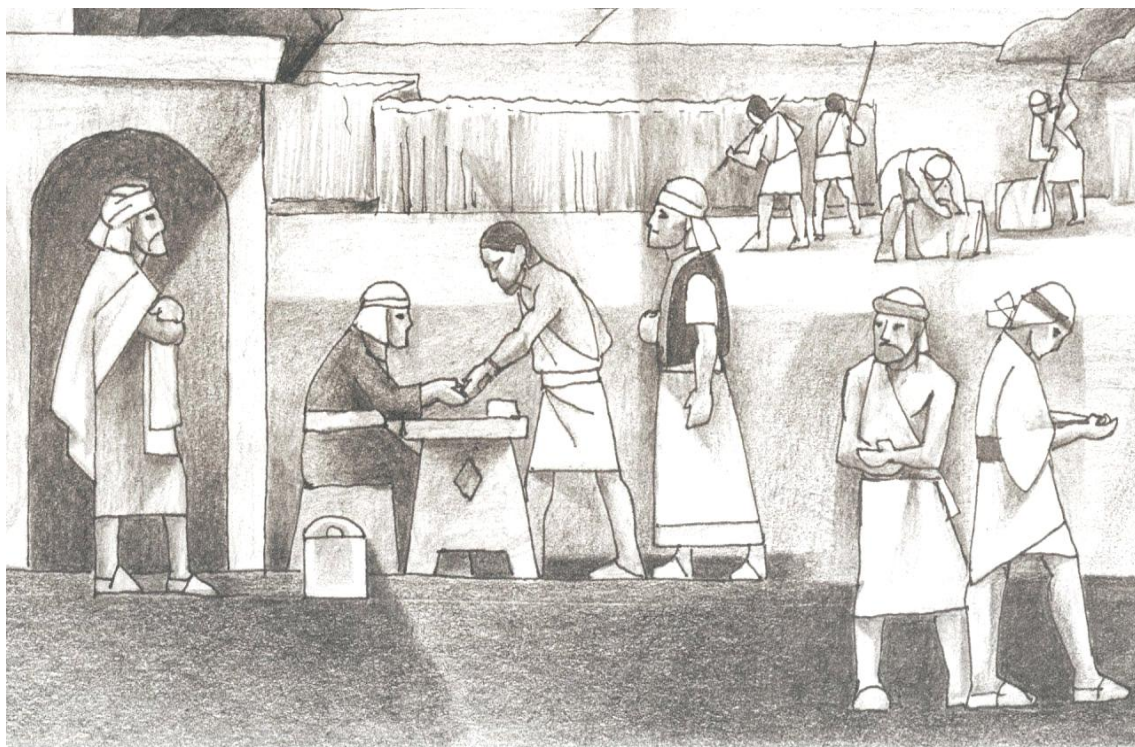


SEVENTEENTH

SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20, 2026



Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
48 Greene Avenue
Sayville, New York 11782
SUNDAY 7:45 AM & 9:30 AM

Welcome to Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rejoice in God's grace. Live as disciples. Love one another.

Our Purpose

The family of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, gathered around Word and Sacrament, enhanced by liturgy and music, exists to encourage its members in a life of discipleship in Christ Jesus and fellowship with one another.

Utilizing the gifts that God has entrusted to us, we engage in acts of mercy, attending to the spiritual and physical needs within our congregation and community.

We bear witness to the Grace of God through living in His Word thus demonstrating the love Christ has shown us.

To Those Visiting with Us Today

We welcome you among us as we gather in God's presence to receive his benefits towards us. If this is your first time visiting, please introduce yourself to the Pastor on the way out. We pray God's blessings upon you in this time, and invite you to continue to join us in the future. Please contact the Pastor if you have any needs or questions about St. John's and the work for which he has called us.

A Guide to the Symbols in the Service

A = Assistant; **L** = Lector; **C** = Congregation

Anywhere the symbol ✝ appears, the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism. Please move in and out of the sanctuary at places marked with an asterisk (*).

As We Gather

One denarius, that's what each worker receives in today's Gospel parable. It is a full-day's wage, even for those who work only one hour. And for Jesus' sake God generously gives us a wage equal to having lived a perfect life: eternity with Him. That is unbelievably generous, conceivable only by receiving the gift of faith. We come here today to respond not as we ought, but as we have been enabled by our generous God.

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!

✠ IN NOMINE JESU - IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

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.

Opening Voluntary: How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

Robert J. Powell

Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying Joseph Barnby, 1838-06, setting Stephen R. Johnson

Announcements & Sharing of the Peace

✠ Service of Preparation ✠

*Opening Hymn: With the Lord Begin Your Task

LSB 869

Tune: FANG DEIN WERK

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

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

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

C Amen.

