

Alleluia!
Christ is Risen!



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.)

The Lord's Supper

Though we are eager for all to participate fully in the Lord's Supper, we do not want to compromise any portion of God's Word among us. Because Scripture states that the Lord's Supper can be taken to one's spiritual harm if not properly understood, we ask all visitors to refer to the following statement of belief regarding the Lord's Supper before communing:

I am truly sorry for the sin in my life. I am struggling to die to my sin and to live in faith in Jesus. I am looking to Jesus to empower me to stop my sinning and to live a new life in Him. I believe when I receive the bread, I am receiving the true body of Christ, and when I receive the wine, I am receiving the true blood of Jesus. I believe that when I receive His true body and blood my sins are forgiven, I am given power over sin, death and the devil, and the gift of eternal life. My faith is completely in the words of Jesus.

The Lord's Supper offers the two-fold gift of forgiveness and peace with God on the one hand, and unity and oneness among those who commune together on the other hand (Matt. 26:28; 1 Cor. 10:16-17). Those who receive the body and the blood of the Lord do so in terms of their relationship with God as well as with their fellow-communicants. Therefore, all baptized believers who understand and agree with the above Lutheran teaching of the Lord's Supper are welcome to attend. As always, we encourage you to speak with Pastor Ray with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

Disabled – The pastor and lay minister will gladly commune anyone unable to come to the communion rail. Let the pastor or an usher know before the service begins.

THE CELEBRATION OF JESUS' RESURRECTION

APRIL 9, 2023 | 8:30 A.M.

Grounded in Christ, Growing in Faith, Branching to Others

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND A TIME FOR PRAYER

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PROCESSIONAL

Easter Morning Alleluias

EASTER PROCLAMATION

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION OF SIN AND JESUS' FORGIVENESS

L: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen,

L: For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

C: So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Lord's mercy and forgiveness.

L: Brothers and Sisters in Christ, confident in the mercy of Christ, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, I confess that I have sinned against You in my thoughts, words and actions, those that I have done as well as the good I have failed to do. I have not loved You or my neighbors as I should. It is my own sin that condemns me. In Your mercy and according to Your promise, forgive me, O Lord. Create a new heart in me and restore to me the joy of Your salvation for the sake of Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

L: Your merciful God is the author and giver of life! He hears your prayers and forgives you all your sins. Through Jesus, He takes your

death upon Himself at the cross and, by His resurrection, gives you the free gift of life everlasting. As your pastor, it is my privilege to remind you of this forgiving grace of Jesus and, because He has granted His authority to do so, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK TO US THROUGH HIS WORD *Acts 10:34-43*

³⁴ Then Peter replied, "I see very clearly that God shows no favoritism.

³⁵ In every nation he accepts those who fear him and do what is right.

³⁶ This is the message of Good News for the people of Israel—that there is peace with God through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷ You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee, after John began preaching his message of baptism. ³⁸ And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ "And we apostles are witnesses of all he did throughout Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a cross, ⁴⁰ but God raised him to life on the third day. Then God allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to the general public, but to us whom God had chosen in advance to be his witnesses. We were those who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² And he ordered us to preach everywhere and to testify that Jesus is the one appointed by God to be the judge of all—the living and the dead. ⁴³ He is the one all the prophets testified about, saying that everyone who believes in him will have their sins forgiven through his name." (NLT)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Colossians 3:1-4

¹ Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right

hand. ² Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. ³ For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory. (NLT)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

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

¹ Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. ² Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. ³ His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. ⁴ The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. ⁵ Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying. ⁷ And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you." ⁸ The women ran quickly from the tomb. They were very frightened but also filled with great joy, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel's message. ⁹ And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, grasped his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DCE Malinda Standerfer

SERMON HYMN

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen (Vv.1-4)

LSB 474

SERMON

"You will see Him"

Matthew 28:1-10

Pastor Adam Ray

NICENE CREED

OFFERING

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Bell Choir

Christ Arose

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

People respond with: "hear our prayer"

LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

AGNUS DEI (sung)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

I Know that My Redeemer Lives (Vv. 1-5)

LSB 461

Crown Him with Many Crowns

LSB 525

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

LSB 490

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LSB 465

POSTLUDE

THE CELEBRATION OF JESUS' RESURRECTION

APRIL 9, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.

