

Old Testament Reading:
Ecclesiastes 5:10–20

¹⁰He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. ¹¹When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? ¹²Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

¹³There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, ¹⁴and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. ¹⁵As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. ¹⁶This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? ¹⁷Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger.

¹⁸Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. ¹⁹Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. ²⁰For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

Epistle: Hebrews 4:1–13

¹Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. ²For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. ³For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said,

“As I swore in my wrath,
“They shall not enter my rest,”

although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all his works.” ⁵And again in this passage he said,

“They shall not enter my rest.”

⁶Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, ⁷again he appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted,

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts.”

⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. ⁹So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

¹¹Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. ¹²For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

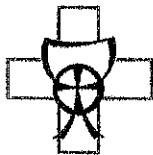
Holy Gospel: Mark 10:23–31

²³Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.” ²⁸Peter began to say to him, “See, we have left everything and followed you.” ²⁹Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

All things are possible with God



About the Cover: Following the encounter with the rich young man, Jesus presents just how difficult it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God because of the temptation to place faith in worldly possessions. “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God” (Mark 10:27). How these true words endure as Jesus stands risen from the dead! Christ's resurrection is God accomplishing what was impossible for man: life eternal. He has accomplished it for us to bring us into His kingdom by the forgiveness of sins.



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH SAUERS

1108 S County Rd 460 E, Seymour, Indiana 47274

Rev. Craig Muhlbach

Church Office: 812-523-3131

Church Web address: www.stjohnsauers.org

School Web address: www.sauerslutherschool.org

Facebook: St. John's Sauers Lutheran Church

Sunday School/Adult Bible Class

8:30AM

Divine Service

9:30AM



In Our Prayers:

For our Shut-ins: Don Hoeverer, Paul McMahon,

Joyce Sterling, Phyllis Lambring, John & Patty Surenkamp, Leroy Lambring, Carla Miller, Milton Stuckwisch, Ann Hoeverer, Curt Benter.

For Illness/Healing: Jim Reedy, Richard Bane, Allen Holle, Mark O'Mara, Victor Schneider, Robert & Wilma Rieckers, Raymond Tormoehlen, Mary Wehrkamp, Stan Steinkamp, Mary Everheart (friend of Parke Hackman), Hudson Hoffman (great-nephew of Gina Hackman), John Surenkamp, Mick Reedy, Paul Darlage, Mike & Rosa Stuckwisch, Matt & Crystle Stuckwisch & Family.

Celebrating: The family of Parker Schafstall on her baptism this morning, Tyler & Carlyn on the birth of their daughter, Emersyn Louise Reedy

Mourning: The family of Bill Benter on his passing.

October 17, 2021

Opening Hymn	LSB 592
Rite of Baptism	p. 268
Entrance Hymn	LSB 594
Readings & Responsory	p. 221
Hymn of the Day	LSB 690
Offertory	LSB 941
Closing Hymn	LSB 850
Acolyte:	Luke Schepman
Acolyte for Next Sunday, October 24 th :	Matthew Rothert
Organist:	Mr. Ross Rieckers

Te Deum

The Voter's Meeting has been rescheduled for next Sunday, October 24th, following the worship service.



This Week's Schedule:

Today: +8:30am Sunday School/Adult Bible Class
Topic: Enjoying God's Blessing & Promises cont'd

+9:30am Divine Service

Mon-Tues: +Pastor Fall Conference

Tuesday: +7:00pm Midweek Bible Study
Topic: God, Man, and Sin

Wednesday: +8:30am Chapel
+6:00pm Handbell Choir
+8:00pm Public School Confirmation Class

Thursday: +7:00pm Pre-Marital

Next Sun: +8:30am Sunday School/Adult Bible Class
Topic: Not Turning Back from this Wonderful Inheritance

+9:30am Divine Service w/ Holy Communion
+Following Svc. Voter's Meeting

Please contact Holly Sawyer sjsoffice.hsawyer@gmail.com at the Church/School office for:

- ❖ Flowers on the altar;
- ❖ School Rental (rental fee \$50.00);
- ❖ Bulletin Announcements: Deadline-Friday 8:00am

	Date: 10/10/2021
Envelopes/Loose	\$7,113.87
Total	\$7,113.87
Total Tithes/Gifts to Date	\$379,909.73
Line of Credit	0.00

Proper 24 - Mark 10:29-30 – "Jesus said, 'Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.'" This is Jesus' encouragement for every faithful disciple. Let it encourage you today.



