# ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST MEANINGFUL MINISTRY: FEAR NOT, FOR THE LORD IS WITH YOU



Pastor Zietlow's Sermon: 2 Timothy 4:7,8 "What Do Christians Say When Death Is At Their Door?"

# WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We pray that you find comfort, peace, and motivation through God's Word today. In our worship bulletin, you will find an outline of **today's order of worship**. The entire service can be found in the hymnal, up on the screen on Sunday at St. John's and Emmanuel and livestreamed at <a href="www.stjohnsmontello.org">www.stjohnsmontello.org</a> and also at St. John's in the Lower Level. At St. John's, the **restrooms** are located in the link way, out the church entry way, to the left and down the stairs. At Emmanuel, they are located in the Parish Hall. You may also find a **nursery changing station** in the lower level of St. John's.

# ST. JOHN'S & EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCHES-WELS

August 3 & 4, 2024

Emmanuel: Sun. 8:00am

St. John's: Sat. 4:30pm & Sun. 10:00am

#### **MEANINGFUL MINISTRY**

"Ministry" is one of those churchy words that is often used, yet perhaps not fully understood. Ministry comes from the Latin word for "service." Ministry involves serving others with love, compassion, and empathy. Helping someone with physical needs is sometimes called "compassion ministry." Helping someone with their spiritual needs, sharing the good news of Christ, is generally called "gospel ministry." We misunderstand ministry if we think of it as something only ministers do. While pastors are called to perform gospel ministry on behalf of others, ultimately every believer is called by God to reflect Christ-like love and share the message of salvation as God provides those opportunities.

#### FEAR NOT, FOR THE LORD IS WITH YOU

Shortly before he ascended, Jesus told his followers they were to engage in meaningful ministry—to work their way through the world, sharing the good news of salvation. Our loving Lord knew that was a big and often intimidating task. So, his next words were a promise. "Surely I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20). God's people still need to hear that promise. For several weeks, we have been discussing the reality that the Lord of the Church has called all believers to meaningful ministry. Ministry will come with challenges. It can cause fears to arise: the fear of rejection, the fear of inadequacy, the fear of persecution. So, listen again to your Savior. "I am with you always." We conclude our series on meaningful ministry empowered by that gracious promise.

ORDER OF SERVICE: Setting One, pp. 154-164, 171

**HYMNS:** 820, 803, 549

**PSALM:** 46 "The LORD Almighty Is With Us"

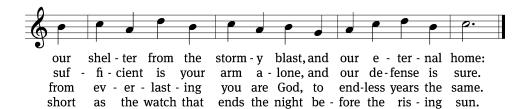
SERMON: 2 Timothy 4:7,8 "What Do Christians Say When Death Is At Their

Door?"

OPENING HYMN: 820 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"



- 1 O God, our help in a ges past, our hope for years to come
- 2 Un der the shad-ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se cure;
- 3 Be fore the hills in or der stood or earth re ceived its frame,
- 4 A thou-sand a ges in your sight are like an eve ning gone,



- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away; we fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt. Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727 Text and tune: Public domain

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

#### Amen.

CONFESSION CW 155

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

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



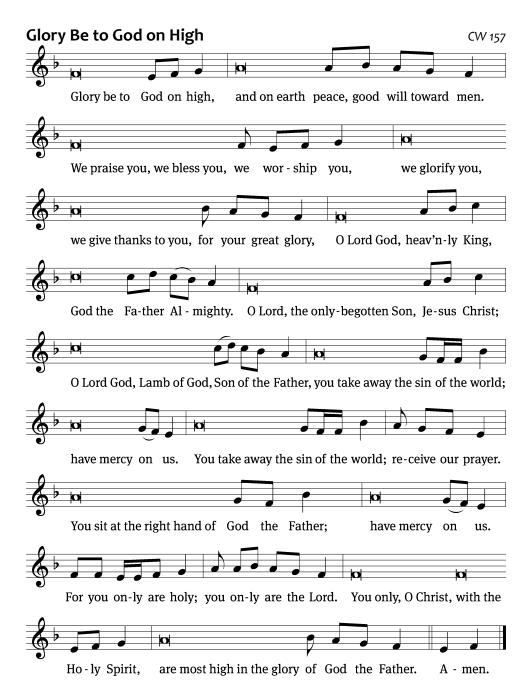
For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



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#### **THE WORD**

The Lord be with you.

