

# St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill

## Pentecost 19, Proper 22

October 8, 2023



### Worship Assistants

**Pastor:** Rev. Norman Sulaica, Jr.

**Lay Reader:** Joseph Ordner

**Sanctuary Prep:** Rachel Church, Sherry Randermann

**Accompanist:** Linda Pieper

**Ushers:** Colton Maass Family, Janice Fairlie

**Acolyte:** Addison Westerfeld

**Altar Preparations:** Carolyn Kessel, Laura Sulaica

**Ladies Aid :** Carolyn Kessel, Susi Bentke

**Screen Crew:** Steve Skrla, Barnay Glaesmann

**Communion Bread:** Becky Schulze

**Council Members:** Colton Maass, Jeannie Kroll

**Tellers:** Christin Seeker, Catherine Klatte

**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.*

## SPECIAL MUSIC BY THE CHOIR

### 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**      *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less (v. 1, 2, 4)*      *ELW #597*

### INTROIT with Psalm 143:9

Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!

**I have fled to you for refuge.**

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

*ELW Pg. 147*

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**      *Children of the Heavenly Father*

*ELW #781*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Generously pardon and give peace to your faithful people, O Lord, that being cleansed from every sin, we may be free and glad to serve; 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 5:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. <sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. <sup>3</sup>And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. <sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? <sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. <sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. <sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSIVE PSALM:

**Psalms 80:7-18**

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts;

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**<sup>8</sup>You have brought a vine out of Egypt;  
you cast out the nations and planted it.**

<sup>9</sup>You prepared the ground for it;  
it took root and filled the land.

**<sup>10</sup>The mountains were covered by its shadow  
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

<sup>11</sup>You stretched out its tendrils to the sea  
and its branches to the river.

**<sup>12</sup>Why have you broken down its wall,  
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

<sup>13</sup>The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,  
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

**<sup>14</sup>Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine;  
preserve what your right hand has planted.**

<sup>15</sup>They burn it with fire like rubbish;  
at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish

**<sup>16</sup>Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

## Philippians 3:4b-14

7But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — 10that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. 12Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SCREEN**

## Matthew 21:33-46

<sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’” <sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God

will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. <sup>44</sup>And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” <sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O’ Christ.

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Norman Sulaica, Jr.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*In the Garden*

**SCREEN**

I come to the garden alone,  
While the dew is still on the roses;  
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,  
The Son of God discloses.

Refrain: And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own,  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;  
And the melody that He gave to me  
Within my heart is ringing.

I'd stay in the garden with Him  
Tho' the night around me be falling;  
But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe,  
His voice to me is calling

**CREED**

**\*Apostles’ 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,  
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.*

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**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**                      *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.**

## **EUCCHARIST PRAYER**

*Let us pray.*

O God of host, You bring us out of darkness into your gracious light.  
Look down from heaven on us, and  
    let your saving hand be upon us.  
Restore us and let us see the light of your countenance.  
Let your forgiving and saving love come to 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.

**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**

*Eat This Bread (3 times)*

*SCREEN*

"Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in me and you will not thirst."

*We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight*

*SCREEN*

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;  
with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:  
"My peace be with you here."

2 We may not touch your hands and side,  
nor follow where you trod;  
but in your promise we rejoice,  
and cry, "My Lord and God!"



3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;  
and may our faith abound  
to call on you when you are near  
and seek where you are found:

4 That, when our life of faith is done,  
in realms of clearer light  
we may behold you as you are,  
with full and endless sight.

*Come, Ye Thankful, People Come*

*ELW #693*

## DECLARATION OF GRACE

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Let us pray.*

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### BLESSING

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

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (v. 1-3)*

*ELW #858*

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice for God's mercy upon you!

**Thanks be to God!**



*Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Johnny & Sherry Randermann in loving memory of Jerry Randermann & Harry Wehring.*

### Attendance Card Information

We want to make certain that we have your current phone number and address. 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.

The background of the flyer is a stylized illustration of a fall camp scene. It features several green pine trees, two orange tents with dark brown interiors, and a campfire made of logs with a yellow and orange flame. Two children, a boy in a blue shirt and orange pants, and a girl in a brown shirt and blue pants, are standing on the left side, looking through binoculars. The ground is a mix of light brown and white, suggesting a path or snow. The overall style is simple and colorful.

