



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.

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## Welcome to Worship!

In 2000, we held our first Unity Sunday worship service in the auditorium of Wisconsin Lutheran High School. Much has happened since then: a new school building, staffing changes at church and school, a global pandemic and online-only worship, and two Unity Sundays that didn't necessarily feel all that united. This year, Unity Sunday presents us with two necessary and important opportunities: recommitting to in-person worship and reconnecting with each other as fellow believers. And, thanks be to God, these opportunities aren't limited to Unity Sunday. They're available each and every week as we come together as a family of believers around Word and sacrament. May God bless our worship—this Unity Sunday and always.

## Worship Notes

It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.

If you need assistance with anything during worship—including large-print service folders—please ask one of our ushers. For restrooms, turn right upon exiting the gym.

During the offering, all worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder or located online at [www.sjtosa.org/Connect](http://www.sjtosa.org/Connect)). Completed cards may be placed in the baskets by the exit.

## Bible Study

Our regular Bible study and Sunday school schedule resumes next Sunday, September 18, from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.. Bible study on September 18 will be replaced by a congregational open forum addressing some of the common questions and comments from this summer's feasibility study for a potential capital campaign. For more information, including a summary of the feasibility study report and video from the September 6 open forum, visit [www.sjtosa.org/CampusExpansion](http://www.sjtosa.org/CampusExpansion).

All children from three years old through teens are invited to Sunday school. Children will meet in the school commons and then join their teachers. Parents can pick their children up from their classrooms. To register, visit [www.sjtosa.org/SundaySchool](http://www.sjtosa.org/SundaySchool).

We look forward to seeing you at Bible study and Sunday school!

# Unity Sunday

September 11, 2022

United in Christ

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## Prelude

### Opening Hymn

Christ Is Our Cornerstone

*Please stand to sing the final stanza*

*Christian Worship 914*



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, on him a - lone we  
2 Here may we gain from heav'n the grace which we im -  
3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise these hal - lowed courts shall



build; with his true saints a - lone the courts of  
plore, and may that grace, once giv'n, be with us  
ring; our voic - es we will raise the Three in



heav'n are filled. On his great love our hopes we  
ev - er - more un - til that day when all the  
One to sing and thus pro - claim in joy - ful



place of pres - ent grace and joys a - bove.  
blest to end - less rest are called a - way.  
song, both loud and long, that glo - rious name.

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In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life. **Refrain (stanza 1)**

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins. **Refrain (stanza 2)**

Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood. **Refrain (stanza 3)**

### Refrain



1. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son,
2. Chri - ste e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son,
3. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son,



- |              |             |                   |     |
|--------------|-------------|-------------------|-----|
| Ky - ri - e. | Ky - ri - e | e - le - i - son, | e - |
| Chri - ste.  | Chri - ste  | e - le - i - son, | e - |
| Ky - ri - e. | Ky - ri - e | e - le - i - son, | e - |

le - i - son, Ky - ri - e.  
 le - i - son, Chri - ste.  
 le - i - son, Ky - ri - e.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis

*The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrains.*

#### Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est!  
 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God! Glo-ry to God  
 in the high - est! Peace to his peo - ple on earth!

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
 We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
 You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
 You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer. **Refrain**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
 You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
 With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. **Refrain (sung twice)**

# The Word

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

Psalm 133

*The Blessing of Our Unity*

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!  
It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard,  
    running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.  
It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.  
For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Response to the Word

*Adult choir*

In Unity and Peace

*Christian Worship 732*

*Refrain:* How good it is and how pleasant to live in unity and peace.  
    How good it is and how pleasant to live together in one Lord.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, agree in ev'rything you say.  
May there be no divisions among you, but be united in one mind.  
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all. *Refrain*

Live a life that is worthy of your call, be humble, gentle, and patient.  
Bear with each other in ways that are loving, preserve the unity of faith.  
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all. *Refrain*

Share the love that has joined us as one, unite in spirit and ideals.  
Never be rivals, do not be conceited, but look to others in their need.  
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all. *Refrain*

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## **Second Reading**

Ephesians 4:1–6

### *The Source of Our Unity*

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Psalm 133:1

Alleluia, alleluia. How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! Alleluia.

