

***The Week+ Ahead as We Live in God's Grace***

<b>Today (9<sup>th</sup>)</b>	9:00 am	Worship
	10:15 am	Adult Bible Class (Friendship Evangelism)
	TBD	Vacation Bible Camp Staff Meeting
<b>Mon (10<sup>th</sup>) – Fri (14<sup>th</sup>)</b>		Vacation Bible Camp (9a-3p)
<b>Mon (10<sup>th</sup>)</b>	6:30 pm	Worship
	7:30 pm	Church Council Meeting
<b>Sun (16<sup>th</sup>)</b>	9:00 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	10:15 am	Shepherding Team Informational Meeting
<b>Mon (17<sup>th</sup>)</b>	9:30 am	Pastors Circuit Meeting (at St. John, Woodville)
	6:30 pm	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	7:30 pm	Quarterly Voters Meeting (w/ annual reports)
<b>Mon (24<sup>th</sup>)</b>		Red Cross Blood Drive (1-6p)

***News & Notes***

**Annual Reports Due**

Councilmen should have any annual reports to the church secretary by TOMORROW!!! Reports should cover January 2016 through June 2017. These reports should be prepared by the councilman who served during that time period, even if his term has since ended.

**Shepherding Team Info Meetings**

Two meetings are scheduled this month – during the regular Sunday Bible class time – on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Attend the meeting that's most convenient. Pastor will explain the program, and we'll begin the process of assigning families to volunteers.

**Senior Luncheon**

This month, the luncheon will be held at Bethel, Menasha. The Seniors are providing lunch for and eating with the Builders for Christ team that's assisting Bethel with their building project. If any member wishes to provide a potluck dish / side / dessert – even if you can't personally attend – please have it to church by 10:30 am this Tuesday when the carpool leaves.

**WELS Night @ Miller Park**

The game is on August 10<sup>th</sup>, but ticket orders are due TODAY!!! See the info on the entryway table for details and to sign up. Speak with Karen Geiger if you have any questions.

**Offering Envelope Reminder**

Please remember to add your "home," "missions," "FVLHS," and "debt retirement" offerings all together and print the grand total on the first line of your envelope. Then scribble out anything you'd written on those other three designated lines. Thanks!

**Upcoming Blood Drive**

See the information and signup sheet in the entryway. Free pizza and t-shirt to donors.

**The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 9, 2017**



**St. John Ev. Lutheran Church & School**

437 Turner Street, Wrightstown WI, 54180

www.stjlw.com

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- Mr. Timothy Raddatz, Principal, Grades 4-8..... (920) 636-5007
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- Mrs. Rebecca Wicks, Pre-K and K..... (920) 809-8648
- Miss. Jamie Buss, Preschool and Pre-K ..... (920) 538-0470
- Mr. Terry Sieker, Congregation President ..... (920) 864-7307
- Fox Valley Lutheran High School ..... (920) 739-4441

## Welcome!

We extend a very warm and friendly welcome to all who've joined us for worship today. We pray that the God of grace, who sent his Son to save you and who proved his love for you by raising him from the dead, will fill your heart with joy in knowing that your salvation has been made sure through Jesus. May God bless your worship!

If you're a guest with us this morning, please sign the Friendship Register in your row, checking any applicable boxes. If you need assistance of any kind, don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers. If you'd like to learn more about St. John congregation or the Bible's teachings, please speak with Pastor Mike Gehl. And if you don't already have a church-home, feel free to return and worship with us again at your earliest convenience.

Our restrooms are located downstairs (through the entryway). Activity bags to help keep children occupied are on a hanger in the entryway. We love having your children sit with you during the service, but if you feel that your infant or toddler is getting a little too fussy, you may briefly step out of the sanctuary until they're ready to come back in.

Today's order of service is displayed on the screen and printed out in the worship folder (with music notes) for your convenience. Hymns are found in the red book in front of you.

St. John also operates an all-day preschool and a full-day kindergarten through eighth grade Lutheran Elementary School. We're a member of the Fox Valley Lutheran High School federation. If you are interested in hearing more about these opportunities for Christian education, please speak with Pastor Gehl or Principal Tim Raddatz.

**Mission and Purpose**

St. John Lutheran Church exists as part of the Holy Christian Church on earth. We engage in the continuing development of disciples of Jesus Christ by **GATHERING** for worship, education, and fellowship in order to **GROW** in faith and knowledge of our Lord and Savior. By God's **GRACE** we **GO** to proclaim Christ and his Word with our lips and lives. We realize that it's only through the **GOSPEL** in Word and Sacraments that one can be equipped for discipleship and bringing **GLORY** to God.

