



**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 8, 2024**

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Bath, PA**

**Flowers Presented In Memory of Robert, Ray,  
and Mildred K. by Dennis K.**

**Flowers Presented In Memory of  
Evelyn H. by the Family**

**Bulletins Presented In Honor of All Grandparents  
by Thomas and Jeannine W.**

Prelude

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

*The assembly stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

\*P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

\*C: **Amen.**

\*P: 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.**

\*P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

\*P: Most merciful God,

\*C: **we confess that we are in bondage 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**

*The minister addresses the congregation.*

\*P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

\*C: **Amen**

**\*The Greeting**

**\*P:** 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.**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**\*P:** Gracious God,

**\*C:** **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.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

<sup>4</sup> Say 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.” <sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup> then 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; <sup>7a</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

**Second Reading: James 2:1-17**

<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup> For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup> and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” <sup>4</sup> have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup> Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored →

the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup> Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? <sup>8</sup> You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>9</sup> But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. <sup>11</sup> For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup> So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup> For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment. <sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup> So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

**\*Gospel Verse** (sung)

p. 142

***“Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia”***

**\*P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

**\*C:** (sung) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Mark 7:24-37**

<sup>24</sup> [Jesus] 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, <sup>25</sup> but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup> He 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.”

<sup>28</sup> But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table →

(3)

eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup> Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup> So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. <sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup> He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup> Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup> And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

\*P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

\*C: (sung) **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Children's Sermon/Sermon**

\*Hymn ELW #612 *"Healer of Our Every Ill"*

8 am vs 1-2

### **\*Apostles Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and  
born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into  
hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into  
heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He  
will come again 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 Peace**

\*P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

\*C: **And also, with you.**

## **\*Offering**

*The Offering may be dropped off at the beginning or end of the worship service. We will thank God for our blessings, including the ability to give an offering for the work of God's kingdom.*

## **Music at the Offering**

### **\*Offertory Prayer**

\*P: Risen One,

\*C: **you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

\*P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

\*V: Awaken in our communities of faith a spirit of radical hospitality. Encourage our churches to celebrate and embrace people of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and abilities. Deepen our commitment to ecumenical and interreligious partnerships. Lord, in your mercy,

\*C: **hear our prayer.**

\*V: Bring forth water to nourish plants and animals in places suffering from drought. Renew our commitments to protect rivers, lakes, and streams, and make us good stewards of water in our homes and communities. Preserve wetland habitats and the creatures that make their homes there. Lord, in your mercy,

\*C: **hear our prayer.**

\*V: Inspire leaders of cities, nations, and tribes to lead with wisdom and humility. Bring peace among peoples in conflict and strengthen global commitments to nonviolent solutions. Guide all who seek refuge from war to a safe haven. Lord, in your mercy,

\*C: **hear our prayer.**

\*V: Comfort all who live with chronic illness. Surround them in your tender embrace and sustain all who provide ongoing care and support. Bring hope and healing to people struggling with addiction and nourish the spirits of all who are in recovery. Lord, in your mercy,

**\*C: hear our prayer.**

\*V: Nurture in all people the gift of your creating Spirit. Inspire artists and musicians, woodworkers and quilters, poets and dancers. Revive those whose artistic wells have run dry and enliven all who doubt their creative talents. Lord, in your mercy,

**\*C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

\*V: We give you thanks for all who have died and now find their rest in you. May their faithful witness guide us in our daily life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

**\*C: hear our prayer.**

\*P: We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**\*C: Amen.**

### **\*Lord's Prayer**

\*P: Lord, teach us 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.**

### **\*Benediction**

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

**\*C: Amen.**

**\*Hymn ELW#886 "Oh, For A Thousand Tongues To Sing" 8 am vs. 1-2  
10:15 am vs. 1-4**

**\*Dismissal**

**\*P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**\*C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS103275. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. One License A-740897

**Assisting in Worship Today**

**Altar Guild** – June K., Bonnie V.

**8:00 AM - Ushers** - Tegi O., Wanda F.

**Lector:** Volunteer - **Acolyte:** Volunteer

**10:15 AM - Ushers** - Betty N., Jim G.

**Lector:** Jim G. - **Acolyte:** Volunteer

**Contacts**

Office Phone: 610-837-1061 - Church Email: [stjohnbath@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnbath@gmail.com)

Pastor Walsh: 610-837-1061 / 484-282-0699 (emergency)

Pastor's Email: [pastorterrywalsh@outlook.com](mailto:pastorterrywalsh@outlook.com)

***Follow us on Facebook:***

St. John's church page: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Johns-Lutheran-Church-120814211266763/>

Pastor Walsh's page, for information on faith in the wider world:

<https://www.facebook.com/terrence.walsh.96>

***Follow us on our website:*** [www.stjohnsbathpa.org](http://www.stjohnsbathpa.org)

**Welcome to St. John's!**

We are glad that you are here to worship with us. We are in the season of the "Sundays after Pentecost." The color of the Pentecost season is green, which leads us to think about the Pentecost season as a time of growth in our Christian faith. Throughout the fall we will read from St. Mark's Gospel, working our way from chapter 2 to chapter 10.

