

The Pentecost Season

November 12, 2017

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

- Gathering -

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk: Legacy of Faith Campaign and DVRCC

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 – #327 Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow

Greeting and Hymn of Praise (*This is the Feast*) – Page 122-123

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*): **Keep awake | and be ready,* for you do not know on what day your | Lord is coming.**

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – #638 Blessed Assurance

(8:00 a.m.) Apostles' Creed – Page 105

(10:30 a.m.) New Member Welcome

Prayers of the People

Sharing the Peace (Response: **And also with you.**)

- Meal -

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Offertory Hymn – #262 Wait for the Lord (x4)

Offering Prayer

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

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

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 – #490, #494, #710

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

- Sending -

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

Closing Blessing

Sending Hymn – #717 Let Justice Flow like Streams

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

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dickinson, North Dakota

www.stjohnelc.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 staffed during 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. ELCA and LCMS congregations in western and eastern North Dakota own Lutheran Social Services of N.D., a private, nonprofit social services agency.

~ Introductions to the Readings ~

Amos 5:18-24 - In the days of Amos people thought that the day of the Lord would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The Lord demands justice and righteousness in the community.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 - Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

Matthew 25:1-13 - Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Presiding Minister	Pastor Joe Natwick	Thursday
Presiding Minister.....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Sunday
Preaching Minister.....	Pastor Joe Natwick	Sunday
Assisting Minister.....	Gayle Homiston	Thursday
	Dream O'Brien	8:00 AM
	Chris Hertler	10:30 AM
Deacons.....	Darlene Pelton	8:00 AM
	Cora Tormaschy	10:30 AM
Organist.....	Barb Arneson	Thursday
	Barb Arneson	Sunday
Servers.....	Isaac Hoffer	Thursday
	Weston Klatt & William Lindvig	8:00 AM
	Beau Krueger & Alexander Meier	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*: Wednesday 179, Thursday 51, and Sunday 312.



LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP

Thurs., Dec. 21st @ 7:00 p.m. at CHI - St. Alexius Hospital Chapel

The name *Longest Night* comes from the season. In Dec. we will experience the shortest day and longest night of the year. This service gives permission to acknowledge the difficulty of the *longest night* of the Christmas season for those who may feel overwhelmed by grief. The service is ecumenical (all denominations welcome) and includes Scripture, candle-lighting, Holy Communion, and singing appropriate to the season, recognizing this is not always a season of joy for all. This service will take place at the hospital's chapel to be inviting to the community of Dickinson. Watch for more details in the December newsletter and bulletins.

~ *This Week at St. John* ~

Monday, Nov 13	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Scouts Scouts
Tuesday, Nov 14	8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting Financial Peace University class (<i>last class</i>) Scouts Roundtable
Wednesday, Nov 15	9:30 AM 5:15 PM 5:30 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM	Staff Meeting Supper & Fall Festival Faith Experience NO Church School Worship
Thursday, Nov 16	Noon 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Circle 4 at the church Backpack Prep Worship
Friday, Nov 17	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins Backpack Delivery
Sunday, Nov 19	8:00 AM 9:15 AM 10:30 AM 3:30 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Senior Choir practice Adult Education-Learning in Service to Christ Worship Handbells Senior High Youth



"For freedom Christ has set you free."

Galatians 5:1

*(If you are young or old, busy or bored,
God has a better something for you.)*

2 YEAR OLD MILESTONE MINISTRY – "PRAYER" : Thank you to the following families who took part in the "Prayer: Talking to God" Milestone Ministry event ~ **Michael Callahan, Everett Enebo, Marit Filkowski, Isla Kilwein, Shelby Teigen, & Alora Urlaub.**

TODAY WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Take a moment to introduce yourself and get to know these wonderful people!

Kent, Michele, Seth, Julia, Rose & Kyle Anderson; Kevin, Kellie, Kambree, Kyler & Karver Kallenbach; Adam Ness; Cristina, Maiya & Addisyn Ridl, Brenna Faulhaber & Paisley Mack; Jason, Michele, Emily, Abbygail, Chloe, Shaylynn & Mathew Schmidt; Lauren Schumacher; TJ, Miranda, McKenzie & Caleb Swisher; Dustin, Dana, Kailee, Karlee, Kinlee & Kenzee Tescher; Karlie & Gracie Kay Wanner.



~ SERVE & CONNECT ~

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It's Collection Week! November 13th – 20th



Boxes to be filled are available in the Commons area. Information on suggested items to pack and where to take your filled box are located at the table, inside the shoeboxes and at

www.stjohnelc.org. ***St. John will not be a drop-off location this year.***

FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

Nov. 15th @ 5:15 – 7:00 pm

Give thanks! The cross-generational event will include a meal, games, projects and great conversations about gratitude. The evening will close with a worship service – giving our thanks and praise to God. ***There is no Church School on Nov. 15 & 22.***



THANK YOU FOR PLEDGING!

~ If you have made your pledge for 2018 – thank you!

- ~ If you are considering making a pledge, please be prayerful. Do not hesitate to ask one of your pastors or a council member about how gifts are stewarded at St. John, or how you might determine how much to give.
- ~ If you are a member of St. John and did not receive a pledge card in the mail, we apologize. Please let a pastor know.
- ~ If you prefer not to make a pledge, please contact Pam Weidner, Finance Administrative Assistant at 225-6747, or return your pledge card indicating no pledge.

You can return your pledge by filling out a pledge card or go online at www.stjohnelc.org.



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Nov. 22nd @ 7:00 pm

Join us for a special Thanksgiving Worship followed by a pie social in the main floor Fellowship room.

There is no camp-style worship on Wed., Nov. 22, and no worship Thurs, Nov. 23rd.

LEGACY OF FAITH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



The Giving Tree is up again in the Narthex, giving us a reason to celebrate what St. John does for the community! There are currently 34 hearts on the tree - each heart representing \$10,000 donated. We need 16 more hearts to complete this campaign of generosity!

Please take a brochure from the pew or from the Giving Tree sign (narthex) to read about this Campaign, and prayerfully consider making a pledge. You may return your pledge card in the offering plate, or pledge online – click on the GIVE button.

RIDE-SHARING & PARKING

We are grateful for a vibrant congregation of worshippers! To help all of us access the building as easily as possible, here are some tips:

- If you have *no* trouble walking, would you be willing to park a little farther away to leave the closer spaces for people with young children, and for those who may have a little more trouble walking from their cars to the church?
- We encourage you to carpool. If you would like a ride to make it easier for you to get to church, the church office may be able to find someone to drive you. Please ask.