A If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *(1 John 1:8-9)*

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

A Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

A Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

✠ Service of the Word ✠

*Kyrie

LSB 944

1 Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.
2 Christ, _____ have mer - cy. Christ, _____ have mer - cy.
3 Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

Lord, _____ have mer - - - cy.
Christ, _____ have mer - - - cy.
Lord, _____ have mer - - - cy.

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

- A** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- A** Let us pray...Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

- L** The Old Testament Reading for The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost is taken from Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter.

⁶*“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.*

*⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”*

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***Psalm 27:1-9**

7:45am: the Congregation speaks the bolded verses, omitting the antiphon

9:30 am: the Cantor introduces the antiphon, the Congregation repeats the antiphon and sings the bolded verses and antiphon as indicated.

Antiphon (v. 4 a)

Cynthia Holden



One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek af - ter: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

© 9/13/2011

LSB Tone C tr



©2006 CPH

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; | whom shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

² **When evildoers assail me to | eat up my flesh,***
my adversaries and foes, it is they who | stumble and fall.

³ Though an army encamp against me, my | heart shall not fear;*

though war arise against me, yet I | will be confident.

⁴ **One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will | I seek after:***
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to in- | quire in his temple.

⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the | day of trouble;*

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;

he will lift me high up- | on a rock. **Antiphon**

(The Psalm continues on the next page)

⁶ And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with | shouts of joy;*
I will sing and make | melody to the LORD.

⁷ **Hear, O LORD, when I | cry aloud;***
be gracious to | me and answer me!

⁸ You have said, | “Seek my face.”*
My heart says to you, “Your face, LORD, | do I seek.”

⁹ **Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant a- | way in anger,***
O you who have been my help. Cast me not off;
forsake me not, O God of | my salvation!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Ämen.

Antiphon

Epistle

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

℟ The Epistle is from Philippians, the first chapter.

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not

frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

***Alleluia and Verse** (*John 6:68*)



The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a C-clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of the following notes: a whole rest, a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a half note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a half note G. Below the staff is a C-clef time signature and the lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?". The second staff begins with a C-clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of the following notes: a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, a half note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, a half note G, and a whole note A. Below the staff are the lyrics: "You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia."

Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

A The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:]¹ "For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have

borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles’ Creed

C 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.*

Sit

***Hymn of the Day: Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying**

LSB 826

Tune: GALILEAN

Sermon: Deacon Ed Ritzmann

***Offering: Pastorale on REPTON (7:45 am)**

Lord, It Belongs Not to My Care (9:30 am)

Robert Lehman

text: Richard Baxter

music: Carl Schalk

Lord, it belongs not to my care whether I die or live,
to love and serve thee is my share, and this thy grace must give.

If life be long, I will be glad that I may long obey:
If short, yet why should I be sad to soar to endless day?

Christ leads us through no darker rooms than he went through before,
He that unto God's kingdom comes must enter by this door.
Come Lord, when grace has made me meet, thy blessed face to see;
For if thy work on earth be sweet, what will thy glory be!

My knowledge of that life is small, the eye of faith is dim;
But 'tis enough that Christ knows all, and I shall be with him.

(Please fill out the green attendance card in the pew, and place it in the offering plate)

Stand

***Offertory** (*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*)



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



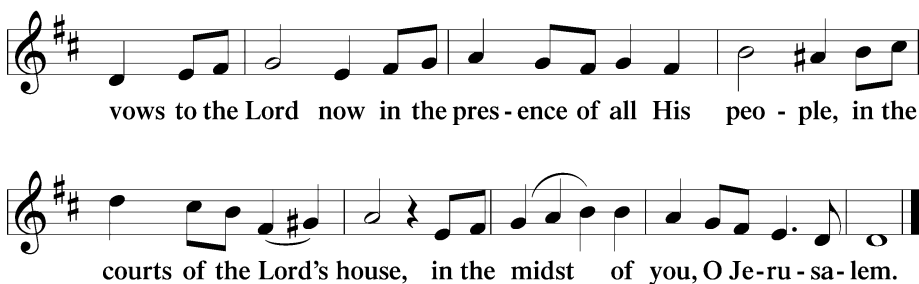
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



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

- A** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
(after each petition)
- A** Lord, in Your mercy...
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- A** ...one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

- 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.

