

St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill

Pentecost 8, Proper 11

July 23, 2023



Worship Assistants

Pastor: Rev. Norman Sulaica, Jr.

Accompanist: Linda Schulze

Acolyte: Jax Antkowiak

Lay Reader: Sandra Tillman

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: Virginia Altman, Sharon Neutzler

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.

Since we have such a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus Christ our Lord, let us with confidence draw near to God, that we may receive mercy and find grace in time of need.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving kindness. In your great mercy, wash away our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin.

Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not remove us from your presence; do not take your Spirit away.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and sustain us with your Spirit. Amen

God is merciful and gracious, granting forgiveness through Jesus Christ to all who confess their sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin, 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, You Thankful People, Come (v. 1-3)

ELW #693

INTROIT with Psalm 86:6

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
listen to my plea for grace.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

ELW Pg. 147

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone

SCREEN

- 1 **Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
 That saved a wretch like me
 I once was lost, but now I'm found
 Was blind, but now I see**
- 2 **'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 And grace my fears relieved
 How precious did that grace appear
 The hour I first believed!**

[Chorus]

**My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
 And like a flood His mercy reigns.
 Unending love, amazing grace**

- 3 **The Lord has promised good to me,
 His word my hope secures;
 He will my shield and portion be,
 As long as life endures.**

[Chorus]

**My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
 And like a flood His mercy reigns
 Unending love, amazing grace
My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
 And like a flood His mercy reigns
 Unending love, amazing grace**

- 4 **The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
 The sun forbear to shine;
 But God who called me here below,
 Will be forever mine.
 Will be forever mine.
 You are forever mine.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; that you may hear our

Amen.

Isaiah 44:6-8

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:57-64

I have promised to keep your words.

be merciful to me according to your promise.

and turned my feet toward your decrees.

to keep your commandments.

I do not forget your law.

because of your righteous judgments.

and of those who keep your commandments.

instruct me in your statutes.

Romans 8:18-27

4

intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.
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 13:24-30, 36-43**

²⁴Jesus put another parable before {the disciples}, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ ²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

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 Blessed Assurance **ELW #638**

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.
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with
your love, through the one who gave himself for us, 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.
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	<i>ELW Pg. 153</i>
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**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.

EUCHARIST PRAYER

Let us pray.

O Lord, we give to you our whole heart
For you are full of love.
You are the first and last,
For there is no other god.
We groan inwardly in this hope that we are saved.
Bless us this day with your forgiveness
Through the body and blood of Savior, Christ Jesus. **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.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.
Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
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
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.

SCREEN

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS

Come to the Table (sung 2X)
Great Is Thy Faithfulness
O Holy Spirit, Enter In

ELW #481
ELW #733
ELW #786

Please stand as you are able.

DECLARATION OF GRACE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your re-deeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Fear not for the Lord is with you.

Thanks be to God!

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by the Colton Maass Family in honor of Chance's birthday.

Attendance Cards

Please continue 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.

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!](#)



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 24th

10:00AM Bible Study

Tuesday, July 25th

6:30AM Food Pantry

9:00AM Quilting

9:00 Music Planning Team

Wednesday, July 26th

6:30PM Choir Practice

Sunday July 30th

8:00AM-12:00PM Blood Drive

Monday July 31st - August 4th

Vacation Bible School

Church Library

Come and visit our Church's new gift shop located in the library. Browse and see what is there. There are new seasonal items coming soon for Autumn. There are also many adult and children books that can also be checked out. All of this can be done by visiting the library located across from the Pastor's office.

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

Thank you to Virginia Altman, Mary Longhofer, Karen Rosenbaum and Laura Suliaca for volunteering to coordinate the upcoming Church Photo Directory.

St. John Lutheran Church

Men's Ministry

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". Signup sheets are on located in the Narthex of the Church.

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: Milton Bosse, Barnay Glaesmann, Zachary Wagner, Mary Ann Luce, Johnny Randermann, and Karson Herrmann
Those celebrating wedding anniversaries: Barnay & Connie Glaesmann

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
Dawn Sulaica	Missy Goldmith	prayer requests by noting on the back of
Dorothy Bowles	Nicole Clark	your attendance card. Thanks.



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.**



Food Pantry

The next food pantry is Tuesday, July 25th.

Quilters

The Quilters will meet on July 25th.

Octoberfest

Mark your calendars! An Octoberfest Bazaar is being planned for October 22nd. There will be food, games and a bazaar filled with craft items, canned food, and baked goods to sell.

So this is our time to plan on what to bring and share to sell! All proceeds will go toward the Camp Fund to be used for future camps and retreats for children and adults. For any questions, please contact Regina Holtkamp, Jeannie Kroll, Mary Longerhofer or Laura Sulaica.

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