

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Rally Day!

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 8/11, 2022

Serving Us Today:
Pastor Paul Munding
Organist: Cindy Schuett
920-361-9935

www.stjohnberlin.org

(To Our Guests: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sin. In joyful obedience to the clear teaching of our Lord Jesus those are invited to His table who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. They show forth His death until He comes. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and so are unable to receive the Sacrament are invited to meditate on God's Word in the distribution hymn and pray for the day when divisions will have ceased. Please note that there is a cup of white grape juice in each tray which contains a drop of wine for those who prefer grape juice. Thank you!)

AS WE GATHER... Although there are important times for silence in worship, the hearing of God's Word is central to the worship service. The reading of the Word becomes a focus for our growing in faith. From earliest times, God has directed His people to read His Word. In Exodus, it is recorded that Moses "took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people" (Exodus 24:7). In the Collect for "Grace to receive the Word," we pray that we may hear the Holy Scriptures and, most importantly, "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them" (*LSB*, p. 308). We have that grace-filled opportunity once again as we begin another year of Christian education. May we take full advantage of it to the glory of God!

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HELPS... Please know we have two children's worship bulletins available for young non-readers and older children. Both bulletins have activities that go along with the weekly theme. We also have activity bags for children hanging on the rear wall of the church for use throughout the worship service. If needed we have a cry room/nursery (with changing table) behind the organ in the southwest corner of the church.

♪ **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

AS WE GATHER

✠ PREPARATION ✠

861 Christ Be My Leader

- 1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

- 2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

- 3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 119:57–60, 63–64*

Pastor: The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep Your words.

People: **I entreat Your favor with all my heart; be gracious to me according to Your promise.**

Pastor: When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to Your testimonies;

People: **I hasten and do not delay to keep Your commandments.**

Pastor: I am a companion of all who fear You, of those who keep Your precepts.

People: **The earth, O LORD, is full of Your steadfast love; teach me Your statutes!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

People: **Gracious God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful and unclean. Daily we do things we ought not do and do not live up to our calling as the people of Your pasture and the sheep of Your hand. We justly deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is in the merits of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all our sins and lead us to renewed lives that reflect Your goodness and love.**

Pastor: God is gracious and merciful. He hears our supplications and joyfully restores us to His fold. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

☩ **WORD** ☩

INTROIT *Psalm 30:2–5; antiphon: vv. 11a, 12b*

Pastor: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever!

People: **O LORD my God, I cried to You for help,
and You have healed me.**

Pastor: O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;
You restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.

People: Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints,
and give thanks to His holy name.

Pastor: For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

People: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever!

945 Your Heart, O God, Is Grieved

1 Pastor:
O God, Father in heaven,
have mercy upon us.

Congregation:
**Your heart, O God, is grieved, we know,
By ev'ry evil, ev'ry woe;
Upon Your cross-forsaken Son
Our death is laid, and peace is won.**

2 Pastor:
O Son of God, Redeemer of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Congregation:
**Your arms extend, O Christ, to save
From sting of death and grasp of grave;
Your scars before the Father move
His heart to mercy at such love.**

3 Pastor:
O God, Holy Spirit,
have mercy upon us.

Congregation:
**O lavish Giver, come to aid
The feeble child Your grace has made.**

**Now make us grow and help us pray;
Bring joy and comfort; come to stay.**

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THEME SEQUENCE *Part 1: Sacred Reading*

Pastor: "Reading, writing, and arithmetic"—the first of the traditional three subjects mentioned in the old song "School Days" is reading. God's people have always been readers of and listeners to His Word. The Old Testament book 2 Kings tells us that Josiah, the ruler of the kingdom of Judah, "went up to the house of the LORD, and with him all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the priests and the prophets, all the people, both small and great. And he read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant that had been found in the house of the LORD" (2 Kings 23:2). Later in the history of God's people, we are told that "Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand" (Nehemiah 8:2–3)

That sacred reading continues through the centuries. In New Testament times, Paul charged the people of Thessalonica this way: "I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers" (1 Thessalonians 5:27). We have come to know the letter that was read at that time as the biblical book of 1 Thessalonians. To the Christians at Colossae, Paul wrote: "And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans" (Colossians 4:16). One of the newer hymns of the Church reminds us that the reading of God's Word is one of the gifts of Christ to His people. Together we sing stanza 4 of "The Gifts Christ Freely Gives."

