



“THY WORD IS TRUTH.”

John 17:17

Allowing God's Word to shape  
how we view the world around us



**Worship with Holy Communion**  
**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 16-17, 2022**

302 NE 2nd Street, Buffalo  
763-682-1883  
[stjohnsbuffalo.org](http://stjohnsbuffalo.org)

**Weekend Worship Services:**

Saturday 5:00 PM  
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM  
Adult Bible Class 9:15 AM

## **PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

*O Lord, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness.  
Hear me for the sake of His Name. Amen.*

## **WORDS OF WELCOME**

*(We rise)*

## **WE BEGIN IN SONG**

(Saturday) “There is a King”/ “Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me”

(Sunday) “I’m But a Stranger Here”

**LSB 748**

I’m but a stranger here, heav’n is my home;  
Earth is a desert drear, heav’n is my home.  
Danger and sorrow stand round me on ev’ry hand;  
Heav’n is my father-land, heav’n is my home.

What though the tempest rage, heav’n is my home;  
Short is my pilgrimage, heav’n is my home;  
And time’s wild wintry blast soon shall be over-past;  
I shall reach home at last, heav’n is my home.

Therefore I murmur not, heav’n is my home;  
Whate’er my earthly lot, heav’n is my home;  
And I shall surely stand there at my Lord’s right hand;  
Heav’n is my father-land, heav’n is my home.

*Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

*Pastor: We read responsively from Psalm 23: The Lord is my shepherd;*

**People: I shall not want.**

*Pastor: He makes me to lie down in green pastures;*

**People: He leads me beside the still waters.**

*Pastor: He restores my soul;*

**People: He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.**

*Pastor: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;*

**People: For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**

*Pastor: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;*

**People: You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.**

*Pastor: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;*

**People: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.**

*(Please be seated)*

**THE FIRST LESSON**

Colossians 3:1-4

*(We are to fix our eyes and minds on the eternal things of Heaven and not on the temporary things of earth.)*

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

*Reader: This is the word of the Lord!*

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

Revelation 7:13-17

*(John gets a glimpse into Heaven and sees people from every tribe and nation worshipping God!)*

Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?” I answered, “Sir, you know.” And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Therefore, “they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

*Reader: This is the word of the Lord!*

**People: Thanks be to God!**

*(We rise)*

## **THE GOSPEL LESSON**

John 14:1-6

*Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter, beginning at the first verse.*

**People: Glory to You, O Lord!**

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

*Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord!*

**People: Praise to You, O Christ!**



*Pastor: Together, as God's People, united in faith by the One who is preparing a place for us, let us join together professing our common faith using the words of the Nicene Creed:*

**People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SONG OF THE DAY**

(Sunday)

"Jerusalem the Golden"

**LSB 672**

Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest –  
The promise of salvation, the place of peace and rest –  
We know not, oh, we know not what joys await us there:  
The radiancy of glory, the bliss beyond compare!

Within those walls of Zion sounds forth the joyful song,  
As saints join with the angels and all the martyr throng.  
The Prince is ever with them; the daylight is serene;  
The city of the blessed shines bright with glorious sheen.

Around the throne of David, the saints, from care released,  
Raise loud their songs of triumph to celebrate the feast.  
They sing to Christ their leader, who conquered in the fight,  
Who won for them forever their gleaming robes of white.

O sweet and blessed country, the home of God's elect!  
O sweet and blessed country that faithful hearts expect!  
In mercy, Jesus, bring us to that eternal rest  
With You and God the Father and Spirit, ever blest.

### **THE MESSAGE**

“The Three Wonders of Heaven”      Pastor Ryan Clark

(Saturday)

“Hymn of Heaven”

### **FAREWELL & GODSPEED TO REV. AARON BECKMAN** (10:30)

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*Special prayers are lifted...we then join together in speaking:*

**All:      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.**

## **AN INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

*Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, in preparation for coming to our Lord's Holy Supper today, let us prepare ourselves by confessing our sins unto God. O almighty God, merciful Father,*

**People: We confess we thank You for the salvation and the great Heavenly inheritance You have won for us through Your Son's suffering, death, and resurrection. But we confess that, in our day-to-day life, we sometimes forget our heavenly destination and fix our eyes, thoughts, and actions on the here and now. In the process, we find ourselves full of fear and worry and we focus not on eternal things, but on temporary things. Forgive us, Lord, for Jesus' sake, and by Your Holy Spirit, set our minds once again on Heaven. Amen.**

*Pastor: God has heard our prayer for forgiveness and has given us a meal by which we receive that forgiveness: the Lord's Supper. As we eat and drink the Body and Blood of Christ, we are connected with the finished work of the cross, we are forgiven, and we are given power and a fresh start with which to fix our minds on things above.*

## **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE DISTRIBUTION**

*(At St. John's, we believe Jesus' words that the bread and wine of which we partake in this meal are, in a mysterious way, His very Body and Blood given and shed for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26: 26-28). If you believe this and desire God's forgiveness and a new start in which to follow Christ, please join us! Non-alcoholic wine and gluten-free wafers are in the center of each tray for those who request them; just simply ask your server. We also invite you to bring your children to receive a blessing at the altar rail.)*

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

“For All the Saints”  
“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

**LSB 677**  
**LSB 680**

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

### **THE BENEDICTION**

### **THE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Pastor:** Go in Peace. Serve the Lord!

**People:** Thanks be to God!

*(We rise)*

### **WE CLOSE IN SONG**

(Saturday) “Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”

(Sunday) “Amazing Grace”

**LSB 744**

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see!

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail and mortal life shall cease,  
Amazing grace shall then prevail in heaven's joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

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