

# 4th Sunday after Pentecost

June 17, 2018

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

## - Gathering -

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love. **Amen.**

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another. *Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Eternal God our creator, **in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ☩ forgives you all your sins. **Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn – #522 As We Gather at Your Table

Greeting and Hymn of Praise (*Glory be to God...*) – Page 204

Prayer of the Day

## - Word -

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

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

Gospel Acclamation – Page 205

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

Sermon

## **Hymn of the Day – #379 Now the Green Blade Rises**

Apostles' Creed – Page 105

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 – #185 Create in Me a Clean Heart**

Offering Prayer and Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – Page 206-207

**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.**

Distribution of Bread and Wine

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

## **Lamb of God – #195**

## **Hymns – #481, #697, #856**

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

### **- Sending -**

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

Benediction

## **Sending Hymn – #547 Sent Forth by God's Blessing**

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

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Dickinson, North Dakota*

[www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org) (701)225-6747

Mission Statement: "Living in Service to Christ"

# Welcome to Worship at St. John!

Maybe this is one of your first experiences worshipping in a church. Maybe you have been around churches, but have never been to this one. Maybe you are looking for a church to call *home*. Maybe you hope to discover an answer to some of life's big questions.

Whatever has brought you to St. John today, *welcome*. As Christians who are Lutheran, we believe worship is a feast of God's Word and Holy Meal. The Word fills you with faith. The Meal fills you with Jesus Christ. St. John began in 1903 when a few people gathered for the Word and the Meal. Today, 115 years later, we gather for the same feast.

To learn more about worship and St. John's story,  
click on the GET TO KNOW US page at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://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 or meal*, held four times each year. For details, click on the MEMBERSHIP link on the GET TO KNOW US page at [www.stjohnelc.org](http://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. The nursery is available for you, but not staffed during the summer. There is an audio feed of the service in the nursery. If a child needs a shorter break, there is wiggle room and a glider chair in the back of the church.
- 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 Reading ~

Ezekiel 17:22-24 - Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

2 Corinthians 5: 6-10(11-13)14-17 - Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

Mark 4:26-34 - Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching .....	Pastor Joe Natwick	
Presiding .....		
Assisting Ministers .....	Gayle Homiston	Thursday
	Dream O'Brien	8:00 AM Sunday
	Seth Poland	9:30 AM Sunday
Organist .....	Michael Stevenson	Thursday
	Cheryl Hewson	Sunday
Servers .....	Tyler Warwick	Thursday
	Ben Carlson	8:00 AM
	Gavin Steckler	9:30 AM



**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR @ PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Basic Job Description: Peace Lutheran Church has an immediate opening for a permanent, part-time Office Administrator in Dickinson, ND. This position is responsible for supporting all business conducted within the church in collaboration with the ministers. As the Office Administrator, you will be responsible for providing general administrative and clerical support including: maintaining official church records, work to enable Peace Lutheran Church to effectively communicate, and manage the daily work of the church office. Applicant must be a self-starter, possess strong attention to detail, and have the ability to multi-task in an office environment. This position will be 10-18 hours per week with flexibility.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Proficient in Microsoft Office programs
- Professional composure and strong organizational skills
- Excellent interpersonal and customer service skills
- Basic accounting and accounting software experience preferred
- Previous experience preferred
- Effective oral and written communication skills
- Other office duties as needed

Submit resume to: [peacelutheran@ndsupernet.com](mailto:peacelutheran@ndsupernet.com) or talk to Bev Holdahl

## ~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, June 18	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Scouts Scouts UMC Worship Team
Tuesday, June 19	8:30 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting Executive Council Meeting Council Meeting
Wed, June 20	9:30 AM	Staff Meeting
Thursday, June 21	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Wedding Rehearsal Worship
Friday, June 22	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins
Sunday, June 24	8:00 AM 9:30 AM	Worship Worship

### WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*: Thursday 63, and Sunday 234.

### HAPPY 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

The flowers on the back altar were given in honor of Florence and Ken Hoistad's 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



### GARDEN OF GRACE

Do you enjoy the beauty of the Garden of Grace? Would you like to assist in taking care of this space we share with the neighborhood? Sign up to be a "Caretaker for the Week"!

During the week, you and your family / group can water and weed out the raised beds to keep

it beautiful and welcoming for everyone who visits.

**HOW TO SIGN UP:** Go to the St. John website ([www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org)) and click on the link at the bottom of the homepage "When Am I Scheduled?". There is a sign up for Garden of Grace – you can choose the week that works best for you! Enjoy the outdoors and taking care of God's creation!

### YOUR GENEROSITY

*Giving last month - \$41,034*

Giving Year to Date - \$257,957

Giving Year to Date same time last year - \$203,366

Expenditures Year to Date - \$188,930



SHARING  
your gifts

## ~ SERVE & CONNECT ~



### SUMMER DAY CAMP August 5th-9th

It's hard to imagine that summer is near! You can now register your child(ren) for Summer Day Camp. Preschoolers (age 4 by 8/1) through 6th grade (completed) can participate. Older students can register as a "Staff in Training" (SIT) if they are interested in helping out! There is no charge for this camp, however donations are welcome to help with supply costs. Sign up on the website or pick up a registration form from the bulletin board.



### YOU CAN BE INVOLVED WITH SUMMER DAY CAMP!

While the Badlands Ministries Counselors are leading the Day Camp, it is important for them to take care of themselves! You can help by ....

#### **BRINGING A MEAL!**

If you enjoy cooking, a homemade meal is always a great gift for the counselors! If you aren't a cook, dropping off a bucket of chicken or sub sandwiches will surely be a hit! Meals are needed for lunch and supper.

#### **OFFERING A BED!**

Getting plenty of restful sleep is important to greet over 100 children with a smile! If you have a spare room and are able to "host" counselors during camp (Aug. 5-9), it would be very much appreciated!

If you are interested in helping with camp in either of these ways, please contact Kaitlyn Olson at [kolson@stjohnelc.org](mailto:kolson@stjohnelc.org).

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For updates on schedules and programs, visit [www.stjohnelc.org](http://www.stjohnelc.org)!

For quick reference on mobile devices, download the St. John app! Search for [stjohnelc.org](http://stjohnelc.org) and download it today!

### QUILTS FOR SALE

You can support the ministry of the quilters by purchasing a quilt for \$65, or by donating clean sheets that are twin or king-sized.



### WELCOME COFFEE July 8th @ 10:30 am

Are you interested in being a member of the St. John community? We would love to give you a warm welcome! Come to the next "Welcome Coffee" to learn more about St. John and tour all of the areas of the church we call home. New members will be welcomed on Sunday, August 12th during the 9:30 am worship service.

### ST. JOHN DAY @ BADLANDS MINISTRIES Tuesday, July 10th @ 2:00 - 5:00 pm

All Church School children and families are invited to drive to Badlands Ministries Bible Camp and spend a fun afternoon centered in the beautiful badlands near Medora. Parents may accompany their preschoolers.

The Preschool-6th Grade children will be placed in small groups led by the Badlands Ministries Counselors. Please remember to pack a water bottle, sunscreen, and bug spray for your "camper".

Please RSVP to Denay Klein at 701-290-9925 or [dklein@stjohnelc.org](mailto:dklein@stjohnelc.org) by July 1st if you would like to attend this day camp, have any questions, or would like more information.

### BACKPACK & FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Don't forget these programs during the summer! Donations are needed all year long. You can drop off your donations for these programs in the baskets located in the Commons area (west wall). **Thank you for your generosity!**