# And also with you.

# **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, the protector of all who trust in you, strengthen our faith, and give us courage to believe that in your love you will rescue us from all adversities; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Amen.

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 6:8-17

(Elisha's ministry had resulted in Elisha and his servant being surrounded by an enemy army. But they didn't need to fear, for the LORD and his mighty army of angels were with them.)

<sup>8</sup>Now the king of Aram was at war with Israel. After conferring with his officers, he said, "I will set up my camp in such and such a place." <sup>9</sup>The man of God sent word to the king of Israel: "Beware of passing that place, because the Arameans are going down there." <sup>10</sup>So the king of Israel checked on the place indicated by the man of God. Time and again Elisha warned the king, so that he was on his guard in such places. <sup>11</sup>This enraged the king of Aram. He summoned his officers and demanded of them, "Tell me! Which of us is on the side of the king of Israel?" 12"None of us, my lord the king," said one of his officers, "but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom." 13"Go, find out where he is," the king ordered, "so I can send men and capture him." The report came back: "He is in Dothan." <sup>14</sup>Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city. 15When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked. 16"Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them." <sup>17</sup>And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see." Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

# PSALM: 46 "The LORD Almighty Is With Us"







Tone



God is our ref- / uge and strength,

an ever-present help in / trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the / earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart / of the sea.

though its waters / roar and foam

and the mountains quake with their / surging. Refrain

There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- / y of God, the holy place where the Most / High dwells.

God is within her, she / will not fall;

God will help her at / break of day.

"Be still, and know that / I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted / in the earth."

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be-/ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

Tune: Dale A. Witte Setting: Dale A. Witte

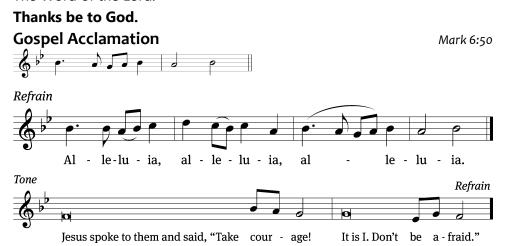
Music: © 2021 Dale A. Witte, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 722228

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18 (Sermon Text Underlined)

(Paul knows that soon he will be executed for performing gospel ministry. Yet he is not afraid, for he knows the Lord Jesus has always been by his side.)

<sup>6</sup>For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. <sup>16</sup>At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.



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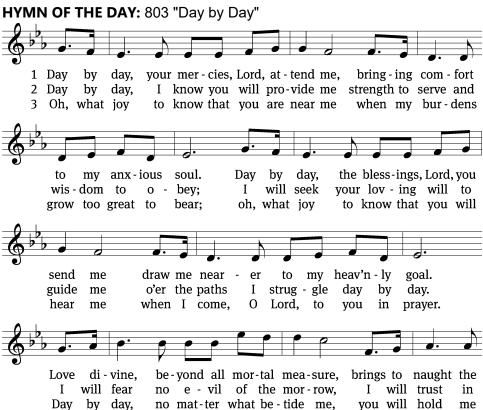
**GOSPEL READING: Mark 6:45-56** 

(Before engaging in ministry at Gennesaret, Jesus comes to the disciples, dispelling their fears with his comforting and powerful presence.)

<sup>45</sup>Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup>After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. <sup>47</sup>Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. <sup>48</sup>He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was

about to pass by them, <sup>49</sup>but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, <sup>50</sup>because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." <sup>51</sup>Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, <sup>52</sup>for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened. <sup>53</sup>When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. <sup>54</sup>As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. <sup>55</sup>They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed. The Gospel of the Lord.

