

18th Sunday after Pentecost
September 23, 2018

Today we hear the unique story of Bezalel and Oholiab, two people of whom most of us have never heard. Ever. They are guilty of doing too much good for the church! They shared too much of their time, skill, and energy. In the world today, we are likely to complain about a scarcity of resources. How might this story challenge our assumption that there is never enough?

- Gathering -

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

(Liturgy is found in the "Now the Feast and Celebration Booklet" unless otherwise noted.)

Gathering Stewardship Litany

Why give what we can keep? **Why keep what we can share?**

Why let go when it feels good to hang on? **Why hang on when we can be free?**

A story is told when you give away your time, talent, and treasure. **The story of God's mercy is told when we give away our time, talent and treasure.**

Broken lives receive hope when you care for people who are hungry, sick, imprisoned, and forgotten about. **Our broken lives become whole when we care for our neighbor as Christ cares for us.**

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness – Page 2

Processional Hymn – #532 Gather Us In

Greeting – Page 2

Hymn of Praise "Now the Feast" – Page 4

Salutation and Prayer of the Day – Page 7

- Word -

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

Scripture Reading – Exodus 36:1-7 (Response: **Thanks be to God.**)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – #712 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Apostles' Creed – Page 9

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 “As the Grains of Wheat” (V. 1) – Page 10

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Merciful God, **everything in heaven and on earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – Page 11

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 – Page 14

Hymns – #479, #887, #779

Blessing

Hymn “Thanks Be To You” – Page 15

Post-Communion Prayer

- Sending -

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

Blessing and Dismissal – Page 16

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**

~ 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.
- *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.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching	Pastor Joe Natwick	
Presiding Minister.....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Sunday
Assisting Ministers.....	Haley Graves	Thursday
	Dream O'Brien	8:00 AM Sunday
	Chip Poland	10:30 AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Darlene Pelton	8:00 AM Sunday
	Seth Poland	10:30 AM
Organist.....	Barb Arneson	Thursday
	Barb Arneson	Sunday
Servers	Gavin Steckler	Thursday
	McKenna Skaare & William Lindvig	8:00 AM
	Kyle Anderson & Isaac Hoffer	10:30 AM

WHERE DO I GO TO "STAY CONNECTED" WITH THE ST. JOHN COMMUNITY?



Are you receiving the **weekly e-news** about upcoming events or resources? This will give you a breakdown of everything coming up in the week – see it in your mailbox on Mondays!



Quarterly Newsletters will give you stories about the great ministries happening at St. John. These will be mailed out and available online in October, January, April & July.



Follow us on **Facebook!** You will see reminders of events & deadlines, short videos & updates, and connect you with other great events happening in the community.



Download the St. John app to be able to access the **website** at a click! The website contains contact info and everything going on at St. John. Search for stjohneic when downloading the app. Prefer to type it out? Visit the website at www.stjohneic.org

ADULT EDUCATION

"LEARNING IN SERVICE TO CHRIST" -Sundays @ 9:15 am & Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm

"Learning in Service to Christ" is a class that covers a wide array of topics including Bible study, community events and topics, and guest speakers that revolve around programs that align with St. John's mission. Everyone is welcome!

THEOLOGY ON TAP – Sept. 25th @ 7:00 pm (Fluffy Fields Winery)

This is a monthly gathering of people from all denominations who get together to discuss topics we wrestle with in our everyday lives. These "classes" are held at various venues in Dickinson, so watch for locations each month! Bring a friend and join in the conversation!

~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, Sept 24	4:30 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Lutheran Social Services Scouts Scouts
Tuesday, Sept 25	8:30 AM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting Trust Fund Sub Committee Meeting Theology on Tap-Fluffy Fields Financial Peace University
Wed, Sept 26	10:30 AM 5:15 PM 5:30 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM	Staff Meeting Fellowship Meal 1 st Communion Class Church School Adult Education 3 rd Grade Milestone Ministry Worship
Thurs, Sept 27	5:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Budget Meeting Backpacks Prep Worship
Friday, Sept 28	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins Backpack Delivery
Sunday, Sept 30	8:00 AM 9:15 AM 10:30 AM 3:15 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Adult Education- <i>Learning in Service to Christ</i> Senior Choir No Worship Service God's Work. Our Hands Sunday Handbells Sr. High Youth

WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*:
Wednesday 229 Thursday, 68 and Sunday 254.

"I GIVE" PEW CARDS

- Do you share an offering without using an offering envelope?
- Has giving electronically left you feeling awkward about passing the offering plate?
- Has your child ever asked why you don't give an offering like other people (because that is what they see)?

We get it! There are a variety of ways to financially support the ministry at St. John! Because every gift matters, there are laminated "I Give" cards in the pew racks for electronic givers to put in the plate during the offering.

~ SERVE & CONNECT ~



"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS." SUNDAY September 30th

The "kick-off" to our Stewardship month ... putting our hands and feet to work and doing "God's work with our hands" in Dickinson! Sign up for a project that interests you and be a part of this day when the St. John community comes together to make a difference!

You can sign up in the Commons area or online!

Schedule for September 30th:



- 8:00 am Worship
- 9:15 am Adult Education & Senior Choir rehearsal
"God's Work. Our Hands." final sign-up!
- 10:30 am "GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS."
Gather for a blessing as we go out and serve the community of Dickinson!

"LEARNING IN SERVICE TO CHRIST" SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

This adult education class is open to everyone! Classes will be held on:

Sundays @ 9:15 am

Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm

Childcare will be available during the Wednesday classes! This is a fun and informal class that touches on various topics of interest.

MILESTONE MINISTRY in SEPTEMBER

Milestone Ministry is an intentional ministry that connects households to each other & to the congregation, as we recognize and learn about God's presence throughout the different stages of life. Parents accompany their child(ren) for a time to gather, share & practice your faith.

Sept. 26th & Oct. 3rd – 3rd grade
"Bible Adventure"

1st COMMUNION CLASS

September 26th @ 5:30 pm

If you believe your child is ready to start communing, you are invited to bring your child(ren) to learn about this amazing gift God gives us. During the class, we will learn about the history of this important sacrament and what it means specifically for Lutherans.

Come early and grab your supper – bring it to class!



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Oct. 6th @ 1:00 – 4:00 pm (Badlands Ministries)

Bring the whole family for an afternoon filled with festive fall activities! Carve pumpkins, enjoy hay rides, play carnival games and so much more! This FREE event is open to the public – bring your friends!



LITTLE BLESSING NURSERY

This important ministry of caring for the littlest needs your help! Spend an hour of your day (Wed or Sunday) and play with these little blessings at St. John. This is a great way for grandparents or parents of older children to enjoy the curiosity of babies & toddlers! Sign up online for a time that works in your schedule!

[www.stjohnelc.org/When Am I Scheduled](http://www.stjohnelc.org/When_Am_I_Scheduled)

ISRAEL TRIP – INFORMATION MEETING

October 7 @ 6:00 pm

Join St. John Lutheran Church for a tour of a lifetime! We will be heading to Israel for an eight-day tour where we will experience the places where Jesus and his disciples began their mission. Some tour highlights include: Mount Carmel, Cruise on the Sea of Galilee, site of the feeding of the 5,000, the Jordan River, and much more!

*For updates on programs and schedules,
visit www.stjohnelc.org!*