## **Gospel**

John 3:14–17

### *The Center of Our Unity*

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## Anthem

Grades K5-8

Christ Begins

arranged by Marjorie Flanagan

We stand and we watch on the bank, wide-eyed.  
Water runs and all heaven opens wide, and a voice like thunder replies.

*Refrain:* Here's my Prophet, my Priest, my King, a light in the dark, Christ steps in;  
here's my Savior, my God, my King, the time has come, Christ begins.

Mary's whispering, but it's not the time.  
Yet six jars are filled with the finest wine. Tell me, who is this by our side? *Refrain*

See the sun outshined on the hill and hide.  
Clothes like lightning white, heaven opens wide, and a voice like thunder replies. *Refrain*

We stand, gathered round on the mountainside.  
Watch the closing clouds hide him from our eyes; with a voice united we cry: *Refrain*

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## Hymn of the Day

The Church's One Foundation

Christian Worship 855



- 1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
- 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth;
- 3 The Church shall nev - er per - ish. Her dear Lord, to de - fend,
- 4 Tho' with a scorn - ful won - der the world sees her op - pressed,
- 5 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.  
her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
to guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, is with her to the end.  
by schisms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
Tho' there be those that hate her and strive to see her fail,  
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up, "How long?"  
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
a - gainst both foe and trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.  
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.

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## Sermon

1 Peter 2:9-10

### *A Celebration of Unity and Clarity*

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

*Please stand*

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

Father in heaven, you created human beings to be the crown of your universe. We are all your children, but we also are all unique. You place us in the world according to your wisdom and will.  
**We thank you, Lord, that you have made us what we are and put us where we live.**

As we share the bond of humanity, Lord, so we share the curse of sin. We deserve the common grave of hell in payment for the sin we inherit and the sins we commit.

**We implore you, Lord, to put aside your anger and free us from the punishment we deserve.**

You sent the Son you loved, and he came in a body like ours. But he did not sin as we sin. You accepted his perfect life and innocent death as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. And when he died, you raised him to life as the guarantee that you have justified us forever.

**We adore you, Lord! You have forgiven our sins and restored us as your children.**

We are all members of your human family, O Father, but now, by the power of the Gospel and the working of your Spirit, you have also made us members of your spiritual family. We who are different are joined in one fellowship, one communion, one holy Church.

**We rejoice, Lord, in the Savior we share, in the culture of the Church, and in the hope of eternal life.**

On this day, Father, help us face the truth that we do not always rejoice in our unity as we know we should. Too often we are unwilling to walk on the path our brothers and sisters walk. We are impatient with their perspectives, taken up with our own traditions, and insensitive to their dreams and their fears.

**Forgive us, Lord, for our supposed superiority, our insensitivity, and our failure to love all your children.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow*

We walk together on one road, Eternal Father, the road that leads to life with your Son. Give us his life to imitate, his love to share, his passion to feel, and his power to succeed. When this life ends, bring us to the place where we will be free at last and sing his praises in the eternal language of heaven.

**May all the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you!**

*Be seated*

## **Installation of Sunday School Teachers**

## Offering

Members of St. John's give offerings to support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors are welcome but not obligated to give an offering. All worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder). Physical offerings and Connection Cards can be left in the basket on your way out of church. To submit your offering electronically or fill out a Connection Card online, scan the QR code or visit [www.sjtosa.org/offering](http://www.sjtosa.org/offering).



## Hymn

God Is Here! As We Your People  
Christian Worship 858



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to  
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our  
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the  
4 Lord of all, of Church and king - dom, in an



of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in  
life - long need of grace. Here are ta - ble,  
Shep - herd's flock and fold; here, as bread and  
age of change and doubt, keep us faith - ful



full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.  
font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.  
wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.  
to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our  
Here, in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here, in  
Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in  
Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we



var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing  
si - lence as in speech, here, in new - ness  
wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in  
have to give, re - ceive; we who can - not



of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

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*Please stand*

God our Father, your Son Jesus prayed that his followers might be one. Make your Church one with him as he is one with you, so that in unity and peace we may carry the message of your love to the world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins,**

