

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



Saint John Lutheran Church

Hattiesburg, Mississippi

October 18, 2020

Welcome!

"How great is the Love the Father has lavished on us!" (1 John 3:1).

We are thankful that you are joining in the worship of the people of God this day. Ushers at the door are glad to assist you at any time.

- Please check that cell phones are silenced.
- Restrooms are located down the bell tower hallway to the right towards the fellowship hall and on the right in the lobby.
- Prayer requests may be written on the white cards in the pew rack and given to an usher before worship begins, or as you leave.
- A nursery is available to parents as needed, past the double wooden doors on the left.
- Activity bags to help keep young children occupied during the message are provided in the back-right corner of the sanctuary.

About the Offering

An offering is gathered today during the worship service. Here the people of God bring their tithes and sacrificial offerings as an expression of their discipleship, and for the continuation of Jesus' mission work, both in this community and to the ends of the earth. Guests are not expected to bring financial gifts, but are welcome to join the congregation in offering their prayers and praises.

About Holy Communion

Today we celebrate Holy Communion. In this, we remember that the divine is united with the created as one in the person of Jesus.

This altar is the Lord's table. Here all are welcome who acknowledge their need for a Savior, and look to Jesus. We believe what he simply says about the bread – "This is my body, given for you." – and about the wine – "This is my blood, shed for you." Thus, the Lord Jesus is truly present for his redeemed people in this holy meal. In this we retain the divine mystery in the midst of his ordinary creation. From the many seeds of wheat come one loaf. From the many grapes are pressed one cup. His many diverse people constitute one body and community of faith.

Young children are welcome to this altar to receive a blessing, as are those who have not been instructed in the Christian faith. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest or by simply asking for a blessing.

The individual communion cups in the center of the tray have white grape juice for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.

We are imperfect people and we live in an imperfect world. We are all in this together. So when we believe or act wrongly towards someone, or when we feel that another has wronged us, we commit ourselves to the humble teaching and forgiving pattern of Jesus in Matthew 18.

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

+ GATHERING +

Prayer as We Begin — *Please remain seated.*

C Heavenly Father, as we come before you this morning in Jesus' name, we pray all that we say and do in our worship will give you glory. Help us, Lord, to focus our thoughts on you, so your Word will find fertile ground in our minds and hearts. May the worship service today accomplish in us the purpose you desire. Amen.

Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

LSB 782

1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings
Stand 4 Heav'n - ly Fa - ther, may our car - ing

New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies
Bear the im - print of Your grace; With the Son and

nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.
Ho - ly Spir - it, Praise be Yours in ev - 'ry place!

Refrain

Lord, we pray that we, Your peo - ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,
Through the shar - ing of Your bless - ings May bring glo - ry to Your name.

Invocation, Confession, and Absolution.

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

C Amen.

L If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We keep silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

L Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

L Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of Christ and by his authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Apostles' Creed

L This is the faith into which we've been baptized and by which we live:

C **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.**

Salutation and Collect Prayer

L The LORD be with you.

C And also with you.

L We pray together...

C **O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us, that with You as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

+ WORD +

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 45:1-7

L *The Old Testament Reading for the Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost is from Isaiah, chapter 45. God chooses Cyrus the Great — king of Persia (559-530 BC), who conquered Babylon in 539 and issued the decree allowing the Israelites to return to Jerusalem — to accomplish his righteous purposes. The sovereign Lord, creator of heaven and earth, anoints this pagan conqueror and calls him by name.*

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed:

²"I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things."

L This is the Word of the LORD.

G Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

L *The Epistle is from First Thessalonians, chapter one. On account of persecution, Saint Paul writes his first letter to the Thessalonian Christians, likely in the year 51 AD, which makes it one of Paul's earliest epistles. The hub city of Thessalonica was located on the important Egnatian Way, a busy seaport, and the capital of the Roman province of Macedonia. It's population numbered about 200,000 people.*

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

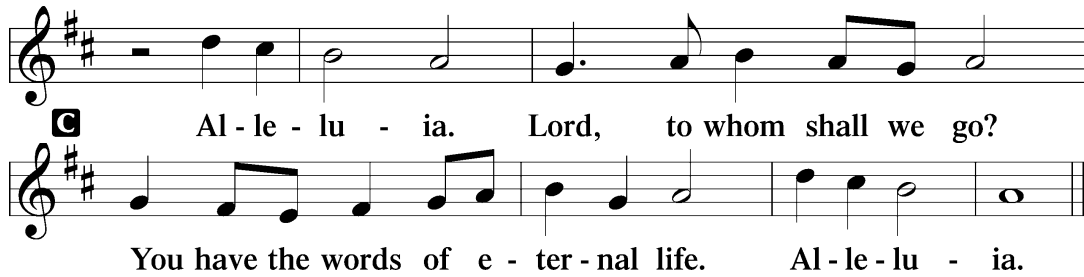
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

L This is the Word of the LORD.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse — *Please stand.*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

L The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

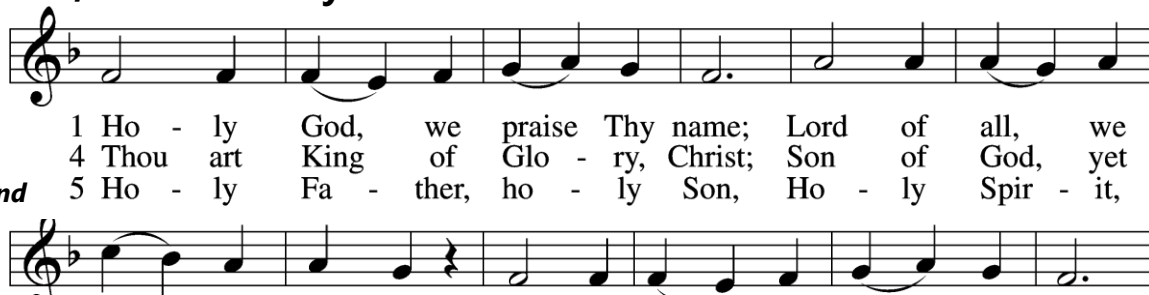
L This is the Gospel of the LORD.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

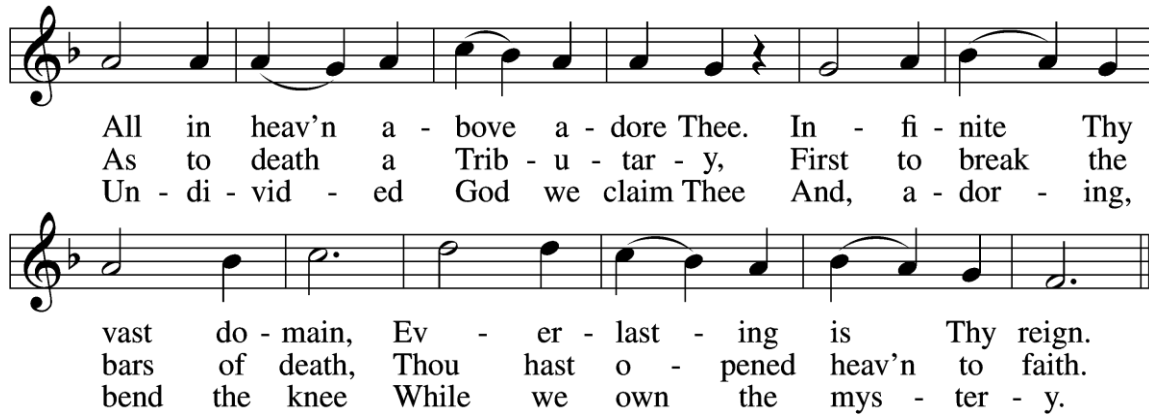
Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

