

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27-28, 2022



The lessons after Pentecost relate to application of Christian living, motivated by the Gospel of Christ and our new life in Him. The connection among this Sunday's readings is obedience to the Law (Third Use) as a necessary characteristic of Christians life—not necessary for our salvation, but necessary as our witness of hope in Christ and our privilege to proclaim the Gospel, that those who still live in darkness may come to the marvelous Light of Christ. Acknowledging God's ability to put down one and lift up another, the Introit echoes the familiar words of the Verse, "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." Those gathered to worship can give thanks and sing praises, for God has lifted them up by bringing His name near to us. In the Collect, we pray that the Spirit would teach us to live in true humility and give us pure hearts that avoid prideful self-elevation. The Psalm is filled with images of humility: a heart that is not lifted up, eyes that are not raised too high, and the admission that there are things too great and too marvelous for us to understand. The Epistle provides instruction for our relationships with one another and with our superiors, setting forth a life that seeks to serve, honor, and love others. Jesus is presented as one who seated Himself in the seat of humility outside of the gate, where we are exhorted to join Him in suffering and bearing reproach. The Gospel holds two of three banquet-themed parables told by Jesus in Luke 14 to those gathered for a meal at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees. The two parables for today encourage the guests to sit in the lowest place and the hosts to invite the lowest of society, "for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted".

St. John's Lutheran Church and School

12809 State Route 736 Marysville, OH 43040

Office Phone: 937-644-5540

Church Website: www.stjohnsmarysville.org

School Website: www.sjsmarysville.org

Email: stjohns@stjohnsmarysville.org

Rev. Jack D. Heino, Sr. Pastor 937-240-3002

Mr. Rich Rausch, Principal 937-240-3003

Equipping the family of God to joyfully and boldly make disciples of Christ as we

KNOW Jesus and one another, **GROW** to be more like Him and

SOW His love in Word and deed.



Saturday 6 p.m. & Sunday 9 a.m. Traditional Worship Services

Kevin Vollrath – Organist

“Given a Seat” - Proverbs 25:2-10

You're in a crowded room. As you scan your surroundings, you're momentarily frozen. Emerging from the midst of a group of chattering people is the host, the one with authority over who is and who isn't supposed to be here. His eyes are locked on you, and with his index finger he's indicating that he wants you to “Come here.” Frozen in that moment, what are your first thoughts? Are you terrified to the point that you can barely pull your feet across the floor, or do surprise and excitement radiate off your face and add an extra spring to your step as you head his direction? When it's God who's summoning, either reaction may be appropriate, and each will in fact be in order for some. God has prepared a never-ending banquet, which He desires to be for all people. But those who presume upon His “Come here” will never taste of it. Will I be one of those to be disappointed? Or will, Through Jesus Christ, I Have a Seat at God's Banquet Table to enjoy for eternity?

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

RINGING OF THE BELLS

HYMN OF INVOCATION

“Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”

LSB 902

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 124:8; 130:3-4

P: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: The Spirit of God calls forth sacrifices pleasing to God: brotherly love, hospitality to strangers, care for all in need, faithfulness in marriage and the family, fearless joy in the Lord, right faith, and right worship. Let us ask God to forgive our sinful neglect of faith's power to have free course in our life.

C: Almighty God, we confess to You that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved You with our entire being, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Alone we remain without hope, health, or help. Have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: May the God of peace equip you with everything good that you may do His will. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 75:1-2, 6, 9; antiphon: v. 7

It is God who executes | judgment,*

putting down one and lifting up an- | other.

We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for your | name is near.*

We recount your | wondrous deeds.

At the set time that | I appoint*
I will judge with | equity.
For not from the east or | from the west*
and not from the wilderness comes | lifting up.
But I will declare it for- | ever;*
I will sing praises to the God of | Jacob.
**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. | Amen.**
It is God who executes | judgment,*
putting down one and lifting up an- | other.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[Today's Bible readings found on pages 11-12 of this worship program]

OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Proverbs 25:2-10*

EPISTLE READING: *Hebrews 13:1-17*

VERSE

Luke 14:11

C: Alleluia. Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 14:1-14*

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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Son of God, Eternal Savior"

LSB 842

SERMON MESSAGE: **"Given a Seat"** - *Proverbs 25:2-10*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Psalm 119:81; Hebrews 11:19, 22-23

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.

