

St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill

Pentecost 7, Proper 10

July 16, 2023



Worship Assistants

Pastor: Rev. Norman Sulaica, Jr.

Accompanist: Linda Pieper

Acolyte: Kannon Koehler

Lay Reader: Katie Seeker

Altar Preparations: Donna Bentke, Deanna Giese

Tellers: Larry Pieper, Cathy Boeker

Screen Crew: Barnay Glaesmann, Steve Skrla

Ladies Aid - Audrey Steinbach, Kay Janner, Amanda Hafer

Church Ministers: St John Members

Ushers: Jon Westerfeld

Council Members: India Randermann, Josh Clay

Communion Bread: Deanna Giese

Sanctuary Prep: Karen Rosenbaum, Donna Skrla

Memorial Committee: Ruth Finke, Diana Williams

Please tune to 87.9 FM for access to the service in the church parking lot on Sundays.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

THE PEACE

ELW Pg. 152

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Peace be with you. R. Peace be with you.

Please be seated.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God,
all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life. In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

ELW #807

INTROIT with Psalm 103:8

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

ELW Pg. 147

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Shout to the Lord (Guitar Accompaniment)

SCREEN

1 My Jesus, My Savior Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort, my shelter tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You (CHORUS)

CHORUS

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
Power and majesty praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hand
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

2 My Jesus, My Savior Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort, my shelter tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You (CHORUS)

CHORUS

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
Power and majesty praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
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I sing for joy at the work of Your hand
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Richly inspire us, O Lord, to consider and accomplish what you see is good. For we know that we cannot live without you, but that with you, we shall prevail. And so, we pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be

that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 64:9-14

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.

¹⁰**You prepare the grain,
for so you provide for the earth.**

¹¹You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

¹²**You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.**

¹³May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.

¹⁴**May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs — heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (v. 1)

SCREEN

**1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word;
curb those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from your Son
and bring to naught all he has done.**

***GOSPEL:**

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear."

¹⁸{Jesus said to the disciples,} "Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Norman Sulaica, Jr.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Old Rugged Cross

SCREEN

**1 On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.**

Refrain:

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.**

**2 O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above
to bear it to dark Calvary. [Refrain]**

3 In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
to pardon and sanctify me. [Refrain]

4 To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
where his glory forever I'll share. [Refrain]

CREED

ELW Pg. 105

*Apostle's 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,
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 INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

OFFERING HYMN	Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful	<i>ELW #184</i>
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OFFERTORY	Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow	<i>ELW #884</i>
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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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:

SANCTUS

ELW Pg. 153

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

EUCCHARIST PRAYER

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God in Zion,
for you are the Creator of that we see.
We praise you for the rain and the sun,
for the joy and peace, you instill in our hearts.
We praise you for leading us with you Holy Spirit.
In this meal and through the body and blood of Jesus,
sow in us your forgiving love and merciful grace. **Amen.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

Please be seated.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God

SCREEN

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**

have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart (v. 1-4)
Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

ELW #484
SCREEN

- 1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and His righteousness,
and all these things
shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia. (Refrain)

Refrain
Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Allelu, Alleluia

- 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you.
seek and you shall find.
knock and yhe door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia. (Refrain)

- 3 We do not live by bread alone,
but by ev'ry word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia. (Refrain)

Day by Day

ELW #790

Please stand as you are able.

DECLARATION OF GRACE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love others as Christ loves you!

Thanks be to God!



Altar Flowers are given to the Glory
of God by Kevin & Anna Finke
in honor of their 26th Wedding Anniversary
and Owen's Baptismal Anniversary.

Attendance Cards

Please remember to complete an attendance card each week. Update any change of address or phone number on the back of the card. We are updating our membership rolls to make sure that the information we have is up to date. Also, please use your offering envelopes provided to insure that your envelopes are counted properly and for future tax purposes. If you forget your envelope, you may use one that is located in the pew. Thanks.

Upcoming Via de Cristo Weekend..... Study, Worship, Sharing

September 14-17, 2023
Camp Lone Star - Pines Campus
Tomball, TX

In all things, God works for the good of those who love Him.” Romans 8:28

Via de Cristo is a Spanish phrase meaning Way of Christ. A Via de Cristo weekend is a three-day journey, designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people, bringing them to a new awareness of living in God’s grace. The participants live, study, worship and commune together daily.

There are fourteen talks, nine by lay people and five by clergy, presenting the Christian life, based on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ.. Via de Cristo gives those attending a living understanding of basic Christian Truths. Participants will enjoy music and singing, food and fellowship, and a time for prayer and reflection.

For more information, contact Pastor Norm or Sandy Ordner.



Monday, July 17th

10:00AM Bible Study

Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday, July 18th

9:00AM Quilting

9:00 Music Planning Team

10:00AM Memorial Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 19th

6:30PM Choir Practice

Church Library

The new library, located across from the Pastor's office is OPEN. Come by and pick from the many adult and children books that can be checked out. There are also items within the library available for purchase by donation.

