

First St. John Lutheran Church

2471 Seaman Street
Toledo, Ohio 43605
419-691-7222

office@firststjohn.com

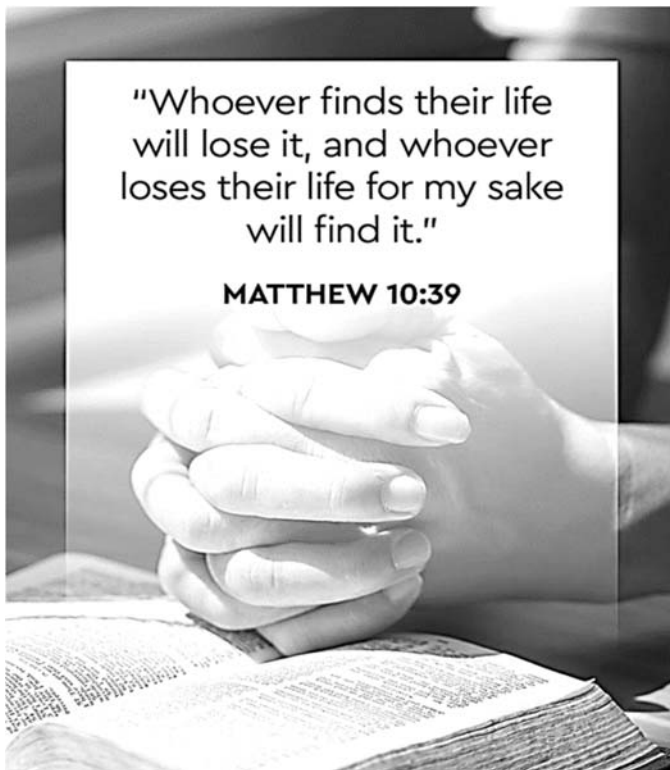
www.firststjohn.com

Rev. Jerald K. Rayl

Annette Slater - Music Director

Dr. Anthony Pattin - Organist

Toni Wilbarger - Secretary



Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community

June 21, 2020

June 21, 2020

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! If you are visiting, please sign the guest book near the main door in the Narthex. We offer both a traditional and celebration service, a joint effort between members of both the traditional and contemporary services with special music and a message, which we alternate during the summer months.

Sunday School & Catechism are dismissed for the summer.

Nursery: Our nursery is in the church basement. The nursery is currently unstaffed; you are welcome to sit with your child. A diaper changing table & a semi-private nursing area also are available in the ladies restroom in the basement of the church.

Restrooms are in the church basement. Go to the Narthex (lobby) and take either set of steps to the basement. In the hallway, the ladies room is at one end, and the men's room is at the other.

Flowers: If you would like to sign up for flowers for a Sunday, there is a sign up book in the Narthex (lobby) by the telephone. Or, you may call the church office during the week to check on availability.

Memorials: If you wish to give a memorial in honor or memory of a loved one, you may mail it in or pick up a memorial card in the church office or in the Narthex (lobby) and place it in the offering plate.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

ELDERS

Ben Hodges, Bob Hecklinger

SOUND BOARD

Dave Wilbarger

ORDER OF WORSHIP – TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Prelude
Ringing of the Bell (Please stand)

Opening Hymn

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, as a reminder of the sign marked at baptism as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, (+) one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

C: **Amen.**

P: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: Eternal God, our creator,

C: **in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for the sake of Jesus Christ, God (+) forgives you all your sins.

C: **Amen.**

Praise Song

Invocation

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: Let us pray. Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

Announcements

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah's message of doom earns him only contempt and persecution. Having been beaten, placed in stocks, and then released by Pashur, one of the temple priests, Jeremiah cries out in heart-wrenching lament. Nevertheless, the prophet remains confident of God's care and concludes with resounding praise.

O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;

you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.

⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹If I say, "I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;

I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.

¹⁰For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!"

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.

"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him."

¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.

¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 69:8-20 (Psalm 69:7-18 NRSV)

Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:18)

Surely, for your sake have I suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

**⁹I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

¹⁰Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

**¹¹I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

¹²I put on sackcloth also,
and became a by-word among them.

**¹³Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

¹⁴But as for me, this is my prayer to you,
at the time you have set, O LORD:

**¹⁵"In your great mercy, O God,
answer me with your unfailing help.**

¹⁶Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.

**¹⁷Let not the torrent of waters wash over me,
neither let the deep swallow me up;
do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.**

¹⁸Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me."

**¹⁹Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.**

²⁰Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11

In the first part of this letter, Paul says God sent Christ to die for us while we were sinners and so, by grace, accepts us through baptism just as we are. Now he clarifies that baptism also brings freedom from sin's slavery and the possibility of beginning a new life.

