



Welcome

“Mystery Revealed”

February 26, 2023



ST. JOHN'S
Lutheran Church
Grounded • Growing • Branching

Welcome to St. John's Lutheran Church

Good morning and a blessed welcome to you! It truly is an honor to have you worshipping with us this morning and it is our prayer that you find great comfort and peace in Jesus' Word of love, mercy, and forgiveness! If you are visiting with us today, please take one of the visitor gift bags from the visitors' center.

At St. John's we are pleased to offer a variety of service formats on Sunday morning. In our 8:30 a.m. traditional service we offer familiar hymns and rich, traditional worship forms in a meaningful and inspirational setting. Our 11:00 a.m. contemporary service includes the same message as our 8:30 a.m. service but in an informal style, enhanced with contemporary music. We encourage you to try both worship styles! Thank you for worshipping with us; we would love to have you join us again!

(If you need any assistance or need a hearing aid device, please see one of the ushers.)

Contact Us

2727 North Union Boulevard, Decatur, IL 62526

Phone: (217) 875-3656; website: www.stjohnsdecatur.com

Church office hours: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday

Members of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod & Lutheran School Association



St. John's Staff

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LSA Faculty & Staff – members of St. John's Lutheran church

Ciara Collins

Anne Jesgarz

Angela Martinek

Jeff Salefski

Brenda Salogga

Melissa Saurmann

Stephanie Wilkerson

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 26, 2023 | 8:30 A.M.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND A TIME FOR PRAYER

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME/GREETING

OPENING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 657

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES

L: Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer;

C: from the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is faint.

L: Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me;

C: let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling!

L: Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,

C: and I will praise You, my salvation and my God.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

L: Let us make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

C: Merciful Father, our Lord and King, we are sinful people. We have inherited the legacy of original sin from our first parents, Adam and Eve, who disobeyed You in Eden. We are by nature sinful and unclean. In our daily lives we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our lives. Help us each day to grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

L: God is gracious and forgiving. He has shown His merciful power in ways that renew, restore, and heal. To those who come to Him with repentant and contrite hearts, our Lord says, "Fear not!" and promises pardon, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained 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.**

SALUTATION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Old Testament

Genesis 3:1-21 (ESV)

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. ⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of

which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." ¹⁴ The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." ¹⁶ To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in child-bearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you." ¹⁷ And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return." ²⁰ The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹ And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

L: This is the Word of our Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 5:12-19 (ESV)

¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— ¹³ for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ

abounded for many.¹⁶ And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification.¹⁷ For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.¹⁸ Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

L: This is the Word of our Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11 (ESV)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (*sung*)

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.² And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.³ And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."⁴ But he answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.⁹ And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your

God and him only shall you serve.”¹¹ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (*sung*)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

DCE Malinda Standerfer

Sermon Hymn

Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing (Vv. 1-4)

LSB 421

SERMON

“Mystery Revealed”

Matthew 4:1-11

Pastor Adam Ray

APOSTLES’ CREED

OFFERING

*Tithes and gifts may be placed in the collection plate or given at
www.stjohnsdecatour.com/giving.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Leader will conclude every prayer with: “Lord, in Your mercy”

People respond with: “Hear our prayer”

LORD’S PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB 427

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 26, 2023 | 11:00 A.M.

OPENING SONGS

House of The Lord

All The Earth

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

What A Beautiful Name

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:1-11 (ESV)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DCE Malinda Standerfer

SERMON

"Mystery Revealed"

Matthew 4:1-11

Pastor Adam Ray

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

Build Your Kingdom Here

Sunday Servants

Preacher	Pastor Adam Ray
Worship Leader	Pastor Aaron Bird
Reader	Jean Munson
Lay Minister	8:30 – Kevin Smith 11:00 – Paul Stanizone
Organist	Carol Pelz
Ushers	8:30 – David Vanskike 11:00 – Dan Murphey/Dan Zimmerman
Acolytes.....	8:30 – Anna Kierbs/Carli Wilkerson 11:00 – Jon Bart
Computer	8:30 – Ted Hesse 11:00 – Ava Saurmann
Live Stream	11:00 – Jessie Denning
Camera.....	11:00 – Doug Hicks
Sound.....	8:30 – Jessie Denning 11:00 – John Salogga
Vocals.....	Becky Dosien, Kristin Hesse, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar.....	Wendy Salefski
Piano.....	Angela Cushing

OUR MISSION We are restored to God through the death and resurrection of Jesus. As a family of Christians, we are dedicated to the love and forgiveness of Christ as we reach out, preach and teach the truth of God’s Word to each other, our community and the world.