**as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours**

**now and forever. Amen.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Anthem

*Adult choir & adult handbell choir*

## Benediction

*by John A. Behnke*

The Lord bless you; the Lord keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

## Closing Hymn

## God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

*Christian Worship 640*

God's Word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for -  
ev - er; to spread its light from age to age shall be our  
chief en - deav - or. Thro' life it guides our way, in death it  
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, we keep its  
teach - ings pure through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Announcements

## Postlude

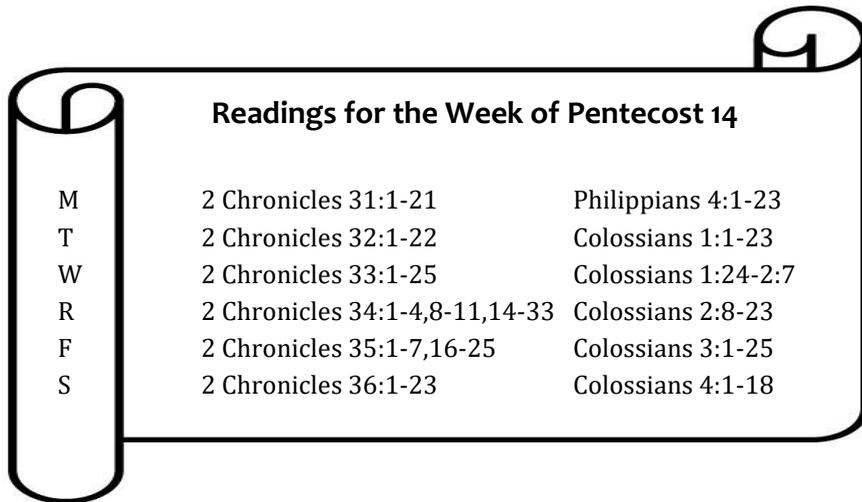
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<b>Readings for the Week of Pentecost 14</b>		
M	2 Chronicles 31:1-21	Philippians 4:1-23
T	2 Chronicles 32:1-22	Colossians 1:1-23
W	2 Chronicles 33:1-25	Colossians 1:24-2:7
R	2 Chronicles 34:1-4,8-11,14-33	Colossians 2:8-23
F	2 Chronicles 35:1-7,16-25	Colossians 3:1-25
S	2 Chronicles 36:1-23	Colossians 4:1-18

## Serving at Worship

<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Joel Leyrer
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pastor Eric Schroeder
<b>Lector</b>	Pastor Joshua Yu
<b>Musicians</b>	Lynn Kozlowski, piano Christian Willick, vocals
<b>Adult Choir Director</b>	Adam Sipe
<b>Children's Choir Director</b>	Mandy Treder
<b>Adult Handbell Choir Director</b>	Kristi Meyer

## In Our Prayers

- Family and friends of Jerry Seidner, whom the Lord called home to his side this past Wednesday at the age of 77, and whose Christian Victory service was held on Saturday, September 10.
- Jim Minor, hospitalized at Froedtert where he is undergoing chemotherapy and being evaluated for next steps.
- Arlene Fletcher, scheduled to undergo a cardiac procedure at St. Luke's on Wednesday to determine the need for possible medical intervention.

# The Mission of our Church

As God's people gathered together at St. John's, we live to declare the praises of our Savior God who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of his grace.

As 21<sup>st</sup> century disciples of Jesus, we reflect the light of God's love by:



Making worship of our Savior the top priority in our lives



Growing in our faith through daily contact with God's Word



Fostering Christian friendships for mutual encouragement and support



Using our unique gifts to glorify God and serve God's people



Sharing the good news of God's forgiving love with others

## Worship Services

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

## Worship in Chinese

Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.

## Pastors

*Pastor Joel Leyrer*  
[joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org](mailto:joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org)

*Pastor Eric Schroeder*  
[eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org](mailto:eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org)

## Chinese Outreach

### Pastor

*Pastor Joshua Yu*  
[joshua.yu@sjtosa.org](mailto:joshua.yu@sjtosa.org)

## School Principal

*Mr. Dan Markgraf*  
[dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org](mailto:dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org)

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