On behalf of Jesus Christ, who was crucified and is now risen from the dead, we welcome you to worship. This morning we will hear the Good News as our lessons are read. We listen and sing to musical selections to worship God who is our creator, redeemer and sanctifier.

We will pray for all of God's people and all of our needs. You are welcome. All are welcome. All are welcome in this place.



## Upcoming Commemorations

**Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, died 1654, Monday, September 9, 2024** - Born into Spanish nobility, Claver became a Jesuit missionary, and served in present-day Colombia. His ministry was focused on the enslaved people who arrived there. He gave them food and medicine, learned their dialects, and taught them Christianity.

**John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, died 407, Friday, September 13, 2024** - John was a priest in Antioch and an outstanding preacher. His eloquence earned him the nickname "Chrysostom" ("golden mouth"). Appointed bishop of Constantinople, seat of the empire, he criticized corruption in the court. As a result, he was exiled by the empress.

**Holy Cross Day, Saturday, September 14, 2024** - Helena, mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.

## Today's Announcements - Sunday, September 8, 2024

<u>This Week at St. John's</u>	<u>Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost</u>	
9/8/24 - Sun.	Worship	8:00 AM
	Sunday School Fellowship Hall	9:00 AM
	Confirmation Parents Meeting (Lib)	9:00 AM
	45 Min Bible Study	9:15 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Masked Worship (Library)	11:45 AM
	Red Beet Cleaning	5:00 PM
9/9/24 - Mon.	Red Beet Cooking	7:00 AM
	Food Bank Prep	9:00 AM
	Quilters	9:00 AM-Noon
9/10/2024 - Tues.	Red Beet Canning	7:00 AM
	Food Bank Distr.	9:30-11:00AM
	Food Bank Distr.	6:00-6:30 PM
9/15/24 - Sun.	Worship/Communion	8:00 AM
	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	45 Min Bible Study	9:15 AM
	Worship/Communion	10:15 AM
	Masked Worship/Comm. (Library)	11:45 AM

**WELCA:** To all women of St. John's and beyond. You are welcome to join the Women's group of St. John's Lutheran Church of Nazareth. They are planning a fall luncheon for all women. Stay tuned for more info, if anyone is interested please contact the church office at 610-837-1061 and please leave a message.

**Basket Raffle:** We are now collecting gift cards, and basket donations for the fall basket raffle. Any and all extra help for this event would be greatly appreciated. If you are interested and willing to help please give Jamie a call at 484-221-3455 or send an e-mail to: stjohnbath@gmail.com. The basket raffle is set for September 26-28<sup>th</sup>.



**Nursery School Cow Chip Bingo:** Tickets are now available contact the church office or Dawn Mayer at 610-837-9868 or by e-mailing stjohnbath@gmail.com. Cow is released Saturday September, 28 at 4:00 PM, this event is held during the annual basket raffle.

**Online Giving Option:** We share with you the new e-giving platform, Vanco. This platform provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to our church online, and we are confident that it will make giving more convenient for many members of our congregation. You can give now at this website link: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZAB8>. Whether you choose to give online or in person, your support is vital to the continued success of our church community. We are grateful for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission. Thank you again for all that you do.



Scan this code to  
get the Vanco App  
on your mobile  
device

**Prayers Requested For:** Jim A., Eileen A., Phyllis & Joe A., Amy B., Allen B., Marsha B., Josie B., Jan B., the B. Family, Barb B., Brother Bill, Cory B., Bev F., Barry F., Laverne F., Kathy F., Lilly F., Arya G., Shawn H., Erin H., Troy H., Ned H., Robert H., Chuck H., Scott & Heather H., Seana I., Dennis K., Gerry K., Danny K., Lee L., Shirley L., Gwyn L., Jorge L., Ruth M., The M. Family, Danielle N., Arlene O., Brent R., Earl & Steve S., Ethel S., Louise S., Barb S., Beth S., Rosalia S., Gloria S., Dolly T., James T., Stacey T., Ann U., Viola W., Lisa W., Brenda W., LaNor W., Linda & Galen W., Susan W., Richard Y., Yvonne Y., Pauline Y., The Z. Family, Helen Z., Robert Z., Francis Z.

***If you would like to add or remove a person from the prayer list, contact the Church Office (610-837-1061).***