

# St. John-St. James

Ev. Lutheran Church & School



**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 17 & 20**

# ST. JOHN—ST. JAMES

*Evangelical Lutheran Church & School*

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Good and gracious God, in Your mercy You have gathered us together to worship and praise You. We give thanks to You, O Lord, that You continue to deal with us in love and compassion, that You are slow to anger, and abounding in love. You do not treat us as our sins deserve, or repay us according to our iniquities. May all that we do and say reflect Your love and bring honor and glory to You. Amen.

WELCOME

*Watch Out for Your Brothers and Sisters*

**Opening Hymn:**

Love in Christ Is Strong and Living

Christian Worship, Hymn # 490



Verse 1

**Love in Christ is strong and living,  
Binding faithful hearts in one;  
Love in Christ is true and giving—  
May his will in us be done!**



Verse 2



**Love is patient and forbearing,  
Clothed in Christ's humility,  
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring,  
Reaching out in charity!**

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION



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



**Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**M** God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**M** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C** Verse 1 **♩** **God loved the world so that he gave  
His only son the lost to save  
That all who would in him believe  
Should everlasting life receive.**

**C** Verse 2 **♩** **Be of good cheer, for God's own Son  
Forgives the sins that you have done.  
You're justified by Jesus' blood;  
Baptized, you are a child of God.**

*(Hymn response continues on the next page.)*

**C** Verse 6 **♪** **Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To you, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M** Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

*Old Testament Lesson*

Ezekiel 33:7-11

<sup>7</sup> “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup> When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. <sup>9</sup> But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

<sup>10</sup> “Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’ <sup>11</sup> Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

## *Epistle Lesson*

Romans 13:1-10

13 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup> Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. <sup>4</sup> For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. <sup>6</sup> This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. <sup>7</sup> Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. <sup>8</sup> Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### *Gospel Lesson*

Matthew 18:15-20

<sup>15</sup> “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. <sup>16</sup> But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ <sup>17</sup> If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

<sup>18</sup> “Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

<sup>19</sup> “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

## ***Hymn of the Day:***

As Surely as I Live

Christian Worship, Hymn # 308

### **C** Verse 1

♪ **“As surely as I live,” God said,  
“I would not have the sinner dead,  
But that he turn from error’s ways,  
Repent, and live through endless days.”**

### **C** Verse 2

♪ **To us, therefore, Christ gave command:  
“Go forth and preach in ev’ry land;  
Bestow on all my pard’ning grace  
Who will repent of sinful ways.**

### **C** Verse 3

♪ **“All those whose sins you thus remit  
I truly pardon and acquit,  
And those whose sins you do retain  
Condemned and guilty shall remain.**



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## MESSAGE

Pastor Darin Aden

Ezekiel 33:7-11

### “Watch Out for Each Other!”

1. For wicked deceits from each other
2. For wanton disregard from each other
3. For ways to deliver each other



<sup>7</sup> “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup> When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. <sup>9</sup> But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

<sup>10</sup> “Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’ <sup>11</sup> Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

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## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD’S PRAYER

**M** Eternal, almighty God, heavenly Father, how good it is to sing your praises. How delightful it is to assemble with this family of believers around the Scriptures. Your Word is absolutely true, your promises are unquestionably sure, and your plans are perfectly wise.

**G** **You alone have the power and determination to accomplish all that you say.**

*(Responsive prayer continues on the next page.)*

**M** For trusting too much in ourselves and not turning to you; for doubting when our trials and troubles are beyond our understanding but not yours; for being slow to hear and quick to anger in the face of trouble; for being slow to speak your Word and quick to ignore the needs of others; and for all our many failings and faults, we ask you to hear us.

**C** **Forgive us, O Lord, for our many sins. We have no excuse—only your promise of forgiveness through our Savior Jesus.**

**M** Open our eyes to see your goodness and the opportunities to help others. Unstop our ears that we may hear your voice above the noise and confusion of our times. Unloose our tongues that we may speak the truths that our world and neighbors so desperately need to hear.

**C** **Help us to be watchful for opportunities to show kindness to one another in all we think, do, and say.**

**M** Heal this broken world with your unfailing grace. Give insight and understanding to our nation’s citizens and leaders. Impart wisdom and passion to our church leaders and members to minister to each other. Assist our families to listen, learn, and live according to your teachings.

**C** **Enable us to love each other as you have loved us. It is in Christ’s love that we also join to pray...**

**C** **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.**

## BLESSING

**M** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**G** **Amen.**

### *Closing Hymn:*

Christian Worship, Hymn # 494

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

**G** Verse 1

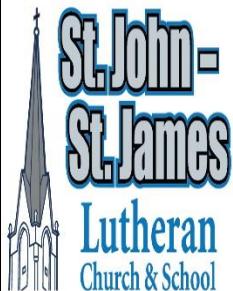
♪ **Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.**

**G** Verse 3

♪ **We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.**

**G** Verse 4

♪ **When here our pathways part,  
We suffer bitter pain;  
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,  
We hope to meet again.**