October Church calendar correction: Trunk or Treat will be held on Thursday, October 28th from 6-8pm, not Friday, October 29th. Please make this correction on your calendar.

Our annual Trunk or Treat event is coming up on Thursday, October 28th from 6-8pm. Kids & adults of all ages are welcome to come out, decorate your vehicles, and enjoy an evening of family fun, fellowship, and 'trunk or treating'. Don't forget to invite your friends! All are welcome! Flyer on bulletin board!



St. Peter Lutheran Church, Waymansville will have a **Drive Thru Fish Fry** today, October 17, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Free will Donation.

REFORMATION HYMN FESTIVAL... You are cordially invited to attend a Reformation Day Hymn Festival on Sunday, October 31, at 3pm at St. Paul (Clifty) Lutheran Church, 6045 East State Street, Columbus, Indiana. Flyer on bulletin board.



St. John's White Creek Youth Group will be hosting a Golf Outing Scramble on October 30th, 2021 to raise money for the youth to attend the National Lutheran Youth Gathering next summer in Texas. The Golf Outing will be held at Shadowood in Seymour. Entry cost is \$75 per player and includes golf, lunch, and 2 mulligans per player. Registration will start at 11:30am with lunch at 12 and Golf starting at 1:00. If interested please email Jason Hill at jasonhill2005@aol.com and he can email a registration form or call 812-350-2161 for any questions or to sign up over the phone. Please come out to support the youth and enjoy a fun day of golf.



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CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Worship with us in Daily Chapel services at 10:00 a.m. CT, study the Means of Grace on Concord Matters (10/23 at 10:00 a.m. CT), study Ezekiel 22-26 on Sharper Iron's "The Faithful Watchman" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study various Psalms before beginning Ecclesiastes on Thy Strong next week (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfu.org or on the KFUO Radio app!

Contemporary Faith

Jesus and a Man Who Was Paralyzed (1 of 4)

And behold, some people brought to Him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, My son; your sins are forgiven." (Matthew 9:2)

Why did Jesus choose to say, "Your sins are forgiven," to a man with paralysis before He miraculously healed him? Why didn't He choose someone who was blind or leprous to be healed as proof of our Lord's "authority on earth to forgive sins" (Matthew 9:6)?

These words from Matthew might provide a clue for our answer: "a paralytic, lying on a bed." The English translation of "lying on a bed" is a little misleading. Matthew's Greek verb, *ballo*, translates more literally as "having been thrown onto a bed." The point is not that the man's friends treated him in a rough, uncaring way, crassly tossing him onto a bed so that they could hurry him off to Jesus. The point is the man's completely helpless condition: unable to drag himself onto his own bed because of his paralysis, the man had to be "thrown" or "heaved" onto it and brought to the Lord.

In illustrated Sunday School lessons, this man is often depicted with arms outstretched toward Jesus or with hands clasped beseechingly in prayer. Such depictions suggested that the man might have been paraplegic, unable to move from the waist down. Matthew's *ballo*, "having been thrown on a bed," suggests the possibility that the man was quadriplegic, that is, paralyzed from the neck down.

Why was it to a man who was paralyzed in particular that Jesus said, "Your sins are forgiven" prior to the miracle of healing? Because the man's complete helplessness both mirrors and emphasizes our condition before God. Quadriplegia does more to reflect our needful condition than any other physical affliction:

- If Jesus had spoken forgiveness of sins prior to healing a person who was blind, then we might have gotten the

impression that our sinfulness has impacted only our point of view or our conception of the world around us.

