

St. John-St. James

Ev. Lutheran Church & School

Choose For
YOURSELVES
this day whom
you will serve,
As for me and my house,
WE WILL SERVE
THE Lord
Joshua 24:15

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 26 & 29, 2021

WELCOME

God Calls on Us to Recommit Ourselves to Him


Opening Hymn:

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Christian Worship, Hymn # 221

G Verse 1  **Blessed Jesus, at your Word**

**We are gathered all to hear you.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
Now to seek and love and fear you,
By your teachings, sweet and holy,
Drawn from earth to love you solely.**

G Verse 3  **Gracious Savior, good and kind,
Light from Light, from God proceeding,
Open now our heart and mind;
Help us by your Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry your people raises;
Hear and bless our prayers and praises.**

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION

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

G **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 **♪** **Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BE SEATED

Epistle Lesson

Ephesians 5:21-31

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

²² Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord.

²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— ³⁰ for we are members of his body. ³¹ “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”

⁶⁰ On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?”

⁶¹ Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶² Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! ⁶³ The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life. ⁶⁴ Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. ⁶⁵ He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them.”

⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

⁶⁷ “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve.

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”

Hymn of the Day:

Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening

Christian Worship, Hymn # 283

 Verse 1  **Speak, O Savior; I am list’ning,**

As a servant to his lord.

Let me show respect and honor

To your holy, precious Word,

That each day, my whole life through,

I may serve and follow you.

Let your Word e’er be my pleasure

And my heart’s most precious treasure.

(Hymn continues on the next page.)



Verse 3  **Lord, your words are waters living**

Where I quench my thirsty needs.

Lord, your words are bread life-giving;

On your words my spirit feeds.

Lord, your words will be my light

Through death's cold and dreary night;

Yes, they are my sword prevailing

And my cup of joy unfailing.

MESSAGE

Pastor Darin D. Aden

Joshua 24:1,2a,14-18

“Choose for Yourselves This Day”

24 Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.

² Joshua said to all the people, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says:

¹⁴ “Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶ Then the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! ¹⁷ It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. ¹⁸ And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God.”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Gracious and most merciful Lord, we thank you for providing faithful teachers to your Church to proclaim your holy gospel among us. Grant your blessing upon all of our teachers at St. John-St. James Lutheran School. By their labors may your lambs be fed and your people strengthened and sustained in the saving faith.

G **We thank you for the gift of these faithful servants.**

M Continue to bless the labors not only of our teachers but of all of your people who desire to follow and serve you. May your Word dwell richly in us and in our children.

G **May your name be honored and your people blessed.**

M Help all of us to honor those who share your Word publicly and privately. Enable us to believe and share your holy Scriptures throughout our lives. May we ever grow in our faith and remain committed to you like your faithful servants of old.

G **We too will serve the LORD, because you are our God.**
Amen.

G **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.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

Oh, Give Us Homes

Let All the People Praise You, pages 214-215

C Verse 1

♪ **Oh, give us homes built firmly on the Savior,
Where Christ is head and counselor and guide,
Where ev'ry child is taught his love and favor
And gives his heart to Christ, the crucified.
How sweet to know that, though our footsteps waver,
A faithful Lord is walking by our side!**

C Verse 2

♪ **Oh, give us homes where Christ is Lord and master,
The Bible read, the precious hymns still sung,
Where prayer comes first in peace or in disaster
And praise is natural speech to ev'ry tongue,
Where mountains move before a faith that's vaster
And Christ sufficient is for old and young.**

BE SEATED

STRATEGIC PLANNING PRESENTATION & QUESTIONS

Both 6:30 PM and 9:00 AM Services

Bulletin Announcements

Our Father's Business

Today Preacher, Pastor Darin Aden
Organ Today—Kristen Hillmann
Thursday 9/2 Thursday Worship Service at 6:30 pm

Thursday, August 26—Sunday, August 29

SERVING YOU TODAY—THURSDAY—6:30 pm Ushers—Gary Bernhardt, Dave Hoepfner ■ **SUNDAY—9:00 am Ushers**—Dan Duchow, Jeff Herzog ■ **Church Cleaners**—Adam/Melissa Bubolz, Andy/Bekah Bubolz, Nick/Amanda Schrubbe, Ray/Suzanne Bubolz ■ **Flower Committee**—Kay Pantzlaff ■ **Communion Set-Up/Take-Down**—Suzanne Bubolz, Amanda Schrubbe, Michaela Bubolz.

SERVING YOU NEXT WEEK—THURSDAY—6:30 pm Ushers—Scott Bubolz, Brian/Susie Bubolz, Bill Voeltz ■ **SUNDAY—9:00 am Ushers**—Dan Duchow, Jeff Herzog ■ **Church Cleaners**—Adam/Melissa Bubolz, Andy/Bekah Bubolz, Nick/Amanda Schrubbe, Ray/Suzanne Bubolz ■ **Flower Committee**—Judy Hoyer & Audrey Duchow.

FALL SERVICE SCHEDULE—Starting September 12 we will have two services on Sundays at 8am & 10:15 am. There will no longer be a Thursday evening service after Thursday, September 2nd. Our last Outdoor Worship Service at 9am will be September 5.

ANNUAL REPORTS—Our fiscal year ended on June 30, 2021. We will now be getting the information needed to put into a report for the Annual meeting. If you have a report that needs to go into the Annual Report please have your report to Cindy **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** Thank you!

