MISSION FESTIVAL  
October 14, 2018  

HYMN - # 576 – Spread, Oh, Spread the Mighty Word  

INVOCATION  
M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: Amen. (spoken)  

LITANY  
M: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
C: Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.  
M: Darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the people, for every inclination of the thoughts of the heart is only evil all the time.  
C: And the soul that sins shall die.  
M: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.  
C: On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.  
M: The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.  
C: He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.  
M: Now in Christ Jesus we who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. He came and preached peace to us who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.  
C: For we are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of us who were baptized into Christ have clothed ourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for we are all one in Christ Jesus.  
M: He was slain, and with his blood he purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.  
C: He made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and we will reign on the earth.  
M: 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.  
C: In Christ we are built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.  
M: You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, 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.  
C: We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.  

Sing: (# 370 vv 4,5)  
Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe  
On this terrestrial ball  
To him all majesty ascribe  
And crown him Lord of all.  
C: We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.  

PRAYER OF THE DAY  
M: Lord of the church, you have prepared a heavenly banquet for all who dwell on earth—every nation, tribe, language, and people. Renew in us the one, true, and only faith through your eternal gospel and so cause your Holy Spirit to light our hearts on fire to reach the lost of every nation. Look with favor on your people, your pastors, and your missionaries that they may ever more faithfully proclaim your Word through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
C: Amen.
FIRST LESSON - Isaiah 49:1-6

PSALM OF THE DAY – Psalm 133-134 (p. 115)

SECOND LESSON - 2 Timothy 1:8-10; 2:1-2

JOINT SUNDAY SCHOOLS & CHOIRS – Mission Medley

GOSPEL – Matthew 28:16-20

HYMN - # 537 – Onward, Christian Soldiers

SERMON – Acts 1:8

MARCH OFF THE MAP!
1. March together as a Spirit-led Church
2. March together as a risk-taking Church
3. March together as a reproducing Church

APOSTLES CREED (p.19)

OFFERINGS

MISSION PRAYER
M: Loving God, we thank you for all the blessings you have showered on us. You sent your Son, our Lord Jesus, to live and die in our place that you could find cause to declare us forgiven and free from sin forever. In the company of the Church you joined us to Jesus in Holy Baptism, and by Word and meal your Spirit strengthens our faith and keeps us safe for eternal life.

C: Keep our faith in Christ strong, O Lord. Lead us to love your Word and sacraments.

M: In his great love for us, your Son commissioned us and all his followers to go and make disciples of all nations, to baptize and teach everything that he commanded. What an honor we have! What a privilege!

C: Thank you for calling us to share the gospel of Jesus with people nearby and far away.

M: We confess, O Lord, that we have not always taken your Son’s command seriously and personally. We have allowed other duties and pleasures to take priority over making disciples. We have brushed off the Savior’s commission and relied on others to do our work. Forgive all our sins, Lord, and especially the sin of failing to hear and heed your Son’s command.

C: Give us strength to stand firm against temptation and power to live as your disciples.

M: We are grateful that you have raised up men and women who are willing to help us carry out the Savior’s commission. We thank you for those in our congregation who proclaim the gospel on our behalf. We praise you for filling young men and women with the courage and enthusiasm to spend years in training and then go around the globe in our place.

C: Grant success to our work, O Lord, and lead many to believe in the Savior’s forgiveness.

M: Keep in your care, O Lord, all those who are sick and suffering distress. Comfort those who feel unloved, forgive those bowed down with guilt, open the eyes of those nearing death to see the gates of heaven. According to your will, prosper our economy that we may continue to bring our best offerings for the ministry of the gospel. Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent Prayer

M: Keep in your care our dear Synod and all with whom we share a common allegiance to your Word. Keep your Word pure among us, give us purpose as we proclaim the gospel across the world, and free us from whatever burdens weigh us down and limit our work. Fire us with the power of your Spirit, unite us in love, and lead us to long for that day when we will share with all the saints and angels the glory that shines in the throne room of the Lamb.

