

Welcome to Worship

at

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

a reconciling in Christ congregation



Second Sunday of Pentecost

June 2, 2024

9:30 am

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Mike Button

Director of Music: Jessica Madow

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Statement of Welcome

*There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female;
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. — Galatians 3:28*

As a community of God striving to be open to all people, we at St. John's Lutheran Congregation believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We welcome all to join us as we struggle to better understand the mysteries of God's teachings. We are challenged by Christ to care for, to love, to understand, and to listen to each other, regardless of race, age, gender, marital status, physical and mental abilities, sexual/affectional orientation, national origin, or economic status. We celebrate together our unity as God's people.

St. John's Lutheran Congregation is a place for each person to shine in their own unique gifts.

Statement of Mission

St. John's Lutheran Church is a downtown, community-oriented, congregation of Christians. We worship God, strive to welcome, and wholly accept everyone, and reach out with and in God's love.

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Communion is a time we invite all baptized Christians who believe that our Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament. If this is your belief, there are instructions to follow at the time of Communion later in the bulletin.

Service Notes:

- (asterisk) indicates, please stand as you are able.
- Page # indicates the front of the hymnal is used . . .
- Hymn # indicates the back of the Hymnal is used . . .

Hymn Book Abbreviations:

ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book
WOV – With One Voice
ACS – All Creation Sings

Gathering

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

Welcome

Prelude

“Dearest Jesus, We Are Here”

(Based on ELW #443; Tune 17th c.)

The Baptism of Piper Claire Neel

Presentation

- page 227

P: In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

P: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have *Piper Claire Neel* baptized into Christ?

Parents / Sponsors: I do.

P: As you bring *Piper* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with *her* among God's faithful people, bring *her* to the word of God and the holy supper, teach *her* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in *her* hands the holy scriptures, and nurture *her* in faith and prayer, so that *she* may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help *her* grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents / Sponsors: I do.

P: Parents & Sponsors, do you promise to nurture *Piper* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Parents / Sponsors: I do.

P: People of God, do you promise to support *Piper Claire Neel* and pray for *her* in *her* new life in Christ?

Congregation: We do.

Profession of Faith

- page 259

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Congregation: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

Congregation: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

Congregation: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

Congregation: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Thanksgiving at the Font

- page 230

Water is poured into the font . . .

P: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

Baptism

- page 230

P: *Piper Claire Neel*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen. Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain *Piper* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

P: *Piper*, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Congregation: Amen.

Welcome

- page 231

A lighted candle is given . . .

Assistant: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Congregation: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

***Gathering Hymn**

ELW #456 *“Baptized in Water”*

***Greeting**

- page 147

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*Kyrie

- page 147

*Canticle of Praise

“This is the Feast . . .”

- page 149

*Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Children’s Chat

Word

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

First Reading

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

¹²Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

¹⁴But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a

slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 81:1-10

¹Sing with joy to God our strength
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

²**Raise a song and sound the timbrel,
the merry harp, and the lyre.**

³Blow the ram's horn at the new moon,
and at the full moon, the day of our feast;

⁴**for this is a statute for Israel,
a law of the God of Jacob.**

⁵God laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, going out over the
land of Egypt,
where I heard a voice I did not know:

⁶**"I eased your shoulder from the burden;
your hands were set free from the gravedigger's basket.**

⁷You called on me in trouble, and I delivered you;
I answered you from the secret place of thunder and tested you at
the waters of Meribah.

⁸**Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you:
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!**

⁹There shall be no strange god among you;
you shall not worship a foreign god.

¹⁰**I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.**

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

⁵We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

"Alleluia"

- page 151

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²³One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain.

²⁴The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” ²⁵And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? ²⁶He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.” ²⁷Then he said to them, “The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.”

^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come forward.”