OFFERINGS OF OUR TIME, TALENTS & TREASURES

"Lord, we are yours. This represents our heart, our attitude, our spirit, and our willingness to recognize and submit to you as our Lord."

BENEDICTION

HYMN TO DEPART

"The Lord, My God, Be Praised"

LSB 794

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Sunday 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

Jon Lutz – Accompanist

“Given a Seat” - Proverbs 25:2-10

You’re in a crowded room. As you scan your surroundings, you’re momentarily frozen. Emerging from the midst of a group of chattering people is the host, the one with authority over who is and who isn’t supposed to be here. His eyes are locked on you, and with his index finger he’s indicating that he wants you to “Come here.” Frozen in that moment, what are your first thoughts? Are you terrified to the point that you can barely pull your feet across the floor, or do surprise and excitement radiate off your face and add an extra spring to your step as you head his direction? When it’s God who’s summoning, either reaction may be appropriate, and each will in fact be in order for some. God has prepared a never-ending banquet, which He desires to be for all people. But those who presume upon His “Come here” will never taste of it. Will I be one of those to be disappointed? Or will, Through Jesus Christ, I Have a Seat at God’s Banquet Table to enjoy for eternity?

Pre-Service Music

Invocation

Opening Song: “Better is One Day”

Opening Prayer / Theme Introduction

Time of Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Heavenly Father, I confess

People: I have not been careful to lead a blameless life.

Pastor: I have not conducted my actions with a blameless heart.

People: I have taken part in that which the faithless do.

Pastor: I have tolerated haughty eyes and a proud heart.

People: My eyes have not been on You Lord.

Pastor: I humble myself before You and ask Your forgiveness.

People: Thank you, Jesus for Your Forgiveness, Your Mercy and Your Grace. Amen.

Holy Baptism of Jackson & Lincoln Firestone



† We Hear God’s Word †

[Today’s Bible readings found on pages 11-12 of this worship program]

Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 25:2-10

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 13:1-17

Holy Gospel: Luke 14:1-14

Response Song: “The Lord is My Helper”

Message: “Given a Seat” - Proverbs 25:2-10

† We Pray †

Prayers of the Church

The 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.

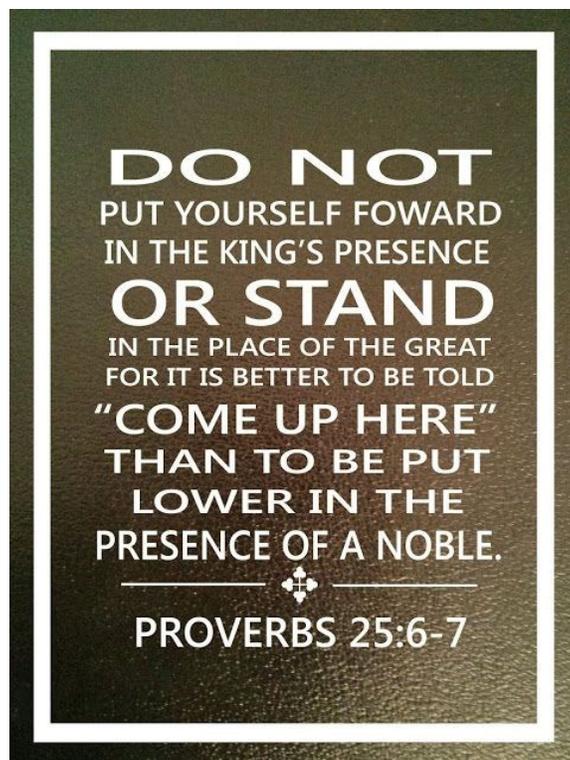
Offerings of Our Time, Talents & Treasures

"Lord, we are yours. This represents our heart, our attitude, our spirit, and our willingness to recognize and submit to you as our Lord."

