

**“Truly, 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.”**

*Matthew 16:28, ESV*

## **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 2023 • 10:00am**

Saint John's Lutheran Church

*The North American Lutheran Church*

505 South Park Street, Asheboro, NC

336-625-4263

[www.stjohnsasheboro.org](http://www.stjohnsasheboro.org)

 StJohnslutheranAsheboronc

Molly Neal, Organist and Choir Director

Kim Walker, Secretary ([secretarystjohnsasheboro@gmail.com](mailto:secretarystjohnsasheboro@gmail.com))

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 10:00AM-2:00PM

**Service can be heard on FM RADIO 98.9 and  
seen LIVE on church Face Book page and YouTube.**



Setting 4, Evangelical Lutheran Worship

*Our Mission: Worshipping and Witnessing for Christ*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE:

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*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** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**P** In the presence of God, who sees our hearts and our minds, who forgives all our sins, whose mercy endures forever, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection and confession of our sins before God and one another.*

**P:** Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**P:** Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life in the name of the Father, +Son and Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN: “Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven”.....ELW#864

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:And also, with you.**

### KYRIE & THIS IS THE FEAST

**P.147 & P.149**

**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.**

## **PSALM 26**

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity;\*

**I have trusted in the Lord and | have not faltered.**

<sup>2</sup>Test me, O | LORD, and try me;\*

**examine my heart | and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;\*

**I have walked faithful- | ly with you.**

<sup>4</sup>I have not sat | with the worthless,\*

**nor do I consort with | the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of | evildoers;\*

**I will not sit down | with the wicked.**

<sup>6</sup>I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD,\*

**that I may go in procession | round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving\*

**and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.**

<sup>8</sup>LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell\*

**and the place where your glo- | ry abides.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not sweep me a- | way with sinners,\*

**nor my life with those who | thirst for blood,**

<sup>10</sup>whose hands are full of | evil plots,\*

**and their right hands | full of bribes.**

<sup>11</sup>As for me, I will live | with integrity;\*

**redeem me, and be gra-- | cious to me.**

<sup>12</sup>I take my stand 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.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**Gospel Acclamation: “Alleluia”**

**P.151**

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

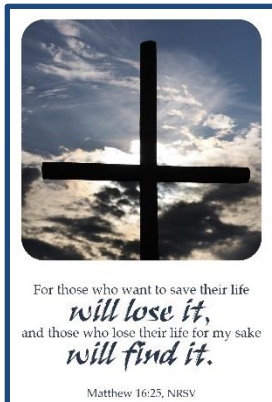
The holy gospel according to St. Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>21</sup>Jesus

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. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But 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.” <sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For 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? <sup>27</sup>For 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. <sup>28</sup>Truly, 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.**



**SERMON:**

**Rev. Samar Ghandour**

### THE 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, 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

Response: L: Lord in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

### SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Worshippers may greet one another with "the Peace of Christ" or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

**OFFERING:** *Please place Care Cards in the offering plate. The care cards are in the pews and include communion participation, prayer requests, and other important information. You can use one card for a couple or family if you choose.*

**ANTHEM:**

**OFFERTORY: ““Let the Vineyards”**

**ELW#182**

**OFFERING PRAYER:** Holy and loving God, you open the doors of heaven, giving us every generous and perfect gift from above. Lift our eyes from the food that perishes, and nourish us now with the food that endures for eternal life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING AND PREFACE**

**P.152 & P.153**

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**P.153**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**P.154**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

The gifts of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

*We welcome to the Lord's Table all who are baptized and believe that Jesus offers his body and blood to sinners. Ushers will direct you. The inner circle of communion cups is grape juice; all other cups are wine. You may also drink from the common cup by looking toward the Assistant Minister. Children who do not yet commune may fold their hands at the rail to receive a blessing. If you cannot go forward for communion please let an usher know so that they may assist and bring communion to you..*

**COMMUNION SONG “Lamb of God”**

**P.154**

**COMMUNION HYMN: “Be Thou My Vision”.....ELW#793**

**BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, given us your peace, and nourished us at your table with the presence of Christ our Lord.

**Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**BLESSING** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN: “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”.....ELW#836**

**POSTLUDE:**

**DISMISSAL:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Today / September 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
8:45AM Coffee & Fellowship  
9AM: Sunday School  
10AM: Service of Worship

*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by the church.*

**THIS WEEK**  
**Monday / September 4<sup>th</sup>**  
LABOR DAY / Office Closed  
**Tuesday / September 5<sup>th</sup>**  
6pm: Music & Worship  
6:30pm: ESL Class  
**Wednesday / September 6<sup>th</sup>**  
6pm: Choir Rehearsal  
**Thursday / September 7<sup>th</sup>**  
6pm: AHG Registration  
6:30pm: ESL Class

**REMINDERS & SAVE THE DATE(S):**

**September 10, 2023 / 15th Sunday after Pentecost / Rev. Samar Ghandour**  
*Ezekiel 33:7-9; Psalm 32:1-7; Romans 13:1-10; Matthew 18:1-20*

Our **SEPTEMBER** item for Christians United Outreach (CUOC) is **CHICKEN HELPER and canned chicken**. Please place your contributions in the basket outside the church office. Thank you for your generosity each month.



*Luke 10:27 And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.*

## In Service Sunday / September 3<sup>rd</sup>

Michele Dawes / Carol DeLooze	Altar Guild
Cookie Smith	Greeter
Team 3	Ushers
Doreen Wilburn / Kim Kelly	Nursery
Molly Neal	Organist
Win Smith / Stefan Reedy	Acolyte, Crucifer
Amy Harrelson	Asst. Minister
Ermalyn Jaeck	Children's Sermon
Karen Walker	Witness
Mike & Sharon Harrelson	Counting

## BIRTHDAYS (September 2023)



4 Karen Tanzman	6 Roger Chriscoe / Jack Neal	
10 Bettina Busmire	13 Mason Crooks	15 Alan Gates
16 Joan Wilson / Nik Companion	17 Kaye Kopplin	
19 Joshua Crooks	21 Olivia Kirkpatrick	22 Heather Cagle
25 Samuel Allen	26 Adaline LaPrade	
28 Chuck LaPrade / Keith Murdock		
29 Ginna Schwartz	30 Doreen Wilburn	

## ANNIVERSARIES (September 2023)

11	Betsy & Will Wittenberg III
12	Ermalyn & Ken Jaeck
16	Lynn & Robert Smith



## In Service Next Sunday / September 10<sup>th</sup>

Michele Dawes / Carol DeLooze	Altar Guild
Pam Wolfe	Greeter
Team 4	Ushers
Leslie Smith / Michele Dawes	Nursery
Molly Neal	Organist
Ermalyn Jeck / Joanna Harrelson	Acolyte, Crucifer
Betsy Wittenberg	Asst. Minister
Penny Crooks	Children's Sermon
Jean Gates	Witness
Mike & Sharon Harrelson	Counting



- 9/8-10 Laurel Ridge Camp
- 9/12 Property / 6pm
- 9/14 SUPPORT / 6:30pm
- 9/19 Men's Qtrly Bkfst / 8am at CJ's
- 9/21 Youth & Family / 5pm
- 9/24 Bowling Evening Ladies Grp 2pm
- 9/28 COUNCIL Mtg 7pm
- 9/30 Oktoberfest



Music & Worship  
 Tuesday  
 Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

The Ladies group **first meeting of the 2023-2024** year will be on **Monday, September 11<sup>h</sup> at 11:00am.** Lynn Smith will be handling the program and Marj Murdock / Rita Hunter sharing hostess / devotion duties.



### THANK YOU

**To ALL** that helped in supplying the items for the breakfast enjoyed by the staff of Donna Lee Loflin. **Thank you** to all that took their time / talents and kindness to set up, serve, visit with staff and clean up after. **Thank you** for the items donated to the school supply drive. These events could not be a success without **ALL** of the wonderful people from St. John's doing what they do for others. You are each a true blessing to have as part of the St. John's family.



**St. John's Men's Group**  
will collect food items on  
**Sunday's September 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**  
to support  
**Communities in Schools,  
Backpack Pals program.**

**High priority items needed are:**

**Individually package, child-sized portions of.**

- ✓ **Canned meats** such as: Vienna sausage, potted meat, tuna, etc.
- ✓ **Breakfast items:** Poptarts, granola bars, individual serving size cereal, cereal bars, instant oatmeal.
- ✓ **Snack items:** Crackers, pudding cups, fruit cups, etc.
- ✓ **Individual serving vegetables,** either cups or pull ring tops.
- ✓ **Ramen noodles.**
- ✓ **Juice boxes** (high juice content preferred).

