

STAFF

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****The Pastors are off on Fridays****



Notice of live streaming:
Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville
stjohnsparkville.org
(410) 665-1234
office@stjohnsparkville.org
Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

Introduction to the Day

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)

(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Boundless Mercy

Anthony Giamanco

(© 2017 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

(Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Steadfast and faithful God,
**you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you**

This week's schedule

Today	9 am	Sunday School & Faith and Fellowship
	10 am	Live & Online Worship (Welcome New Members & Baptism)
	11:30 am	Youth Group (Youth Room)
	11:30 am	Altar Guild Meeting (Smith Building)
Mon.	7 pm	Council Meeting (Smith Building)
Tues.		
Wed.	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
	6:45 pm	Community Meal Planning Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir (Music Room)
		<i>Newsletter Articles Due</i>
Thurs.		
Fri.	11 am	Bible Study (Smith Building)
Sat.		

Counting our Blessings

Sunday	Attendance:	2023	
9/10	Offering: \$4,535	June Offering Income	\$18,282
	Homebound: 19	June Other Income	\$ 1,293
		June Total Income	\$19,575
		June Expenses	\$34,851
		YTD Offering Income	\$134,709
		YTD Other Income	\$ 29,430
		YTD Total Income	\$164,139
		YTD Expenses	\$195,898



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Barbara Mueller, Patricia Denk, Robert Suznick, Cass Tracey, Lou Gerber, Lisa Duerling, Len Steg, Mary Gude, Joan Kraft, Mike McDonough, Bonnie Spellman, Ardi Scarborough, Mardi Nickel, Joan Swank, Andy Rother, Rosalie Coffman, Pat Hurley, Bett Murphy, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, Tony Jasinski, and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Jamie Kirschner, Lily Newman, Rob Graff, Alice Evans, Trish Pizza, Robert Hunter, Jr., Betsy Shock, Joann Bayer, Norman Bayer, Sue Eid, Genevieve Byrnes, Julie Bramble, Ruth Reimschissel aka Mrs. Claus, Darlene & Odin Saby, Holly Hartman, Colette, Larry Harmel, Michael Ellisson, Lonnie Rash, Gary Jones, Karen Alban, Bruce Cohen, Kathy Barnes, Vic Giordani, Helen Bender, Anna Meyers, Deemer Morrow, Lee Hall, Robin, Alice Ensor, Jeanne Edmunds, Mike Haven, Gail Gangi, Kristin Weger, Donna Bobloch and Yung-Mee Rhee

For the military and their families: Kalib McCann, Mason Ledbetter, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, and all those in harm's way

For those grieving family & friends of: Roland Curtis

For St. John's Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Betty Creutzer, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Patricia Hurley, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Patrick O'Connell, Mary Ann Reek, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, Cass Tracey and Emma Volz

**and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death* **ELW 452 (vv. 1-3)**

(Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984; Music: Carl G. Glaser, 1784-1829; Text © Augsburg Publishing House)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid!

Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 103:8-13

- ⁸LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;
⁹**you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.**
¹⁰You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.
¹¹**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.**
¹²As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.
¹³**As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.**

SECOND READING

Romans 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

- ¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.
²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.
⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.
⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.
¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

Join us for our next Community Meal on Wednesday, October 4th from 5:30 pm—7 pm. Thank you to everyone who helped make the September Community Meal a success! We need volunteers for our next meal. If you can help, there is a sign up sheet on the third floor bulletin board or you can call the church office. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors!



PET blessing  **Join us for our Annual Blessing of the Animals on Friday, October, 6th from 6 pm—6:30 pm in St. John's Park.** Bring your pet or a photo of your pet for a blessing and treat.

The Busy Bees need flannel sheets as a component for the quilts they make for the homeless. If you have any used but clean flannel sheets that you would like to donate we would really appreciate it.



St. John's Preschool has openings this fall for the 3 and 4 year old preschool program. For more information contact the preschool at preschool@stjohnsparkville.org



Victor's Vittles, the food pantry at Christus Victor Lutheran Church is in need of items for their food pantry. Items needed are: canned fruit, cereal & oatmeal, jelly, peanut butter, pasta sauce, spaghetti noodles, Raman noodles, mac & cheese, beef stew, pancake mix, syrup, instant potatoes, and canned spaghetti



Announcements & Upcoming Events

Next Week— Sunday, September 24th— Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

† 9 am—**Sunday School & Faith and Fellowship**

† 10 am—**Worship in-person
and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel**

Visit stjohnsparkville.org



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Megan and Max Czarski's first wedding anniversary by the Jasinski and Addison families.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2023. Dates available are: October 8th, November 5th, and December 31st. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

Nursery Care for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten.



The Food for Thought Program has begun for the 2023-2024 school year. We have an immediate need for Chef Boyardee single serving meals and pudding cups. We are again packing 50 weekend bags for 25 students. Please help if you can!

Youth Group begins today. We will meet after worship from about 11:30 am—1 pm. The St. John's Youth Group will meet the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month after worship.



St. John's Preschool is having their Fall Mum Sale. Orders are due by 9/22. Flyers are on the third floor bulletin board and in the weekly email. If you have any questions, contact preschool@stjohnsparkville.org.

Attention all Ministry Teams...2024 Budget requests are due by Sunday, September 24th. Forms can be found on the third floor bulletin board, in the weekly email or in the church office. Return your completed budget request to Lee Smith by email at wleesmith3@verizon.net or bring it to the church office.

