

St. Johns Lutheran Church

My Word is in your Mouth
and Heart



So... Choose Life!

AS WE GATHER

The first issue that naturally comes to mind to many Christians when hearing the phrase “Choose life!” is that of abortion, which chooses death, not life. And indeed, never should our witness to God’s gift of life be silenced! Beyond that, however, are all the other choices we make in our struggles between God’s good and gracious will for all and the universal disability of sin that constantly attempts to lead us away from God and His call to life. Today, God’s Word gives us the assurance that because our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has chosen to take our suffering and death into Himself by His cross, all who are baptized into His saving death are given the power of faith to love God and pursue His ways of life according to His good and gracious Law and Gospel. Blessed is the man whose “delight is in the law of the LORD” (Psalm 1:2).

RINGING OF THE BELLS WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME GUESTS

We’re glad you are here! Make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering. Please consider liking us on Facebook (St. Johns Lutheran Church – St. Louis City) and checking out our website (<https://stjohnslutheranstlouis.org/>).

PREPARATION

HYMN On Galilee’s High Mountain *LSB 835*

**On Galilee's high mountain
Christ gave the great command
In words of strength and promise
Which all can understand:
"All pow'r to Me is given
To do what I shall choose;
Therefore I send My children,
Their witness I will use."**

**The Lord who, born of Mary,
Came down as man and died,
Who preached to all who listened,
For us was crucified
This Lord, our living brother,
In pow'r at God's right hand,
Has chosen us to carry
His truth to ev'ry land.**

**His strength within my weakness
Will make me bold to say
How His redeeming power
Transforms my stubborn clay;
His touch of fire ignites me,
With courage I am sent,
My tonguetied silence broken,
With grace made eloquent.**

**And not alone to nations
In faraway retreats,
But ev'rywhere I broadcast
His love through crowded streets:
The lives that my life touches,
However great or small
Let them through me see Jesus,
Who served and saved us all.**

**That ev'ryone He chooses,
For reasons of His own,
Will find in Christ his calling
To live His love alone.
His presence always leads us
Till time no more shall be;
Christ's strength, His love, His comfort
Give us His victory.**

Stand

**Lord, gather all Your children,
Wherever they may be,
And lead them on to heaven
To live eternally
With You, our loving Father,
And Christ, our brother dear,
Whose Spirit guards and gives us
The joy to persevere.**

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 124:8; Isaiah 2:3, 5*

Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD,
**that He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His
paths.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

O almighty God, merciful Father,
**I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and
iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly
deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am
heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them,**

and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.

Amen.

WORD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS...Glory to God in the Highest LSB 187
Glory be to God on high:

and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men.

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord our God, by Your Word and Spirit You create for Yourself a people after Your own heart.

Impart to us a clean heart filled with Your love that we may constantly desire to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MEMORIZED WORD

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, Ephesians 2:19-20

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 30:15–20*

¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

**Fear the LORD, * you His saints,
for those who fear Him lack * nothing!**

**Many are the afflictions of the * righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out * of them all.**

EPISTLE *Philemon 1–21*

¹Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ²and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, ⁶and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— ¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹²I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. ¹⁵For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Galatians 6:14*

Alleluia. Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 14:25–35*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁵Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple. ³⁴“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

LSB 844

**Lord of All Nations, grant me grace
To love all people, every race;
And in each person may I see
My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.**

**Break down the wall that would divide
Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.
My neighbor's good let me pursue;
Let Christian love bind warm and true.**

**Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred
By loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do
Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.**

**Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak
Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I my self the victim be,
Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee.**

**With Thine own love may I be filled
And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where'er I be,
May be divinely touched by Thee.**

SERMON

APOSTLE'S 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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY LSB 192

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen**

COMPASS STAFF INSTALLATION

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

All praise, honor, and worship be to You, O God our Father, for by Your Law You have revealed to the world Your salvation from all sin and death. Help us to follow in His way to joyfully choose His life by means of His truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant that Your glorious Word and will of divine Law and Gospel be preached to the conversion, life, and joy of all throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give all who preach, minister, and serve in Your Holy Church boldness and clarity of mind and spirit to rightfully proclaim Your whole Law and Your glorious Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

By Your Word and Spirit cause all who hear to have true repentance of their sins and true faith to grow in love toward You and their neighbors, and to purposely choose Your way of life daily in all their ways and deeds. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Guide our nation and our elected leaders in the ways of justice, peace, and the promotion of lives pleasing to You. Preserve and bless all who serve to preserve peace, safety, and health in our community. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Comfort and bring healing to all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity, [*especially* . . .]. Give strength and the will to persevere to all who suffer any persecution for the faith. Help all to whom death draws near with the peace of a confident faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

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.

BENEDICAMUS (*Sung*)

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION (*Sung*)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen.

HYMN "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake *LSB 688*

"Come, follow Me," the Savior spake,

"All in My way abiding;

Deny yourselves, the world forsake,

Obey My call and guiding.

O bear the cross, whate'er betide,

Take my example for your guide.

"I am the Light, I light the way,

A godly life displaying;

I bid you walk as in the day;

I keep your feet from straying.

I am the way, and well I show

How you must sojourn here below.

"My heart abounds in lowliness,

My soul with love is glowing;

And gracious words My lips express,

With meekness overflowing.

My heart, My mind, My strength, My all,

To God I yield, on Him I call.

"I teach you how to shun and flee

What harms your soul's salvation,

Your heart from ev'ry guile to free,

From sin and its temptation.

