

St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill
Pentecost 14, Proper 17
September 03, 2023



Worship Assistants

Lay Person: Mr. Michael Dittrich

Worship Leader: Jim Kite

Ushers: Steve & Donna Skrla, Huckert Family

Accompanist: Linda Pieper

Acolyte: Audrey Dismukes

Lay Reader: Kallie Krause

Altar Preparations: Carolyn Kessel, Laura Sulaica

Tellers: Donna Skrla, Gary Schulze

Screen Crew: Anna Finke, Jennifer Schroeder

Sanctuary Prep: Cathie Klatte, Christin Seeker

Council Members: Colton Maass, Jeannie Kroll

Ladies Aid : Linda Schulze

Communion Bread: Donna Bentke

Memorial Committee: Debra Westerfeld, Janet Wehring

Church Ministers: St John Members

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 stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

Lift High the Cross

ELW #660

INTROIT with Psalm 37:4

Delight yourself in the Lord

and he will give you the desires of your heart!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

ELW Pg. 147

Please be seated.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW Pg. 148

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord, mercifully continue to purify and defend your Church. Since she cannot stand firmly without your power, govern her always by your grace; 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:

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail? ¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM:

Psalm 26

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

²**Test me, O LORD, and try me;**
examine my heart and my mind.

³For your love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴**I have not sat with the worthless,**
nor do I consort with the deceitful.

⁵I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,**
that I may go in procession round your altar,

⁷Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell**
and the place where your glory abides.

⁹Do not sweep me away with sinners,
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,

¹⁰**Whose hands are full of evil plots,**
and their right hand full of bribes.

¹¹As for me, I will live with integrity;
redeem me, O LORD, and have pity on me.

¹²**My foot stands on level ground;
in the full assembly I will bless the LORD.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the LORD." ²⁰To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Thy Word

SCREEN

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

***GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28**

²¹Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man." ²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Mr. Michael Ditterich

Coordinator for Disaster Relief Warehouse Ministry of the North American Lutheran Church

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

*Nicene Creed

ELW Pg. 104

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,**

eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

OFFERING HYMN Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW #184

OFFERTORY Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW #884

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

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.

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

In the Cross of Christ, I Glory

ELW #324

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Altar Flowers are given today,
to the Glory of God by
Keith & Jeannie Kroll in honor of
Audra's 19th Birthday



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.

Weight-A-Thon

Sunday, September 17th, Pastor Norm will step on the scale and reveal his weight to all, kicking off the Bod4God event beginning Monday, September 18th. He will begin his Bod4God centered around scripture and weight loss. His purpose is to encourage you to commit to raise money for our youth to attend camp. A sign up sheet to support this Weight-A-Thon will be available in the Narthex and remain throughout the event. You can make a financial commitment for every pound Pastor Norm loses. He will step back on the scale on January 21st, 2024.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation class is Wednesday,
September 6th at 5:00pm.

Choir

Choir Practice is Wednesday September 6th 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.

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

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 not be held on September 4th.

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!

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 September is the
Good Samaritan 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, September 4th

No Bible Study

6:00PM Executive Meeting

Tuesday, September 5th

9:00AM Music Planning Team

6:30PM Rachel Circle

Wednesday, September 6th

5:00PM Confirmation

6:30PM Choir Practice

Thursday, September 7th

10:00AM Naomi Circle

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

Those celebrating baptismal anniversaries: Danney Rohde, Phyllis Bickham, Gail Mitschke, Robert Neuendorff, Alexis Warmke and Brandon Kluck

Those Celebrating wedding anniversaries: Rita & Charles Gaskamp



Prayer Requests for Our Family and Friends: (Prayer requests can be noted on the back of your attendance cards).

Aaron Batot	Dorothy Bowles	Nicole Clark
Alan Pittman	Gladys Schwartz	Patty Addicks
Alyssa and Aliza Jones	Gloria Hanath	Roger Ellermann
Amanda Gurka	James Lee	R.V. Pittman
Ann Fogt	Joe Deatherage	Shannon Wellmann
Blake Townsend	Kennedy Altman	Sue Beall
Brent Dorman	Mark Hundemer	Sue Maass
Carol Lieber	Marlene Fairlie	Tess Loberg
Christy Dallmeyer	Marvin Luedke	Wayne Hueske
David Majewski	Mike McIntyre	William Richter
Dora Pittman	Missy Goldmith	.



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

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.

Kid Fish

Coming October 21st. Watch for more information in the upcoming bulletins and the newsletter.

Octoberfest

Our Octoberfest Bazaar, October 22nd, from 3:00pm-6:00pm will soon be here. To help with the 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.

Luther League

Luther League 7th thru 12th grade will head to College Station on Sunday, September 10th after Worship Service. Golfing monies are covered, but youth are asked to bring money for the meal and games. Join us for the fun!

God Squad

September 12th begins a new monthly event for 3rd-6th graders. The event centers around faith, family and fun and will start at 4:30pm on the 12th. We look forward to seeing you.

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 register 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.