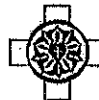
- If Jesus had spoken forgiveness prior to healing a person with leprosy, then we might have mistakenly thought that our condition is only external, or imposed from the outside, like an infectious disease.
- If the forgiveness of sins had been paired with healing a shriveled hand or a mutilated foot, then forgiveness might be misconstrued as something that helps us only with our functionality in this life.
- If the man in this account was paraplegic, paralyzed only from the waist down and able to stretch out his arms toward Jesus, then we might get the impression that we are only partially impaired in our ability to come to Jesus.

Are all of these physical afflictions mentioned above serious? Of course they are. However, none of those conditions is quite as serious, quite as needful, or quite as deadly as quadriplegia, paralysis from the neck down. "And behold, some people brought to Him a paralytic, lying [that is, having been thrown or heaved] on a bed." This is a far more accurate picture of our sinful condition! Here we see someone like us, that is, someone who could make absolutely no contribution toward the forgiveness of his sins. In the account of the man who was paralyzed with quadriplegia who had to be thrown onto a bed, Matthew has given us a chance to see ourselves completely passive and helpless in the presence of the Lord. It is to paralyzing sinfulness of the man in particular—and to each Christian who shares this condition—that Jesus says, "Take heart! Your sins are forgiven."

What happened next? Something that looks awfully close to a resurrection from the dead: "[The man] rose and went home" (Matthew 9:7).

Author: Rev. Erik Rottmann

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Pentecost XXI (Proper 24B) – Surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis can indeed make anyone feel vulnerable (Ecclesiastes 5:15). Our Incarnate Almighty knows (Hebrews 4:15), and so He arranges better solutions than intentional death. His promises have power even over problems of the body (Hebrews 4:12), and whatever losses we may suffer, He more than compensates (Mark 10:29-30). Jesus the Savior makes all things possible—even joy amid suffering (Ecclesiastes 5:18).



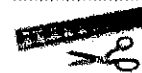
BEING BROUGHT INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD through the waters of baptism this morning is Parker Jayne Schafstall. She is the daughter of Max & Maggie Schafstall, born September 15th, 2021. Her baptismal sponsors are Mr. Mason Schafstall and Mrs. Allison Sparks.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the Glory of God, by Max & Maggie Schafstall, in celebration of Parker Jayne's baptism this morning.

The St. John Sauers Congregational Supper is coming up on Sunday, November 7th. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex for anyone willing to donate needed items. We also need volunteers to work.

New requested item this year: we will need to borrow several generators to use. Please direct any questions to Corey & Hillary Lynch (812.498.3111) or Alex (812.498.6174) & Megan (812.216.4380) Wischmeier. Remember, this is a congregational dinner and everyone's support is greatly appreciated.

The Ladies Aid is seeking donations of baked goods, crafts items, etc. for the bazaar. If you have items you would like to donate, please have them to school by 3:00pm on the day of the supper. Monies raised will be used to purchase new church banners.



"Wrap 'n' Roll" - The SJS PTO will be hosting a holiday gift wrapping fundraiser on Sunday, December 12 after church. Drop off your items that you would like to have wrapped, then pick them up later on that day. The PTO will have wrapping paper available or you may bring your own if you prefer. A free-will donation will be accepted. In order to get an idea of how many people will be bringing gifts, please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Thank you!!

Join Lakeview Ministries for a night of fun, friendly competition, and community at the annual Dinner Auction taking place on November 20th. Tickets are \$50 per person or \$400 per table, with a 2-for-1 early bird deal for tables reserved before October 30th. Lakeview is accepting donations for the auction until November 5th. Please visit lakeview.camp/auction, or call 812-342-4815 to reserve your tickets and coordinate donations for the options.