### At Your Service Today:

	<u>Sun</u>	<u>Mon</u>
<b>Greeters:</b>	Lois Baumgartener Tina DeMerritt – Carol Just Karen Geiger – Marna Johns	
<b>Ushers:</b>	Jacob Bruecker Bryce Herlache Noah Pennenberg Monty Reynolds Kevin Vande hey Steve Wierschke	
<b>PowerPoint:</b>	Phil Roberts	Lou Ann Beard
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Lou Ann B, Mary F, & Aura Lee G	

## Closing Prayer

*Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

## Blessing

*The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and [✚] give you peace.*

**Amen.**

**Closing Hymn** ..... *“O Christians, Haste” (CW 570)*

### ***Last Week's Stewardship of the Means of Grace and the Means for His Work***

<b>Worship</b>	101; 82 LS	<b>ABC:</b>	21		
				<u>Jul 2</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<b>Budgetary Income*</b>				\$19,455	\$19,455
					<u>YTD Goal</u>
					\$8,023

*\* Tuition, missions, FVLHS, and debt retirement are now part of our unified budget, so itemized income will no longer be printed in the bulletin. Council and voters reports will contain the breakdowns. FYI, the mission offering is now 4.5% of undesignated income.*

## Create in Me

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

## Thank-Offering

*These offerings are used to support the ministries of our church, both locally and worldwide.  
Our guests should not feel compelled to give an offering, but may do so if they desire.*

## Prayer of the Church

### The 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Service Theme for the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: The Holy Ministry preaches Christ in spite of persecution. Christ promises courage for his witnesses to testify even in the face of pain or persecution. The Prayer of the Day is one of the most ancient in the Church's use. It seems to have been suggested by the disasters of the dying Western Empire. As Rome crumbled, the Church prayed for God's governance that she might worship in peace and joy. Today Christ reminds us that even when that peace and joy are absent, he will give us the courage to continue to testify in his name.

## Divine Service I

Opening Hymn....."In You Is Gladness" (CW 346)

### Greeting

*In the name of the Father and of the Son [†] and of the Holy Spirit.*

Amen.

### Confession of Sins

*Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord, Have Mercy.....(Kyrie)

C Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us. A - men.

*God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son [†] and of the Holy Spirit.*

Amen.

*In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.*

**Glory to God..... (Gloria in Excelsis)**



**C** Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on  
earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and  
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the  
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.  
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. You are  
seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re -  
ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.

<sup>24</sup>“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor is a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup>It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher and the servant like his master. If the master of the house was called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

<sup>26</sup>“So do not be afraid of them, because there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, and nothing hidden that will not be made known. <sup>27</sup>What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup>Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, fear the one who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

<sup>29</sup>“Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground without the knowledge and consent of your Father. <sup>30</sup>And even the hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup>So do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup>“Everyone who confesses me before others, I will also confess before my Father who is in heaven.

<sup>33</sup>But whoever denies me before others, I will also deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

*...this is the Gospel of our Lord.*



**C** Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

**The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day.....“Jesus! and Shall It Ever Be” (CW 347)**

**Sermon ..... Matthew 10:24-33**

**Confidently Proclaim Christ!**

**...without fearing those  
who oppose you.**

**...without fearing that the  
Lord has forgotten you.**

<sup>4</sup>Those who were standing nearby said, “Do you dare to insult God’s high priest?”

<sup>5</sup>Paul replied, “I did not know, brothers, that he is the high priest. Indeed, it is written, ‘You shall not speak evil about a ruler of your people.’”

<sup>6</sup>When Paul realized that some of them were Sadducees and the others were Pharisees, he shouted out in the Sanhedrin, “Gentlemen, brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. I am on trial concerning the hope for the resurrection of the dead!”

<sup>7</sup>When he said this, a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. <sup>8</sup>(For the Sadducees say there is no resurrection or angel or spirit, but the Pharisees believe in them all.) <sup>9</sup>Then there was a great uproar, and some of the experts in the law who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and protested strongly: “We find nothing wrong with this man. What if a spirit or an angel spoke to him?”

<sup>10</sup>The uproar became so great that the commander was afraid Paul would be torn to pieces by them. He commanded the soldiers to go down, take him away from them by force, and bring him into the barracks.

<sup>11</sup>The following night the Lord stood next to Paul and said, “Take courage! As you have solemnly testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome.”