I am the refuge of the soul

And lead you to your heav'nly goal."

**Then let us follow Christ, our Lord,
And take the cross appointed
And, firmly clinging to His Word,
In suff'ring be undaunted.
For those who bear the battle's strain
The crown of heav'nly life obtain.**

Preacher	Pastor Michael Tanney
Liturgist	Pastor Michael Tanney
Lector	Pastor Michael Tanney
Elders	Al Bohannon & Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	William Gebhart and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Pastor Michael Tanney
Acolytes	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Greeter	Roger Schmidt
Worship Screen	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Bible Class	Pastor Michael Tanney

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Announcements

Saved to Share Called to Care

Our Response to God's Love Last Week

Attendance Sunday: 55

Communion: 42

Offering: \$1,429.00

CHRIST MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH invites you to attend Joesph and the Amazing Technicolor dreamcoat. Performance will be held on September 16,17,23, and 24 @ 7:30pm and September 18 and 25 @ 2:30pm at 5252 S. Lindberg Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63126. All seating is reserved. Tickets for children will range in price from \$5-\$15 and tickets for those 13 and older will be \$10-\$20. Tickets may be purchased online at CMPShows.org beginning August 6th @ 10am. Visit their website or email Tickets@CMPShows.org for additional information.

CFNA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Please join us in sharing Christ's love! Whether helping to sort or deliver donated items, taking someone to the grocery store or appointment, assisting International Institute with meeting families at the airport and helping take them to their hotel, etc., we have many opportunities for volunteers to serve the newly arriving Afghan families and other refugees. And we continue to welcome volunteers in our program ministries, including After School Tutoring, Adult ESL, Driving Lessons, Health and Wellness screenings, Sewing classes, and more. Interested? Questions? Please contact Gary Schaefer at gschaefer@cfna-stl.org complete/submit a Volunteer Recruitment Form online.

COMPASS is looking for staff for the aftercare program. If you are interested in working with children, contact Veronica McCowan at 314-399-2883 or Veronica.McCowan@compassedprograms.org

VOTER'S MEETING will be next Sunday, September 11th, at 11:30am after Bible Class

BRATWURST DINNER will be held by the St. Lucas Men's Club on Sunday, September 25th from 11am-2pm in the St. Lucas Gym (7100 Morganford Rd). Carry outs will be available at 10:30am on the Morganford side of the church. The cost for adult advanced tickets is \$10 or \$12 at the door. Children 5 to 12 cost \$5 and Children under 5 eat free. For advanced tickets, call Dennis at 314-974-5225 or Art at 314-776-3336

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY for young adults between the ages of 18-30. The Bible Study will run from 5:30pm-7:30pm, and will include a pizza dinner (provided by St. Johns). Our next date will be September 10th. If interested, please send an email to stjohnslcstl@gmail.com to be added to the GroupMe.

We will be starting a new series that is called "Connections" and our first topic is called "Knowing God".

OPEN TEACHER POSITIONS - WORD OF LIFE

Substitute Teachers and Substitute Aides

Word of Life is looking for individuals who are willing to substitute teach in our classrooms. Applicants are able to designate grade level preferences. We are also in need of aides who might substitute for the aides in our preschool classrooms. Responsibilities include assisting the teacher with supervision and classroom activities. Our teachers are very supportive and do an excellent job of preparing lesson plans that are easy to follow. Interested candidates can contact Principal, Melissa Bergholt at 314-832-1244 or mbergholt@wordoflifeschool.net.

DRIVERS NEEDED Sun Valley Adult Care Center (4365 Chippewa) is in need of drivers. If interested, call them at 314-354-6121.

WORD OF LIFE RESTAURANT NIGHT for September will be at St. Louis Bread Co (6607 Chippewa) on Thursday, September 15th from 4pm-8pm. The flyer will need to be presented (either paper or digital) at checkout. You can order online but you need to enter the promo code (FUND4U) that is listed on the flyer for WOL to get credit for the sale.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY On Sunday, September 18th, we will be celebrating Back To Church Sunday. We encourage you to join us on this Sunday, as well as inviting your friends and others to come back to church and worship with us.

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions –For our Back To Church celebration on September 18th; **Dennis Solomon** for healing of his vocal cords and is in hospice; **Carmen Hobson** for stomach surgery; **Bobbie** who is in the hospital; **Don Osiek** for strength in his legs to keep him from falling; **John Benwell** as he looks for a job; **Compass Staff & Volunteers** as they navigate this new year; **Our Vicars** who serve the Nepali church **Shut Ins** – Bobbie Kepford, Dennis Solomon, Jerry Schmaltz, Steve Bain, Maureen Rehmer, Eileen Wehrheim, Don Osiek

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week

September 4-September 11

Sunday	9:00am Worship (Compass Staff Installation) 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship
Monday	Office Closed NO Compass NO Counseling in Nursery
Tuesday	8am-12pm Office Open 3pm-6pm Compass 6pm Seminary Students
Wednesday	8am-12pm Office Open 3pm-6pm Compass 3:45pm Compass Chapel
Thursday	8am-12pm Office Open 2pm Ridgewood Apartments Bible Study 3pm-6pm Compass
Friday	8am-12pm Office Open 8am Bible Study 8am-3pm Counseling in Nursery 2pm-6pm Compass
Saturday	8:30am Food Pantry 2pm Vicar Meeting 5:30pm-7:30pm Young Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship 11:30am Voter's Meeting 12:30pm African Worship