

FIFTEENTH

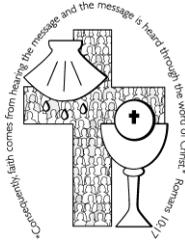


SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2020



Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
48 Greene Avenue
Sayville, New York 11782



Welcome to Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

The family of Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is called, gathered, and empowered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament to confess and proclaim the gospel and love of Jesus Christ to our congregation, community, and world.

A Guide to the Symbols in the Service

P = Pastor; **C** = Congregation

Anywhere the symbol ✝ appears, the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

As We Gather

Our readings from Romans draw to a close this week, and Paul ends our time in his epistle by discussing how a Christian might live in a pagan world, causing offense neither to those outside the Church, as well as those inside. In short, he addresses the issue of how far our freedom in Christ allows us to go - or perhaps better, what we want to do with our freedom. We have been set free from sin, death, and the devil and our hope is eternal because of Christ. This does not mean that we should live as we ought, but in loving our neighbor, we find a powerful witness to life in Christ, and the assurance of life in the kingdom eternally!

Today in the Church Year

The season of Pentecost is a time of growth. Just as the world around us is turning greener and greener as the warm days yield nature's bounty, so in the Church does the seed planted of God's Word yield its bounty in lives of faith. Throughout this season, we will hear of the teachings and miracles of Jesus. By the grace of God in His Spirit, we shall be encouraged by the work our Lord has done for us, and sent out to live lives of faith, mercy, and love. The green on the altar during this long season reminds us of the growth which the Lord provides through His Word and Sacraments. In our receiving of those gifts, we grow more and more into the likeness of Christ until that glorious day when we shall see him face to face!

A Prayer upon Entering Church

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠ IN NOMINE JESU - IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

Opening Voluntary: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

setting: David N. Johnson

✠ Service of Preparation ✠

Opening Hymn: Earth and All Stars

LSB 817 (sts. 1,3,5-7)

Tune: EARTH AND ALL STARS



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets! Sing to the
3 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals! Sing to the
5 Class - rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes! Sing to the



Lord a new song! Oh, vic - to - ry! Loud shout - ing
Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming
Lord a new song! Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing



ar - my! Sing to the Lord a new song!
cel - los! Sing to the Lord a new song!
peo - ple! Sing to the Lord a new song!



Refrain
He has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too will praise Him with a new song!

6 Knowledge and truth!
Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son!
Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

7 Children of God,
Dying and rising,
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Heaven and earth,
Hosts everlasting,
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Invocation, Confession and Absolution *(Matt. 28:19b)*

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.** *(Psalm 124:8)*

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** *(Psalm 130:3-4)*

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *(Luke 18:13)*

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(John 20:19-23)*

C Amen.

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Kyrie *(Mark 10:47)*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis *(Luke 2:14; John 1:29)*



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day *(2 Timothy 4:22)*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray...O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

P The Old Testament Reading for The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost is taken from Genesis, the fiftieth chapter.

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103:1-12 *(The Congregation speaks the bolded verses)*

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!

**²Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,**

³who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,

**⁴who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

⁵who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**⁶The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

**⁸The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

⁹He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

**¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

**¹²as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Epistle

Romans 14:1-12

P The Epistle is from Romans, the fourteenth chapter.

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in

honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse (John 20:31)



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²¹ Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?”

²² Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³ “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

**☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.**

**The term "catholic" means the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.*

Sermon: A conscientious Christian

Hymn of the Day: From All That Dwells Below the Skies

LSB 816

Tune: LASSET UNS ERFREUEN



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
 2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal



praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
 Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -



ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Prayer of the Church (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(after each petition)

P Lord, in Your mercy...

C Hear our prayer.

P ...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface (*2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136*)

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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*)



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer *(Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)*

C **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.**

The Words of Our Lord *(Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25)*

P *Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

Pax Domini (John 20:19)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei (John 1:29)



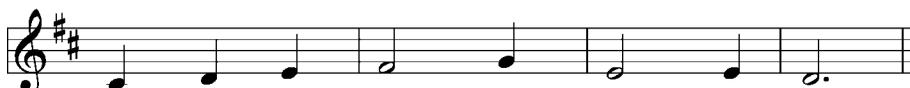
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

Please read what Saint John's believes concerning the Sacrament of the Altar:

As Lutherans, we believe, teach, and confess that in the Holy Supper all receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ with their mouth. Believers feed on Christ for the assurance of salvation and the strengthening of their faith.