† We Depart in Peace †

Benediction

Closing Song: "Came to my Rescue"



NOTES AND NEWS

Ladies Saturday Morning Bible Study

The Saturday Morning Ladies Bible Study will be meeting again starting Sept. 10 at 7:30 am at the Heritage House. We will be doing a study by Melissa Spoelestra titled, **Isaiah**. In this 7-session study, Isaiah's words will reveal that you can trust God more than your own human effort or the counterfeits the world suggests. You won't be striving harder, but instead trusting more deeply the Faithful One who is so worthy of our utter dependence. In Him you'll find the comfort and peace you need to sustain you. The other meeting dates will be Sept. 24, Oct. 8 & 22, Nov. 5 & 19 and Dec. 3. The cost of a book will be \$21.99. If you need more information or would like to join us, contact Lois Vollrath at lvollrath@yahoo.com or 937-243-2024 by Aug. 31.

2022-2023 Youth Catechism Class

This years **Youth Catechism Class begins TODAY, Sunday, Aug. 28**, during the Sunday school hour (10:00 a.m.). The August 28th



St. John's Catechism Class

Welcome and Introduction Class will be held in the school gymnasium. The first in-room class begins **Sunday, September 11** from **10:00-11:00 a.m.** and will be held in the school modular (Mrs. Susie Miller's & Mrs. Jayme Allen's classrooms). We welcome all new 7th grade students to attend. We look forward to seeing this year's 7th and 8th graders, along with the attendance of their supportive parents, as we start this new faith journey together.

Installation and Reception for Valerie Moran



Please join us Sunday, September 4th at the 9:00 service as we celebrate the installation of Valerie Moran.

After teaching at St. John's for the 2021-2022 school year, she has accepted a call for the 2nd grade position.

We will have a reception and card shower after the 9:00 service in the gymnasium. Refreshments will be provided.

St. John's School Employment Opportunities

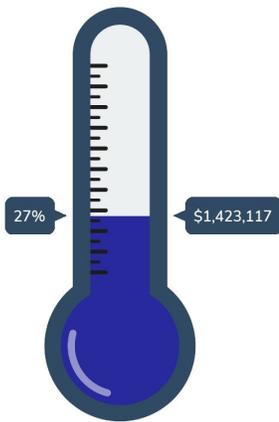
Substitute Teachers: If you love working with kids, and would like to earn a little extra money, this job is for you. Candidates must have a high school diploma.

Teachers Aids: In need of a part-time aid (morning only) in 4 yr. old Preschool.

Please email Principal Rich Rausch at rrausch@sjsmarysville.org or call 937.240.3003 if you are interested, or you know someone who would qualify.

Gearing Up for the New School Year!

GOAL: \$5,200,000



Committed Amount
as of 8.5.22

As we gear up for the new school year, we also near the start of year 2 of the Growing Roots Campaign. A fundraising dinner theater is scheduled and should be a great night together, and continue to raise funds for the campaign. Just a reminder with fall around the corner that the "Building with Bounty" campaign at Heritage is still active where grain can be directly donated to the campaign. Over 250 families have contributed \$881,500 with a total of \$1,423,117 committed!

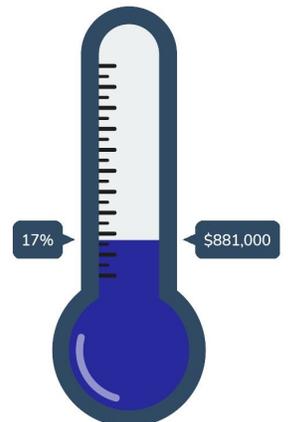
All checks need to be made out to St. John's Church.

Please place your contribution in an envelope and write, "Growing ROOTS" on the outside or place in a Growing ROOTS envelope from your packet.

Scan the QR to GIVE to GROWING ROOTS!



GOAL: \$5,200,000



In Hand Amount
as of 8.5.22

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

Welcome to St. John's. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We pray that you will encounter Christ, the Living Word, and in a new way experience His mercy and grace today. We ask if you are a visitor, or a worship scholarship participant (SJ School), to please fill out the **blue card** located in the pew rack in front of you. Then drop the card in the offering box as you leave worship. If you would like to know more about our ministry, please call the church office at 937-644-5540.