Choir Practice

Choir practices are held on Wednesdays at 6:30PM. The choir is looking for members of the congregation to join and share their voices. The choir sings on the last Sunday of each month. Come share your talent with us!

Photo Directory Team

A photo directory team is being formed and volunteers are needed. If you are interested in participating, please let Pastor Norm or the church secretary know.



St. John Lutheran Church
Men's Group

Gentlemen, please join us at 8:00AM the 3rd Saturday of each month for breakfast, devotion, and fellowship.

Game Day

Each 2nd Wednesday of the month, there will be a Game Day at the church from 2:00pm - 5:00pm.

Join us for fun, games and fellowship.

All ages are welcome.

Blood Drive

Mark your calendars for the next blood drive to be held July 30th. Please consider donating the "Gift of Life". Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex of the church.

2023 ST JOHN COUNCIL MEMBERS

President.....Herbert Klatte, Jr.
Vice-President..... Kenneth Seeker
Treasurer Sharon Neutzler
Secretary.....Rita Gaskamp
Community Concerns..... India Randermann
Evangelism.....Josh Clay
Financial Secretary..... Jeannie Kroll
Parish Ed Stephanie Koehler
Property..... Colton Maass
Worship & Music..... Virginia Altman

Contact Information for Pastor Norm

Pastor Norm can be reached in either of the following ways:

Cell Phone Number (361) 362-9108 Or

Email: pastornorm2003@yahoo.com

Bible Study Series

A weekly Bible study is being held each Monday at 10:00AM.

Please join in this learning opportunity and for the fellowship.

Prayer Requests for our Church Family:

Mavis Smith Janice Cordova Sydney Wagner Florence Bentke
Gilbert Spinn Helen Gaskamp Cynthia Wilson Linda King Jerry Rander-
mann Mary Ann Luce Connie Seward Dorothy Wiesepape Mark
Marburger Tom Bentke Earline Moody Verna Mae Sefcik Ruth Finke
Peggy & Milton Bosse Donald Lange Emery & Helen Schulze Carol Crosby Mike Altman Dennis Moehlmann
Sandy Kite Diana Williams Lloyd Neutzler Evelyn Thielemann Mollie Grote



Those celebrating baptismal anniversaries: Becky Schulze, Tina Seeker, Mavis Smith, Owen Finke, Katie Estes, Karen Rosenbaum, Thomas Lynch, Kyle Rosenbaum, and Presley Myers
Those celebrating wedding anniversaries: Chris & Megan Schramme, Kevin & Anna Finke, Jerri & William Mitchell, and Mark & Shanan Marburger

Prayer Requests for Our Family and Friends:

Aaron Batot	Gladys Schwartz	Patty Addicks
Alyssa and Aliza Jones	Glyn Spiess	Roger Ellermann
Amanda Gurka	James Lee	Rosemary Gaskamp
Ann Fogt	Joe Deatherage	Shannon Wellmann
Brent Dorman	Kennedy Altman	Sue Maass
Carol Lieber	Larry Dean Koch	Wayne Hueske
Christy Dallmeyer	Mark Hundemer	William Richter
David Majewski	Mike McIntyre	Please notify the church office of prayer requests by noting on the back of your attendance card. Thanks.
Dawn Sulaica	Missy Goldmith	
Dorothy Bowles	Nicole Clark	



The 2023 flower chart is posted in the Annex so that you may sign up to place flowers in the church. You may sign up for flowers by checking the flower chart for available dates.

REACHING YOUR CHURCH OFFICE

Linda Crabtree prairiehillsecretary@gmail.com Church Office Phone: 979-836-8666
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 8:00am-4:00pm Website: www.stjohnnpairiehill.org

NALC Disaster Response Kit Packing List



The following items are being collected for the months of May, June and July to donate to the NALC Disaster Response. We would like to be able to fulfill the need of 50 kits each month. A monetary donation in lieu of the supplies can be made payable to St John Lutheran Church indicating NALC Disaster Response. Items may be left in the Narthex area on right side upon entry

For the month of July - Elementary

- 1 backpack or duffle bag
- 4 notebooks
- 4 pocket holders
- 1 blunt scissors
- 1 ruler
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 4 pencils
- 2 pens
- 1 eraser
- 1 box of crayons, colored pencils, or markers

**Special Fund Envelope for July is
Brenham Game Changers.**

Prairie Hill Vacation Bible School 2023

July 31- Aug 4



Monday - Thursday

St. John Prairie Hill Parish Hall

6:00 pm - 7:45 pm

Friday

5:00 - 8:00 pm

Gun and Rod Club

Closing Party

The meal each night will be from 6:00 - 6:20. Rotations and opening will begin at 6:25.

There will be a closing during worship service on Sunday, August 6th, at 9:15

**ALL REGISTRATION INFORMATION MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE
July 16th. THIS WILL GIVE US TIME TO PREPARE CRAFTS AND MEALS FOR
ALL REGISTERED CHILDREN. PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM USING THE
LINK or the QR CODE BELOW.**

[Register HERE!](#)

