

## First St. John Lutheran Church

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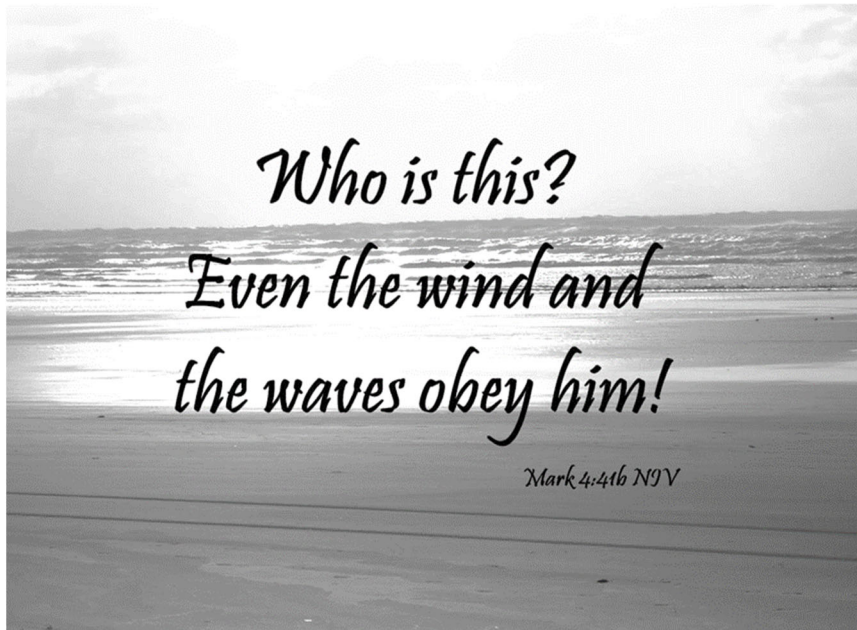
[www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com)

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 20, 2021**

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**Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! Please review some of our guidelines below.

If you are fully vaccinated, you no longer need to wear masks. However, if you have not been vaccinated, please continue wearing a mask. We have some available to take if you don't have one. Some are cloth masks and can be taken home to wash and reuse.

The service will be recorded and published to the website. We are now live streaming the service on our church website, [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com)

Elders will hand out the bulletins. Please do not leave your bulletin in the pew when you exit; take it home or put it in the recycling bin at the front door.

There is a small wooden church just to the right of the main door when you come in. It has a slot for your offering.

Nursery is in the church basement and is currently unstaffed; you are welcome to sit with your child. A diaper changing table is 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 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 altar flowers, there is a book in the Narthex (lobby) by the telephone. Or, you can 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.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude  
Ringing of the Bell

Dr. Pattin

Opening Song "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun" No. 557

**Confession and Forgiveness** (*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

**C: Amen.**

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*(Silence is kept for reflection)*

P: God, our provider, help us.

**C: It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**C: Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **Announcements**

### **FIRST READING: Job 38:1-11**

*Confronted with great suffering, Job attempts to prove his innocence to God. God speaks from the whirlwind, and speaks of the power of the sea and its waves. A series of ironical questions shows that Job, as a finite human, is incapable of judging the Creator.*

The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

<sup>2</sup> "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

<sup>3</sup> Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

<sup>4</sup> "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

<sup>5</sup> Who determined its measurements--surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

<sup>6</sup> On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone

<sup>7</sup> when the morning stars sang together

and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

<sup>8</sup> "Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb?--

<sup>9</sup> when I made the clouds its garment,

and thick darkness its swaddling band,

<sup>10</sup> and prescribed bounds for it,

and set bars and doors,

<sup>11</sup> and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves be stopped?"

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?*

*You have the words of eternal life.*

*Alleluia. Alleluia.*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

P: The Gospel according to St. Mark Chapter 4.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **GOSPEL: Mark 4:35-41**

*Jesus' calming of the storm on the sea reveals his power over evil, because the sea represents evil and chaos. The boat on the sea is a symbol of the church, and invites us to trust God amid life's turbulence.*

When evening had come, Jesus said to the disciples, "Let us go across to the other side."<sup>36</sup> And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him.