# FALL BLAST CAMP

Camp Lone Star  
La Grange, TX

Calling all 3rd-5th grade  
boys and girls for a fun  
weekend. Camp activities,  
skits, games, songs, Bible  
study, and much more!

NOVEMBER  
3-5

For more info  
contact  
Pastor or  
Cindy Clay  
9794515538

### Weight-A-Thon

Sunday, September 17th, Pastor Norm stepped on the scale and revealed his weight. He weighed in and kicked off the beginning of Bod4God.

Bod4God is centered around scripture and weight loss. His purpose is to encourage each of you to commit to raising money for our youth to attend camp and also to encourage a healthier you. 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 or a single donation. He will step back on the scale on January 21st, 2024.

### Semi-Annual Meeting

The semi-annual meeting of the church will be held on October 22nd, following the worship service. Information was included in your October newsletter.

### 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](mailto:pastornorm2003@yahoo.com)

Special Fund Envelope for October is CASA for Kids

## 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



The Activity Center is reserved  
October 14th.

♥♥Newsletter Deadline October 16th♥♥

### Monday, October 9th

10:00AM Bible Study  
6:00PM Council Meeting  
7:00PM Jump Start

### Tuesday, October 10th

6:30AM Food Pantry  
9:00AM Music Planning Team

### Wednesday, October 11th

2:00PM Game Day  
5:00PM Confirmation  
6:30PM Choir Practice

### Thursday, October 12th

2:00PM Ladies Aid  
6:00PM Faith Lessons Bible Study

### Friday, October 14th

8:00AM Men's Ministry Breakfast

### Church Gift Shop and Library

Take the opportunity to visit the library, located across from the Pastor's office! Come by and see the many items available by donation. There are great gift ideas. Both new items and seasonal items are available. Books for children and adults can be checked out. Come by and see what is available!

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 Jim & Sandy Kite Mike Altman  
Emery & Helen Schulze Dennis Moehlmann Diana Williams Lloyd Neutzler Mollie Grote  
Presley Guzman The Family of Dora Pittman



Those celebrating baptismal anniversaries: Lexi Hohlt, Wesley Westerfeld, Mary Roesse and Rilynn Schroeder

Those Celebrating wedding anniversaries:

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

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



*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 meeting on October 9th, 2023 at 6:00PM. Join this journey of faith and weight loss ministry. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

## **FAMILY FISH FEST (FORMERLY KID FISH)**

**OCTOBER 21ST**

**7:00AM REGISTRATION**

**12:00PM WEIGH-IN**

**6:00PM FISH FRY MEAL**

**FISHING AT SELECT PONDS ONLY.**

**PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED AT THE MEAL.**

**AGES 0-99.**

### **Faith Lessons Bible Study Class**

A five week Bible Study class, Faith Lessons on the Promise Land, is October 12th at 6:00PM. Filmed on location in Israel, Faith Lessons, is a unique video series that brings God's Word to life with astounding relevance by weaving together the Bible's fascinating historical, cultural, religious contexts. Join us in attending this this unique weekly event.

## Octoberfest

St John's Octoberfest will be held October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 3:00-6:00 p.m. with German music by Allison Crowson's band from 3:00-5:00. German food will be served from 3:00-5:30, and the Bazaar and Silent Auction will be held from 3:00-5:30. There will also be kids' crafts, craft beer, and lawn games, so bring your lawn chairs and join the fun!

Sign up sheets are in the Narthex for those planning to attend and for what items will be donated, both will help with planning. Also please bring any donated items for the Bazaar or Silent Auction to the Parish Hall (entering through the double doors) Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:00-4:00 p.m. as work will begin to arrange these items for the Octoberfest Bazaar. Again, items may be crafted, baked, or canned. Thank you ahead for all you may share. All donations from this event

## Confirmation Class

Confirmation class is Wednesday, October 11th at 5:00pm.

## Jump Start

Meeting Monday, October 9th at 7:00PM.

## Game Day

The next Game Day is Monday October 9th at 2:00PM





# TRUNK or TREAT

Trunk or Treat will be held on October 29th from 5PM-7PM in the Activity Center. Join us for the activities and the fun.

## Bible Study

Bible study will be Monday, October 9th at 10:00AM.

## Choir

Choir Practice is Wednesday October 11th at 6:30PM.