



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
Rev. Anita Nuetzman, Visitation & Preaching Pastor
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

September 5, 2021: Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Mark 7:24-37

Prelude:

Welcome

The flowers on the Altar are sponsored by Paul & Yolanda Van Ausdall in memory of parents & family members.

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Diane Melrose in memory of Andy & her son Mike

Thank you, Jodi Reetz, for the after worship treats this Sunday!

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness:

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

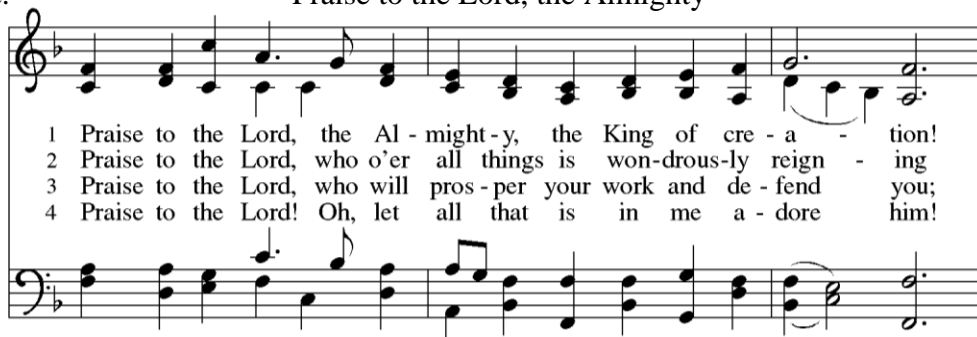
P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires know, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

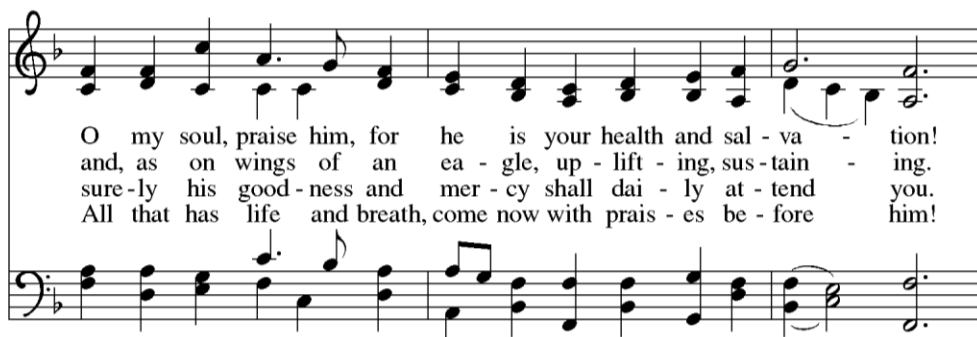
P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

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.

P: 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 entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

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

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

Reading:

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Read by Linda Hughes

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Gospel Song:

“Alleluia”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 7:24-37



24From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, 25but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. 26Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. 27He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” 28But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” 29Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” 30So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.


31Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. 32They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. 33He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. 34Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” 35And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. 36Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. 37They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord...




Sermon


Pastor Russ Leeper




1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
 still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a-ge-d, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
 by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
 stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
 that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

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:

Travis Griffin	Gary Lamprecht	Carly Stevenson
James Grob	Sandra Link	Bill Wohlers, Jr.
Jack Hulbert	Asher McDonald	Marilu Wohlers
Nate Klemesrud		

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

Today we will pray for those of our members who are in long term care and assisted living: Bill Berns, Jim DeVore, B.J. Gifford, Patty Nelson, Marge Gardner, Eunice Tommingo, Judy Troge, Tootie Kolb, Mary Lindaman, Arlene Lehs, Pat Miller, Marian Hoeft, Erma Wilson, Sandra Link

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

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the

cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -

self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your 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 5 - September 12

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday	Labor Day	Office Closed
Tuesday	5:00 p.m.	Building & Grounds
	6:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry (J)
	7:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry (B)
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Youth Board
	5:30 p.m.	Deacons
Thursday	5:30 p.m.	Finance Board
Friday	10:30 a.m.	9th St. Communion with Pastor Anita
Sunday		Rally Day/Backpack Blessing
		Recognition of 2020 Baptisms
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:00 a.m.	God's Work, Our Hands projects

Rally Day September 12th!

Join the Family Board in the Narthex for treats (including Cinnamon Rolls) & coffee/juice & signup your students for Sunday School & After School!



Blessing of the Backpacks!

On Rally Day, September 12th students can bring their backpacks to be blessed during the worship service!

