Third Sunday After Pentecost Lectionary 13

June 29, 2025 10 am



Saint John Lutheran Church Fairfield, Pennsylvania Rev. Wayne Gallipo, Interim Pastor Carol Garman, Organist/ Music Director

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Reverend Wayne Gallipo, Interim Pastor Cell: 605-214-6828 Pastor's Office Hours – Mon. & Tues. 8:30am – 4:30pm

Carol Garman, Director of Music Ministries

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Office Hours
Monday – Thursday 8:30am-12:00pm

Our Mission is to make Christ known.

We welcome all guests this morning.
We are very pleased to have you worship with us.
All are welcome to receive communion.

Everyone is welcome! Grab some refreshments and join us!

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Third Sunday After Pentecost

June 29, 2025

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARING CONVERSATIONS: "What's God Been Doing in Your Life Lately?"

PRELUDE Seek Ye First

arr. Wagner

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of Almighty God, the Father, and of the \pm Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

GATHERING HYMN God of Tei

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

ELW 400

INVOCATION

P: May 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. And also with you.

P: Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING The Life of Freedom

Galatians 5:13-26

5 Christ has set us free to live a free life. So take your stand! Never again let anyone put a harness of slavery on you.

¹³⁻¹⁵ It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch out—in no time at all you will be annihilating each other, and where will your precious freedom be then?

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ My counsel is this: Live freely, animated and motivated by God's Spirit. Then you won't feed the compulsions of selfishness. For there is a root of sinful self-interest in us that is at odds with a free spirit, just as the free spirit is incompatible with selfishness. These two ways of life are contrary to each other, so that you cannot live at times one way and at times another way according to how you feel on any given day. Why don't you choose to be led by the Spirit and so escape the erratic compulsions of a law-dominated existence?

* * *

¹⁹⁻²¹ It is obvious what kind of life develops out of trying to get your own way all the time: repetitive, loveless, cheap sex; a stinking accumulation of mental and emotional garbage; frenzied and joyless grabs for happiness; trinket gods; magic-show religion; paranoid loneliness; cutthroat competition; all-consuming-yet-never-satisfied wants; a brutal temper; an impotence to love or be loved; divided homes and divided lives; small-minded and lopsided pursuits; the vicious habit of depersonalizing everyone into a rival; uncontrolled and uncontrollable addictions; ugly parodies of community. I could go on.

This isn't the first time I have warned you, you know. If you use your freedom this way, you will not inherit God's kingdom.

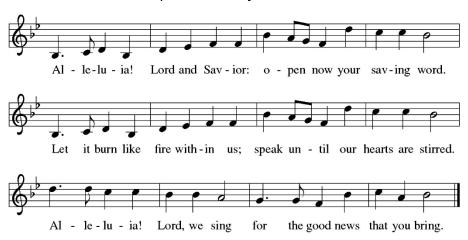
²²⁻²³ But what happens when we live God's way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard—things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity. We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and

a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely.

²³⁻²⁴ Legalism is helpless in bringing this about; it only gets in the way. Among those who belong to Christ, everything connected with getting our own way and mindlessly responding to what everyone else calls necessities is killed off for good—crucified.

²⁵⁻²⁶ Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives. That means we will not compare ourselves with each other as if one of us were better and another worse. We have far more interesting things to do with our lives. Each of us is an original. *The Word of the Lord...Thanks be to God*.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ please stand if able



P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke... Glory to you O Lord

GOSPEL Luke 9:51-62

The Message

51-54 When it came close to the time for his Ascension, he gathered up his courage and steeled himself for the journey to Jerusalem. He sent messengers on ahead. They came to a Samaritan village to make arrangements for his hospitality. But when the Samaritans learned that his destination was Jerusalem, they refused hospitality. When the disciples James and John learned of it, they said, "Master, do you want us to call a bolt of lightning down out of the sky and incinerate them?" 55-56 Jesus turned on them: "Of course not!" And they traveled on to another village. 57 On the road someone asked if he could go along. "I'll go with you, wherever," he said. 58 Jesus was curt: "Are you ready to rough it? We're not staying in the

best inns, you know." Jesus said to another, "Follow me." 59 He said, "Certainly, but first excuse me for a couple of days, please. I have to make arrangements for my father's funeral."60 Jesus refused. "First things first. Your business is life, not death. And life is urgent: Announce God's kingdom!"61 Then another said, "I'm ready to follow you, Master, but first excuse me while I get things straightened out at home."62 Jesus said, "No procrastination. No backward looks. You can't put God's kingdom off till tomorrow. Seize the day." "The Gospel of the Lord", **Praise to you O Christ**.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Wayne Gallipo

HYMN O Jesus, I Have Promised

ELW 810

APOSTLES CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH Response: God of Grace, Hear our Prayer.

PEACE

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY Hold Me, Jesus (Mullins)

Ernie Kranias

OFFERING PRAYER

C: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

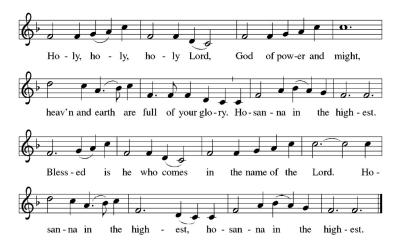
P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right....

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



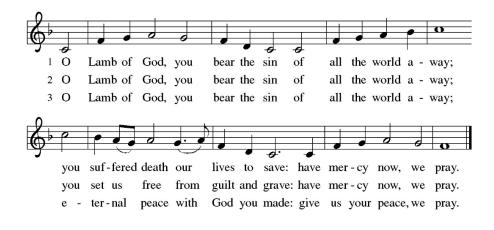
EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: On the night in which he was betrayed ... for as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes again.

LORD'S PRAYER

FRACTION AND INVITATION

LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION

We practice "open communion" at St. John. ALL are invited to come forward as ushered to receive this life-giving sacrament. Those not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing. As you are given the bread and wine an appropriate response is "Amen." Please be respectful of this meditative time within our worship.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Lead Me, Guide Me

Just a Closer Walk With Thee

ELW 768

ELW 697

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray...Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

BLESSING

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 \oplus give you peace. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

ELW 538

- 1 The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give, to make of all the earth a better place to live. (Repeat)
- 2 The angels are not sent into our world of pain, to do what we were meant to do, in Jesus' name; That falls to you and me, and all who are made free.

 Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do Your will today.

(Repeat)

arr. Innes

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Great is Thy Faithfulness