### Verse of the Day ..... Galatians 4:6 (EHV)

*Alleluia. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts to shout, “Abba, Father!” Alleluia.*

### Gospel Lesson .....Matthew 10:24-33 (EHV)

*Jesus’ axiomatic statements are so obvious that they require no proof. Yet how surprised we are when we face persecution because of the Word! Perhaps we face physical persecution, or perhaps it is merely the way modern Christians are called intolerant, credulous, backward. But why should Christians be surprised or disappointed or angered about the persecutions they face? Look at the axiom! We slaves are not above our master who was persecuted first. So this should not lead to surprise and cannot lead to the cessation of our work as Gospel heralds. We know our master and the reality of who he actually is, not just the falsities his enemies promulgate. And, therefore, do not be afraid of them! Instead, shout and proclaim! Our enemies can only succeed in killing the body. Such a small thing compared to the fate that awaits them! The enemies of Christ have always been fearsome, whether in the days of the crumbling of the Roman Empire or during these latter days of American hegemony. That’s why Christ says it three times, “Do not be afraid.” In place of fear, find the courage of Christ to witness in the face of any persecution.*

*Today’s Gospel reading is recorded in the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, beginning at the 24<sup>th</sup> verse.*



C Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on  
earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the  
Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on  
earth. Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

### Prayer of the Day

*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Let us pray.*

*O Lord, our God, govern the nations on earth and direct the affairs of this world so that your Church may worship you in peace and joy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

## The Word

### First Lesson ..... Jeremiah 19:14 – 20:6 (EHV)

*Note the courage of Jeremiah, first in speaking the Word of the Lord that landed him in the stocks, and then speaking the subsequent Word of the Lord as soon as he is released from the stocks. To the man who had beaten him, Jeremiah proclaimed a message of doom and death by God's hand. Pashhur could merely kill the body. So Jeremiah did not fear him, but placed his life in the hands of the God who numbered every hair on his head. In those hands, Jeremiah found the courage to testify in the face of persecution, and even in the midst of it.*

<sup>14</sup>Then Jeremiah came back from Topheth, where the LORD had sent him to prophesy, and he stood in the court of the LORD's house and said to all the people: <sup>15</sup>"This is what the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says. Watch, I will bring on this city and on all its towns every disaster that I have declared against it, because they have become stiff-necked, refusing to hear my words."

<sup>20:1</sup>Now Pashhur the priest, the son of Immer and the chief officer in the house of the LORD, heard Jeremiah prophesying these things. <sup>2</sup>Pashhur had Jeremiah the prophet beaten, and he put him in the stocks at the Upper Benjamin Gate at the house of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>The next day when Pashhur released him from the stocks, Jeremiah said to him, "The LORD does not call you Pashhur, but *Magor-Missabib*, <sup>4</sup>for this is what the LORD says: Watch, I will make you a terror to yourself and to all your friends. They will fall by the sword of their enemies before your very eyes. I will hand Judah over to the king of Babylon. He will carry them captive to Babylon, and he will kill them with the sword. <sup>5</sup>Also the riches of this city, all its property, and all the treasures of the kings of Judah—I will give it all away into the hands of their enemies. They will plunder these things, seize them, and carry them off to Babylon. <sup>6</sup>As for you, Pashhur, and all who live in your house, you will go into captivity. You will go to Babylon! You will die there, and you will be buried there, you and all your friends to whom you have prophesied falsely."

### Psalm of the Day ..... Psalm 31

#### Refrain

Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and  
not be a - fraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my  
sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

#### Psalm tone

In you, O LORD, I have taken • refuge;\*  
deliver me in your • righteousness.

Be my rock of • refuge,\*  
a strong fortress to • save me.

Into your hands I commit my • spirit;\*  
redeem me, O LORD, the • God of truth.

#### Refrain

My times are • in your hands;\*  
save me in your un- • failing love.

How great is your • goodness,\*  
which you have stored up for those who • fear you.

You heard my cry for • mercy\*  
when I called to • you for help.

**Glory be to the Father and • to the Son \* and to the Holy • Spirit,  
as it was in the be- • ginning, \* is now, and will be forever. • Amen.**

#### Refrain

### Second Lesson ..... Acts 23:1-11 (EHV)

*St. Paul knew persecution well: he knew how to give it, and he knew how to take it. The man who once had been the Church's worst nightmare had become by God's amazing grace the Church's great Apostle to the Gentiles. But the self-proclaimed chief of sinners, who once persecuted the Church, then endured a ministry filled with persecutions. The list of dangers and violence that Paul faced is lengthy. By the time we find Paul in this lesson he had faced persecutions many times. Yet, his Savior never forgot him, and his Savior never forgot to remind him of the courage he could have in Christ. He was going to Rome, and he would testify. Not even a martyr's death would be able to stop the testimony Paul would make for Christ. What the Lord whispered in the dark, Paul shouted from the rooftop. And when he met his martyr's death, it was only the door to eternity where his Savior acknowledged him before God the Father. Grant us that courage to testify, O Lord!*

Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said, "Gentlemen, brothers, I have lived my life before God with a completely clear conscience to this very day."

<sup>2</sup>But the high priest Ananias ordered those who were standing near Paul to strike him on the mouth.

<sup>3</sup>Then Paul said to him, "God is going to strike you, you whitewashed wall! You sit there judging me according to the law, and then you order them to strike me contrary to the law!"