

St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill

Pentecost 13, Proper 16

August 27, 2023



Worship Assistants

Pastor: Rev. Norman Sulaica, Jr.

Accompanist: Linda Schulze

Acolyte: Rhett Schroeder

Lay Reader: Jennifer Anderson

Altar Preparations: Donna Bentke, Deanna Giese

Tellers: Charles Gaskamp, Lauren Maass

Screen Crew: Janice Fairlie, Kallie Krause

Ladies Aid : Carolyn Kessel

Church Ministers: St John Members

Ushers: Boeker Family, Gil Janner Family

Council Members: Virginia Altman, Sharon Neutzler

Communion Bread: Betty Feldman

Sanctuary Prep: Cookie Engeling, Audrey Steinbach

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

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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

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

Gather Us In (v. 1-3)

ELW #532

INTROIT with Psalm 115:18

But we will bless the LORD

from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

ELW Pg. 147

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Days of Elijah (Guitar Accompaniment)

SCREEN

**1 These are the days of Elijah
Declaring the word of the Lord
And these are the days**

[Chorus]
Behold he comes riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call
So lift your voice
It's the year of jubilee
And out of Zion's hill, salvation comes.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Care for your Church, O Lord, with perpetual mercy. Since we totter and are sure to fall without your grace, remove what will harm us and arrange what will make us whole. Grant this, 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 51:1-6

1“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. 2Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him. 3For the LORD comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. 4Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. 5My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. 6Lift up your eyes to

the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM:

Psalms 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name,
because of your love and faithfulness;**

³For you have glorified your name
and your word above all things.

⁴**When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.**

⁵All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁶**They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.**

⁷Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly;
he perceives the haughty from afar.

⁸**Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.**

⁹The LORD will make good his purpose for me;
O LORD, your love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND READING:

Romans 11:33-12:8

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! ³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” ³⁵“Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” ³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with

zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lord Be Glorified (2X)

SCREEN

**In Your Word, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In Your Word, Lord be glorified, today.**

***GOSPEL:**

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

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

Will You Come and Follow Me (v. 1, 2, 4, 5)

ELW #798

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 *ELW #184*

OFFERTORY Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow **ELW #884**

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.

DIALOGUE

ELW Pg. 152

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 Holy, Holy, Holy *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.

EUCHARIST PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you with our whole heart.

You are glorified through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
We present ourselves as a living sacrifice
to be made holy through your forgiving love.
Cleanse us, renew us, and lead us
through the body and blood of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ **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.

Remembering his death, we cry out **Amen. Amen.**
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout **Amen. Amen.**
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead **Amen. Amen.**

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church;
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;
fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ;
through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both 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 | What Feast of Love | ELW #487 |
| | Comfort, Comfort Now My People | ELW #256 |
| | Praise to the Lord, the Almighty | ELW #858 |

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 redeeming 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.

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| SENDING HYMN | Praise and Thanksgiving (v. 1, 3, 4) | ELW #689 |
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DISMISSAL
Go in peace and generously share the love of Jesus!
Thanks be to God!

Attendance Card Information

We want to make certain that we have your current phone number and address for the upcoming photo directory contact.

Please indicate any changes on the back of your attendance card. We would still like you to provide address and phone information, even if you have no change.

Altar Flowers are given today,
to the Glory of God by
Donna Bentke.



Confirmation Class

Confirmation class is Wednesday, August 30th beginning at 5:00pm.

Choir

Choir Practice is Wednesday August 30th at 6:30PM.

Church Gift Shop and Library

Take the opportunity to visit the new library, located across from the Pastor's office! Come by to see the many items for sale by donation. There are many great gift ideas.

New items are available and seasonal items for Fall are coming soon.

There are many adult and children's books on the shelves that can be checked out. Come by and see what is available!

Bible Study

Bible study will be August 28th at 10:00AM.

Kid Fish

Coming in October. Watch for more information in the upcoming bulletins and the newsletter.

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.

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

Special Fund Envelope for August is the cemetery fund.



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 |



Monday, August 28th

10:00AM Bible Study

Tuesday, August 29th

9:00AM Music Planning Team

Wednesday, August 30th

5:00PM Confirmation

6:30PM Choir Practice

Pastor Norm will be on vacation August 31st - September 4th

Prayer Requests for our Church Family:

Mavis Smith Janice Cordova Sydney Wagner Florence Bentke
Gilbert Spinn Helen Gaskamp Cynthia Wilson Linda King Jerry
Randermann Mary Ann Luce Connie Seward Dorothy Wiesepape
Mark Marburger Tom Bentke Earline Moody Verna Mae Sefcik

Ruth Finke Milton Bosse Donald Lange Sandy Kite Mike Altman

Emery & Helen Schulze Dennis Moehlmann Diana Williams Lloyd Neutzler Evelyn Thielemann

Mollie Grote Family of Peggy Bosse

Those celebrating baptismal anniversaries: Andrew Schroeder, Jennifer Schroeder, Rykar Eckert, Troy Seeker, Kristy Cochran, Wednesday Harm, and Ashley Armatys

Those Celebrating wedding anniversaries: Kelly & James Antkowiak



Prayer Requests for Our Family and Friends:

Aaron Batot

Alan Pittman

Alyssa and Aliza Jones

Amanda Gurka

Ann Fogt

Brent Dorman

Carol Lieber

Christy Dallmeyer

David Majewski

Dora Pittman

Dorothy Bowles

Gladys Schwartz

James Lee

Joe Deatherage

Kennedy Altman

Mark Hundemer

Marvin Luedke

Mike McIntyre

Missy Goldmith

Nicole Clark

Patty Addicks

Roger Ellermann

R.V. Pittman

Shannon Wellmann

Sue Beall

Sue Maass

Tess Loberg

Wayne Hueske

William Richter

**Please notify the church office of
prayer requests by noting on the back of
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

New events and opportunities for growing our faith are being introduced in the months of September and October. You are encouraged to find the event(s) that meets your needs and join in on the activity. There is something for everyone!

Bod4God

Bod4God is a weekly event that begins on Monday, September 18th at 6:00PM. Join this journey of faith and weight loss ministry. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

Octoberfest

Our Octoberfest Bazaar on October 22nd, (3:00pm-6:00pm) will soon be here. To help with planning, there will be 2 sign-up sheets in the Narthex beginning September 3rd. One sheet is for those planning to attend, and the other will be a sign-up sheet for those items being donated for the silent auction at the bazaar.

Thanks to all for the help with this event.

What an enjoyable day it should be!

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

Photo Directory

Photo Directory pictures will be on **Thursday, October 5th** and **Friday, October 6th** from 2:00pm-8:30pm and also on **Saturday, October 7th** from 10:30pm-5:00pm.

There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex for selecting a time slot.

You may also sign-up on-line at www.ucdir.com.

Instructions for registering online are available in the Narthex. You will need the **church code** and the **church password** to sign-up online. This information is provided on the

Online Scheduling Instructions in the Narthex.

If you elect to **register** for a time slot online, registration is limited to **Mondays thru Fridays of each week**. Online registrations are closed on the weekend. If you wish to regis-

ter on a **Saturday** or **Sunday**, you will need to sign-up via the paper sign-ups sheets located in the Narthex or wait until you can go online again on Mondays.

The sign-up sheets are available now.