HYMN "The Gifts Christ Freely Gives" [St. 4: *LSB* 602]

4 The gifts are there each day
The holy Word is read;
God's children listen, hear,
Receive, and they are fed.
Christ fills them with Himself,
Blest words that give them life,
Restoring and refreshing
Them for this world's strife.

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Ezekiel 34:11–24 (God will personally search for His sheep.)*

¹¹ "For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

¹⁷ "As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸ Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹ And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

²⁰ "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²² I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³ And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
 To keep His statutes still!
 Oh, that my God would grant me grace
 To know and do His will!
- 2 Order my footsteps by Thy Word
 And make my heart sincere;
 Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
 But keep my conscience clear.
- 3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
 A stricter watch to keep;
 And should I e'er forget Thy way,
 Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.
- 4 Make me to walk in Thy commands—
 'Tis a delightful road—
 Nor let my head or heart or hands
 Offend against my God.

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EPISTLE 1 *Timothy 1:(5–11) 12–17* (Christ Jesus came to the world to save sinners.)

¹² I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³ though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 15:1–10* (Jesus tells the parables of the lost sheep and lost coin.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

864 Shepherd of Tender Youth

- 1 Shepherd of tender youth,
 Guiding in love and truth
 Through devious ways;
 Christ, our triumphant king,
 We come Your name to sing
 And here our children bring
 To join Your praise.

- 2 You are the holy Lord,
 O all-subduing Word,
 Healer of strife.
 Yourself You did abase
 That from sin's deep disgrace

You so might save our race
And give us life.

3 You are the great High Priest;
You have prepared the feast
Of holy love;
And in our mortal pain
None calls on You in vain;
Our plea do not disdain;
Help from above.

4 O ever be our guide,
Our shepherd, and our pride,
Our staff and song.
Jesus, O Christ of God,
By Your enduring Word
Lead us where You have trod;
Make our faith strong.

5 So now, and till we die,
Sound we Your praises high
And joyful sing:
Infants and all the throng,
Who to the Church belong,
Unite to swell the song
To Christ, our king!

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SERMON

CATECHISM *The First Article*

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that

I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the Church, that God's people may live confidently and joyfully share the message of salvation in word and deed. We pray for the nations of the world, that the presence of Christ be experienced everywhere around the globe and that the Gospel have free course in every land. And let us pray for the gift of peace in the world and in our communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for our families and for those who share in our Christian fellowship and join with us in worship. Bless us as we begin another year of Sunday school and Bible class. May we hunger to hear and learn Your Word and grow in our faith and love for You and our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Let us pray for those with special concerns and needs this day including those who are hospitalized or in care facilities, those who are grieving at this time, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill and shut-in and all those whose needs are known to us, [*especially* . . .]. Grant that we bring Your blessing to situations of need in all places. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of the ages, we thank You for all those faithful people whose words and actions have guided us in the past, especially remembering those no longer with us on earth, who now share in Your eternal presence. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, direct us to follow the leading of Jesus, our Great Shepherd, throughout our lives until that day when we stand in Your glorious presence in heaven. In His holy name we pray. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN 783 Take My Life and Let It Be (Stanzas 1,4,6)

1 Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

4 Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

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✘ SACRAMENT ✘

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have come to redeem Your fallen creation. Through the saving work of Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, we are granted all good things by You in countless ways. Through the working of Your Holy Spirit, bestow upon us Your peace and abiding joy, now and forever. Together with angels and archangels and with all who rejoice in the courts of heaven, we praise Your glorious name as we sing:

SANCTUS HYMN 949 Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship (Stanza 1 sung to LSB #851)

1 Heav'nly hosts in ceaseless worship
"Holy, holy, holy" cry;
"He who is, who was and will be,
God Almighty, Lord Most High."
Praise and honor, pow'r and glory,
Be to Him who reigns alone!
We, with all His hands have fashioned,
Fall before the Father's throne.

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LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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 OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI HYMN 949 Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship (Stanza 2 sung to LSB #851)

2 All creation, all redemption,
Join to sing the Savior's worth;
Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us,
Kings and priests, to reign on earth.
Wealth and wisdom, pow'r and glory,

Honor, might, dominion, praise,
Now be His from all His creatures
And to everlasting days!