<sup>37</sup>A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. <sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" <sup>39</sup>He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

### **Gospel Response**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

SERMON

Sermon Hymn "My Life Flows on in Endless Song"

Pastor Rayl

No. 763

*(Please stand)*

### **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**

P: Hear us, O Lord,

**C: your mercy is great.**

*(Please be seated)*

### **Graduate Recognition**

**The Offering** *(As you exit, please place your offering in the wooden church in the Narthex if you have not already done so.)*

### **Musical Offertory**

Dr. Pattin

### **Offering Prayer**

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

**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 Him thanks and praise.**

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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.

P: 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.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Amen.**

### **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: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

### **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.”*

### **Communion Hymns**

“Bread of Life from Heaven” No. 474  
“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup” No. 492

*(After all have received communion, please stand.)*

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

### **Prayer After Communion**

P: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

### **Blessing**

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn  
Postlude

“On Eagle’s Wings”

No. 787  
Dr. Pattin

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## ***PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE***

### **ELDERS**

Jeff Smith, Ted Hagedorn

### **SOUND BOARD**

Mark Ackerman

GRADUATE RECOGNITION – 2021



- Kaylee Renee Beavers**      **Clay High School**  
4-year Honor Roll, 4-year member of Clay Band as a flute player and Color Guard member. Captain of the Color Guard. *Future Plans:* Will attend Bowling Green State University studying Art Education and Art Therapy.
- Jake Buckley**      **Clay High School**  
*Future Plans:* Jake plans on furthering his education in the building trades and looks forward to working in carpentry.
- Erin Church**      **Clay High School**  
4-year member of Clay Band, 3-year member of the Flag Corps. *Future Plans:* Will attend the University of Toledo, majoring in Pharmacy.
- Nick Miller**      **American College of Education**  
Earned a Masters Degree in Administration
- Logan Roberts**      **Clay High School**  
*Future Plans:* Continuing his education at the University of Toledo this fall.
- Scott Slater**      **Heidelberg University**  
Earned a Bachelor of Health Science with a “Strength and Conditioning” emphasis in December, 2020. Graduated Cum Laude. Scholar athlete all four years.

**Scott Slater (cont.)**

Currently working on his Strength and Conditioning licensure at the University of Wyoming. Since January, he's been working with the District 1 football team at the University of Wyoming.

Future Plans: Continue his education as a Graduate Assistant, getting a Masters Degree at an undecided college, and working with athletes.

**Kaitlyn Weis**

**Bowling Green State University**

Earned a Bachelor of Science in Education. She was the Service and Giving Chairman in Alpha Sigma Alpha. Future Plans: Attend the University of Toledo and pursue a Masters Degree in Education. Plans to teach pre-K through third grade.

June 20, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## A Peaceful Sleep

Summertime can bring some of our most violent storms; evening cool hits daytime heat and the ominous clouds lead us to check storm warnings on TV. Strong claps of thunder and flashes of lightning can startle us right out of bed, shuffling to check open windows, make sure pets or children are tucked in, wonder whether to move plants or yard furniture out of harm's way. It's hard to sleep peacefully through the anxiety a storm can bring.

But Jesus does it! It's a "great windstorm," a terrible, furious, violent storm. The disciples would not have needed a warning siren to know their boat should clearly have been headed ashore for safety. They were afraid, so afraid that they woke Jesus up--Jesus, don't you care that we're dying here?

When we question whether God just sleeps through our pain and anxiety, this passage might seem to confirm our isolation. But Jesus can sleep because of the gift he possesses, a gift he shares: peace. Stillness. Calm.

Who can be this calm during a terrible storm? The one who was there at the beginning when the Spirit of God moved over the face of the waters, the one who kept Noah safe through the flood, the one who gave the enslaved Israelites their escape through the Red Sea, the one who was baptized in the Jordan and saw the heavens torn apart, the one who had blood and water pour from his wounded side.

Is your summer vacation anything but a vacation? To a world longing for inner peace, seeking it in books and spa treatments and scented candles, the answer comes from one undaunted by anything the earth offers. Even death holds no fear because he has turned it upside down and given us eternal life. Let us sleep then in the peace of Christ.