



*Welcome*

**“Thirsty for More than Water.”**

March 12, 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.)*

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### **Contact Us**

**2727 North Union Boulevard, Decatur, IL 62526**

**Phone: (217) 875-3656; website: [www.stjohnsdecatur.com](http://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**

**Rev. Adam Ray**, Lead Pastor  
[pastoradam@stjohnsdecatur.com](mailto:pastoradam@stjohnsdecatur.com)

**Rev. Aaron Bird**, Assoc. Pastor  
[pastoraaron@stjohnsdecatur.com](mailto:pastoraaron@stjohnsdecatur.com)

**Malinda Standerfer**, Dir. of Christian Ed  
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**Jessie Denning**, A/V Coordinator

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**Carol Reynolds**, Financial Secretary  
[carolr@stjohnsdecatur.com](mailto:carolr@stjohnsdecatur.com)

**Jeff Miller**, Custodian

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

*Ciara Collins*

*Anne Jesgarz*

*Angela Martinek*

*Jeff Salefski*

*Brenda Salogga*

*Melissa Saurmann*

*Stephanie Wilkerson*

# THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 12, 2023 | 8:30 A.M.

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND A TIME FOR PRAYER

*Good morning and a blessed welcome to you! It truly is an honor to have you worshiping with us this morning and it is our prayer that you find great comfort and peace in Jesus' Word of love, mercy, and forgiveness! Thank you for worshiping with us; we would love to have you join us again!*

## RINGING OF THE BELLS

## WELCOME/GREETING

## OPENING HYMN

*Jesus Sinners Doth Receive (Vv. 1-4)*

LSB 609

## INVOCATION

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and 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 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*

*Exodus 17:1-7 (ESV)*

<sup>1</sup>All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

L: This is the Word of our Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup>Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. <sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

John 4:5-26 (ESV)

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

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

<sup>5</sup>So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. <sup>7</sup>A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did

his sons and his livestock.”<sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.”<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.”<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’;<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.”<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet.”<sup>20</sup> Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.”<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.”<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.<sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”<sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.”<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*DCE Malinda Standerfer*

## **SERMON HYMN**

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

*LSB 686*

## **SERMON**

*“Thirsty for More than Water”*

*John 4:5–26*

*Pastor Aaron Bird*

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**OFFERING**

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

**RECOGNITION OF BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

**SENDING SONG**

*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

*LSB 849*

**Last Week's Giving**

Weekly Needed .....	\$12,403.85
General Fund .....	\$14,776.00
Electronic Giving .....	\$1,695.09
Caring and Sharing .....	\$206.00
Total .....	\$16,677.09

**Last Week's Attendance**

8:30 a.m.....	154
11:00 a.m. ....	64
Total .....	218
Lent Service (3/8) .....	98
Wednesday Bible Study .....	20

# **THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

MARCH 12, 2023 | 11:00 A.M.

## **OPENING SONGS**

*Battle Belongs*

*Mighty Warrior*

## **WELCOME & GREETING**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

## **SHARING THE PEACE**

## **OFFERING**

*Lord I Need You*

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

*John 4:5-26*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*DCE Malinda Standerfer*

## **SERMON**

*"Thirsty for More than Water"*

*John 4:5-26*

*Pastor Aaron Bird*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

## **PRAYERS**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **RECOGNITION OF BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **BENEDICTION**

## **SENDING SONG**

*Who You Say I Am*



## Sunday Servants

Preacher .....	Pastor Aaron Bird
Reader .....	Jeff Salefski
Lay Minister .....	8:30 – Troy Harrison 11:00 – Paul Stanizone
Organist .....	Carol Pelz
Ushers .....	8:30 – Gary Schwartzle/Rick Laskowski 11:00 – Serenity Calhoun/Dan Zimmerman
Acolytes.....	8:30 – Jackson Miller 11:00 – Audrey Billingsley/Ellie Hesse
Computer .....	8:30 – Ted Hesse 11:00 – Ava Saurmann
Live Stream .....	11:00 – Lucas May
Camera .....	11:00 – Jessie Denning
Sound.....	8:30 – Jessie Denning 11:00 – Doug Hicks
Vocals.....	Kelli Langston, Janice Wright, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar.....	Wendy Salefski
Piano.....	Ted Hesse

**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

**Lent Wednesday Service** is March 15th at 6:30 p.m. Meal provided by Lay Ministry. Menu: Chili and Chili Dogs. Download the Kahoot! Trivia app on your phone. We will be having a Kahoot! Trivia during the meal.

