

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.

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 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.



stjohnsparkville



St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville



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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

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy 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 *Christians, While on Earth Abiding* *Ben Logan*
 (© 2003 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
	9 am	Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
	10 am	Live & Online Worship
	11:30 am	Youth Group (Youth Room)
Mon.		
Tues.		
Wed.	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
	5:30 am	Community Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	7 pm	Wednesday Night Worship (Smith Building)
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Thurs.	6 pm	Budget Meeting (Music Room)
Fri.	6 pm	Pet Blessing (St. John's Park)
Sat.		

Counting our Blessings

Sunday	Attendance: 79	2023	
9/24	Offering: \$ 4,106	August Offering Income	\$18,031
	Homebound: 17	August Other Income	\$ 741
		August Total Income	\$18,772
		August Expenses	\$25,284
		YTD Offering Income	\$179,427
		YTD Other Income	\$ 33,151
		YTD Total Income	\$212,578
		YTD Expenses	\$253,418



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, Joan Kraft, Mike McDonough, Ardi Scarborough, Mardi Nickel, Joan Swank, Andy Rother, Rosalie Coffman, Pat Hurley, Bett Murphy, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Bonnie Franklin, 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, Deemer Morrow, 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: Mary-Anne Reek

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, 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

God Is Here!

ELW 526 (vv. 1-2)

(Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000; Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991; Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company; Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company)

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.
God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 25:1-9

- ¹To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.
- ²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- ³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
- ⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**
- ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- ⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**
- ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness,
O LORD.
- ⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
- ⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

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.



Our next Restaurant Night is at Texas Roadhouse in White Marsh on Tuesday, October 17th from 3 pm—10 pm. Come out and support St. John’s and enjoy a meal with friends. You must show a flyer or a copy of the flyer on your phone for the church to receive credit.

Our Trunk or Treat will take place on Saturday, October 28th. This event is a safe and fun way of trick-or-treating! Car decorating set up begins at 5 pm with the event starting at 6 pm. Contact the church office to sign up for car decorating contest.



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.

Food for Thought Sunday is next Sunday, October 8th

We will be doing a special collection based on the first letter of your last name.

- A-F—Chef Boyardee single serving meals**
- G-I—Tuna/Chicken salad kit**
- J-L—Pudding Cups**
- M-O—Apple Sauce pouches**
- P-R—Pop Tarts/Cereal Bars**
- S-V—Juice Pouches**
- W-Z—Small bags of chips/snack items or individual packs of snack crackers**



This program supports 25 children experiencing food insecurity at Carney Elementary. There are collection bins outside of the Sanctuary and in the second floor stairwell. We appreciate your continued support.

Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Linda Wiley
Crucifer	Emily R.
Acolyte (s)	James W., Landry E.
Lector	Laurie Krieger
Communion Assistant	Laurie Krieger
Dismissal Assistant	Devon W.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Next Week— Sunday, October 8th— Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

† 9 am—**Handbell Choir**

† 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 memory of Ed Johnson by his daughter, Gloria Stadnik, and his grandson, Robert Stadnik.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2024. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Most dates are available at this time.

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.



Nursery



St. John's Youth Group meets in the Youth Room on the second floor from about 11:30 am-12:30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. This group is for middle and high school students. Join us as we have fun, get to know one another, and grow in faith together.

Faith and Fellowship meets in the Fellowship Hall on the first floor from 9 am—9:45 am each Sunday. This is an opportunity for adults to gather for light refreshments and to grow in faith.



COME JOIN OUR
BIBLE Study The Bible Study group meets on Friday's at 11 am in the Smith Building. We are studying the book of Matthew. All are welcome! Please note that there will be no bible study on October 6th.

Join us for our next Community this 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!



Wednesday Night Worship! The first Wednesday of the month, 7 pm in the Smith Building. A new worship opportunity will follow the monthly Community Meal beginning October 4th. This will be a brief communion service with blended music featuring piano and guitar, as well as an interactive reflection. We hope you can join us and invite your friends and neighbors!

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name

that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

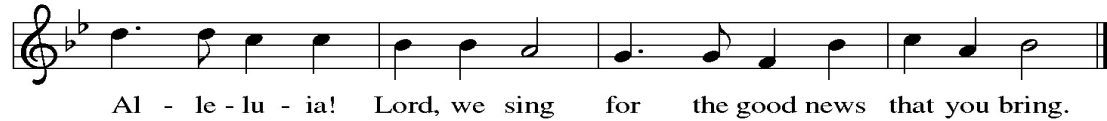
¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly is seated.)

SERMON

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

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

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth (sung twice)

ELW 538

(Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, 1923-2016; Music: Anonymous, Central America; English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress)

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Postlude in Early American Hymn Style

Lani Smith

(©2015 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

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**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins
as we forgive; 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.*

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

***By Your Hand You Feed Your People* ELW 469**

(Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952; Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text and music © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.)

(The assembly remains seated.)

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

ELW 772

(Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.; Music: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870)

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

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

I Will Trust in the Lord

Adult Choir

(Words and music: Lloyd Larson; Words and music © 2019 Lorenz Publishing Company)

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

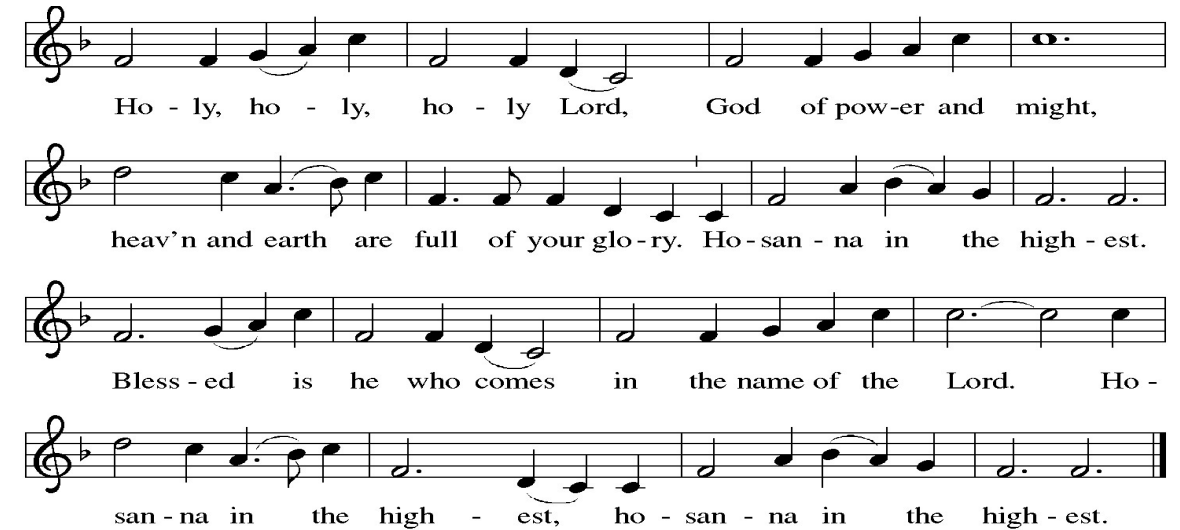
DIALOGUE

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.

(Sung call-and-echo)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.**