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DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

865 Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain

- 1 Lord, help us ever to retain
The Catechism's doctrine plain
As Luther taught the Word of truth
In simple style to tender youth.
- 2 Help us Your holy Law to learn,
To mourn our sin and from it turn
In faith to You and to Your Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One.
- 3 Hear us, dear Father, when we pray
For needed help from day to day
That as Your children we may live,
Whom You baptized and so received.
- 4 Lord, when we fall or go astray,
Absolve and lift us up, we pray;
And through the Sacrament increase
Our faith till we depart in peace.

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866 Lord Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, the children's friend,
To each of them Your presence send;
Call them by name and keep them true
In loving faith, dear Lord, to You.
- 2 In Christian homes, Lord, let them be
Your blessing to their family;

Let Christian schools Your work extend
In living truth as You intend.

- 3 That caring parents, gracious Lord,
And faithful teachers find reward
In leading these, to whom You call,
To find in Christ their all in all.
- 4 For by Your Word we clearly see
That we have sinned continually;
But show us too, forgiving Lord,
Your saving Gospel's great reward.
- 5 That all of us, Your children dear,
By Christ redeemed, may Christ revere;
Lead us in joy that all we do
Will witness to our love for You.
- 6 Then guard and keep us to the end,
Secure in You, our gracious friend,
That in Your heav'nly family
We sing Your praise eternally.

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POST-COMMUNION HYMN "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee" *LSB 632*

- 1 O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me Thy body and Thy blood.
- 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart:
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

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BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN 649 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.
- 4 When here our pathways part,
We suffer bitter pain;
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,
We hope to meet again.
- 5 From sorrow, toil, and pain,
And sin we shall be free
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.

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Attendance Last Week: 182

General giving last week: \$12,441.75

Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

12 Monday	Board of Trustees	6:30 am
13 Tuesday	Board of Education	6:00 pm
14 Wednesday	Confirmation Class	3:45 pm
14 Wednesday	Board of Elders	6:00 pm
14 Wednesday	Senior Choir	7:00 pm
15 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
18 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
18 Sunday	Sunday School	10:15 am
18 Sunday	Bible Class	10:15 am

ST. JOHN SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND HELPERS

Kindergarten and 1 st grade	Madison Mertens
Grades 2 thru 4	Nancy Wallner and Adam Gilmour
Grades 5 and 6	April Lueck
Helpers	Blake Mertens and Kayla Gilmour
Music	Nancy Wallner and Cindy Schuett

WEEKLY COPIES OF THE BADGERBYTES, the school newsletter, are available in the information rack in the Narthex.

CHOIR NEWS: Choir practices have resumed on Wednesday nights at 7pm. We are always on the lookout for new singers of all ages. You do not have to read music, just have the desire to praise God in song. Contact Cindy Schuett (920-203-6763) if you are interested in joining the choir.

SHOE FUNDRAISER : Save your gently worn shoes, the school is going to be having a shoe fundraiser in October. The shoes can be any size and style from flip flops to boots. All we need to do is collect them and send them in, then we will get paid! We will be setting up a drop box soon to start collecting them, more information will be coming soon.

Dear Members of St John,

The seventh and eighth graders will be trying something new this year. We will be having a FACE class. (FACE stands for Family and Consumer Economics.) We will be discussing things like food, budgets, planning, safety, as well as topics from Health class.

Besides food, we will be covering sewing, crocheting, knitting, and other related topics. We will be in need of those with expertise in these areas who would be willing to share their skill set. Our class will be held from 12:30 to 1:30 on Wednesdays and Fridays. We also will need for supplies for those areas. You may contact Mr. Pett regarding any donations of time or supplies. The topics can be adapted to fit schedules.

Please pray for our new endeavor that the students may learn life skills from members of our church and community. This promises to be an exciting opportunity for the class.

If you have any questions or know of some individuals that can help, please contact Mr. Pett.

Serving in His Kingdom,
Mr. Pett

SERMON OUTLINE

September 8/11, 2022

Theme: "Concern for One, Search for One, Joy over One"

(Luke 15:1-10)

I. Number, Number, Numbers

A. Pastors (and churches) focus too much on _____.

B. The love of numbers can be a _____.

II. Jesus Searches for One Sheep

A. Jesus isn't interested in filling all the _____.

B. His utter delight is to seek and save _____ lost sinner.

C. Your _____ and _____ are precious to Him.

III. Rejoicing Over One Who is Found

A. An intense search ends in a joyful _____.

B. Jesus does welcome _____!

C. You are _____ beyond measure.

IV. You Are More than a Number!

A. Your Good Shepherd knows you by _____.

B. _____ person matters!