



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool  
200 S Main St  
Charles City, Iowa 50616  
641-228-3397  
[www.stjohncharlescity.org](http://www.stjohncharlescity.org)

Rev. Russ Leeper, Senior Pastor  
Beth Hurt, Deacon Intern  
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

**Sunday, September 3, 2023**  
**14th Sunday after Pentecost**



**Matthew 16:21-26**

Key: L = Leader, C = Congregation, \*\*\* = Song Request

*Prelude:*

**“The Old Rugged Cross”**

*Welcome*

The flowers on the Altar are sponsored by Monte & Kathy Waldorf, in honor of their 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary.

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Sandy & Gary Marth in memory of Loved Ones.

*Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness:*

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires know, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn:*

**“We Have Come Into His House”**

We have come into His house  
Gathered in His name to worship Him.  
We have come into His house  
Gathered in His name to worship Him.  
We have come into His house  
Gathered in His name to worship  
Christ the Lord, Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

So let's lift up holy hands,  
And magnify His name, and worship Him  
So let's lift up holy hands,  
And magnify His name, and worship Him.  
So let's lift up holy hands,  
And magnify His name and worship Christ the Lord  
Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

So forget about yourself,  
And concentrate on Him, and worship Him  
So forget about yourself,  
And concentrate on Him, and worship Him  
So forget about yourself,  
And concentrate on Him and worship Christ the Lord  
Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

He is all my righteousness,  
I stand complete in Him, and worship Him  
He is all my righteousness,  
I stand complete in Him, and worship Him  
He is all my righteousness,  
I stand complete in Him and worship Christ the Lord  
Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

*Apostolic Greeting:*

L: 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.**

**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, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

***Special Music:***

**“Majesty”**

**(Carter Johanningmeier-Trumpet & Melanie Johanningmeier-Piano)**

***Scripture Reading***

**Romans 12:9-21**

**Read by Kip Hauser**

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. <sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup>No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## “My Church”

**My church is not the walls or the sign at the street.**

**My church is the people inside.**

**My church is not the buildings, it’s the people I meet.**

**My church is the people inside.**

**Inside these walls, we pray and love.**

**Inside these walls, we give.**

**Inside these walls, we worship God above,**

**and learn together how to live.**

### *Children’s Sermon*

#### *Gospel Song*

#### “Alleluia”

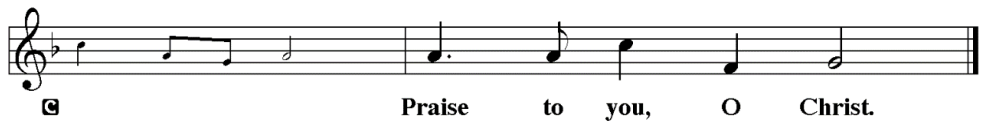
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia:

*L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:21-26*



<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” <sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

*L: The Gospel of the Lord...*



*Sermon*

Pastor Russ Leeper

*\*\*\*Song of the Day*

“Way Maker”

**Video**

### 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 (L):* Lord in your mercy,  
Response: **hear our prayer.**

Dan Marth	Bill Hollar	Linda Girken	Marilu Wohlers
Joyce Boehmer	Beverly Sears	Imani Sande	Larry Bohner
Edna Stott	Bill Wohlers Jr.	Jeanette Brinkman	Arlene Lehs
Linda Hoy	Noa Mulholland	Colleen Ortmyer	Gary Quade

Prayers and condolences to Beth Hurt & Family upon the passing of her mother.

**Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families:** Kaleb Bilharz, Mackenzy Bilharz, Tanner Evans, Kaylie Fox, Hannah Fox, Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs, Cameron Kakac, Drew Roethler, Robson Shankland

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
Who abide in this shadow for life,  
Say to the Lord: "My refuge,  
My rock in whom I trust!"

**Refrain**

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of his hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
And famine will bring you no fear;  
Under God's wings your refuge,  
With faithfulness your shield.

**Refrain**

You need not fear the terror of the night,  
Nor the arrow that flies by day;  
Though thousands fall about you,  
Near you it shall not come.

**Refrain**

For to the angels God's given a command  
To guard you in all of your ways;  
Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

**Final refrain**

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of his hand;  
And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

**\*Response**

**“Feed Us Now”**

Feed us now, Bread of life, In this holy meal;  
Let us know your love a-new; We hunger for you.  
Feed us now, Bread of life, Come and live with-in.  
Let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray

*The Words of Institution*

*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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Communion Invitation*

**“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”**

**#494**

1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,  
2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,  
3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,  
4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;

for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.  
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.  
may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.  
in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.



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**“Nearer My God To Thee”**

Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!  
E'en though it be a cross That raiseth me;  
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

Though like the wanderer, The sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone;  
Yet in my dreams I'd be, Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

There let the way appear, Steps unto heaven:  
All that Thou sendest me, In mercy given:  
Angels to beckon me, Nearer, my God to Thee,  
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

Then with my waking thoughts, Bright with Thy praise,  
Out of my stony griefs, Bethel I'll raise;  
So by my woes to be, Nearer, my God to Thee,  
Nearer my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

Or if on joyful wing, Cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon and stars forgot, Upward I fly,  
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God to Thee,  
Nearer my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;  
 2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;  
 3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;  
 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.  
 you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
 and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.  
 that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

*Communion Blessing & Benediction*

*Sending Hymn*

**"Bind Us Together"**

**Refrain:**

Bind us together Lord, Bind us together  
 With cords that cannot be broken,  
 Bind us together Lord, Bind us together.  
 Bind us together with love.  
 There is only one God.  
 There is only one King.  
 There is only one body,  
 That is why I sing.

