

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. Joshua Hayes, Pastor
E-mail: pastor.hayes@outlook.com
Pastor Hayes - Home: (785) 692-4228; Cell: (720) 897-6829 (call or text)
Website: www.stjohnpalmer.net

Member – Linn Lutheran School Association

Email: linnluth@bluevalley.net Phone: (785) 348-5792
Principal & Teacher: Mr. David Beikmann; Teachers: Mrs. Laura Stunkel,
Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl, Mrs. Kim Burke, & Mrs. Renae Bott

June 25, 2023

The Third Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are a guest or visitor with us today, we welcome you and invite you to come and worship with us again. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Pastor Hayes, and we hope to see you again soon.

Remember that the Worship Service begins when you enter. As the Music for Meditation begins, you are invited to join in quiet, preparation time for worship. Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

Liturgy – Divine Service Setting Three (pg. 184)

Opening Hymn: 594 "God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"

Hymn of the Day: 609 "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

Distribution Hymn: 618 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

Distribution Hymn: 809 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Distribution Hymn: 614 "'As Surely As I Live,' God Said"

Closing Hymn: 774 "Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy"

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please e-mail prayer requests to Pastor Hayes at pastor.hayes@outlook.com.

Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.

Angie Reinert, Lula Stuenkel, Marilyn Ohlde, Loraine Oldehoeft, & Lorna

Heitman (in the nursing home); Charlie Pru Tiemeyer (thanksgiving);

Rebecca Zach (recovering from injury); Kamden Peters (treatment)

Ushers today - *Eli Thalmann, Noah Thalmann, Mason Tiemeyer, Dylan Ohlde

Ushers July 2 - *Evan Bott, Liam Voelker, Elijah Meier, Ethan Bott

LYF Mowing July 1st - Ethan & Gretchen Bott

LYF Mowing July 8th - Daniel Nabors & Liam Voelker

Upcoming Events

- June 25** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class
1:00 p.m. LLS School Board Meeting at LLS
1:30 p.m. Parent Information Mtg at Zion (see announcement)
2:00 p.m. LLS Association Meeting at Zion
- July 2** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class
- July 5** 8:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Announcements

- * On Friday, June 30th, at 8:00 a.m., Mrs. Kim Burke will be moving from her current home (Bethlehem Parsonage) to her new home (Zion Teacherage/Old Parsonage). We would appreciate any help given to help with this move. Please meet at the Bethlehem Parsonage at 8:00 a.m. Questions? Contact Matt Myers at 785-541-1187. Thank you!!!
- * There will be an association meeting **TODAY, June 25th**, at 2 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church. The main item on the agenda will be to call Mrs. Renae Bott as the fifth and sixth grade teacher at Linn Lutheran School. There will also be a parent information meeting on starting a stringed orchestra at 1:30 p.m., also at Zion.
- * Rev. Mark Gaschler's Ordination and Installation service will be held **today**, June 25, at 4 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran, Linn. Following the service, a reception will be held for all attendees. Burgers, brats, hotdogs, beans, and sides will be provided. Please come celebrate with us as we welcome Pastor and Olivia to the community!

Martin Luther on the Gospel for today:

Now look, how could He preach more kindly and comfortingly? Or what more should He do to make the heart cheerful and awaken a strong confidence in Him? We see such a shepherd, which He Himself paints for us poor sinners, a shepherd who so reluctantly loses his sheep and seeks it so ardently, and when he finds it carries it with all joy and spreads this joy so that all angels and saints—yes, all creatures—rejoice and kindly smile with him over us, that even the sun must shine more sweetly. It naturally happens that when someone is sorrowful, even the sun and everything he sees looks gloomy to him. On the other hand, when the heart is cheerful, then he looks even more cheerful, and all things appear brighter and clearer to him. Now, whoever could firmly believe this would also receive genuine comfort and joy in and through the Lord Christ, because he has here the certain promise that if he clings thus to Christ and lets himself be carried on His shoulders, then he is a dear guest in the kingdom of heaven and will be received with all joy.

Martin Luther, "Gospel for the Third Sunday after Trinity," in *Luther's Works*, ed. Benjamin T. G. Mayes, James L. Langebartels, and Christopher Boyd Brown, vol. 78 (Saint Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2015), 151.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His Table those who trust His words, repent all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily, according to Holy Scripture, do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from communing with us until such a time as they are properly instructed.

A short, more detailed explanation of our Confessional practice is available from our Ushers or Elders. If you would like to learn more about the Sacrament of the Altar and our confessional position, I would be happy to visit with you.