C: Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN - # 560 – I Hear the Savior Calling

PRAYER

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of
Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

JOINT CHOIR – We All Are One In Mission

BLESSING
M: 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.
C: Amen.

HYMN - # 562 – I Love to Tell the Story

HEARING GOD'S WORD
Trinity: 58   St. John’s: 66

OFFERINGS TO OUR LORD
Trinity: $1,405.75   St. John's: $2,483.00

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE
Sunday: 9:00 AM – Sunday School Classes – St. John's
       9:30 AM – Joint Choir & Sunday School Practice – St. John’s
       10:00 AM – Joint Mission Festival Service at St. John’s
          Followed by Potluck Meal
Wednesday: 9:30 AM – Bible Study – Janesville Nursing Home
          6:30 PM – Catechism Class at St. John’s
Thursday: 1:30 PM – Dorcas Society Meeting – Trinity
          7:00 PM – Fellowship Club at Trinity
Next Sunday: 8:30 AM - Worship with Holy Communion – Trinity
            9:00 AM – Sunday School Classes – St. John’s
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            10:00 AM – Worship with Holy Communion - St John’s
            11:00 AM – Open Forum – St. John’s

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church
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Phone: 234-5353
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Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
Smiths Mill, MN
Phone: 234-5547

Members of WELS
Pastor Keith J. Bilitz  Phone: 382-8625

**Announcements:**

We welcome everyone to our Joint Mission Festival Service. Please put your church name on your offering envelope. A potluck meal will follow the service; please join us for good food and fellowship. We thank everyone for bringing food and/or serving. Ladies’ Aid group I is in charge.

Thank you to our Joint Choir and Sunday Schools, to Joel Berg and Pastor Blitz for playing guitar, to Marlys Roehmildt for accompanying, and to LeAnn Marzinske for playing the organ.

Our morning Bible Study will not meet today at St. John’s nor on Tuesday at Trinity. Classes will resume on November 4th and 6th.

Catechism class will resume on Wednesday at 6:30 pm at St. John’s.

Trinity’s Dorcas Society will meet at 1:30 pm this Thursday. All ladies are welcome to their devotion, topic, and business meeting.

Our Join Fellowship Club will meet at Trinity on Thursday at 7 pm. Everyone is invited to our devotion, snacks and game.

Holy Communion will be offered in our services next Sunday.

St. John’s will have an Open Forum next week following our service. All are invited and encouraged to share their thoughts about items that will be brought up at our Quarterly Voters’ Meeting on October 28th.

We thank St. John’s Ladies Aid for the new banner holder made by Rick Krautbauer and stained by Pam Oliver.

October calendars and new *Forward in Christ* magazines are available.

St. John’s ladies are asked to please complete cleaning the church by November 15th. Check lists for cleaning can be found in the kitchen and entryway.

Bethany Lutheran College will have Reformation Vespers with the Concert Choir on Thursday, October 25th, at 4:30 pm in Trinity Chapel.

The LWMS Fall Rally will be on Saturday, October 27th, at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Sleepy Eye. 8:00-8:45 am – Coffee hour; 9:00-12:30 – Rally presentations; 12:30 – Lunch and Fellowship. Speaker of the day will be Shelly Sievert telling us of her recent trip to Africa and the Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM). St. John’s is handicap accessible and childcare will be provided.

The 4th annual Men of His Word Conference will be held at the Kahler Hotel and Conference Center in Rochester, MN on Saturday, October 27th. Please go online: www.menofhisword.org to register and for details about schedule, breakout sessions, keynote speaker, cost. Hope to see you there!

The Joint Reformation Service of the Mankato and River Valley Conferences is October 28th at 3:00 pm in the Chapel of the Christ at Martin Luther College.

Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, has two Faculty openings: in Computer Science and in Engineering. Please see the bulletin board for more information.

**Prayer List:** Vern Flitter (undergoing rehab at Pathstone) and Pastor Del Begalka (undergoing a procedure in Rochester on Tuesday)
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