

St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill
Pentecost 9, Proper 12
July 30, 2023



Worship Assistants

Pastor: Rev. Norman Sulaica, Jr.

Accompanist: Linda Pieper

Acolyte: Alex Grote

Lay Reader: Connie Rohde

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: Colton Maass, Jeannie Kroll

Communion Bread: Deanna Giese

Sanctuary Prep: Karen Rosenbaum, Donna Skrla

Memorial Committee: Sandy Janner, Diana Williams

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

PRELUDE

CHOIR Into My Heart

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.

Holy and gracious God,

I confess that I have sinned against you this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me, that I may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. We rest now in his peace and rise in the morning to serve him. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (v. 1, 3, 4)

ELW #834

INTROIT with Psalm 105:1

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

Make known his deeds among the peoples!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

ELW Pg. 147

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Alleluia He Is Coming (Guitar Accompaniment)

SCREEN

**I looked up and I saw my Lord a-coming.
I looked up and I saw my Lord a-coming...down the road.**

Chorus:
Alleluia, He is coming.
Alleluia, He is near.
Alleluia, He is coming.
Alleluia, He is here.

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-weeping.
I looked up and I saw my Lord a-weeping...for my sins.

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-dying.
I looked up and I saw my Lord a-dying...on the cross.

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-rising.
I looked up and I saw my Lord a-rising...from the grave.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, your almighty power is most clearly shown in your mercy and pity. Multiply your grace that we may run to your promises and be made to share in your heavenly joy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING:

Deuteronomy 7:6-9

⁶{Moses said to the Israelites,} “For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM:

Psalms 125

¹Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but stands fast forever.

²**The hills stand about Jerusalem;**
so does the LORD stand round about his people, from this time forth forevermore.

³The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the just,
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.

⁴**Show your goodness, O LORD, to those who are good**
and to those who are true of heart.

⁵As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,

the LORD will lead them away with the evildoers;
but peace be upon Israel.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:28-39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died — more than that, who was raised — who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

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 13:44-52**

⁴⁴{Jesus said to the disciples,} "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

This Is My Father's World (v. 1-3)

ELW #824

CREED

*Apostle's Creed

ELW Pg. 105

**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

ELW #184

OFFERTORY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW #884

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer 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.

O Lord God, our trust and belief is you. We stand faithful to You.
You make promise, and keep all Your promises.
You chose us and call us Your treasured possessions.
O Lord, Your goodness bless us with your forgiving love
Through this holy and sacred meal. **Amen.**

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, 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

For the Bread Which You Have Broken
Break Now the Bread of Life
Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

**ELW #494
ELW #515
ELW #367**

Please stand as you are able.

DECLARATION OF GRACE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

God of Grace, God of Glory (v. 1-3)

ELW #705

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, for nothing can separate you from the love of God!

Thanks be to God!

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by
David & Glenda Stegent in honor of
Evelyn Thielemann'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.

The blood drive is today
until noon.

Acolyte Training Class

There will be an acolyte training class for
4th-8th grade students on Sunday August
13th, during Sunday School.

Rally Day

Rally Day will be August 6th.

Confirmation Meeting

A meeting for all confirmation aged
students and their parents will be
held Tuesday, August 16th at
6:00PM.

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 31st

10:00AM Bible Study

Monday July 31st - August 4th

Vacation Bible School

Tuesday, August 1st

9:00AM Music Planning Team

6:30PM Rachel Circle

Wednesday, August 2nd

6:30PM Choir Practice

Church Library

The new library, located across from the Pastor's office is OPEN! Come visit our church's gift shop and see what is there. There will be new seasonal items coming soon for Autumn. There are many adult and children's books that can be checked out.

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!

Confirmation Class

Confirmation classes will begin August 23rd.

Rachel Circle

**The Rachel Circle will meet Tuesday,
August 1st at 6:30PM.**

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.. The next meeting is August 19th at 8:00AM.

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. They will meet on Wednesday, August 9th at 2:00PM.

Young Women's Circle

The Young Women's Circle will be meeting, Sunday, August 6th, at 4:00PM.

Ladies Aid

Meeting on August 10th at 2:00PM.

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: Marvin Wellmann, Cullen Grote, Kailea Kuecker, Harper Huckert, Jeff Lange, Cayd Wilkerson, Kathy Nordt and Jenna Thumann.
Those celebrating wedding anniversaries: Joseph & Sandy Ordner and Chad & Amanda Dismukes.

Prayer Requests for Our Family and Friends:

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



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

Quilters will be meeting on August 15th and August 22nd.

Jump Start

Meeting on August 14th at 7:00PM.

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



Kid Fish

Will be held, October 21st. Watch for more information in the following weeks.

Octoberfest

An Octoberfest Bizarre with German food, music and fun will be held October 22nd. Please share your talents by offering crafts, baked goods and canned food to be sold at the bizarre. Please let one of the following listed below if you are interested in sharing.

For any questions, please contact Regina Holtkamp, Jeannie Kroll, Mary Longhofer or Laura Sulaica.

All monies will go toward the camp fund to be used for camps, retreats and outings.

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 EdStephanie Koehler
Property..... Colton Maass
Worship & Music..... Virginia Altman