After Worship Social Time

has been an enjoyable way to reconnect with each other!

Coffee & a treat are served outside the Narthex doors each Sunday!

If you would like to volunteer to bring the treats, please sign up on the chart just inside the doors on the table or call Kathy in the office.

What you choose to bring for a treat is entirely up to you!

Coffee & napkins are provided by St. John.



**God's Work. Our Hands: Coming Sunday,
September 12**

On Sunday, September 12, members of St. John of all ages are invited to participate in God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. This event is held every year at ELCA congregations across the country. We'll have teams of St. John members head out into the community to serve in different ways (Team Blessing Box Planting, Team Sustain the Blessing Box, Team Cookie Decorating, Team Cookie Delivery, Team Mulch, Team Quilters, Team Shadow Ave Cleanup, Team cardmaking, Team Paint the Park, Team Helping Hands, Team Lions Field Park, Team Clothing Room). There are sign-ups in the narthex so you can choose your opportunity to serve!

Blessing Box Donations

As part of God's Work, Our Hands on Sunday, September 12th, a "Blessing Box" is being constructed & will be placed on the East side of St. John. The box will be filled with free items for those in need to take and use.

We need items to fill the Box!

Suggested items are anything shelf-stable (non-perishable) food items that are sealed and able to handle current temperatures. Examples...
Food: peanut butter, dried fruit/fruit cups, canned vegetables, rice/pasta pouches, cereal, granola bars, crackers, popcorn, soup, mac & cheese, juice boxes.
Non-food items: socks, baby wipes, personal care items, feminine hygiene products, cleaning supplies, mini laundry detergent.

A box for donations will be available in the Narthex starting, Sunday, September 5th.

The next meeting for the
Sesquicentennial Committee will be
Sunday, August 22nd at 10:15 a.m.



Begins September 29th!

Menu: Maid Rites, Potato
Salad/Chips, Baked Beans,
Applesauce, "Pokie" Cake

TRINITY CHOIR

Trinity Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 29 at 7:00 pm. We will meet in the Sanctuary. Trinity Choir is open to anyone 7th grade and older. Youth may use singing in choir as Silver Cord hours. Please come join us for our first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 29 at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Melanie Johanninger at 641-330-0963.

CAROL CHOIR

Carol choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 29 from 5:45-6:10 pm. They will meet in the Choir Room in the basement. It is open to any child in grades 1-6. She is very excited to work with your children. Please come join Carol Choir for their first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 29 at 5:45. If you have any questions, please contact Lydia Johnson at 319-240-1522.

FYI on the 150th Anniversary of St. John Lutheran Church

As many of you know, next year is the 150th Anniversary of St. John. This is not the anniversary of the church building; it is the anniversary of the congregation. The current church building will be 98 years old next year, it was dedicated in 1924.



1872

The anniversary we are celebrating is based on a group of people of German origin that settled in the area. They began meeting in 1871 with a Rev. Adeeser of the Swedish Reformed Church, based in Plainfield. They had no actual church, but met in schools, store fronts and people's homes. In February of 1872, they extended a call to a Lutheran pastor, Rev. Wilke. In June of that year a resolution was passed to build a church and on September 1, 1872, they laid the cornerstone of what would be the first of the eventual three churches that have stood on the corner that St. John now

occupies. The church had its first services in the spring of 1873.

We have plans to observe our 150th Anniversary as a celebration throughout 2022. There is a committee currently planning some events, displays of history and probably some singing groups and a dinner (with German emphasis) that will happen on various Sundays. We would like more input so if you would like to join, the next meeting is September 19th at 10:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Questions or suggestions can be sent to petefishj@mchsi.com.

Janet Petefish, Anniversary committee

Offering from the week of August 29, 2021

General Receipts \$ 6,217.68

Designated offering 385.00

General receipts of \$9,757.00 are needed weekly
to meet the approved budget.

Attendance: 136

"We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Leon & Jan Mulford and Chris Ressler for the recent memorials they gave to St. John in memory of Alvin Fisher. Thank you!"

"We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Bill & Sharon Bledsoe for the recent memorial they gave to St. John in memory of Susan Erickson. Thank you!"

"We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Bill & Sharon Bledsoe, Arlene Thomas, Robert Peterson, Linda Hughes, Dave & Shirley Ripley, Leon & Jan Mulford, Connie Swant, Kay Tjaden and Louis & Sharon Streich for the recent memorials they gave to St. John in memory of Lynn Poppen. Thank you!"

Have extra garden produce you would like to share with others at St. John?

There will be a table in the Narthex for your
veggies/fruits & plastic grocery bags to put them in!