

**First St. John Lutheran Church**

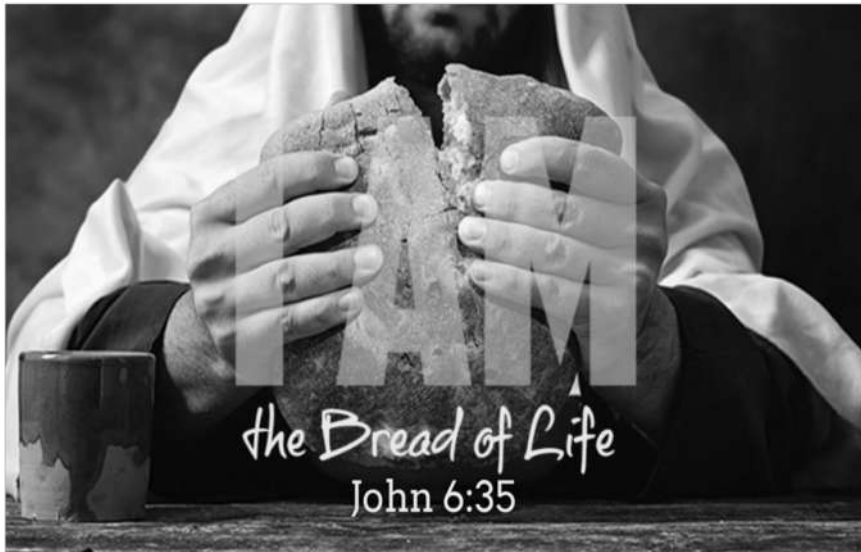
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Rev. Jerald K. Rayl, Pastor

Dr. Anthony Pattin, Church Musician  
Cheri Sergent, Bell Choir, Director  
Jennifer Hess, Office Manager



**August 4, 2024**

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! Through the Summer months we offer one service. Holy Communion will be celebrated every Sunday throughout the Summer.

9:00 am    Worship

**LIVESTREAM AND RECORDED WORSHIP:** We livestream the service on our church website at [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com). Also, the service will be recorded and published to the website

**SMILE! YOUR ON CAMERA:** Please remember you may be on camera during the livestream and the recording of the service.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Please remember to silence your cell phone before church begins. Thanks!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & CATECHISM** are dismissed for the summer.

**NURSERY** is in the church basement and is currently unstaffed; you are welcome to sit with your child. A diaper changing table is available in the ladies restroom in the basement of the church.

**RESTROOMS** are in the church basement. Go to the Narthex (lobby) and take either set of steps to the basement hallway. The ladies room is at one end, and the men's room is at the other.

**FLOWERS:** If you would like to sign up for altar flowers, there is a book in the lounge. Or, you can call the church office during the week to check on availability.

**MEMORIALS:** If you wish to give a memorial in honor or memory of a loved one, you may mail it in or pick up a memorial card in the church office.

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*Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community*

**August 4, 2024 - 9:00 am**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP—9:00 am

**Prelude** “Aria-Bach” Emily Lipper, Trumpet  
Dr. Anthony Pattin, Piano

### Ringling of the Bell

*(Please Stand)*

**Opening Hymn** “Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor” No.475

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. 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 sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

### Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share the peace of the Lord.

*The congregation may greet one another by shaking hands, fist bumping, or any other form of greeting with the words, “Peace be with you.”*

*We conclude the sharing of the peace by singing:*

*“Lord I Lift Your Name on High”*

No. 857

***“Lord I lift your name on high;  
Lord I love to sing your praises,  
I’m so glad you’re in my life,  
I’m so glad you came to save us.***

***You came from heaven to earth to show the way.  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift your name on high.”***

### Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray, O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

### Announcements

#### Special Music

*“When Peace Like A River” Arr. Alt House  
Emily Lipper, Trumpet*

### Introduction

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus’ feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John’s gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

## FIRST READING: Ephesians 4:7,11-16

*Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.*

<sup>7</sup>But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.”

<sup>11</sup>The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup>We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Reader: Word of God, Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 78:23-29- Congregation responds in BOLD.