LSB 940



1 Ho - ly God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we
 4 Thou art King of Glo - ry, Christ; Son of God, yet
Stand 5 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,
 bow be - fore Thee. All on earth Thy scep - ter claim,
 born of Mar - y. For us sin - ners sac - ri - ficed,
 three we name Thee; Though in es - sence on - ly one,





All in heav'n a - bove a - dore Thee. In - fi - nite Thy
 As to death a Trib - u - tar - y, First to break the
 Un - di - vid - ed God we claim Thee And, a - dor - ing,
 vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign.
 bars of death, Thou hast o - pened heav'n to faith.
 bend the knee While we own the mys - ter - y.

The Message — Gotcha!

+ MEAL +

This is Christ's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast which he has prepared. In this meal we truly receive the body and blood of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. This is a great and divine mystery! Here we are joined with God and all the saints, and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Young children and those who would prefer to receive a blessing are welcome to come forward.

The individual communion cups in the center of the tray have white grape juice for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.

The Prayers of the Church and the Our Father — Please stand.

- ☐ 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.**

The Words of Institution

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Please be seated.

Congregational Hymn during Communion Distribution

We Give Thee But Thine Own

LSB 781

1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive
 3 Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,
 4 To com - fort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,
 All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
 And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!
 And lambs for whom the Shep-herd bled Are stray - ing from the fold.
 To tend the lone and fa - ther-less Is an - gels' work be - low.

5 The captive to release,
 To God the lost to bring,
 To teach the way of life and peace,
 It is a Christ-like thing.

6 And we believe Thy Word,
 Though dim our faith may be:
 Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
 We do it unto Thee.

+ SENDING +

Dismissal, Concluding Prayer, Benedicamus, and Blessing — *Please stand.*

L Let us bless the LORD.

G **Thanks be to God.**

L We speak the Romans 15 blessing to one another:

**May the God of HOPE
fill you with all JOY and PEACE
as you TRUST in him,
so that YOU may overflow with HOPE
by the POWER of the Holy Spirit.**

L 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 ✠ give you peace.

G **Amen**

Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go

LSB 854



1 Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go, My dai - ly
2 The task Thy wis - dom has as - signed, O let me
4 Give me to bear Thine eas - y yoke, And ev - 'ry



la - bor to pur - sue, Thee, on - ly Thee, re -
cheer - ful - ly ful - fill; In all my works Thy
mo - ment watch and pray, And still to things e -



solved to know In all I think or speak or do.
pres - ence find, And prove Thy good and per - fect will.
ter - nal look, And has - ten to Thy glo - rious day.

Take Home Announcements — Sunday, October 18, 2020

Serving the Lord Today

Pastor	John Karle 318.332.3352 johnkarle17@gmail.com
Organist	Jason Sims
Altar Guild	Pat Davenport and Shirley Thone

Sunday Bulletin Deadline:

Tuesday at 5pm

Altar Flowers: Wayland and Jane Johnson in Celebration of Family Birthdays.

Eternal Candle: Chris Keiper in Honor of her mother, Faye.

Scriptures for Next Sunday

Revelation 14:6-7

Romans 3:19-28

Matthew 11:12-19

Today's Theme

Creation is bathed in light and darkness, subject to chaos and order. But in all things, God calls, equips, creates, and makes things well. The culmination of His divine care is Jesus—the One whose Word unleashes pure Gospel, unmasks pharisaical deception, acknowledges secular authority, and yet infuses into mankind unrelenting hope, steadfast faith, and incredible mercy. Believers cling to these God-given things in the midst of all wrath and affliction, confident in salvation through Christ alone.