The Lutheran Hour is on the radio Sunday mornings at **7:00am on WLW (700 AM)**. Log on to www.lhm.org for more information and channels. Jim Vandre, LHM Ambassador.

St. John's Radio Program airs Sunday mornings at **8:00am** on local channel **WQTT (1270 AM & 98.7 FM)**.

Altar Flowers: The altar flowers are given in thanksgiving to God and in celebration of **Kate Arnold's** birthday on August 27, by her grandparents.

Chancel Flowers: Flowers have been placed in the chancel in celebration of the marriage of **Logan and Makenna Leeds**, who were wed on Saturday, August 27.

THE LORD'S WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S AUG. 28-SEPT. 4, 2022

TODAY	9:00 am	Sanctuary Worship Service & "Live Streaming"
08/28/22	10:00 am	Adult & Young Adult Bible Study/ Youth & Children Sunday School
	10:00 am	2022-23 Youth Catechism: Welcome & Introduction/Gym
	11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Service
MONDAY	5/6:00 pm	Home Soccer (5p)/Volleyball (6p) vs. Cypress
TUESDAY	11:30 am	Ladies Aid Quilting
	5:00 pm	Home Volleyball vs. Hilliard Memorial
WEDNESDAY		Ladies Aid Craft Times: 10:00 am-12:00 pm & 5:00-7:00 pm/Youth House (location change)
	1:30 pm	ACES/Youth House
THURSDAY	12:00 pm	Ladies Aid Quilting
	1:30 pm	Ladies Aid Meeting/Heritage House
FRIDAY	1:00 pm	Ladies Aid Quilting
SATURDAY	6:00 pm	Sanctuary Worship Service/Communion
SUNDAY	9:00 am	Sanctuary Worship Service/Communion & "Live Streaming": Installation of Teacher Valerie Moran
09/04/22	10:00 am	Adult & Young Adult Bible Study/ Youth & Children Sunday School
	10:00 am	Installation Reception for Valerie/Gym
	11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Service/Communion

ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 - 11:00 am

(Fall-Winter-Spring Schedule)

3 Years-Kindergarten—Church Basement

1st-5th Grades—Meet together in the gym, and then move to school classrooms.

6th Grade—Mrs. Ashley Monroe's Classroom

7th & 8th Grade Youth Catechism Class—2022-23 classes will meet in the gym 8/28 for Welcome & Intro.

High School Youth "Cornerstone Discipleship"—Youth House: **We welcome all incoming High School Freshman.**

Women's Bible Study—Mrs. Melissa Vollrath's Classroom (below the school loft): **Topic - "Esther"**

Adult Bible Study—School Cafeteria: **Topic - "The Book of Acts: Eye Witness Series"** from Right Now Media Bible study series. **Led by Ed Hahn through August.**

NOTE: Elementary Sunday School Classes will be cancelled for **Labor Day**.

If you have questions, please contact the

Sunday School Superintendent,

Lisa Arnold at 937-205-1802 or arnoldlisa50@yahoo.com

Notes & News Deadline: Please submit articles by no later than Tuesday at noon to Regina Bullerman, Church Secretary. Call 937-240-3004, mail to the church office, or email to rbullerman@sjsmarysville.org.

Weekly Church Attendance

6:00 pm Saturday and 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday

8/20 & 8/21: 332

Congregational Tithe

First Quarter Mission

Opportunities of Fiscal Year 2022-23

Ohio District LCMS - 50%; Food Pantries, Operation Christmas Child, Clothes Closet, Personal Needs Pantry - 10% Each
New Path Pregnancy Resource Ctr.;
Emergency Assistance Program - 5% Each



Weekly Worship Bible Readings

For those of you who would like to study the Word ahead of the next weekends worship services, we are listing here in the N&N the Bible readings that Pastor Jack will be using.