-Rev. Joshua Hayes, Pastor, St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

In preparation for Holy Communion, you may use the following statements as part of your self-examination:

- I admit that I am a sinner. **(1 John 1:8-10)**
- I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, from Satan and death. **(Acts 4:10-12; John 14:6)**
- I desire to live as God wants me to. **(John 14:15; 1 John 2:6)**
- I am sure of my eternal salvation because Jesus died for me and rose again. **(John 3:16; Romans 8:14; & 1 John 5:11-12)**
- I believe the Risen Christ is really present in Holy Communion and that with the bread and wine I receive His Body and Blood. **(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 4:22-24; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; Luke 22:17-20)**
- I forgive those who have wronged me.

MORNING PRAYER

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



Introit *(Psalm 25:1-2a, 5b, 15, 20; antiphon: vv. 16, 18)*

Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,*
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.
Consider my affliction and my | trouble,*
and forgive | all my sins.

To you, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.*
O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.
You are the God of my sal- | vation;*
for you I wait all | the day long.
My eyes are ever | toward the Lord,*
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.
Oh, guard my soul, and de- | liver me!*
Let me not be put to shame, for I take ref- | uge in you.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,*
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.
Consider my affliction and my | trouble,*
and forgive | all my sins.

Collect for the Third Sunday after Trinity

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, without whom nothing is strong and nothing is holy, multiply Your mercy on us that, with You as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading: *Micah 7:18-20*

¹⁸ Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.
¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities under foot.
You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.
²⁰ You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and steadfast love to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our fathers
from the days of old.

Gradual (*Psalms 55:22a, 16, 18a*)

**Cast your burden on the Lord,
and he will sustain you.**

**I call to God, and the Lord will save me.
He redeems my soul in safety.**

Epistle Reading: *1 Peter 5:6-11*

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia Verse (*Psalms 18:1-2a*)

Alleluia. I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer. **Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading: *Luke 15:11-32*

¹¹ [Jesus said:] “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent

everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

As We Gather...

Jesus Receives Sinners

“This man receives sinners and eats with them” (**Luke 15:2**). The Pharisees’ statement of judgment against Jesus is in fact a proclamation of Gospel truth. For our God is one who delights in mercy, who casts all our sins into the depths of the sea through the cross (**Micah 7:18–20**). “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners” (**1 Timothy 1:15**). Those who refuse to be counted as sinners also refuse Jesus who came only for sinners. Those like the older son (**Luke 15:11–32**), who think they are righteous of themselves, will not join in the heavenly celebration over the sinner who repents and so remain outside of the Father’s house. Let us therefore be on guard against self-righteously trusting in our own merits. “Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you” (**1 Peter 5:6**). Rejoice that Jesus receives sinners like us and that He still sits at table with us in the Holy Supper, bestowing His forgiveness and life.

CATECHETICAL REVIEW

An Explanation of the Small Catechism Introduction (Cont.)

12. Why are all six chief parts of the Small Catechism taken from the Bible alone?

All the chief parts of the Small Catechism are taken from the Bible, because, as God's written Word, the Bible is the only final authority for Christian faith and life.

"We pledge ourselves to the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testaments as the pure and clear foundation of Israel, which is the only true norm according to which all teachers and teachings are to be judged and evaluated..."

"[We have] a single, universally accepted...form of doctrine...from which and according to which, because it is drawn from the Word of God, all other writings are to be approved and accepted, judged and regulated" (Formula of Concord SD Rule and Norm 3, 10).

- 38 **Matthew 15:9** - They worship Me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.
- 39 **Galatians 1:8** - Even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned.

The Ten Commandments

13. What are the Ten Commandments?

The Ten Commandments are the Law of God.

Note: God gave them in this order but did not number them (**Deut. 5:6-21; Ex. 20:1-17**).

14. How did God give His Law?

When God created people, He wrote the Law on their hearts. Later, he arranged the Law in Ten Commandments, wrote it on two tablets of stone, and made it known through Moses.

- 40 **Romans 2:14-15** - Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.

Bible narrative: God wrote His commandments directly for the Israelites (**Ex. 19-20; 31:18**). There are three kinds of laws in the Old Testament: the moral law, which tells all people their duty toward God and other people; the ceremonial law, which regulated the religious practices in the Old Testament; and the political law, which was the state law of the Israelites. Only the moral law was written into the human heart.

The Sunday of the Lost Sons



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* LCMS memory verse challenge for this week: **Ephesians 5:8** - "At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light."