**HUNGRY CHILDREN CANNOT LEARN.**

FOR SOME STUDENTS, THE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH THEY RECEIVE AT SCHOOL ARE THE ONLY MEALS THEY EAT.

**BACKPACK PALS HELPS FILL IN THE WEEKEND GAP BY SENDING A BAG HOME FROM SCHOOL ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON THAT IS PACKED WITH NUTRITIOUS, NON-PERISHABLE, CHILD FRIENDLY FOODS,**

***PLEASE HELP AS YOU CAN***



**September 7, 2023 6pm-7:30pm**  
**REGISTRATION & "Get to know you" night.**

Please pass the word about this event ~ contact  
Tania Kirkpatrick with any questions..



### **Community, Nation & World:**

Military past & present & families  
Leaders of our Country  
Ukrainians / Russians  
Victory Missions International  
Rev. Samar Ghandour and family  
NALC Reformation  
LC Persecuted Christians  
Naomi Heart Missions / Kristi Ward  
St. John's Church Council &  
Call Committee

### **St. John's Family:**

Molly & the boys (Covid)  
Camp Family (Lily safe birth of baby girl)  
Ed Tanzman (therapy at Alpine Rehab)  
Pat McGinn (diagnosed with rheumatoid  
arthritis)  
Marielle Jaeck (Covid)  
Cynthia Allen  
Bill Sheffield  
Robert & Lynn Smith  
Earl DeLooze,  
Craig Wolfe

### **Friends and Family of the**

#### **Congregation:**

Karen Tanzman (caretaker for Ed /  
compression fracture)  
Sarah Sheffield (Bill Sheffield)  
Issac Hammond (/ Cancer (Tania Kirkpatrick)

Amanda Hammond / Broken ankle (Tania  
Kirkpatrick)  
Eddie McNeill / Pancreatic Cancer (Pam  
Shaw)  
James Tricoli / brother Karen Walker  
Dianne McCarty /surgery on shoulder (Pam  
Shaw)  
Rose Andrews (phoned in to office\*)  
Daniel Callahan / Diabetes & sprained  
shoulder\*  
Family of Calvin Hefner (he is with hospice\*)  
Roxanna Bryant / Tania Kirkpatrick  
Gracie Ghandour (safe delivery)  
Carol Gibson (Pam Shaw)  
Kenny Adkins / recovery from stomach cancer  
(Lesha Daniel's uncle)  
Jill Spivey / Cancer (friend of Leslie Smith)  
Susan Roses (grandmother of Madeline &  
Dorothy Arbaiza)  
Jeanette M. Browder (Bill Sheffield)  
Katherine Vann (cancer / Kate Sefick cousin)  
Nhena and Shamael [Ginna Schwartz  
granddaughter and daughter]  
Melissa Butner, aggressive breast cancer  
(Wittenberg family)  
Katie Stone (Pam Shaw)  
Carolyn Hardage & family (Pam Wolfe)  
Kevin & Siobahn McGinn  
Greg Seabolt (Kenny & Gidget Kidd)  
Sherry Johnson (Kenny & Gidget Kidd)  
Chad Brown (Vickie Lorimer)  
Hazel Hayes Family (Michele Dawes's mom)  
Laurie Scott / cancer (Kim Kelly's cousin)  
Bruce Kyles/ cancer (friend of Kathy  
Chriscoe)  
**PLEASE NOTE prayer list will be  
cleared 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. Will need  
to fill out new card, email by the last  
Sunday of month or call to keep on  
the list. Thank you**

## Take Up Your Cross

Find the **35bold** words from *Matthew 16:24-28* (ESV)

A N Y O N E F Y M A N C R V L  
E E F F O L L O W L I T N U V  
W S E M E S X U D D L O T N X  
F J O S T S O U L G N Y G O D  
A O M L P E R S O N R A A S E  
T I T N O L N X D O U P I C A  
H J S Q G P P W L N T E N Y T  
E E A Y N I Y G A M E R S H H  
R S V L I C D N I F R P J I H  
N U E U M S L A N G E L S I P  
I S D R O I R L W H O L E R D  
E I E T C D S T I E F R O F U  
A L N W O R L D D W B F W B S  
C S Y K I N G D O M I T A K E  
H G X P D B T E L T E T S A T

Then **Jesus told** his **disciples**, “If **anyone** would come after me, **let him deny himself** and **take up** his cross and **follow** me. For whoever would **save** his life will **lose** it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will **find** it. For 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? For 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. **Truly**, 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**