September 3-4, 2022

Old Testament Reading: *Deuteronomy 30:15-20*

Epistle Reading: *Philemon 1-21*

Holy Gospel Reading: *Luke 14:25-35*

NOTES & NEWS ITEMS



Concordia Theological Seminary Ingathering

St. John's Golden Eagles, Church, School, and Thrivent are sponsoring an ingathering for Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The ingathering will be in the month of September with delivery to the Seminary in October. Items will be placed in the student Co-op. Students volunteer service time for the privilege of shopping for Co-op items at no charge. The Co-op relies solely on generous donations. Items may be placed inside St. John's trailer in the church parking lot or on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Requested items are: laundry products, toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, diapers, wipes, tampons, body wash, shaving cream, shampoo, and Gluten Free (make sure expiration date is 2023 or later. See display for suggested Gluten Free items). Gift Cards are also appreciated (Wal-Mart, Meijer, Kroger, Target, Applebee's, Culver's, Longhorn Steakhouse, Visa, and MasterCard). Gift Cards are distributed at Christmas. **Let's support future church workers and fill Don's trailer!**

Hospitality Team Volunteers Needed

The 11 a.m. worship service Hospitality/Coffee table is up and running! We would love to invite you and your family to be a part of this Outreach team! It is a great way to meet member and visitors. Set-up training included. Please reach out to anyone at the table, or contact Charlie and Christy Fisher at 740-816-4083 or clfppg@aol.com. Thank you!



Church Worship Service Greeters Needed

If you are interested in being a greeter at our church services, please contact Marjie Masters:
Email: marjoriemasters@yahoo.com
Call or Text: (216) 337-7885

Join ACES

We will be playing euchre at the Youth House at 1:30 on Wednesday. Cost is \$1.00. Great fellowship with snacks and prizes.



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STORY · CRAFT · SNACK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH
10 AM BY THE SOCCER FIELD

BRING A BLANKET TO SIT ON

WE WILL ENJOY A BIBLE STORY LED BY THE HIGH SCHOOLERS, WORSHIP SONGS, CRAFTS AND FUN. ALL AGES WELCOME!

PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO STAY WITH YOUR CHILDREN

.....

PLEASE EMAIL ARNOLDLISA50@YAHOO.COM WITH QUESTIONS

Unknown Donation of Dinner Plates

The Ladies Aid has around 200 dinner plates that are plain white ceramic/china. This does not include the white china with red/pink floral border. No one on the Friendship/Funeral Committee or Executive Committee knows where they came from. We are hoping someone in the Congregation at-large has the answer.

Please call Sarah Vollrath 937-537-0321, Connie Priday 937-645-5034, Brande Vollrath 937-243-5289, Dee Junkans 937-243-0762, Angie Miller 937-877-0903, Rachael Gruenbaum 614-352-1794, or Kim Zacharias 937-537-1946 if you have any information or ideas where all this dinnerware came from.

Sunday School Teachers Needed! We could use a few more helping hands to be team teachers in the 1-5th grade Sunday School Classes. If you have any interest or questions about what this involves, please contact Lisa Arnold at 937-205-1802 or arnoldlisa50@yahoo.com.



College Student Information for 2022-23: If you have a student(s) in college that you would like to include on the printed prayers, please email Regina Bullerman at rbullerman@sjsmarysville.org with the following info: **name, college, mailing address, & birthdate.**

MORE NOTES & NEWS ITEMS



LWML NEWS...

The delegates at the **Ohio District Convention** approved the \$95,000 mission grant goal for the 2022-2024 biennium which would fund 9 mission grants. A motion came from the floor to fund the 4 other unfunded mission grants from the unrestricted net asset fund. The motion passed unanimously. All 13 mission grants will be funded for the 2022-2024. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

The **Fall 2022 ODE** is available on the lwmlohio.org by clicking on the ODE link on the left hand side of the screen or by clicking on the resources tab and clicking the ODE.

Save the date: The Central Zone LWML Fall Fellowship will be held on October 1st at Zion Lutheran Church in Columbus. More information will be provided closer to the event.

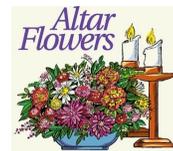
ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR DATES

The following dates are available for altar flowers through the end of year:

September 4	November 13
October 2	November 27
October 9	

Chancel flowers are available almost every weekend. Please call Charlotte Blumenschein at (937) 644-4111 to reserve any special dates for flowers in church.

The Flower Committee thanks you for your continued support.



SAT. 10.1.22

Doors open @ 5:30PM
Dinner service begins @ 6:00PM
St. John's Gymnasium entrance
12809 St. Rt. 736
Marysville, OH 43040

COME ONE, COME ALL

Admission is \$20
Open to the public
Appropriate for Middle-School Ages & up
Additional opportunities to give & support St. John's Growing Roots Building Campaign (including a Silent Auction)

Dinner Theater "FISH EYES"

PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH TED & COMPANY THEATERWORKS

EVENT DETAILS

The evening will consist of a plated dinner, intermission and dessert during a 2-act stage production. Through unique and fresh perspectives on the scriptures, Christian theatre seeks to glorify and proclaim He who is truly center stage, leading to inspiration, celebration and transformation.

LIVE

Fish Eyes is the humorous, heartwarming and poignant story of the disciples Peter and Andrew, who drop their nets and follow Jesus on a journey filled with joy, laughter, pain, confusion and wonderment. Come along with them as they walk with Jesus and witness his miracles, experience his love and struggle to understand His teachings. These very flawed, very funny and very lovable brothers will take you through the Gospel from the moment they were called to the glorious moment the risen Christ returned to them.

RSVP

BY SEPTEMBER 15TH
Scan the QR code or visit
www.sjsmarysville.org



For more information on the evening, please email
growingroots@sjsmarysville.org
or call 937-644-5540



Ladies Aid Requests for the Christmas Bazaar



Thanks again for your help this week with all the items you donated to the Ladies Aid table for the Christmas Bazaar! Our needs have changed a bit.

We are in need of the following:

Christmas clear bulb ornaments (glass or plastic), thick dowel rods, wooden pallets, artificial snow, poly-fil, Christmas greenery and florals, glue sticks, small sets of lights, old hymnals, 4x4 posts (3-4' or longer), 2x4 wood (minimum 18" long).

Please leave the smaller items on the bench in the Marie Pfarr room and the wood items beside the brown barn behind the Youth House.

Thanks for your help!

Ladies Aid Christmas Bazaar Craft Making Location Change

From here on, we will be making crafts for the Christmas Bazaar Ladies Aid table at the Youth House. We will stay on Wednesdays for the time being, but may change days in the future, so watch the Notes & News for updates.



CEA OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

Featured Movie:

FREE
POPCORN &
WATER

SING 2

CONCESSIONS WILL BE
AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

September 23rd

Come grab a spot, get your popcorn
and pick up pizza beginning at 6:30
Movie will begin about 7:15

BRING BLANKETS AND LAWNCHAIRS
YOU CAN BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS AND DRINKS TOO!

Donatos Pizza is available to preorder \$15 a pizza
Please return pizza order by Sept 20th

Student Name _____

- _____ Pepperoni
- _____ Cheese
- _____ Gluten Free

Please send completed form and cash or check to St. John's CEA in envelope marked "CEA Movie Night" to your child's teacher or the school office.



TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS

Old Testament Reading: *Proverbs 25:2-10*

The wise Solomon points out that it is better to not exalt yourself in the presence of the king or to make claims to belonging among his great men. It is better for him to notice you and for him to summon you instead.

²It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out. ³As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable. ⁴Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel; ⁵take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness. ⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, ⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen ⁸do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? ⁹Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret, ¹⁰lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: *Hebrews 13:1-17*

The writer of Hebrews in the conclusion of his letter, encourages the readers to love one another and to remember those who are mistreated and suffering, to be content with what they have. They are to remember those who have gone before them and imitate their faith. But they are to especially remember the suffering of Jesus, who shed His own blood for them.

¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. ⁵Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." ⁶So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" ⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. ¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel: *Luke 14:1-14*

Jesus is dining at a Pharisee's house. They are watching Him closely and not really responding to His questions on the law, things like healing on the Sabbath, which He then promptly does. And as Jesus notices how they are seated at the table, picking seats of honor, He tells them a parable. Jesus tells them taking the lower place is better, having an attitude of being humble instead of exalted is a better way, inviting the poor and lame, instead of the rich to dinners, with no repayment expected, with an eternal, vice earthly, reward awaiting instead.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" ⁶And they could not reply to these things. ⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸"When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." ¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

