 PM	Worship
	7:00 PM	Mentor Groups 9 th Grade Stole Decorating
Thursday, Sept 14	Noon	Trust Fund Meeting
	6:00 PM	Backpack Prep
	7:00 PM	Worship
Friday, Sept 15	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins
	9:00 AM	Backpack Delivery
Sunday, Sept 17	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Senior Choir practice Adult Education-Learning in Service to Christ
	10:30 AM	Worship
	3:30 PM	Handbells
	7:00 PM	Senior High Youth

BAPTISMS

On Sunday, at the 8:00 a.m. service, we celebrate the baptism of **Everly Rae Hinkle**. Her parents are Rick Hinkle and Molly Schwartz. The sponsors are Lindsey Schafer and Randy & Kristi Schwartz.

At the 10:30 a.m. service, we celebrate two baptisms: **August Leonard Hibl**. His parents are Darcy Schmeling and Garrett Hibl. The sponsors are Devon Schmeling and Paige Hibl. And **Taylor Marie Vernon and Abigail Eleanor Vernon**. Their sponsors are Kaitlin Vernon and Darcie Dennis.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is a new ministry at St. John that equips lay people to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to individuals in our congregation experiencing difficulties in their life. A Stephen Minister supports your pastors by continuing spiritual care after the loss of a loved one, hospitalization, divorce or separation, loneliness, spiritual crisis, a terminal illness, aging, a chronic illness, or a birth, adoption, miscarriage or infertility. Please visit with a pastor to learn more.



SERVE & CONNECT

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

October 1st @ 10:30 am

This is a day about serving our community and that includes you! **If you or someone you know are in need of help to complete projects such as yardwork, painting, gutter cleaning, etc, please let us know!** Contact Amy Graves at 225.6747 or agraves@stjohnelc.org.



BADLANDS MINISTRIES FALL EVENT

September 17th @ 11:00 am

This fun-filled day begins with worship at 11:00 am followed by a chicken bbq, silent auction, country store & bazaar, and a quilt auction! There will be antiques, pies and specialty items – support Badlands Ministries and enjoy a day with friends!

BENEFIT DINNER for Tim Thiel

September 19 @ 5:30 pm - Eagles

Tim Thiel is a member of St. John who we hold in our prayers as he battles with cancer. There will be a benefit dinner for Tim with an auction and bake sale to follow. Please prayerfully consider donating a silent auction item or bake sale item in support of Tim. Items can be dropped off at the church prior to September 18th.

Stephen Ministries of St. John would like to encourage other St. John church groups to donate an item or basket in support of Tim.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Houston

We hold in prayer the Houston area and all places impacted by Hurricane Harvey. 100% of donations to Lutheran Disaster Response are passed onto the response effort. More information is at the entry tables, or at www.ELCA.org.

Visit www.stjohnelc.org for updates on all programs and schedules!

THEOLOGY ON TAP

September 22nd @ 7:00 pm (Player's)

God. Conversation. Beer. Luther would have loved it! Each month, this group will meet at various establishments in Dickinson to discuss topics relating to life, faith and God. All that is required is a willingness to have incredibly rich and exciting conversations. You are welcome to come early and order a meal – you do not have to drink beer to participate!



MILESTONE MINISTRY – 3 years old

September 20 @ 6:00 pm

Parents and 3-yr old children will have an orientation event to help these youngsters transition into Church School. There will be a tour of the sanctuary, chancel area and narthex.



begins September 12th!

Financial Peace University is a 9-week class where you will learn practical ways to pay off debt, overcome your fear of budgeting and create a savings plan to replace retirement worries. Give yourself “financial peace” and attend this class! You can register online at stjohnelc.org and click on the homepage banner, OR pick up a form from the Commons area bulletin board

SCHOOL SUPPLY DONATION

As part of “God’s Work. Our Hands.”, St. John is collecting school supplies for Lutheran World Relief and “Project Promise”. A basket is located in the Commons area for you donations through October 1st, when these donations will be assembled into school kits.