BUDGET



"S'mores and More" Family Campfire will be held on Friday, September 29th from 6 pm-8 pm at the Labyrinth. Everyone is welcome for a fun night of yard games, s'mores, songs, prayer and fellowship by the fireside! Invite your friends and neighbors!

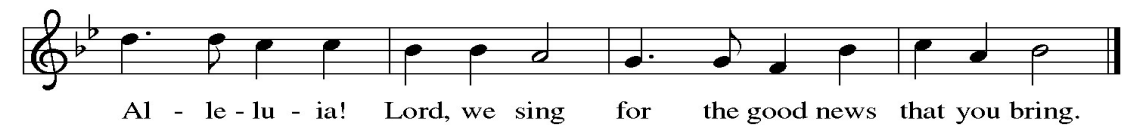
and every tongue shall give praise to God."¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave,

as I had mercy on you?’³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly is seated.)

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Before the Waters Nourished Earth

ACS 1049



1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -
 2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of
 3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows
 4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness



ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the
 E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in
 par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's
 still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -



u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.
 mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.
 faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.
 gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961
 Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish melody
 Text © 1996 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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(Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961; Music: Irish melody; Text © 1996 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

(Mickey Alexander Hamilton)

(See Baptism Bulletin)

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Welcome

Let us welcome these siblings in Christ in this community of faith.
We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of glory,

✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names,
 and the Spirit who lives in you,
 bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

In Thee Is Gladness

ELW 86

(Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549-1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.; Music: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556-1622)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata Brillante

Ben Logan

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Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Lee Smith
Crucifer	Emily R.
Acolyte (s)	Karli C., Simon B.
Lector	Judy Jasinski
Communion Assistant	Judy Jasinski
Dismissal Assistant	Alec B.

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LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS

In the Singing

ELW 466

(Text: Shirley Erena Murray, 1931-2020; Music: Carlton R. Young, b. 1926; Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company)

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

ELW 461

(Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993; Music: W. Moore, Columbian Harmony, 1825; arr. hymnal version; Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.; Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress)

(The assembly remains seated.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
And proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition Merciful God,
Receive our prayer.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(We offer each other a sign of Christ's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Every Day Is a Gift from the Lord* Soloist: Emily Brock
(Words: Don Besig and Nancy Price; Music: Don Besig; Text and music © 2002, 2004 Harold Flammer Music)

Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.

Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website stjohnsparkville.org. Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville



(Please stand as you are able.)

OFFERING HYMN

God of the Fertile Fields

ACS 1063 (vv. 1-2)
(See Insert)

(Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974; Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796; Text © 1955 ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.
God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

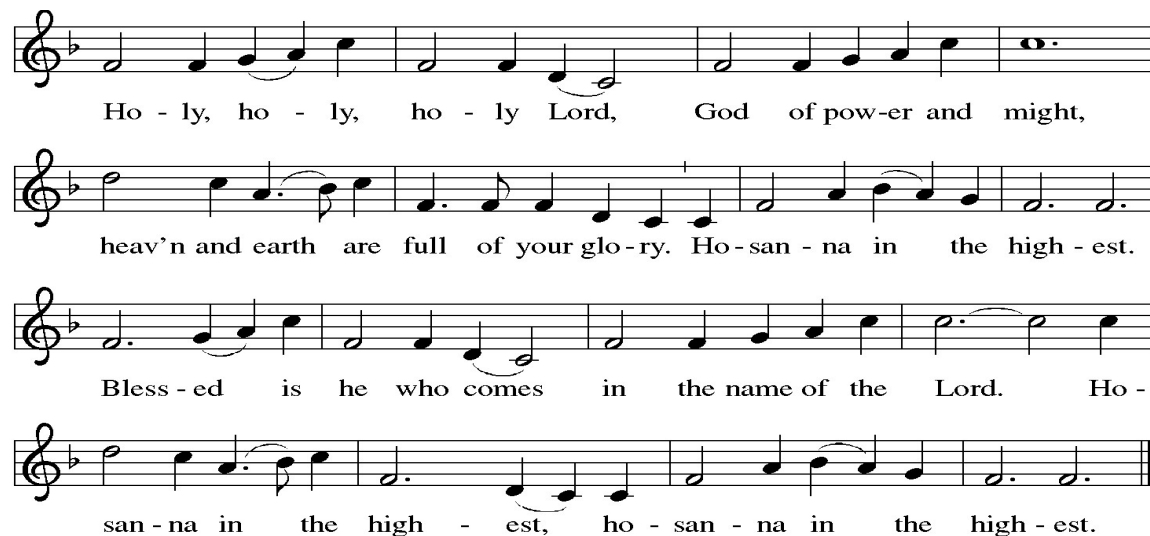
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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...

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you O God,
for you made the earth and all that is, and declared it good.
Blessed are you,
for in Christ you entered into creation,
into our humanity, into our vulnerability, into our mortality.
You stayed with us through conflict, through suffering, through death.
Blessed are you for raising Jesus from the dead.
in him promising new life to us all.
In the night in which he was betrayed...

Come, Lord, Jesus, in this meal,
and make us alive again.
By your Spirit,
bind us to that holy communion of saints in every time and place,
and make us your body in the world,
bringing light and healing to all.
Amen.

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

**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.**

(The assembly is seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table.
Come, eat and live.

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

*If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing,
crossing your arms over your chest.*