**Voter's Meeting** is next Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**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.

**Friendship Circle:** Ladies, are you still wondering which comes first, the chicken or the egg? Brenda Salogga, LSA chicken guru, will discuss that and more at our next meeting, starting at 1:00 on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. Everyone is invited, and friends are welcome! If you want to help assemble Easter favors for our homebound friends, please come at 12:30.

**Church Yard Clean-Up** is scheduled for Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. We need everyone to come and help clean-up all the sticks, leaves, and trash. This is a good opportunity for kids to get their service hours. Bring your whole family and your rakes, leaf blowers, and gloves!

**SAVE THE DATE:** Chili Cookoff & Dessert Silent Auction: Mark your calendars for Sunday March 26th for our second annual Chili Cook-off and Dessert Silent Auction. Visit the Youth table outside the sanctuary for more information, to register a chili or dessert, or to reserve your tickets! Questions??? Contact Malinda or the church office.

**New Life Pregnancy Center News – CHANGE FOR LIIFE –** Thank you for taking a bottle to fill with your pocket change. Please return the bottles to the church office.

**Palm Sunday Breakfast:** There will be a breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 2nd between services. Come and enjoy Egg Casseroles, Baked Goods, Fruit, and Yogurt. If you would like to help with the breakfast and/or provide one of the above items, please contact the church office.

**Laudamus Choir Concert** at Trinity Lutheran Church, 220 S. Second St., Springfield, IL on Saturday, March 18 at 5:30pm. Laudamus is a select choir of seminarians from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

**Illinois March for Life** is Tues., March 21<sup>st</sup>. 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](http://IllinoisMarchforLife.org).

**Craft Around the Clock:** Friday, March 24th at 5pm until Saturday, March 25th at 5pm at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church. Many different crafts will be made. Cost is \$60. Payment and registration form must be turned in no later than Wednesday, March 22nd. Mt. Calvary Ladies Guild is fundraising for the 2026 Central Illinois District LWML Convention. More information on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall.

**LWML:** LWML National Convention is June 22-25, 2023 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and CID Convention is in Quincy, Illinois, April 28-29.

**Stewardship Seeds: Luke 11:21-22 – “When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil.”** Jesus has disarmed Satan in a most unusual way: He has disarmed him by allowing Satan to cast all his weapons into Jesus. Satan has nothing left to attack us with – he spent it all on Jesus. And now Jesus is our stronger man. He guards and keeps us and ours. We have none to fear.

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

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

### SUNDAY, MARCH 12

8:30 A.M.....Traditional Service  
9:45 A.M. .... Education Hour  
11:00 A.M. .... Contemporary Service  
6-8 P.M. .... Sr. High Youth Groups

### MONDAY, MARCH 13

6:30 P.M.....LSA Rep. Support Team (Conf. Rm.)  
6:30 P.M..... Boy Scouts (FH)

### TUESDAY, MARCH 14

1:00 P.M. .... Staff Meeting  
6:30 P.M.....Lay Ministry (FH)

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

10:00 A.M..... Adult Bible Study (FH)  
3:00 P.M..... Social Ministry (Conf. Rm.)  
5:00 P.M..... Lenten Meal Served (FH)  
6:30 P.M.....Lent Service  
7:15 P.M.....Bells Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, MARCH 16

5:30 P.M..... TOPS  
6:00 P.M.....Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 P.M..... Worship Practice

### FRIDAY, MARCH 17 & SATURDAY, MARCH 18

NO CHURCH ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 19

8:30 A.M.....Traditional Service  
9:45 A.M. .... Education Hour  
11:00 A.M. .... Contemporary Service  
1:30 P.M. .... Voter's Meeting (FH)  
4-5:30 P.M. .... Confirmation (FH)  
5:30-6 P.M. .... Shared Dinner  
6-8 P.M. .... Jr. High Youth Groups