

## First St. John Lutheran Church

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Rev. Jerald K. Rayl

Dr. Anthony Pattin - Church Musician  
Jacob Kelly - Youth & Family Minister  
Toni Wilbarger - Office Manager

Do not neglect to  
show hospitality to  
strangers, for by this  
some have  
entertained angels  
without knowing it.  
**HEBREWS 13:2**



*Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community*

**August 28, 2022**

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**Twelfth 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](http://www.firststjohn.com). Also, the service will be recorded and published to the website.

Sunday School & Catechism are 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.

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### ***PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE***

#### **ELDERS**

Dick Haar, Bob Hecklinger

#### **READER**

Deacon Laura Scherer

#### **SOUND BOARD**

Mark Ackerman

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude  
Ringing of the Bell

Dr. Pattin

Opening Hymn "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" No. 712

### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

C: **Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy One,

C: **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C: **Amen.**

### 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 God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

### Announcements

### FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7

*The book of Proverbs is known as wisdom literature. It gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.*

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence  
or stand in the place of the great;  
<sup>7</sup>for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"  
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: Psalm 112

*The righteous are merciful and full of compassion. (Ps. 112:4)*

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD  
and have great delight in his commandments!  
<sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**  
<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last forever.  
<sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**  
<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.  
<sup>6</sup>**For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**  
<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is right; they put their trust in the LORD.  
<sup>8</sup>**Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**  
<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor,  
and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.  
<sup>10</sup>**The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;  
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

### SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

*The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains many suggestions for the conduct of life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.*

Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said,

"I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

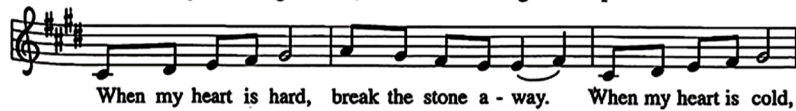
<sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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 14.

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

#### **GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14**

*Jesus often tells parables about meals to illustrate God's unexpected grace and to lead people to a faithful response. Here we have two examples of these stories: one encourages humility, and the other shows Jesus inviting his listeners to review their guest list.*

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. <sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

<sup>8</sup>"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

### **Gospel Response**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*(Please be seated)*

SERMON

Deacon Laura Scherer

Sermon Hymn "Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak" No. 676

*(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.

### **The Offering**

## Offertory Music

Dr. Pattin

## Offering Prayer

P: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

C: Amen.

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

P: God in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

## 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.

## Blessing

P: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

*"Here I Am, Lord"*

No. 574

## Dismissal

P: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Dr. Pattin

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August 28, 2022

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## **Know Your Place**

At first blush Jesus' instruction to "sit down at the lowest place" sounds a little hypocritical--an invitation to false modesty--hardly Christ-like. But clearly Jesus is saying, "Know your place."

The second half of the gospel today clarifies the point. "When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind." Today's reading from Hebrews expands the point: "Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers. . . . Remember those who are in prison. . . . Be content with what you have."

Isn't this the point again? "Know your place." But suddenly these words do not refer to where you sit but to where you walk. Disciples of Jesus are invited to walk the path that Jesus chose. Jesus, whose honored place is at the right hand of God, came down from heaven to be with us on earth.

Jesus chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. In the prayer of the day we ask God to "humble us by [Jesus'] example; point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow his commands."

You follow one who chose suffering for the sake of the world. Know your place.

You are a forgiven person in an unforgiving world. Know your place.

You are very rich in a world of many who are very poor. Know your place.

You are a recipient of grace in a neighborhood desperate for love. Know your place.

You bear an overflowing cup in a thirsty land. Know your place.

You are the sister or brother of the Crucified. Know your place.