

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

September 24, 2023
"Loving People to Christ"

Welcome to God's Holy House!
**May this worship service be an uplifting and
spiritual blessing for you and your family.**

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: *Holy Father, you have provided the means by which the message of your Son has come to us. We thank you for the Gospel, and we pray that you would keep our ears open to hear it new each day. Give us your Holy Spirit, so that we would be kept in the one true faith, together with all those who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Amen.*

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING
Lutheran Service Book p. 260

Preservice: *Adult Chimes*

Opening Hymn "Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise"
LSB 802

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of
the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Opening Versicles

P This is the day which the Lord has made;
C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

C Teach me Your paths.

P Sanctify us in Your truth.

C Your Word is truth.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**C Glory be to the Father and to the + Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.**

Old Testament Canticle 

LSB 261



READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion
on him,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 27:1-9

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

²**When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.

⁴**One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.**

⁵For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.

⁶**And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**

⁷Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!

⁸**You have said, “Seek my face.”
My heart says to you,
“Your face, LORD, do I seek.”**

⁹Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!

Adult Choir *“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

Epistle

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.

¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is

more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
LSB 805

Gospel Reading  **Matthew 20:1–16**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew at the
20th chapter.

C **Glory be to you O Lord.**

¹“For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go

into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’⁵ So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Common Responory

LSB 263

P Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

P Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.


P Glory be to the Father and to the + Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Sermon Hymn  **"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name"**
LSB 549

Sermon *"Labor Issue"* based on the Gospel, Matthew 20: 1-16

Offering We ask all members and visitors to please sign our "Friendship Folder" located at the center aisle end of each pew in the red vinyl folder. As you sign it, make sure everyone in your pew has a chance to sign it.

Prayer  Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs
Brief silence

P Let Us Pray to the Lord, **C Lord, Have Mercy.**

The Lord's Prayer **LSB 264**

Luther's Morning Prayer **LSB 266**

Collect for Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

P Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

New Testament Canticle  **LSB 266**

Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn “Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise” **LSB 917**

Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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DATES TO REMEMBER

After worship today:	Voters’ Meeting
September 25 and 27	6:30-7:30 pm BBall practice
September 28	6:00-7:00 pm Confirmation
	6:00 pm Adult Chimes
	7:00 pm Adult Choir
October 1	LWML SUNDAY
	8:15 am Adult Bible Study
	9:30 am LWML Service with Holy Communion



ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God
in memory of Helene Richy by the Loving Hands.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS THIS MORNING

Pastor: *Pastor John Richy*
Elder: *Mike Winters*
Lector: *Douglas Rebeck*
Usher: *Roy Jennings and Ed Knoll*
Music Director: *Sue Olson*
Organist: *Kyle Castillo*
Adult Choir and Chimes (see p. 11)

PRAYERS FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S FAMILY (*Homebound)

Andy Banas Jr. Charlene Cox* Irma Deichen*
Al Erke Lynn Erke John Linn Sandra Luecke*
Shirley Odegaard* Sandy Swanson Norma Vierk*
Margaret Zoellick**

THOSE CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK

*Heather Young, Sept. 27 Sherman Mayerak, Sept. 27
Morgan Kleidon, Oct 1 Carol Granados, Oct. 1*

CELEBRATING WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

*John and Lori Szymanski, Sept. 27
Michael and Kerri Kuzmar, Sept. 27*

LANSING FOOD PANTRY MONTH DRIVE: Don't forget that our Lansing Food Pantry donation collections go on each month. Items may be placed on the table inside the inner school doors. Last Monday of each month is the delivery.

CHURCH BRICKS If you wish to make an order, order forms ("Legacy Project") are available at either entrance. It may be a few months before we get at least 5 orders to help with shipping.

SHOP WITH SCRIPS: The Shop with Scrips (also known as Raise Right) card fundraiser is being offered EVERY

MONTH. Orders are to be placed the last Sunday of the month with delivery the following Sunday. The enrollment code is A938D6FC4588. The website is www.raiseright.com/ Questions? ...call Tina Funchion @ 708 789-2844 funchionpt@comcast.net.

CHURCH STATISTICS FROM SEPTEMBER 17

Church Attendance: 54 Communion: NA Bible Study: 19
Offering Income: \$2697.00
Misc. Income: \$145.00
Total: \$2852.00



PET BLESSINGS For the third year, as a community outreach, St. John's will again have a "Pet Blessing" here in the front yard for leashed or caged pets to be blessed by Pastor Richy. This will be held **NEXT SATURDAY, Oct. 7th at 1:00 pm.**

Sunday October 8th 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Family Friendly Team Trivia

Multigenerational questions

Snacks will be available or bring your own

Tringo

Play Bingo between rounds of trivia
\$1 a sheet or 3 for \$2

Plan a theme and decorate your table

Admission \$10

Proceeds to benefit Trinity's Comfort Dog Ministry

*Trinity Lutheran School
891 Linda Street, Hobart, IN*

Our 2023-2024 St. John's Adult Chimes

Kyle Castillo
Naomi Furtek
Eileen Gronewold
Rene Knight
Tracy Krause
Susan Kreger
Ashley Richy
Mary Wells
Nancy Wojcik



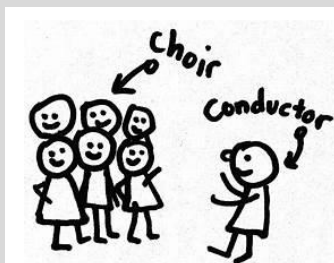
Our 2023-2024 St. John's Adult Choir

Soprano: *Donna Pyritz*
Ashley Richy
Mary Wells
Cheryl Zimmerman

Alto: *Lori Costenaro*
Eileen Gronewold
Diane Scanlon

Baritone *Ray Biederstadt*
Hal Gronewold
Gary Knight
Jim Kreger
David Swanson
Mike Winters

Accompanist: *Kyle Castillo*
Director: *Sue Olson*



St. Johns' Ev. Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. John Richy, Pastor

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Church E-mail: stjohnslansing@comcast.net

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CHURCH OFFICE *The office is open Tues - Fri, 9:00 – 2:00 pm.*



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