MONTHLY FLOWER COMMITTEE—We are in need of members to volunteer to take care of the flowers in Church, etc. Please call Karen Prochnow at 920-754-4688 for more details.

NEW CHURCH DOORS—The new church doors are now programmed and working as they should! The handicap access buttons will now work if you need assistance with opening the doors. If you have a key fob to unlock the doors, they are now programmed

to unlock both church doors B & C. Doors A, B, C & D will unlock automatically a half hour before each scheduled worship service & will relock approximately a half hour following the end of the service.

GROUNDS KEEPER POSITION—We will be interviewing for the Grounds Keeper position for next year (2022). The job requires the ability to operate riding mower, walk behind mower, weed trimmer and leaf blower. Average of about 25 hours per week. Person must be reliable and responsible for the care of the grounds and all equipment. Choose your own hours as long as the grounds are kept up. Job description and applications are available in the west office and school office. If interested please contact Dan Duchow (920-860-9379) or Gary Bernhardt (920-629-5221)

ANNUAL MEETING—The Annual meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, September 26 at 9:15 in the Commons. Items on the agenda are a second Pastor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION & BIBLE STUDY - Starting on September 12th adult Bible study will start up between services in the commons area at 9:15am. Coffee and lite snacks will be provided. If you would like to volunteer to help out with the coffee and provide snacks there is a signup sheet in the west office. Sunday School will also begin on September 12th. All of God's children ages 3 through 6th grade are welcome to attend on any Sunday. Please register as soon as possible to help our director & teachers better prepare for the year. Please go to our website (stjohnstjames.com) to register. Click on "OUR CHURCH" in the top menu bar and look for "SJSJ Sunday School Registration" under the Important Links on the right-hand side. Please join us as we grow closer in God's word.

BAPTISM—The baptism of Pierce Ryan Popp was celebrated in a private ceremony on Sunday, August 22, 2021. Pierce is the child of our members Ryan & Marissa Popp and Grandchild of Curt Grimm. Courtney & Riley Grimm, and Sara & Brent Ebert are Sponsors for Pierce. Welcome to our church family Pierce!

HYMNALS AVAILABLE- If you would like to use a hymnal during worship service, they will be available as you enter the sanctuary. Please return them to either entrance... OR... Since we will be getting our new hymnals at the end of the year, we are offering the current hymnals to anyone who would like one for personal use. Feel free to

take one home and help us repurpose them instead of storing them in a box forever.

2nd PASTOR—The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) has conducted interviews with the church council, committee chairman, organizations, the faculty and members of the congregation. The number one need that was pointed out is the need for a second pastor. So the SPC has put together a plan for a second pastor. The stewardship committee has put together a financial plan. We want to present this to all members of the congregation. We will be having congregational information meetings after church services **THIS THURSDAY, AUGUST 26 AND THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 29 AFTER BOTH SERVICES.** We will have another informational meeting on **Sunday, September 19 after both services.** The church services will be shortened to allow more time for the presentation. We will have a question-answer session after the presentation at this meeting. We invite all members of this congregation to attend these important meetings.

MESSENGERS CONCERT T-SHIRT - T-shirts are available for \$12 in the narthex. If your size isn't available, please register it on the sheet, and one will be ordered! The theme for the MESSENGERS concert on Aug 11, reminded us that sharing the Gospel and the love of Christ "Starts Right Here"! If not us, then who? If not now, then when? *Isaiah 6:8- Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here I am. Send me." ——— Through hardships, through adversity, the Church of Christ still stands. His Word will NEVER return empty but accomplish what He desires (Is 55:11).*

MESSENGER CONCERT RECORDINGS -The concert is available for viewing on the SJSJ YouTube Channel. There are DVD copies available at church and Professional audio CDs will be available next week. Thanks!

HOME BOUND MEMBERS—An updated list of home-bound members is on the table in the West Office. Please feel free to take one. Our home-bound members would love to get cards and letters from you! Thank you!

FLOWERS—The lovely flowers you see on the altar on Thursday and on the table on Sunday were brought over by Helen Rabe and are from the funeral of her husband Alvin (Jr.) Rabe. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Helen Rabe family!

GIFTS GIVEN—Mary Lou Krepline gave a gift to the Building Fund in memory of Kenneth Skinkis and Cletus Rataichek. George Shamburek gave a gift for the Communion Cups in memory of Betty Shamburek’s birthday on August 28th. Thank you so much for your wonderful gifts!

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S LOVE—August 16-22

Church Attendance: Thursday 6:30 pm Service—59 ■ Sunday 9:00am—160, Total: 219 ■ Offerings—General Fund—\$ 7,805.00, Synod—\$ 616.00, MLHS—\$ 598.00, Total \$ 9,019.00 ■ Special Offerings—Building Fund—\$ 1,355.00 (needed each week \$2,312)



Church Office Information:

Darin Aden, Pastor, Cell Phone: 920-277-0101

Email: daden@stjohnstjames.com

School Office Information:

Rick Zimmerman, Principal, Cell Phone: 608-350-6646

Email: rzimmerman@stjohnstjames.com

Church Office Phone: 920-754-4568

Church Office Hours: 8:00 am—12:00 pm, M.-F.

School Office Phone: 920-754-4432

School Office Hours: 8:00 am—12:00 pm M.-F.

Website: stjohnstjames.com

Times of Worship: Thursday—6:30 pm Sunday —9:00 am
Send Bulletin Information to cbubolz@stjohnstjames.com
—Wednesday Deadline