⁴Then he said to them, “Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — The Rev. Mike Button

*Hymn of the Day –

ELW #729 *“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”*

*Prayers of Intercession

A: Let us pray. Guide your church to expressions of faith that bring rest and release. Teach your faithful people to be attentive to the spiritual, physical, and societal weariness of our neighbors, that we proclaim your grace through tangible acts of mercy and justice. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Keep us mindful of the rhythms of nature as the days lengthen and the seasons shift toward summer. Grant relief to areas facing flooding or drought and bring favorable weather for the flourishing of crops, gardens, and orchards. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Where there is affliction in our world, bring healing. Where world leaders are perplexed, bring clarity of vision. Give a spirit of discernment to political advisors, institutional researchers, economic analysts, and all vocations that inform the work of governments and policymakers. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Provide wholeness and respite to all who are weary: those who struggle in any way and those who care for them. Strengthen first responders and health care workers in their times of exhaustion or frustration. We pray for all who are sick, in need or in pain, including *those we mention on our prayer list . . . and those we name aloud or in our hearts . . .* Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Stir our hearts toward abundant generosity among neighbors who experience hunger and food insecurity. Bless feeding ministries and community food efforts, especially community gardens, farmers markets, food pantries and the St. John's Blessing Box. Open both our hearts and our tables. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: We remember the communion of saints whose lives made visible the saving life of Jesus Christ. Guide us by their example to embody the treasure of your love for the sake of our world, until we come to our final rest in you. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

*** The Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

(Ushers now proceed to the Altar to receive the offering plates...)

Offertory “*Gracious Love*” by J. Dawlom

***Presentation of Gifts** *(Ushers now bring the offering plates forward.)*

***Offertory Hymn** ELW# 185 “*Create in me . . .*”



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

***Offertory Prayer**

A: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen

***Great Thanksgiving** - page 152

*** Preface** (*Leader continues . . .*)

***Holy, Holy, Holy** - page 153

***Thanksgiving at the Table** (*Leader continues . . .*)

***Lord's Prayer** - page 154

***Lamb of God** - page 154

***Invitation to Communion** - page 154

Holy Communion - *If you are baptized and believe that it is the real blood and body of Christ, we welcome you at the Lord's table.*

**At the invitation of the usher, please proceed to the front to receive communion. Communion is also available in your pew, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available upon request.*

Communion Hymns

ELW #614 *“There Is a Balm in Gilead ”*

ELW #465 *“As the Grains of Wheat ”*

ELW #477 *“I Received the Living God ”*

*Table Blessing

*Post Communion Hymn *“Now Lord . . .”* - Page 113



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

***Prayer after Communion**

A: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

Sending

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

Announcements

***Blessing**

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝ be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

ELW #398 *“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”*

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Prayer Concerns: Chuck, Deanna, Joe, Kara, Christine, Donald, Janice, Steve, Charles, Maria, Matt, Tammy, Carolyn, Julia, Charles, Bob, Rita, Donald, Terry, Jim, Shirley, Jeff, Bill, Charlie, Caitlin, Mike, Arlene, Our Homebound Family and Friends, and the St. John's Call Committee



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Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant– Jim Heck

Ushers – Lois Anne Calloway / Volunteer

Reader – Lynn Kutch

Altar Guild – Sue Glenn / Sharon Rabuck

Video Team – David Faulkner

This Week at St. John's June 2nd – June 10th

Today (6/2/24) – Second Sunday of Pentecost, 9:30 am

Today (6/2/24) – Following Worship: Finance

Today (6/2/24) – Gallery Open, 12-3:00 pm

Tuesday (6/4/24) – Bible Study, 11:00 am - Hospitality Rm.

Wednesday (6/5/24) – Council Reports Due

Sunday (6/9/24) – Third Sunday of Pentecost, 9:30 am

Sunday (6/9/24) – Following Worship: Membership, Office

Monday (6/10/24) – Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, Chapel

*Altar Flowers are dedicated to all the graduates of
2024. may God's blessings be with them.
by Charles and Sylvia Orem*

Attendance: 53

Last Sunday's Envelope / Plate Offering	\$1,898.00
Weekly amount needed to reach our Budget:	\$2,126.00
Year to Date Envelope / Plate Offering:	\$41,024.00