<sup>23</sup> Yet he commanded the skies above,  
and opened the doors of heaven;

<sup>24</sup> **he rained down on them manna to eat,  
and gave them the grain of heaven.**

<sup>25</sup> Mortals ate of the bread of angels;  
he sent them food in abundance.

<sup>26</sup> **He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,  
and by his power he led out the south wind;**

<sup>27</sup> he rained flesh upon them like dust,  
winged birds like the sand of the seas;

<sup>28</sup> **he let them fall within their camp,  
all around their dwellings.**

<sup>29</sup> And they ate and were well filled,  
for he gave them what they craved.

*(Please stand)*

## Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel Announcement

P: The Gospel according to St. John chapter 6.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL: John 6:24-35

*Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.*

<sup>24</sup>When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

<sup>25</sup>When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup>So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? <sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” <sup>32</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup>They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

## Gospel Response

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

Pastor Jerald Rayl

**Sermon Hymn**

“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”

No.484

*(Please stand)*

**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,  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again 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.

**Pastoral Prayer** *(Each petition concludes with this response)*

P: Hear us O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*(Please be seated)*

**The Offering**

**Offertory Music**

“Amazing Grace”

Emily Lipper, Trumpet

*(Please Stand)*

**Offering Prayer**

P: Our generous heavenly Father, all good gifts come from you and from these riches we bring this offering. Help us to use it for the furtherance of your purpose in this place, and for the benefit of those in need, through our resurrected and living Lord, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

P: And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

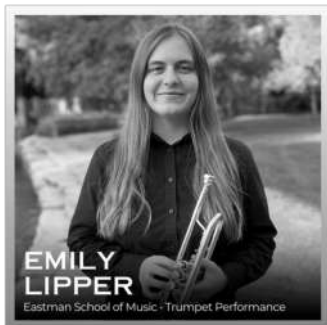
P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

P: 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.



## Please Welcome Special Guest, Emily Lipper, Trumpet

Emily Lipper is a recent graduate of the Toledo School for the Arts and will be starting her undergraduate degree at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, this fall. At Eastman, she will be working towards receiving a Bachelor of Music in Trumpet Performance while studying under Andrew McCandless, former principal trumpet of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.



Emily is currently a student of Lauraine Carpenter, retired principal trumpet of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, and has studied with her for five years. Under her guidance, Emily was selected as one of four trumpeters nationwide to perform with Carnegie Hall's National Youth Orchestra 2 for its Dominican Republic tour in 2023. Emily was also selected to play in the Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) All-State Orchestra as principal trumpet from 2022 to 2024. In addition, she had the opportunity to perform with the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) All-National Symphony Orchestra as principal trumpet in 2022.

Emily has thoroughly enjoyed playing at First St. John's Lutheran Church over the last six years, allowing her to develop as a musician while performing for a highly supportive congregation.

**THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR TALENTS!**



*August 4, 2024*     **ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

## Never Be Hungry

Empty mouths water, empty stomachs growl, empty hands reach out for food and drink. Empty pockets mean empty plates and empty places as members of the community weaken and fall. Extreme hunger and thirst can scare even liberated slaves into nostalgia for bondage. Regular meals would seem preferable to starving to death in freedom. In ancestral times God heard the cries of the Israelites and sent something they didn't recognize: manna, a new kind of bread.

In today's gospel, the crowd members get in their boats to come looking for Jesus. He fed them; they ate their fill; it felt good. He enjoins them not to chase around for food that perishes, but pursue the food that endures. "Food" is a metaphor for teaching, which fills emptiness of mind and heart. The perishable sort is an experience that feels good temporarily but will not sustain over the long run: a sugar high from junk food rather than the slow inward building of tissue wrought by nutritional fare. The food that endures--not always instantly recognized--is what strengthens us to persevere not only in times of prosperity or celebration, but also through tragedy and failure.

If the crowd is not to work at chasing after religious highs, what is asked of them is to believe in the one God has sent. They want a sign to prove why they should do so. Jesus fed them miraculously the day before, but what about today? "Our ancestors ate manna in the wilderness"--bread that appeared in just the right quantities morning by morning.

Jesus calls himself the true manna from heaven: "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." In his presence--in word and sacrament and personal devotion--we recognize and gather up our daily and enduring bread. With food and freedom together we are filled, satisfied, blessed.