Birthdays

Cody Morales	October 18
Sierra Bentley	October 21
Bill Lowry	October 21
Cheryl Emmons	October 23
Patricia Shields	October 23
Tasha Lowry	October 25
Debbie Frederick	October 26
Van Lowry	October 26
Pat Davenport	October 27
Mark Keyl	October 27
Warner Boortz	October 29

Baptism Anniversaries

Julia Hagen	October 20
Alex Meyer	October 25
Robert Meyer	October 25
Bailey Walters	October 26
Lynn Umbdenstock	October 27
Jerry Frederick	October 28
Kerry Geroux	October 29

Wedding Anniversaries

Bill & Tasha Lowry, 21yrs	Oct. 23
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Live Streaming of Worship Services —

www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com.

Dig In Sunday School — Lessons posted weekly on YouTube. We will begin in classroom lessons on **NEXT SUNDAY** and will meet every two weeks.

Portals of Prayer for the Fourth Quarter are available at the lobby mailboxes.

Pastor's Coffee Hour — On Sunday, October 24th, enjoy coffee with pastor in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15 am. Shirley Thone's famous cookies will be served!

Kaffee Klatsch Restarts — We'll meet with proper precautions in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, November 11th at 1:30pm. For information please contact Darlene. We're so exciting to be gathering again!

Wear Something Red on Reformation — Next Sunday, October 25th.

Call Process Update TODAY — Please remain for a Call Process Update by Call Committee Chair Mark Keyl following the worship service.

Rita Lods Memorial Service TODAY — We welcome members of Rita Lods family, members of the community, and all who are a part of our fellowship in Christ to a memorial service at Saint John Hattiesburg today at 2pm in the church sanctuary.

Third Quarter Financial Update — A thank you letter and financial update is included with contribution statements for donors to the congregation's mission. These have been placed in the lobby mailboxes to save on postage.

BOD Meets Today — Tentatively at 7pm online. Note the time change.

THIS WEEK						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>9:15 Online</u> <u>Dig In Sunday</u> <u>School</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u> <u>2pm Rita Lods</u> <u>Memorial</u> <u>Service</u> <u>7pm BOD</u>	<u>12pm AA</u>	<u>12pm AA</u>	<u>10:02am</u> <u>Online Bible</u> <u>Study</u> <u>12pm AA</u> <u>6pm Fresh</u> <u>Hope</u>	<u>12pm AA Mtg</u>	<u>12pm AA</u>	<u>10am AA</u>

Parents of Nursery age children — If you plan to come to church on Sunday, communicate with Gabby ahead of time so we can insure someone will be there to take care of the children. Due to COVID some things will be changing and we will no longer have snack.

Technology Upgrades — We're thankful for those who have helped fund the vision for better worship technology. We received the cameras from new suppliers this week and they should be up and running this morning, along with a better internet interface to increase reliability while simplifying the process for those working in the tech booth. Special thanks to Cameron and Ethan for making this happen on a regular basis!

Wednesday West Hattiesburg Bible Study — Debbie Frederick leads this study on 2nd Timothy hosted in the home of Shirley Thone. Please contact either of them for directions. The gathering includes wearing masks, washing hands, and watching our physical distancing. This study meets on the first and third Wednesdays only. Meets next on Wednesday, November 4th.

Wednesday Online Bible Study at 10:02am — "The Word of the Lord Grows: Hardship, Suffering, and Sacrifice in the Acts of the Early Church" — Connect via the Zoom link emailed on Tuesday or via the Zoom link posted on Tuesday on the Saint John Hattiesburg Mission Partners Facebook Group.

Fresh Hope Online Group — Fresh Hope is a peer-led support group for those with mental illness. There are no restrictions . . . anyone struggling from mental health, or a loved one of someone who is, can join this group, which provides God's fresh hope for daily living. For more information on the meeting, please email Gil Emmons at madeofclay2020@gmail.com. For more information about the group, visit www.freshhope.us, or search on YouTube for, "Romans Road Channel".