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means!
How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us
who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?
⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as
Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might
walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will
certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old
self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we
might no longer be enslaved to sin.

⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we
believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised
from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.
¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives
to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God
in Christ Jesus.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

Alleluia Verse



Gospel Acclamation (spoken)

P: The Gospel according to St. Matthew, Chapter 10.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39

Moved by compassion for the crowds, Jesus commissioned his twelve disciples to continue his work of preaching and healing. Now he warns them their ministry will meet with opposition, requiring absolute trust in God and unswerving commitment to their Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

Gospel Response (Spoken)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Sermon Hymn

Pastor Rayl

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,
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.

Pastoral Prayer *(Each petition concludes with this response)*

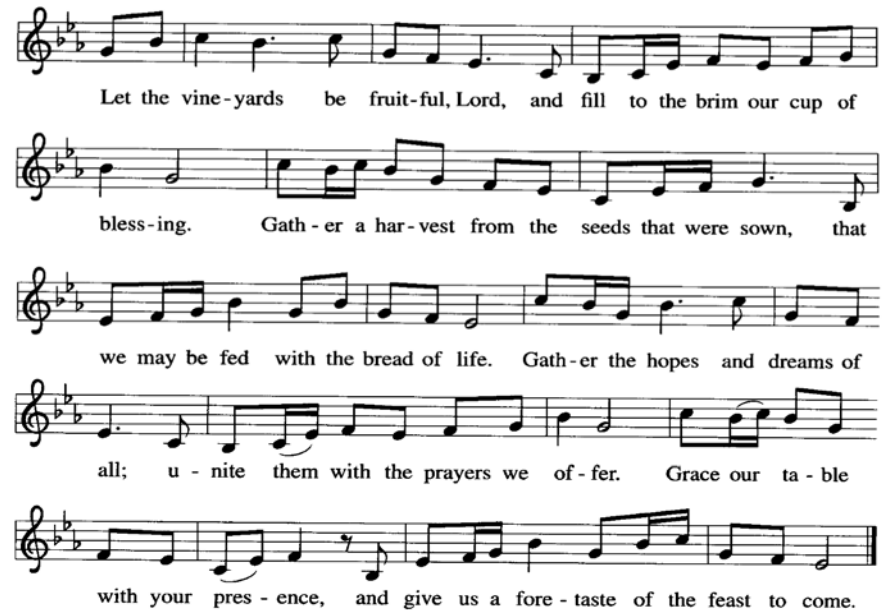
P: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

The Offering

(Please stand)

Offering Response – *(Sung by the congregation)*



Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

P: Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Lord's Prayer *(prayed by all)*

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.

Invitation to Communion

P: Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

C: Our Lord's body and blood, let us take together.

(Please be seated)

The Communion *(distribution will be continuous)*

If you wish to receive apple juice instead of wine, place your hand over your shoulder as you approach the person distributing the wine.

"All baptized Christians, believing that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's table. Infants, children and others who have not been baptized are welcome to come to receive a blessing; please make an X with your arms across your chest."

(When coming to receive Communion, please fill out a Communion registration card located in the pew rack and give it to the usher.)

(When communion is completed, please stand)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and sustain you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

P: Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

The Blessing

P: May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, (+) Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn
Postlude

June 21, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

No Fear

Fear can be paralyzing. It can keep us from daring to do the things we know we should. In fact, as we grow older, most of us learn to avoid situations where we might be forced to face our fears. If we have a fear of heights, we probably stay away from ladders and balconies. If we suffer from claustrophobia, we probably avoid tiny elevators. If we get tongue-tied at parties, we probably make our social plans with a few close friends. Except for those who suffer from extreme anxiety, most of us can live happy, productive lives while avoiding our fears.

As Christians, we don't have the luxury of avoiding all our fears. Jesus repeatedly tells us that following him is going to lead us into some difficult situations. Following Jesus does not grant immunity from these challenges and in some cases is even the reason for the trials we face. Knowing that Jesus' path led him to insult, betrayal and death, we, and the disciples, can be forgiven for being a bit afraid of what lies ahead. But we mustn't be paralyzed by our fear, or try to avoid it. The mission to spread the good news of God's love for us in Jesus Christ is too important for us to remain passive, hoping that someone else will carry that cross for us. The God who knows every hair of our heads empowers each of us to share what we know about the God whose care for us embraces every aspect of our lives.

Jesus urges us not to succumb to our fears but to fulfill God's purpose. We can be confident that God watches over even the minutest details of our lives, and gives us the strength to face our fears so that others may also come to know this awesome God.