IN NEED OF PRAYER: If you would like to be added to the prayer list or the prayer chain, please contact the church office. Please call the prayer chain with an update of your prayer request.

In the Military: Kaleb Blakeman, Laura Byers, Bryon Chaney, Kimberly Chaney, Kristel Chaney, Travis Chaney, Dan Cheney, Tristin Comer, Randy Edwards, Caleb Goodson, Austin Highcock, Braden Highcock, Destiny Little, Noah Lung, Nathan Lung, Andrew Nailer, Jared Pinney, Caitlin Salefski, Tyler Salefski, Jacob Thornell

Congregation News

Adult Sunday School Hour: Pastor Aaron is leading a Bible Study series during Sunday morning Adult Education hour, focusing on the basics of Christian theology. The series is based on the book, "Called to Believe" by Dr. Steven P. Mueller. Come join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 a.m. as we learn more about our faith together.

Lent Wednesday Service is March 1st at 6:30 p.m.

Prayer Stations: Confirmation Students have set up prayer stations focused on the Ten Commandments. For the next two weeks the stations will be set up in the Lounge. We hope you enjoy!

LSA Informational Meeting: As we know there are still many questions and concerns regarding some of the changes surrounding our LSA, we want to chat about it! Join us on Sunday, March 5th, at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall. Together, we will watch the Town Hall video from Brian Booth, and then have time for Q&A with Pastor Adam and Jan Bryant (LSA Board President).

Bus Trip: We have a full bus load ready to go to the Little Theatre on Wed., March 8th. Please meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. to board the bus.

Need a ride? If anyone would like a ride to the Wednesday (Lent) evening services, please contact the church office.

Church Bus Drivers: We are looking for drivers with a CDL driver's license, or willing to get a CDL License. Contact the church office if you are interested.

SAVE THE DATE: Chili Cook-Off is scheduled for Sunday, March 26th. More information to come.

New Life Pregnancy Center News – CHANGE FOR LIFE – Thank you for taking a bottle to fill with your pocket change. The bottles can be returned anytime up to March 5th to the church office.

West Entry Doors are being monitored from 8:00 until 8:35 a.m. on Sunday mornings. (The door between the Rock Room and the Education Wing.) Unless you are dropped off at the sanctuary door, the west entrance is the shortest distance to enter the building.

Illinois March for Life is Tues., March 21st. The rally preceding the march will begin at 12:00 noon on the east lawn of the Illinois State Capital. The march will begin at 1:00 p.m. For more information, go to: IllinoisMarchforLife.org.

LSA ReSale Shop News: Mark your calendars for Thurs., March 9th for the semi-annual 10 cent sale. The Shop will be open 9:00AM - Noon. All merchandise will sell for 10 cents. The Shop will be closed Fri., Sat., and Sun., March 10th - 12th for re-stocking and re-opening on Mon., March 13th with all new spring and summer inventory. Volunteers are needed! Come anytime, any day and stay as long as you can. For more information, contact the Shop at 217-423-0122.

Grab a St. John's Magnet on your way out and take one for a friend.

Last Week's Giving

Weekly Needed	\$12,403.85
General Fund	\$9,599.00
Online Giving	\$1,297.72
Total	\$10,896.72

Last Week's Attendance

8:30 a.m.....	149
11:00 a.m.	72
Total	221
Ash Wednesday Service	107
Wednesday Bible Study	11

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:30 A.M.....Traditional Service
9:45 A.M.Baptism Service
11:00 A.M.Contemporary Service
6-8 P.M. Sr. High Youth Groups (FH)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

6:30 P.M.....Boy Scouts (FH)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

1:00 P.M.Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

10:00 A.M..... Adult Bible Study (FH)
5:00 P.M..... Lenten Meal Served (FH)
6:30 P.M.....Ash Wednesday Service
7:15 P.M.....Bells Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

4:30 P.M.....Fellowship Hall Reserved
5:30 P.M..... TOPS
6:00 P.M.....Choir Rehearsal
7:00 P.M..... Worship Practice

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

NO CHURCH ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

NO CHURCH ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

8:30 A.M.....Traditional Service
9:45 A.M.Education Hour (FH)
11:00 A.M.Contemporary Service
4-5:30 P.M.Confirmation Class (FH)
5:30-6 P.M.Shared Dinner
6-8 P.M.Jr. High Youth Groups