**Refrain:**

You are the family of God.  
 You are the promise divine.  
 You are God's chosen desire,  
 You are the glorious wine.

**Refrain:**

*L:* Go in peace. Share the Good News!

**Thanks be to God!**

*Postlude:*

**"Face to Face"**



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool*  
*200 S. Main Street, Charles City, IA 50616; 641-228-3397*

**September 3--September 10**

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Worship/Communion
	10:00 a.m.	After Worship Social Time
Wednesday	9: a.m.	Do Day Quilters
	4:10 p.m.	Parish Ed
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Worship

**God's Work/Our Hands**

**Offering from the week of:**

**August 27, 2023**

General Receipts:	<b>\$5,688.18</b>
Designated:	<b>\$105.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,793.18</b>

*General Receipts of \$9,580.03 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget.*

**Sunday Attendance: 195**

**Song Requests**

If anyone has a hymn or praise song request over the summer...please write it on the back of your "Attendance" slip and Melanie can incorporate them into the services.

**Additionally**

If you would like to *provide* any special music over the summer, contact Melanie to discuss it.

**Please help support...**

**St. John Christian Preschool**

Purchase Kwik Star gift cards and the preschool receives 5% of the face value!! Please contact Whitney or Toni if you are interested.



**Rally Sunday – September 17<sup>th</sup>!**

Join the Parish Education Board in the Narthex after worship to sign up for Sunday School & After School!

Join the Family Board in the Blue Parking Lot after worship to play some games!

Bring your RC car from home – we'll have a track drawn in the parking lot!

## **Adult Catechism Class Coming In October!**

Starting October 1, 2023, Pastor Russ will lead a 7-week Sunday morning Adult Catechism Class. This class is an exploration of Martin Luther's Small Catechism, which sums up what Lutherans believe. The class is perfect for life-long Lutherans, those new to the faith, and anyone who just wants to know more about what Lutherans believe.

The class will meet at 10:15 AM every Sunday from October 1st – November 19th (except October 29th). So that we be sure to have enough materials for everyone, please sign up for the class by Sunday, September 17th. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex or you can contact the church office.

## **Children's Choir**

Melanie is planning to start a children's choir (Carol Choir) again this fall. It would be for children Kindergarten-6<sup>th</sup> grade. It would meet on Wednesday evening from 5:30-6:00. There would be time to come eat at church at 5:00 then come to choir. This group will try to sing about one time per month. Melanie will rehearse songs with the kids, have time for an activity of some sort and then end with a snack. There will be a sign-up sheet on Rally Sunday, September 17. The first meeting for Carol Choir will be Wednesday, September 27 at 5:30 pm (location to be determined). Come be a part of Carol Choir! If you have any questions, please contact Melanie at 641-330-0963.

## **Trinity Choir**

Trinity Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 27 at 7:00 pm. We will meet in the Sanctuary. Please join us by singing in Trinity Choir this year. We are really looking forward to some great singing and amazing fellowship.

Trinity Choir is open to anyone 7<sup>th</sup> grade and older. Join us for our first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 27 at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Melanie at 641-330-0963.

## **Tone Chime Choir**

Last year we had a tone chime choir that met a few times. We have had interest in starting a tone chime choir that would be multi-age (6<sup>th</sup> grade-adult). If you have an interest in this, please contact Melanie at 641-330-0963. We have a director in place so need people willing to enjoy this venture.

# Opportunities:

*(To Show God's Love in Action in Our Community)*

## The Northeast Iowa Food Bank—Mobile Food Pantry

(Serving upwards of 200 families, individuals, and seniors in need.)

*Charles City      1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month      5:00 pm – 6:30 pm*

Youth Enrichment Building at the Floyd County Fairgrounds

Roughly 40 volunteers are needed from 4 – 7 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each month to set up, pack food, distribute food, and clean up.

The time commitment is small yet has a tremendous impact for those in need.

All ages of volunteers are welcome!

Contact Jen Burton at 641-220-1769 for more information.

### After Worship Social Time

Coffee & a treat are served Outside or in the Parish Hall each Sunday!!

#### \*\*\*Special Note\*\*\*

We do need volunteers to sign up for bringing treats. There is a sign-up sheet by the Narthex doors.

### Church Cleaning Checklist

#### **#1: PEOPLE/HELP**

“After construction & deep cleaning”

Everyone is welcome to come help us clean our church!!

Current Schedule:

September 14, 16, 28 @ 9 am

### Wednesday Night Suppers

#### Volunteers Needed

We would like to form multiple teams of four (4) to prepare and serve the meals on Wednesday night.

The month of October is covered.

We currently need teams for November and December.

For questions or to volunteer contact Shirley Holm or Sandie Quade.