To assure that our Lord's great gifts are received in a beneficial way, Holy Scripture says in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29 *"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."* Self examination includes:

- 1) The confession that we are sinful and in need of God's forgiveness. (Ps 51; Romans 3: 9-28)
 - 2) The faith that Jesus Christ is truly and actually present in the Sacrament, offering His very Body and Blood for all to eat, so that our sins are forgiven. (Mt 26: 26-28; 1 Cor 10: 16-21)
 - 3) The sincere resolve, with the Holy Spirit's help, to amend what is sinful in our life by actively belonging to a body of believers where these Scriptural truths are preached and taught. (Acts 2: 42; Ephesians 2: 8-10)
- If this reflects your belief and you are a baptized member in good standing, not under discipline, at a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or a church body with which we are in fellowship, we welcome you to the Lord's Table and pray that His Body and Blood will be for your soul the highest good. If you are not sure, or do not understand, we ask that you speak with the Pastor, at your earliest convenience, prior to communing. If you would like to come to the altar and receive a personal blessing instead of the Eucharist, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign to the pastor.

Nunc Dimittis (Luke 2:29-32)



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray...Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction *(Psalm 103:1; Numbers 6:24-26)*

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: In Thee Is Gladness

LSB 818

Tune: IN DIR IST FREUDE



1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
2 Since He is ours, _____ We fear no pow - ers, Not of



sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -



heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the



wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -



cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing
glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him



To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

A Prayer for Departure

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA - TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY ✠

† Look Ahead for next week:

The 16th Sunday after Pentecost: Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30;
Matthew 20:1-16

Daily Devotions for Home and Family are available on the website

SAINT JOHN'S IN ACTION

Sun 9/13	8:00am	The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
	9:30am	Small Group Communion Services
	10:30am	In-person Divine Service
		Grandparents' Day Celebration Hosted by Thrivent
Tue 9/15	7:30pm	Church Council Meeting (via Zoom)
Thu 9/17	7:00pm	Bible Study - Galatians (via Zoom)
Sat 9/19	9:00am	LWML Suffolk Zone Prayer Service
Sun 9/20		The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
	8:00am	Small Group Communion Services
	9:30am	In-person Divine Service

Sunday, September 6	Contributions	Attendance
	\$3,797	86

Grandparents' Day - Today, following the 9:30 am service, Thrivent Financial will be honoring grandparents on Grandparents Day. Refreshments will be served on the lawn in front of the church - weather permitting. As so much has been different for us, we hope to offer a chance for a few minutes of saying hello to each other - with our masks on. There will be some bags of cookies for you to take home and some iced tea or lemonade if you desire. In addition, there will be a token gift to honor all the grandparents that we are so thankful for. Please join us as we thank these special people.

First Communion - Classes for First Communion students will not officially start until January. However, **registration will begin now**. There will be some pre-class work to get done over the Fall. If it seems prudent, we will offer the class in person in January, otherwise, we will shift to an online option. If you have any questions, contact Pastor.

Sunday School - Unfortunately, we have deemed it necessary, for now, to hold Sunday School virtually as well. A registration form will be coming out soon. We have set up a private Facebook account for Sunday School, and Miss Jamie will be offering a short lesson online as well as instructions on crafts or other activities. Families will receive a packet each month with Bible lesson pamphlets and crafting supplies, so registration is vital. Information is available on our website, or contact the Church Office.

Bible Study - Beginning ***Thursday, September 17 at 7pm***, we will kick off another Bible Study via Zoom. This study will explore Paul's letter to the Galatians, examining what Paul says from the text and discussing how this relates to our lives today. Links to join the Zoom will be emailed out each week. Please join us!

Theology on Tap - On ***Tuesday, September 22 at 7pm*** we will hold our next Theology on Tap. The topic for discussion will be emailed out the week before, and the conversation will take place at Pastor's house (45 Greene Ave.) outside either on the porch or in the back yard (weather permitting). Beverages and snacks will be provided. If there is interest in joining us via Zoom that evening, contact Pastor.

Prayer Shawl Committee - Hope you have been keeping yourselves busy with lots of projects these past few months during our time of isolation. Many have been making yellow lap robes for the Orthopedic Department at Mather Memorial Hospital in Port Jefferson and prayer shawls, lap robes and afghans for Stony Brook Hospital. I hope some of the projects have been knitting or crocheting scarves for the Scarf Sister Program that we started a few years ago. Some of you have called to say you are working on some of these items and I am thrilled that we will have lots to distribute in December. A talented group we are for sure and lots of people will be blessed because of it. If you need more information, please contact Honey at 631-589-8353 or online at arthon@aol.com.

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**A congregation of
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod**

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