



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool
200 S Main St
Charles City, Iowa 50616
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Rev. Russ Leeper, Senior Pastor
Rev. Anita Nuetzman, Visitation & Preaching Pastor
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

June 13, 2021: Third Sunday after Pentecost



Mark 4:26-34

Prelude:

“Fill Our Hearts with Thy Wondrous Love”

Donald Moore

Welcome

The flowers on the Altar are from Dave & Shirley Ripley

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Paul & Yolanda Van Ausdall in memory of their parents.

Opening Hymn:

“We are Baptized in Christ Jesus”

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1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit - ness, in the break - ing of the bread,
3 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread - ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re - sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Apostolic Greeting:

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

Response: **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

“Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me. Mold me. Fill me. Use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Reading:

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Read by Linda Hughes

22Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. 23On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. 24All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Gospel Song:

“Alleluia”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 4:26-34



²⁶He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord...



Sermon

Pastor Russ Leeper



1 Lord, your hands have formed this world, ev - 'ry part is shaped by
 2 Yours the soil that holds the seed, you give warmth and mois - ture,
 3 Like a mat you roll out land, space to build for us and



you— wa - ter tum - bling o - ver rocks, air, and sun - light:
 too. Sprout - ing blos - soms, crops and buds, trees and plants: the
 you earth - ly homes and, bet - ter still, homes for Christ: the



each day's signs that you make all things new.
 sea - son's signs that you make all things new.
 tru - est sign that you make all things new.

Text: Ramon and Sario Oliano; para. James Minchin, b. 1942; tr. Delbert Rice
 Music: GAYOM NI HIGAMI, Ikalahan (Philippines) traditional
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The Creed

The Apostles' Creed

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

**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.**

**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. Amen

The Prayers (P): Lord in your mercy,
Response: **hear our prayer.**

Please Keep the following in prayer:

Dan Carey Gary Lamprecht
Ed Friest Sandra Link
Irene Gabe Lynn Poppen
James Grob Peg Poppen
Dennis Hollar Yolanda Van Ausdall

Family of Sharon Kay Mrachek Miller

Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families: Mackenzy Bilharz, Alex Buenger, Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs, Robson Shankland

The Prayer List: Names will be kept on the list for 3 weeks. Family members can request a name be left on longer. The office number is 228-3397.

At the 9:00 a.m. worship service, we celebrate the baptisms of...

Mindi May & Mandi Rose Sande

Mindi & Mandi are the children of Dennis & Diane Sande



Special Music:

“Czardas”
Justin Heyer, Violin

Vittorio Manti

The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For this is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

The Benediction

P: Let's hold each other in prayer & stay safe!

Sending Hymn:

“Blessed Be the Name of the Lord”
Blessed be the name of the Lord.
He is worthy to be praised and adored;
So we lift up Holy hands in one accord, singing
“Blessed be the name, blessed be the name,
blessed be the name of the Lord!”

(2 Times)

Postlude:

“Hold Strong the Flag of Freedom”

Robert Hughes

**ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL'S
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
WILL BE JUNE 13, 2021
AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY**

From the Council President:

Hi everyone! The recent easing of Covid-19 restrictions by the CDC means that it is time to hold the 2021 St. John annual meeting. The annual meeting was delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic preventive measures in place earlier this year. The agenda includes the ministry support plan, election of officers and board members, and discussion/vote of extending a 30% call to Pastor Anita Nuetzman. Pastor Brackett from the Northeast Iowa Synod will describe the process for making a partial call. **Please attend the St. John annual meeting at 10:00 am on Sunday, June 13, 2021 in the sanctuary.**

Greg Buenger, Congregation President

Following CDC guidance, masks are **NO** longer required for fully vaccinated people in the building. **However, those who are not fully vaccinated or at high risk from the COVID-19 virus are strongly encouraged to wear a mask.**

Everyone is welcome!

During the pandemic St. John has provide worship by video on our Website & YouTube. Attendance at in person worship has been rising and it has been decided that starting in June we will provide videos 2 times per month. Videos will be provided on June 13, June 27, July 11, July 25, August 1 & August 15.

The radio broadcast will continue EVERY Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Anniversary of Marriage - Recognition & Blessing

When a couple marries, a wide community of family and friends typically celebrates the relationship. However, the *anniversary* of this special day tends to be marked only by the couple themselves (with the exception of the 25th or 50th).

What's more, many wedding *ceremonies* are religiously affiliated, either through location in a church or by the presence of ordained clergy. But fewer and fewer couples are continuing to be part of a faith community *beyond* the wedding day.

This month at St. John, we want to lift up the gift of marriage within the worshipping community, recognizing God's ongoing presence in the years *after* the vows are taken, in the midst of all the ups and downs, offering our love and support as a congregation. That's why we're inviting anyone who is celebrating a wedding anniversary in 2021 that ends in a "0" (10, 20, 30 years and so on) to come to worship on Sunday, June 27 for a special gift and blessing.

Please respond to Pastor Anita by Sunday, June 20 if you're able to take part. pastoranita@outlook.com

~adapted from Milestones Ministry Manual: For Home and Congregation – Adult Milestones

“We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Don & Shirley Holm for the recent memorial they gave to St. John in memory of Sharon Kay Mrachek Miller. Thank you!”

St. John will be providing a worship service at 9th St on the second Friday of the month at 10:15 a.m. We will need volunteers to play piano & to help distribute communion. Contact the office at 641-228-3397 if you would like to volunteer!

If you have a favorite hymn or song (including Praise songs from the radio) let Melanie know and she will include the song in summer worship services!

You can call 641-228-3397 with your favorites!

After Worship Social Time!

Coffee & a treat will be served outside the Narthex doors each Sunday (weather permitting). Enjoy a moment to reconnect with each other!



Offering from the week of June 6, 2021

General Receipts	\$ 9,267.00
Designated offering	95.00
<i>General receipts of \$9,757.00 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget.</i>	

Attendance: 104

Do Day Quilters

St. John has a group called "Do Day Quilters". They make tied quilts to donate to the local homeless shelters. They will begin meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (June 16) from 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (bring a sack lunch). All are welcome to come! You don't need to be an experienced quilter to help out! If you are interested in joining the quilters, call Kathy in the office at 641-228-3397 for more information!



St. John & Messiah have a team in the church softball league! They play at Westwood Park & their next game will be June 15th at 6:00 p.m. on the West Diamond. Go cheer on our team & enjoy an evening of softball!



Vacation Bible School is coming July 26 - 29th!

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Who: Preschool age - 5th grade

Theme: "Rocky Railway - Jesus Loves to Pull Us Through"

Cost: Free! Thanks to Stewardship Board's Kans for Kids program!

Registration information will be available soon.



St. John Sesquicentennial 2022. The church we know today as St. John started forming 150 years ago. If you would like to be on a committee and help plan and organize activities for the St. John sesquicentennial, please contact the church office.

Altar Flower & Radio Sign-up: If you would like to sign up to sponsor the Altar flowers &/or the radio broadcast contact Kathy in the office at 641-228-3397! We will continue to have flowers as they are on the online service & the radio broadcast reaches many of our at home congregation!