

First St. John Lutheran Church

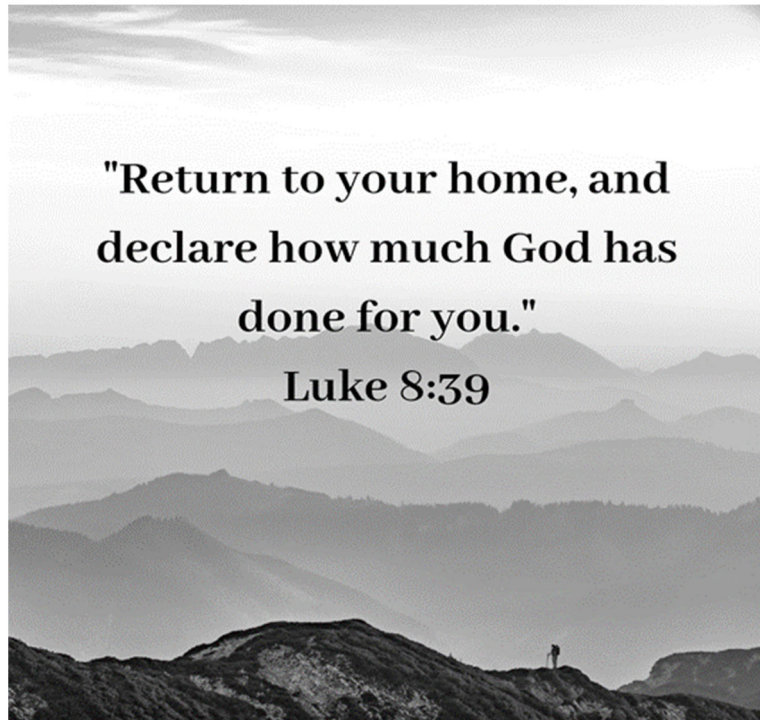
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www.firststjohn.com

Rev. Jerald K. Rayl

Annette Slater - Music Director
Dr. Anthony Pattin - Church Musician
Jacob Kelly - Youth & Family Minister



"Return to your home, and
declare how much God has
done for you."

Luke 8:39

June 19, 2022

Second Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! From September through May, we offer two services with Sunday School for youth and adults and catechism between the services. For the summer, we have just one service at 9:00 am.

Livestream and Recorded Worship: We livestream the service on our church website at www.firststjohn.com. Also, the service will be recorded and published to the website.

Sunday School & Catechism is dismissed for the summer.

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 the Narthex (lobby) and place it in the offering plate.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

ELDERS

Matt Miller, Ted Hagedorn

READER

Bob Haar

SOUND BOARD

Mark Ackerman

Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community

June 19, 2022

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude
Ringing of the Bell Dr. Pattin

Opening Song "As We Gather at Your Table" No. 522

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation.

C: For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

(Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.)

P: We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.

C: Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness, and we pass safely through.

P: In Jesus Christ, you calm the troubled waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us.

C: You have become our salvation.

P: Now, creative Holy Spirit, as you did at the moment of creation, breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.

C: Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

P: To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise "Give Me Jesus" (vs. 1-3) No. 770

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: Let us pray. O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Announcements

PSALM: Psalm 22:18-27

In the midst of the congregation I will praise you. (Ps. 22:21)

Be not far away, O LORD;
you are my strength; hasten to help me.

¹⁹**Save me from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog.**

²⁰Save me from the lion's mouth,
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.

²¹**I will declare your name to my brethren;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.**

²²Praise the LORD, you that fear him;
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

²³**For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them;
but when they cry to him he hears them.**

²⁴My praise is of him in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

²⁵**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him:
"May your heart live forever!"**

²⁶All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

²⁷**For kingship belongs to the LORD;
he rules over the nations.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Galatians 3:23-29

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people in faith. Those who are baptized experience a radical equality that removes distinctions based on race, social class, or gender.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

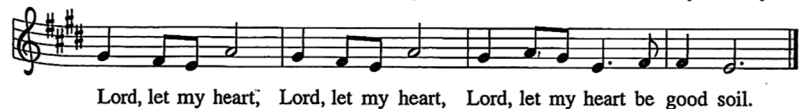
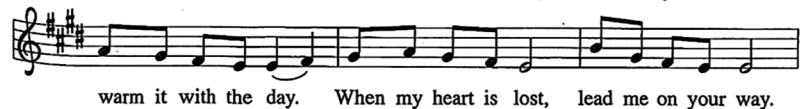
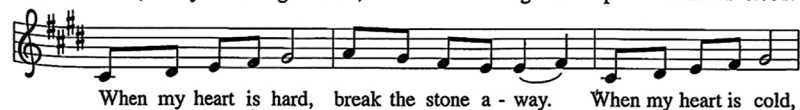
²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Announcement

P: The Gospel according to St. Luke Chapter 8.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39

In response to being healed, the Gerasene indicates his willingness to be Jesus' disciple by sitting at Jesus' feet. Unlike the rest of the Gerasenes who, in their fear, ask Jesus to leave, the man who has been healed testifies to what Jesus has done for him.

Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)

³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission.

³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹"Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Gospel Response

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Rayl

Sermon Hymn "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

No. 843

(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 (Each petition concludes with this response)

P: God in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

(Please be seated)

The Offering

Offertory Music

Dr. Pattin

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. Living God, God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

Graduate Recognition

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: 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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

P: And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

P: We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

P: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

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: In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

(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.

Communion Hymns

"Let Us Break Bread Together" No. 471

"Bread of Life From Heaven" No. 474

(After all have received communion, please stand.)

Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P: Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" No. 551

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Dr. Pattin

GRADUATE RECOGNITION – 2022



Molly Anderson

Clay High School

Honors Diploma.
Graduated Summa Cum Laude, two - time state qualifier and placer for DECA, named to first team All District for her work on the soccer field, as well as Academic All Ohio. Future Plans: Molly plans to continue her academic and athletic endeavors at Lourdes University and major in Exercise Science/Biology.

Collin Folk

2022 SMART Local #33 Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee.

Collin will posthumously receive top honors at his class graduation. Collin was a 4.0 student in his apprenticeship and had begun working for GEM with their design team as he became a journeyman in the metal trade and CADD (Computer Aided Design). Collin was killed September 11, 2021 before he could officially complete his final semester. This is an honor his family knows he worked very hard for and would be so happy to receive. They were informed recently that his class refused to participate in graduation ceremonies unless Collin was included.

Tristan Layman

Waite High School

3.85 GPA, graduated 14th in his class. Involved in various clubs and played baseball for seven years. Future Plans: Tristan plans to join an electrician's union with a specialty in realty work.

Kenneth Legrand

University of Toledo

Bachelor of Science in Engineering. 3.1 GPA, Dean's List all semesters. Inducted in Phi Eta Sigma, a freshman honor society where students are in the top 10% of their class. Future Plans: Kenny is seeking a job as a mechanical engineer.

Jacob Legrand

Anthony Wayne High School

Future Plans: Jake plans to go into the construction trade.

Alexandria (Church) Miller

University of Akron

Bachelor of Science in Accounting. Future Plans: Alexandria has accepted a position at Plante Moran in Cleveland, Ohio.

Jameson Rowley

Xavier University

Master of Arts, 4.0 GPA. Jameson is teaching at a high school in Covington, KY. Future plans: He is applying for his Ph.D. and plans to become a college professor.

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY

Please purchase full size items.

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| dish soap | shampoo, child | disposable razors |
| paper towel | laundry soap | toothbrush, adult |
| toilet paper | fabric softener sheets | toothpaste, adult |
| tissues | body lotion | sanitary pads |
| deodorant | body soap | band aids |
| shampoo, adult | | |

This is a list of the items that will provide a month's worth of hygiene supplies to families or individuals in our neighborhood to help them stay clean and healthy. We always welcome any donations from our congregation members.

If you would like to donate items, please donate only full size products as sample sizes will not last a month. If you would prefer a Pantry volunteer to do the shopping for you, we welcome monetary donations. Please make out checks to First St. John Lutheran Church and write Personal Needs Pantry on the memo line.



Set Free

The townsfolk had given up on the man we encounter in today's gospel story. They had tried to help him, but the powers that controlled his life were many. They couldn't understand him. They simply said he had demons, so many that they named him "Legion." They tried binding him with chains and shackles. But he broke loose. The only place he could live was in the wilds and among the dead in the cemetery--no place to call home. And he was naked.

But Jesus did not give up on him. As Jesus came ashore, the man recognized the Son of the Most High God. This God, who formed the heavens and the earth and delighted in the goodness of the created world now came to reclaim one who had been created in God's own image. And so the man cried out, "What have you to do with me, Jesus?"

Is this also our question? We gather on this day as those who have been claimed and named by the One in whose image we are created. Our living Lord meets us at the font of baptism and in the word of forgiveness. And though our problems may be many and the powers that threaten us may be great, the Son of the Most High God has something important to do with us. Jesus sets us free and clothes us in the garments of salvation. We, like the healed demoniac, are sent into the world to declare how much God has done for us.