**Church Office Information**  
Darin Aden, Pastor  
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**School Office Information**  
Rick Zimmermann, Principal  
Cell Phone: 608-350-6646  
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**Church Office Phone:** 920-754-4568  
**School Office Phone:** 920-754-4432

**Church Office Hours:** 7:30 am—12:30 pm, M-F  
**School Office Hours:** 7:30 am—3:00 pm, M-F

**Website:** [stjohnstjames.com](http://stjohnstjames.com)

**Times of Worship:** Thursday—6:30 pm & Sunday—9:00 am

**Send Bulletin Information to [cbubolz@stjohnstjames.com](mailto:cbubolz@stjohnstjames.com)—Wednesday Deadline**

## **Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**

**SERVING YOU THIS WEEK—THURSDAY—6:30 pm Ushers—**Ken Mack, James Kiesow, McCoy Mack ■ **SUNDAY—9:00 am Outdoor Worship—**Dale Barnard, Joe Hoyer, Chuck Kiehn, Bob Baribeau, Roger Hoida, Dave Hoida, Deven Krepline ■ **Church Cleaners—**Shawn/Melissa Behnke & Sheri Lau ■ **Flower Committee—**Judy Hoyer & Audrey Duchow.

**SERVING YOU NEXT WEEK—THURSDAY—6:30 pm Ushers—**Scott Bubolz, Brian Bubolz, Dave Hoepfner, Bill Voeltz ■ **SUNDAY—9:00 am Outdoor Worship—**Dan/Jacob Bubolz, Gene Wagner, Eugene/Nathan Rosera, Jeff Doemel, Glen Behnke, Roger Bubolz, Dan Bratz, Jim/Alex Bubolz, James Kenneke ■ **Church Cleaners—**Terry/Karen Prochnow, Dale Barnard and Rod Bubolz ■ **Flower Committee—**Judy Hoyer & Audrey Duchow ■ **Communion Set-Up/Take-Down—**Karla Aden, Chantel Bastian & Joan Sheahan.

**FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL MEETING—**The Annual Meeting is on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 am. Items on the agenda are the Building Fund. Annual Reports have been emailed and those who receive a paper copy can pick them up on Thursday night or on Sunday outside. Please bring your copy along to the meeting. Weather permitting the meeting will be held outside, if held inside we will gather in the Commons, so masks and social distancing will be required.

**OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES—**Sunday Outdoor Worship Services are extended to the end of September. Bring a comfortable lawn chair and dress accordingly. If weather does not permit, we will worship in the school gymnasium where masks will be required, and please remember to practice social distancing at our Outdoor Services. Our 6:30 pm Thursday Worship Services are still held in the sanctuary, but we still must wear a mask.

**LADIES AID MEETING—**There will be no Ladies Aid Meeting scheduled for September, please keep watch for October's and November's meetings, they may also be cancelled.

## Our Father's Business

**Today**

Preacher, Pastor Darin Aden  
Organist, Kristen Hillmann  
10:15 Fiscal Annual Meeting

**Thursday 9/24**

Thursday Worship at 6:30 pm

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**—Sunday School started virtually on Sunday, September 13 and will be virtual for the whole month of September. St. John—St. James in person Sunday School will begin on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am. If you would be willing to teach grades 4-6, we are looking for volunteers to help out. We would greatly appreciate your assistance!

**USHERS NEEDED**—Would you be willing to serve as an usher? We are looking for a few good men and women who would be interested in serving at our worship services. If interested or if you would like more information please contact Gary Bernhardt (920-732-4483) or any of our Church Administration. Thank you!

**MISSION FESTIVAL**—Mission Festival for St. John—St. James Lutheran Church will be Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at our 8:00 am and 10:15 am Worship Services. Dr. Paul will be doing a presentation at 9:15 am in Commons Area. **Please note that there will be no Thursday Worship on October 1 because of the Mission Festival.**

**CONGRATULATIONS**—Kayla & Eric Kocourek brought into this world a beautiful baby girl! With God's grace Jolene Marie Kocourek made her arrival on September 7, 2020 at 12:03 am. Congratulations to Kayla and Eric Kocourek and to Grandparents Tim and Joan Sheahan.

**OUR SYMPATHIES**—Ralph Bernhardt, father of Gary (Debra) Bernhardt was called to his eternal home on September 12th, 2020. Ralph served in the Army for over 21 years. He was 93 years old. Please lift the Bernhardt family up with your prayers in their time of grief.

**OUR SYMPATHIES**—Roland Mahnke was received in our Lord's arms on September 11, 2020, husband of Ramona Mahnke and father of Debbie O'Leary. Please lift them up with your prayers in their time of grief.

**LIKE & SHARE**—When you watch our on-line devotions and services please remember to like and share.

### OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE—SEPTEMBER 7—13

- Church Attendance: Thur. 6:30 pm—69, Sun. 9:00 am Outdoor Service—155, Total: 224
- Regular Offerings—General Fund: \$ 9,359.25, Synod: \$ 183.50, MLHS: \$ 210.50, Total: \$ 9,753.25
- Special Offerings—Building Fund: \$ 7,040.00, (needed each week \$2,312)