



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool

200 S Main St

Charles City, Iowa 50616

641-228-3397

www.stjohncharlescity.org

Rev. Russ Leeper, Senior Pastor

Beth Hurt, Deacon Intern

Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

Sunday, July 16, 2023

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23



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

Prelude:

“I Surrender All”

Franklin Ritter

Welcome

The flowers on the Altar are sponsored by Eugene & Ina Heitz, in memory of loved ones.

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Norma Overlee in memory of Steve Overlee.

Treats for After Worship Social Time are being provided by Jodi Reitz.

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 known, 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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Music* “Fanfare and Canon” Piano by Laker Kubik**

***Scripture Reading* Isaiah 55:10-13 Read by Kiki Connell**

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

Children of the heav’nly Father
Safely in his bosom gather;
Nestling bird or star in heaven
Such a refuge ne’er was given.

Children’s Sermon

Gospel Song

“Alleluia”

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

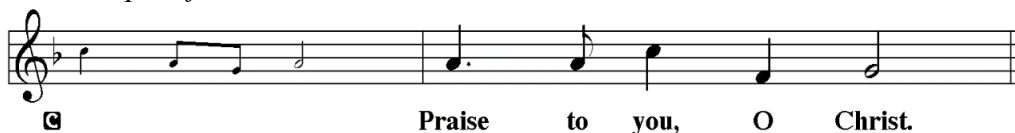
L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23



¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!” ¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground,

this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord...



Sermon

Deacon Intern, Beth Hurt

*****Song of the Day**

“I’m So Blessed

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.**

Please keep the following in prayer:

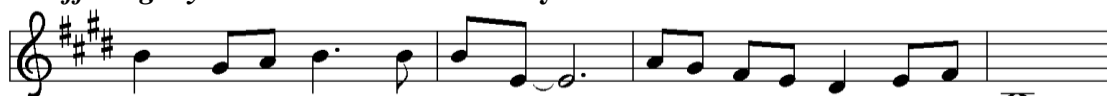
Dan Marth	Beverly Hinders Trost	Linda Girken	Marilu Wohlers
Joyce Boehmer	Ron Hoffman	Ron Venz	Larry Bohner
Edna Stott	Bill Wohlers Jr.	Jeanette Brinkman	Arlene Lehs
Vic Dunn	Diane Wagener	Leon Mulford	

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

The Offering Hymn:

“Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

#512



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

***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

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

#471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow’r through-out the universe displayed;

Refrain:

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

Refrain:

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;

Refrain:

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, “My God, how great thou art!”

Refrain:

Communion Blessing & Benediction

Sending Hymn

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

#547

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing, to God ev - er - liv - ing,

the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—

The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,

the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.

The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.

Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing

to give work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

L: Go in peace. Share the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude:

“Hold Strong”

Robert Hughe



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

July 16--July 23

Sunday	9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion Returns for Reverse Offering
	10:00 a.m. After Worship Social Time
Monday	5:15 p.m. Youth Board, FS
Tuesday	2:00 p.m. Stewardship Board
Wednesday	Newsletter Deadline
	9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters
	4:30 p.m. Family Board
Sunday	9:00 a.m. Worship
	10:00 a.m. After Worship Social Time
	10:10 a.m. Deacons, Chapel

**BIBLE CAMP
SCHOLARSHIPS**

Just a reminder that St. John offers scholarships for all our youth members attending a Christian camp. Scholarships are offered in the amounts of \$25 for a one-day camp, \$50 for camps lasting 2-3 days, and \$150 for camps lasting 4-7 days. Just bring in a copy of your registration to the Business Office for a reimbursement.

Offering from the week of:

July 9, 2023

General Receipts:	\$9,877.08
Designated:	\$90.00
Total	\$9,967.08

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

Sunday Attendance: 165

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 Whittney or Toni if you are interested.



**Charles City Community
Blood Drive**

Messiah Lutheran Church
705 3rd Ave. | Charles City

Friday, July 28

12:30 PM - 5:30 PM



SCAN ME

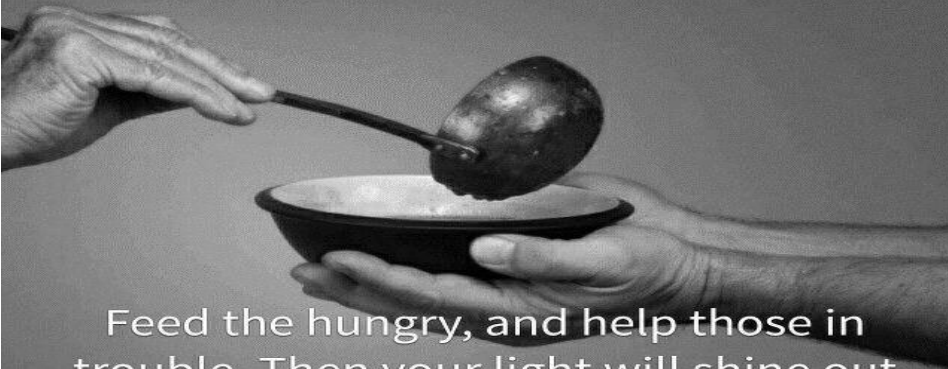
Text: LIFESERVE to 999.777 | Call: 800.287.4903 | Visit: lifeserve.info/schedule



LifeServe
BLOOD CENTER

YOUR BLOOD. YOUR HOSPITAL. YOUR NEIGHBORS.

It is never too late to bring items in for the Reverse Offering (Blessing Box)!!!



Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon.
Isaiah 58:10

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 1st 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 1st 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.

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION MINISTRY

If you would like home communion or would like to volunteer to assist with this ministry...Contact Toni at the church office 641-228-3397.

(VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED)