

"One body in Christ, Growing, Living and Sharing God's Love"

FROM OUR PASTOR



We have been out of our worship space for far too long, and it will be a wonderful celebration when the day comes that we can stand together again and worship our Lord! I can't wait.

We have focused a great deal on the church "outside the walls" of the building. God has given us an opportunity in the midst of the great challenges COVID-19 has given us.

The opportunity within the challenge is to be reminded of something that is as old as the church. For us, it begins with our baptism. In baptism, we are claimed, named, and scattered.

The church---the Body of Christ---is both gathered and scattered.

We are gathered when we worship, study, pray and fellowship together. We are the scattered church every other moment of our lives. By our baptism, we are sent out into the world to bring the light of Christ to others. We call that vocation in the Lutheran church. Too often, we think of vocation in terms of nuns, priests, pastors. These are examples of a vocation, but not the only one!

Another example is parent, daughter, son, teacher, friend, neighbor. All of these are vocations for us, God's children. Historically, we have done a fairly good job, in the church, of teaching about the gathered church. But, our conversation about being the scattered church needs to fill more of our focus and energy.

Going to church has come to mean walking into a building [or now days---tuning in to Facebook, Zoom, or an FM station in the parking lot]. But! going to church is more than a Sunday endeavor. Because God wants all of you; God is interested in what you do every day, not just Sunday.

Maybe in this time of COVID-19, God is asking us, His faithful people, to remember that? What do you think? I am not saying that God caused COVID-19. God doesn't bring about suffering to teach us something or to

condemn us. Instead, what I am saying is that “...we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Romans 8:28.

God finds a way to take everything and make it fit according to His purpose. God can do that even with COVID-19, because “He has made everything beautiful in it’s time” Ecclesiastes 3:11.

Could it be that God is asking us to remember that we are not only supposed to gather for church; we are also supposed to scatter for church. Maybe it is time to recognize, not only the times you see God at work in the world---but to recognize the times you see God at work through **you** in the world.

I can’t wait until we are gathered together on a regular basis. And, I pray that today and in the future, we might explore together what it means to be the scattered church. What do you need to be equipped with to live out your baptism? To live trusting that what you do every day is what Jesus asked the disciples to do. You do not need “St.” in front of your name to live out faith in the ordinary. You need prayer, trust in the Holy Spirit, and a way of seeing that God at works through you. Every day.

Prayer: *Lord God, heavenly Father, we are tired of masks, and hand sanitizer, and news of people dying. We are tired of things looking so different. By your Holy Spirit, turn us to remember that in all things, Your purpose is being worked out in this world. Help us to have hearts that trust that even though we are on a journey that we can not quite see the end of...that Your hand is leading us and guiding us. Give us good courage to go with You. Help us to see that You are working through us. Everywhere. Every day. This we pray through Your most precious Son, Jesus. And the people of God say: “Amen!”*

The Walkers
IN CONCERT

PLACE: ZIMMERMAN CIVIC BUILDING (OUTDOORS)
25850 Main St, Zimmerman, MN 55398

TIME: 5:00PM **DATE:** SATURDAY AUGUST 22ND

Sponsored by Restoring Lives Community Church

for more information or to place an order, contact:
THE MANSION
ENTERTAINMENT thewalkersonline.com 850.672.9155

YOU ARE INVITED
THE WALKERS IN
CONCERT
AWARD-WINNING GOSPEL
GROUP
BRING A LAWN
CHAIR!



DRIVE IN WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN

2ND & 4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Some things to know: out of our love for each other, we will maintain physical distancing that health professionals are telling us is so important. We will stay in our cars, so we do not unintentionally expose anyone to this virus.

We love you and want to see you, but please, if you have any COVID-19 symptoms (cough, fever, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, etc.) worship online via our Facebook Page_ [St. John Facebook Page](#)

We will celebrate Holy Communion together at each Drive-in Worship service!

Drive-in Worship at St. John on August 23rd at 10 AM!

What to expect when you worship, drive-in style---

- Plan to enter the Drive-In Worship via Fremont Ave/Cty. Rd. 4 and exit from the East [Fellowship Hall] side of the building.
- The service will be short, and the building and restrooms will not be available, so please make your “pit stop” prior to worship
- Sound will be completely controllable by you! via your FM radio in your vehicle.
- It is going to be so wonderful to see everyone...and so tempting to get out of our cars to say “hi”, but we Lutherans know how to avoid temptation, so we will stay in our vehicles.
- We will celebrate Holy Communion in our vehicles. [It is a *safe* bet that Luther never could have imagined it, even though he was a forward-thinking guy!]



Please add to your prayers –

- Please pray for Sue.
- Please pray for Margaret.
- Please continue to pray for Joey Sanborn's family & friends as they grieve and mourn his death.
- Please pray for a young person dealing with depression. Prayers to ward off suicidal thoughts.
- Please pray for Dan.
- Please pray for a young man dealing with anxiety.
- Please continue to pray for our teachers, students, leaders, and other school workers as they face an uncertain year with many complexities.
- Please pray for patience, kindness, and compassion to reign in all our hearts, homes, and communities.

Email your prayer requests to: churchoffice@green-church.org

with the subject line: Prayer Request

The Lord

is close to the
brokenhearted and
saves those who are
crushed in spirit.

PSALM 34:18

We grieve, but
not as ones
without hope

It is with heavy hearts that we share the burden of grief with the Sanborn family. Joey was one of our Confirmation Students. Confirmation will not seem complete without him. We will honor Joey this Fall as a Confirmation class and again when his class is Confirmed in two years. For now, we grieve with his family and friends. But not as ones without hope. Joey knew the promise and hope given in Jesus. Joey's family is taking some time before planning his memorial service. We will let you know when that has been scheduled. For some who may not know--- Joey's Aunt is Sabrina Auel, who was formerly our Administrative Assistant. The Ruschmeier family here at St. John is also a part of Joey's family. We pray God's peace and strength for them.

CONFIRMATION KIDS—

If you would like to share memories of Joey or write a note to his Mom, Tabitha, we will pass those along to her. Those memories and letting Joey's family know you are thinking of them and praying for them would be very special to them. Either mail into church or email churchoffice@green-church.org

WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND/AUGUST 16TH

JOIN THE ST. JOHN FAMILY ON FACEBOOK AT 10AM

ON THE ST. JOHN FACEBOOK PAGE

[ST. JOHN FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Sunday, August 16, the 11th Sunday after Pentecost

- Isaiah 56:1,6-8

Maintain justice and do what is right.

- Psalm 67

Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (Ps. 67:3)

- Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God's mercy to all, Jew and Gentile

- Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

The healing of the Canaanite woman's daughter



***“Yes, Sir, but even
the dogs eat the
crumbs from their
master’s table.”***

Matthew 15:27

FALL AT ST. JOHN IN 2020

If we have your email, you will receive a survey from us [if we don't have your email address, please call and let us know what it is, or request a printed copy of the survey]. We will make all decisions about in-person gatherings with safety for the most vulnerable among us as our guiding principle. We will use the best medical advice available—combined with our Christian mandate to love our neighbor.

Having said that, we want to know how you are feeling about in-person worship and gatherings.



We want to know what your comfort level is for sending kids to Confirmation and/or Sunday School.

No survey is perfect; but we have tried to put together one that will give you a chance to let us know what you are thinking in terms of meeting together. It will also ask what you might be able to do to help St. John reach out in this time of isolation and uncertainty. Prayerfully consider if you have the energy and commitment to help St. John reach out to our faith family and the larger community.

We will hold off on the start of Sunday School and Confirmation until October this year. We feel that will give families some much needed space to get acclimated to what their school life will look like. We will provide families with resources in September to help nurture faith in the home.

Your St. John Council continues to meet monthly, on the 3rd Tuesday at 6 PM. We meet via ZOOM. You are welcome to join the meeting.

The next Council Meeting is August 18th
6 PM

To join the Council Meeting

Go to: www.zoom.us

Meeting ID: 519 114 0024

Passcode: SJLC





How to get your weekly offering to the church

Please consider signing up for scheduled giving. Scheduled giving is done electronically, and you are in complete control of how much you give, how often you give, and you can easily change every week if you choose to.

1/ Give via mobile app [**GIVE+**]

2/ Give electronically either through the website or your own bank. Go to www.greenchurch.org and click the “donate” button at the top of the page. Sign up now for electronic giving, it is so easy! You may choose a one-time gift, weekly gift, or monthly gift. You can alter your frequency or amounts at any time—you are in control.

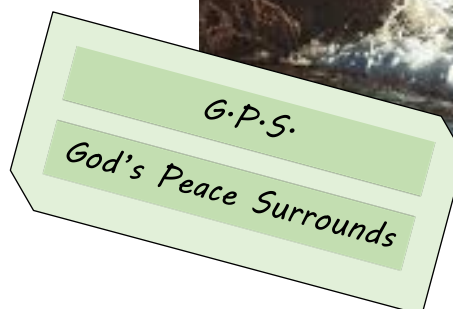
3/ Mail your weekly offering to 13045 Fremont Ave. Zimmerman, 55398

Thank you!

God's Peace in our lives has immeasurable value.

Take some time, in the midst of your demand-filled week to be reminded of God's Peace.

*G.P.S.---“God's Peace Surrounds” is Pastor Kari's mid-week devotion for you. Join on St. John's Facebook Page--
www.facebook.com/greenchurch1897
Wednesdays at 7 pm.*



St. John Lutheran Church

Phone: 763-856-4561

Email: churchoffice@green-church.org

Website: www.green-church.org Facebook: www.facebook./greenchurch1897

YouTube Channel: [SJLC Youtube Channel](#) or go to YouTube and then type St. John Lutheran Church Zimmerman in the search

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Christy Hilyar and Adam Babos, Custodians

custodian@green-church.org

Deadline for weekly newsletter submissions is 12Noon on Wednesdays, please submit to churchoffice@green-church.org. Subject line: Newsletter

All links in this newsletter are active.

Prayers of the People

During worship, we take time to pray for all sorts of things. This time is called the Prayers of the People. We ask God to be with the leaders of our country, for help for the poor, and of healing for the sick. What did you pray about in worship today?

Write or draw about it here:



READER

- Today is the **11th** Sunday after Pentecost.
- Pentecost lasts for more than **20 weeks**.
- During such a long season, we can be **persistent** with God.
- Being persistent means to **keep trying** and **keep asking**.

Be Persistent

God wants us to keep asking for the things we need. What do you need from God? Write a prayer inside the symbol for Pentecost.



Unscramble the shaded words to complete this week's memory verse.

Memory Verse

Jesus answered her, "Woman, **tegar** is

your **afhit**! Let it be done for you as

you **swih** Matthew 15:28a

Did You Know?

In the reading from Romans today, Paul tells us that he is a member of the tribe of Benjamin. This is one of the twelve tribes of Israel, the groups of people born from Jacob's twelve sons.

Here are the other tribes: Asher, Dan, Gad, Issachar, Joseph, Judah, Levi, Naphtali, Reuben, Simeon, and Zebulun.

Jesus answered her, "Woman, _____ is
your _____! Let it be done for you as you
_____."

Keep Trying

In the Gospel lesson today we learned about being persistent with God. Try to solve this Sudoku math game using your persistence!

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the numbers 1 through 4.

			2
	3		
		1	
4			

Family Tree

In Romans, Paul talks about his family and heritage. He is an Israelite, from the tribe of Benjamin.

Who is in your faith family? Who has helped you learn more about God?

Who has taught you about Jesus?

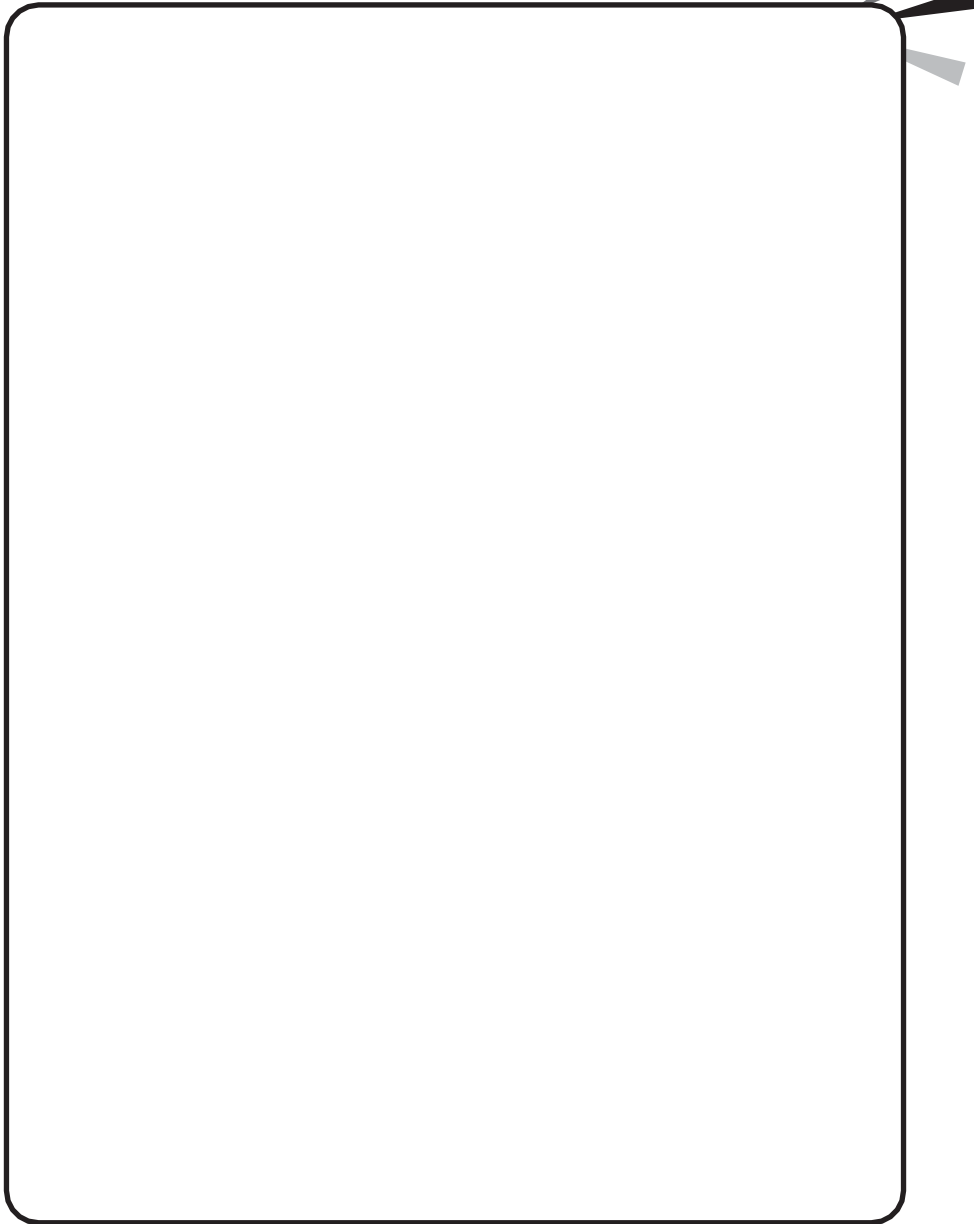
Write or draw about them in this family tree. Draw more branches to fit more faith family members.



The Apostle Paul uses a writing style called **diatribe**. He asks a question. Then he answers it. Look up Romans 11:1 to see an example.

What do you do at home to create a worship space?

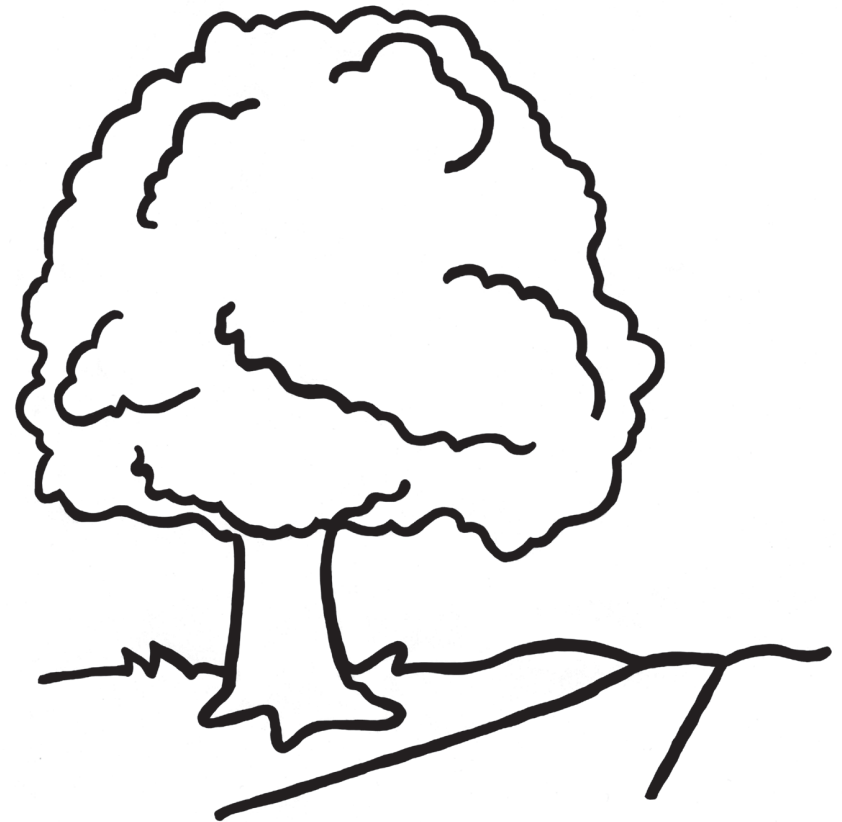
Draw a picture of it here!



PRE-READER

- Today is the **11th Sunday** after Pentecost.
- During this season, we remember to keep **asking God** for **what we need**.

Draw what you need from God inside this symbol for Pentecost.





Jesus said, "You have great faith! I will heal your daughter."

The Bible is full of stories about families. Paul tells us that he is a member of Benjamin's family.

Draw a picture of your family here!