# Praise be to you, O Christ!





Tune: Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882

Text: © 1992 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 722228

Tune: Public domain

**SERMON**: 2 Timothy 4:7,8 "What Do Christians Say When Death Is At Their Door?" **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:

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

# Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

# Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

### Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

# Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

# Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence. Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

# Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

#### Amen.

#### INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

**OFFERING, CARE CARDS, FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS & ALTAR PRAYER** (Sunday at Emmanuel & St. John's: WELS Promo Video: "I am the Bread of Life" shown during the offering collection)

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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**

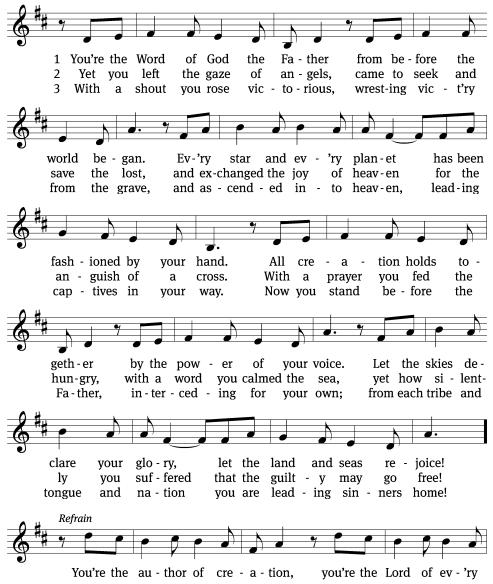
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

#### Amen.







man, and your cry of love rings out a-cross the lands.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

# Sunday at Emmanuel & St. John's: WELS Connection Video

#### THEME FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost--

# I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE: SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR THOSE FOCUSED ON THE EARTHLY Acknowledgments

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## **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

- For the sick and others facing trials, including: Gale "Blackie" Boyd, Mike Brown, Bob Buehrens, Vicki Davis (Marilyn Riemer's sister), Agnes Dassow, Edith Duesterhoeft, Don Ebert, Kaye Edwards (Mark Emond's friend), Ken Elmer (Sally's husband), Earl Ewert, Judy Fandrey, Bob & Christine Ferber, John Gaedke (Dan Finger's uncle), Donna Gatzke, Dennis Gray (Mary Dahlke's brother), Kelleen Grucza, Kim Hanko (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Randy Hardell, Del & Jean Henke, LuAnn Hoffman-Reber (Barb Hoffman's step-daughter), Jerry & Darlene Hunter (Bonnie Chapman's parents), Xzander Jahr, Kris Kemp (Diane Hintz' daughter), Dale Kozlowski, Emily Krueger, Jeff Krueger (Diane Hintz's son), Jacob Kwit (Suzie Weber's son), Lucy Laun, Darren Marceau, Ken McKenzie (Mark Emond's friend), Julie Moran, Kathy Ninneman, Ken Pabelick, Debbie & Steve Parrish, Milo Petrick, Sharon Priewe, Melissa Prater, Sharon Priewe, Karen Radke, Marilyn Riemer, Roxanne Schmanke, Ashley Schroeder, Eloise Schultz, Lynn Sellnow, Bob Sluga (Sherry's husband), DuWayne Sommerfeld, Amanda Stalker, Tom Stempniak (Carol's husband), Pastor Josh Stibb (Evie Blada's grandson), DuWayne Sommerfeld, Billy & Gloria Tucker, James & Suzanne Weber, Paul Weldon, Tama Zuehls (Zeb's mother) (added this week: )

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This Week: August 4-10, 2024				
	6:30 p.m.	CALA Meeting Princeton		
Saturday	4:30 p.m.	SJ Worship with Communion		

Next Sunday: August 11, 2024			
8:00 a.m.	Emmanuel Worship with Communion		
10:00 a.m.	St. John's Worship with Communion		
11:15 a.m.	Evangelism Meeting SJ		

Attendance				
Date	EM	SJ		
7/27/2	24 -	18		
7/28/2	24 53	102		

Total June	Budget	June	Year to Date	Year to
Offerings	Needs	Expenses	Offerings	Date
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\$19230.45	\$33939.58	\$33595.40	\$163646.32	\$338522.09