Benediction *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

A The Almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us, now and forevermore.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

LSB 853

Tune: REPTON

Closing Voluntary: With the Lord, begin your task

Peter Frank (1616-75)
setting: William Braun

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 18th Sunday after Pentecost:

Ezekiel 18:1-14, 25-32; Philippians 2:1-4, 14-28; Matthew 21:23-27

Daily Devotions for Home and Family are available on the way out and online

SAINT JOHN'S IN ACTION

Sun 9/20	The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	
	<i>Coffee Hour Hosted by Flo Wagner</i>	
	7:45am	Divine Service
	9:30am	Divine Service
		Sunday School
Mon 9/21	7:00pm	Boy Scouts
Tue 9/22	7:00pm	Council Meeting
		Judo/Women's 12 Step
Wed 9/23	1:30pm	Mahjongg Social Club
	7:45 pm	SoLI
Thu 9/24	6:30pm	Bell Choir
	7:00pm	Judo
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir
Sun 9/27	The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	
	<i>Coffee Hour Hosted by the Choir</i>	
	7:45am	Divine Service
	8:30am	Bible Study
	9:30am	Divine Service w/ Baptism
		Sunday School



Want to give an offering but forgot cash or a checkbook? Now you can give securely online! Simply scan the QR Code on your mobile device and you will be directed to St. John's Donation page.

Altar Flowers - In memory of our niece, Debbie Gaiser, with love from Aunt Susan & Uncle Ralph.

Music Fund - In honor of Bill & Deanna Suckow's 65th Anniversary.

Sunday Morning Bible Study - Classes will resume on ***Sunday, September 27 between the two services.*** Our new topic will be on the Parables of Jesus. Please join us as we seek to learn and make sense of these treasured stories from Jesus and how they apply to our life with him. Class typically runs from 8:30-9:15am each Sunday.

Faith Renewal - This class is an introduction, or reintroduction, to the Lutheran Christian faith, seeking to explain what we believe and why we do the things we do. We will meet beginning on ***Sunday, October 4.*** If you are new to St. John's, or would like a refresher, please join us on Sundays after the 9:30am service. Classes will meet on Sundays from ***11am-12 noon.*** Please contact the church office to register to attend.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study - We will begin on ***October 7 at 11am,*** and meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Our topic will be on the *Proverbs 31 Woman* which will be good for both men and women to explore. There is plenty of room, even if you have not attended in the past.

Confirmation - Confirmation classes for 7th and 8th graders will begin on ***Wednesday, October 7 at 6pm.*** This will be our orientation class, and a parent is expected to attend. Classes will meet on subsequent Wednesdays from 6-6:50pm. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor.

Wednesday Evening Divine Services - Services will begin on ***October 7 at 7pm.*** The service is a spoken service and lasts about 30 minutes. This is a great addition to the Sunday morning service, or can be used if you are not able to attend on a given Sunday. The message is different from the weekend, focusing this year on the topics of Baptism, Confession, and the Lord's Supper.

Lutheran Institute of Theology - Classes will also begin on ***Wednesday, October 7 at 7:30pm*** and will run weekly up to Thanksgiving. The topic will be *Ethics and the Christian Life* led by Rev. Dr. Joel Biermann. A sign up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board or you may contact the church office.

Tech Help - Next Sunday we will have an opportunity for you to join or refresh your participation in our online church directory. Members will be available to assist you with downloading the app on your phone, tablet, or laptop, or helping you to get logged in online so you can use your home computer. We are also hoping to verify and update everyone's information so our records are up to date. Look for more information coming in the week ahead, and bring your devices to church next week!

Great Give Back - On *October 17 from 10am-noon*, the Sayville Library will once again be hosting their Great Give Back. This is an opportunity for the public to come peruse information about, and meet people from various community service organizations from the Sayville area. St. John's has had a booth for this in the past and we would like to do so again this year. If you are interested in serving on a committee to come up with decorating/advertising ideas, and perhaps some kind of giveaway, please contact the Church Office.

Communion Stewards: Robert Bayley (7:45); Leo Rigaud (9:30am); **Ushers:** Marcus & Annie Habeeb (7:45am); Lloyd & Pam Arrasate (9:30am); **Readers:** Jim Farrell (7:45); Leo Rigaud (9:30); **Musicians:** Chancel Choir (9:30am); **Counters:** Richard & Ann Frenz

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Karen Paul, Bookkeeper

E-mail: bookkeeper@stjohnsayville.org

**Tom Keller & Steve Lindfors
Facilities Management**

Saint John's Divine Service Schedule:

Sunday 7:45am & 9:30am

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am-2:30pm

Bookkeeper Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11am-3pm

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

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