

October 2, 2022

17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

More than Enough

What would it be like to have more faith? Would it be easier to face hardships, such as declining health or the loss of a job or loved one? Would more faith help us "let go and let God" carry our burdens? If we had more faith, would we feel eager, rather than hesitant, when given an opportunity to witness to God's great love for us?

Jesus' followers came to him with a request: "Increase our faith!" Jesus responded, "If you had the faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

It is easy to hear Jesus' words as a rebuke: "If you had so little faith that it could hardly be seen, you could perform amazing feats. But obviously you don't have even that much!" Perhaps, however, Jesus intended something else. Maybe his desire was to comfort people who were feeling overwhelmed by the demands of faithful discipleship. Maybe he was saying, "You ask for more faith, but let me assure you, it doesn't take a lot to perform great miracles. Only a tiny amount is needed for you to forgive a person who sins against you seven times in one day. And you already have more than enough!"

The good news is that whether we come before God with only a small, timid faith or with a robust, confident faith, our loving parent generously strengthens our faith through word and sacrament. When we hear God's holy word or share in the gift of communion, our creator and sustainer is nourishing us for our Christian calling, increasing our faith to ensure that we will certainly have more than enough.

First St. John Lutheran Church

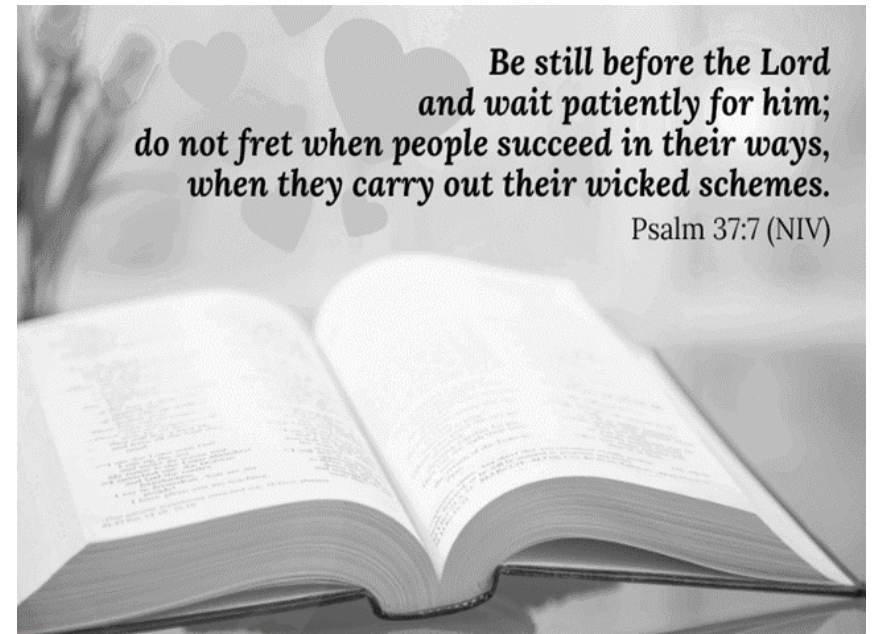
2471 Seaman Street
Toledo, Ohio 43605
419-691-7222

office@firststjohn.com

www.firststjohn.com

Rev. Jerald K. Rayl

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



Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community

October 2, 2022 - 10:30 am

October 2, 2022

17th Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! We offer two services with Sunday School for youth and adults and catechism between the services. Our regular Sunday schedule is:

8:00 am	Early Worship
9:15 am	Sunday School / 1st Year Catechism
9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
10:30 am	Late Worship
11:30 am	2nd Year Catechism every other Sunday

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.

Adult Sunday School meets at 9:15 am in the Youth Room area in the basement of the Educational Building.

Children ages 3 through 5th grade will meet at 9:15 am for Sunday School in the basement of the church (the JAM Room!).

Catechism Classes: First year class will be held from 9:15 to 10:15 am each Sunday. Second year class will meet every other Sunday from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.

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 lounge. 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.

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 *“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”* No. 547

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Dr. Pattin

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

ELDERS

Darold Henninger, Kevin Ruedy

READER

Carol Haar

SOUND BOARD

Beth Hugueley

ORDER OF WORSHIP—10:30 am

Prelude Dr. Pattin
Ringing of the Bell

Opening Song *“Morning Has Broken”* No. 556

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. Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Announcements

FIRST READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

The injustices of the Judean king and the violence of the Chaldeans (Babylonians) move this prophet to write during the years leading up to the Babylonian exile of Judah. The central issue is: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent?

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

²O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?

Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?

³Why do you make me see wrong-doing
and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law becomes slack
and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1} I will stand at my watchpost,
and station myself on the rampart;

I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

²Then the Lord answered me and said:
Write the vision;

make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.

³For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come, it will not delay.

⁴Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faith.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-9

Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD. (Ps. 37:5)

Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not be envious of wrongdoers,

² **for they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb.**

³ Trust in the Lord and do good;
live in the land and enjoy security.

⁴ **Take delight in the Lord,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

(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.

(Please be seated)

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.

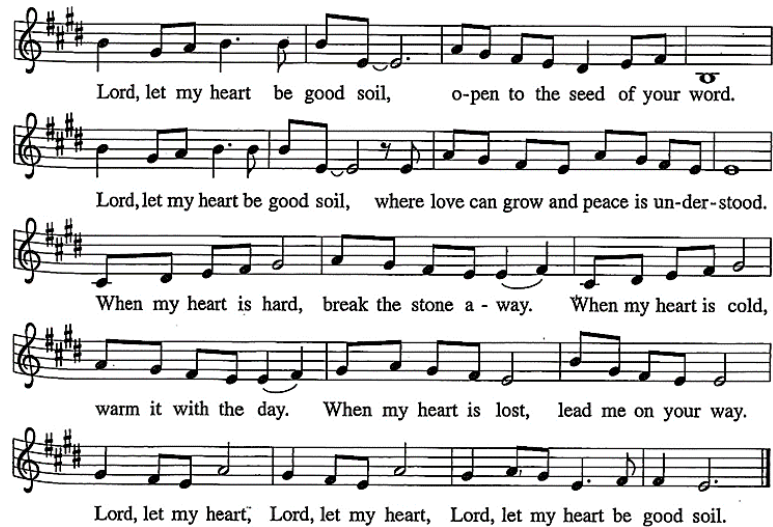
The Lord's Prayer *(prayed by all)*

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;

Gospel Acclamation



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Gospel according to St. Luke Chapter 17.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 17:5-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the duties of discipleship. He wants them to exhibit mutual support and forgiveness, to realize the power of faith, and to adopt the attitude of servants who do what is right without thought of reward.

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table?' ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink?' ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Gospel Response

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON
Sermon Hymn

"Rock of Ages, Cleft For Me"

Pastor Rayl
No. 623

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

⁶ **He will make your vindication shine like the light and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**

⁷ Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.

⁸ **Refrain from anger and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil.**

⁹ For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

These words are a personal message to a prominent leader in the early Christian church. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.

⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)