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **2 Corinthians 9:7** 

St. John's	Usher's Schedule	
Saturday, Aug. 3 Sunday, Aug. 4	Saturday, Aug. 10 Sunday, Aug. 11	
Paul Van Treeck	Jerre Duerr	
Matt Borzick	Joe Zauner	
Ken Borzick	Gordon Krause	
James Henke	Kevin Kaul	
Haiden Van Treeck	Corey Kaul	
Nolan Van Treeck		
Brody Henke		
Milo Henke		

St. John's Summer Office Hours:

CLOSED: Monday and Tuesday

OPEN:

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
9:00am - 2:00pm

TEACHER INSTALLATIONS Sunday 8/18 10:00a.m. at St. John's--Montello: Mrs. Lynn Sellnow as Little Lambs director/teacher - Sunday 8/18 9:30a.m. at St. John's--Princeton: Mrs Elizabeth Wolter as CALA Kindergarten teacher. Card baskets will be placed in the entries of both churches. Please consider a card or gift to show your appreciation for our newly-installed teachers.



#### PRAYING DANGEROUSLY IN AFRICA

Have you ever heard people use the phrase, "Pray dangerously?" It means to ask God for things that he will almost certainly grant, but that will also probably mean challenging times for the person praying.

For example, you could pray each day that God would bring challenges into your life so that you would be drawn closer to him. You could pray each day that God would you give an opportunity to witness about Jesus with somebody. These could be considered "dangerous" requests because God will likely grant those requests, but it might mean hard or uncomfortable times for us. In the outreach group for the One Africa Team, we often pray the prayer, "Lord, present us with more opportunities to reach more people with your gospel in Africa." You could call that a dangerous prayer. What if God actually granted that request? What would we do with all the opportunities?

By God's grace, that's exactly the position we are finding ourselves in. We find ourselves high in opportunities and low in the ability to take advantage of them all in the way we would like. In addition to the eight partners we're already in fellowship with in Africa, we are currently actively working towards fellowship with another eight church bodies! These are located in Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (two church bodies there), Liberia, Benin, Burkina Faso, and Ethiopia (two church bodies here, different from the Lutheran Church of Ethiopia). We are also offering support to two of our sister churches as they reach out to establish fellowship with other churches in their areas. In addition, at any given time we usually have around 40 individuals who come into contact with us online that we are trying to get to know better to see if we can work together in gospel ministry. Finally, many of the churches and contacts we are beginning to work with are in countries where the predominant language is French, so we find ourselves in need of more people who are capable in this language.

Admittedly, these are great challenges for us to have to face! We thank God for his grace in leading us to all these opportunities. Now we ask that he also give us the capacity to overcome the challenges facing us. Please join your prayers to ours about these things! Pray that God would send us more workers to fill the three empty positions on our team. Pray that we can excel in language learning so that we can better communicate the truths of the gospel in different countries. Pray that these new groups would have a love for the pure word of God and that we would find ourselves in agreement with them on doctrine so that we can work together for the sake of the gospel. And yes, pray that we would have even more opportunities for gospel outreach in the future! It may be a "dangerous" prayer, but is one filled with God's blessing! Written by Rev. Ben Foxen, world missionary in Lusaka, Zambia.

https://wels.net/praying-dangerously-in-africa/



St. John's is looking for volunteers to help in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays during the upcoming School year! Hours needed to be covered are 7:30am to 3:30pm. For more information please contact Matthew Kath: scsecretary@stjohnsmontello.org or Jerre Duerr: Jerre.asc@gmail.com

What is your favorite hymn? Would you like to sing it in Church? Please write your favorite hymn in the Friendship Register and we will use them in our upcoming Stewardship Series in late September and early October!!! (For Copyright reasons, please choose from the new blue hymnal)

# Help us stay in touch!

Scan the code below using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information. Don't have a smartphone? That's ok! Fill out an attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate located at the entry of each church.



# Welcome to our visitors! Find & Like us on Facebook

Visit our website: www.stjohnsmontello.org

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Email: principal@christalonelutheranacademy.net

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