About Tithes and Offerings — As followers of Jesus, we are convinced that the continuation of Christ's work — both in this place and to the ends of the earth — depends on each of our generosity of our life's passions, priorities, and provisions. As partners in Jesus' Gospel mission, we thankfully dedicate a part of our income to the Church's larger work. Financial tithes and offerings may be given on Sunday mornings during worship in the offering plate, via the regular mail, or online at the congregation's website by clicking on the 'Give' button. Thanks!

Special Offering for Southern District Hurricanes Laura and Sally Disaster Relief — We're collecting a special disaster relief offering to help recovery efforts taking place in our sister congregations from Hurricane Laura in Lake Charles and Hurricane Sally in Alabama and Florida. This includes our Southern District Youth Camp Dixie on the Alabama Gulf Coast. Special offering envelopes are on the offering plate table at the sanctuary entrance. Make your check payable to Saint John Lutheran Church and note "disaster relief" on the memo line. Donations may also be easily given through the congregation's 'Give' page at our church website. Choose the box marked for 'Disaster Relief.' 100% of your donation will be quickly forwarded to the Southern District for immediate use. Thank you!

Stinnetts in Ethiopia — The September newsletter for this missionary family supported through Oktoberfest efforts has arrived and is now available at the lobby mailboxes.

Prayers Needed			
Chris Thiel	Serving Stateside (S.C.)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	10/1/16
Kelly Thiel	Serving Stateside (N.C.)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	11/20/16
Cory Thiel	Serving Overseas/ Virus Test	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	12/4/16
Matt Geroux	Serving Overseas	Son of Kerry and Debbie Geroux	12/13/17
Scott Chaney	Serving Stateside	Member	5/6/18
Bailey Walters	Serving Overseas	Member	10/31/18
Darrin Torrey	Serving Stateside	SIL of Jerry & Helga Herrington	10/31/18
Bill Lowry	Serving Stateside	Member	4/15/19
Edward Curry	Cancer	Brother of Shelia Curry	2/11/18
John Krahlung	Recurring Cancer	Son of Joyce Coll	7/15/18
Dennis Smith	New Cancer; Chemo; COVID	Member	10/6/19
Eric Martin	Cancer	Member	10/6/19
Sharon Andrews and Rachelle Kemnits	Cancer	Sisters of Donna Blair	1/26/20
Doug Johnson	Cancer	Brother of Wayland Johnson	1/26/20
Monecia Smalley	Cancer	Friend of Elaine Kersh	7/30/20
Beverly Royals	Cancer, Chemotherapy	Grandmother of Gabby	7/30/20
Josie Nwachuku	Recovery from Cancer Surgery	Member	8/14/20
DuWayne Lemke	Lung Cancer	Brother of Shirley Thone	8/23/20
Richard Radavich	Health and Strength	Member	1/31/18
Lisa Case	Health and Strength	Member	12/2/18
Richard McLeroy	Health and Strength; COVID-19	Father of Lisa Case	5/19/19
Hortens McCullough	Health and Strength	Sister of Eric and Jean Martin	8/4/19
Toni Potesta	Fractured Foot and Ankle 6/28	Mother of Damian Potesta	6/30/20
Ellen Heck	Healing of Broken Ankle/Surgery	Member	7/13/20
Jerry Farris	Health and Strength	Cousin of Susan and Sandy	9/15/20
Tammy Aviles	Safety from Oregon fires	Cousin of Susan and Sandy	9/15/20
Karla Weiss	Recovery from spinal surgery	Member	10/9/20
Family of Rita Lods	Recently Died	Member	9/10/20
Fresh Hope Group	For sponsor and participants	Wednesday Evenings at 6pm	7/26/20
Campus Mission	For its advance and increase	For all students and educators	7/26/20
Pastoral Leadership	For wisdom, discernment, and courage	Transition and Calling of Next Pastor	7/26/20
Hurricane Laura & Sally Recovery	Resilience and Strength	For all Survivors and Helpers	8/27/20



Saint John Lutheran Church

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