OPENING SONGS

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today
My Redeemer Lives

EASTER PROCLAMATION

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

The King Is Here

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 28:1-10

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DCE Malinda Standerfer

SERMON

"You will see Him"
Matthew 28:1-10
Pastor Adam Ray

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

Grace So Glorious

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

Happy Day

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Adam Ray
Worship Leader	Pastor Aaron Bird
Reader	Jan Bryant
Communion Helper	Jeff Salefski
Lay Minister	8:30 – Larry Westbrook 11:00 – Matt Cushing
Organist	Sharon Cripe
Ushers	8:30 – Gary Schwartzle/Rick Laskowski 11:00 – Dan Murphey/Tim Wisler
Computer	8:30 – Mike Patzwitz 11:00 – Julia Cushing
Live Stream	11:00 – Matt Cushing
Camera	11:00 – Matt Cushing
Sound	8:30 – Doug Hicks 11:00 – John Salogga
Vocals	Melissa Saurmann, Kristin Hesse, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar.....	Malinda Standerfer
Bass Guitar	Wendy Salogga
Drums.....	David Oakley
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 Goodson, Tyler Salefski, Jacob Thornell

CONGREGATION NEWS

Blood Drive: St John's is sponsoring a blood drive from 12:00 to 4:30 PM on April 27th. Donors will receive info about claiming a \$10 gift card or a cooler tote. Sign up after the 8:30 or before the 11 am services on any Sunday in April. Other sign-up options include ImpactLife at 800-747-5401 or online at www.bloodcenter.org. Please bring a photo ID. ImpactLife is the sole supplier of blood to DMH and St. Mary's. The need is real. Please consider a donation.

Homemade Noodles: Ladies Friendship Circle has homemade noodles for sale. The cost is \$4 per pound. Get yours before they're gone! See Linda Harrison today or stop by the church office during the week.

Save the date! Ladies Friendship Circle will hold its spring **chicken noodle dinner** on Sun., May 7. Advance ticket sales will take place on April 16, 23, and 30. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$4 for children, and also will be available at the door. Watch for more information.

The **Ladies Friendship Circle** is for all women at St. John's. There are no age or membership requirements. Our purpose is to provide Christian fellowship for the women of St. John's and to serve the congregation, our homebound members, and the community. Guests always are welcome. Give us a try!

Ladies Friendship Circle next meeting will be Tues., April 18, at 1:00 when we will learn about beautifying Decatur! Jill Davis and Susan Avery of the Beautify Decatur Coalition. Will be our speakers.

LWML Convention: Registration packets for the LWML conventions are on the table at the back of the church. The CID Convention is in Quincy, Illinois, April 28-29. The National Convention is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-25.

LWML Meeting Sunday, April 30th, in Fellowship Hall after 11:00 service (noonish)? We will be hearing from Evangelism about their current book study and the future direction of our congregation. We will also be

discussing what St. John's LWML can offer the congregation to make it a more inclusive ministry to reach and encourage younger women.

Unity Christian School a Ministry of the Lutheran School Association is having a "Next Steps Night" on Tuesday, April 18th from 6-8pm. Come and go as you are able and explore your next steps and ways to get involved.

LSA Dinner Auction: Join us on April 21st at 5:30 p.m. in the LSA gym. Guests will enjoy food, friends & fun while you experience what's best about our community & our school. This is an island themed event, so get out your tropical shirts, dresses, grass skirts...or come comfortable. Everyone is welcome! Get your tickets at: flow.page/lsadinnerauction

Bus Trip: We have tickets for Jersey Boys on Thurs., June 8th; Million Dollar Quartet on Wed., July 26th; and Church Basement Ladies 2 – A Second Helping on Sun., August 27th at the Little Theatre in Sullivan. Shows are 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending any or all of these productions, please contact Jerry Pelz at 217-433-2961 or the church office. Cost for each show will be \$40. More information will be provided closer to the date of the show.

Need a ride? If anyone would like a ride to the Wednesday (Lent) or Holy Week 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.

Stewardship Seeds: Mark 16:6 – "And he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here.'" The Good News is not just that Jesus is risen, but that He is risen to bless us – there is no need to be alarmed. He still calls us His friends and brothers and means to bring us through death to resurrection as well. The Lord is risen, He is risen indeed!

LSA ReSale Shop: Stop by the LSA ReSale Shop to see all the spring and summer merchandise. Sales for January through March totaled \$91,759.00! Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Shop. Please continue to bring your clothing, household, kitchen, etc. so we can keep the momentum going. Donation days are Monday and Tuesday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM and Thursday 2:00 – 6:00 PM. The Shop is located at 421 E. Cerro Gordo in Decatur.

Last Week's Giving

Weekly Needed.....	\$12,403.85
General Fund.....	\$12,831.00
Electronic Giving	915.83
Total	\$13,746.83

Last Week's Attendance

8:30 a.m.....	142
11:00 a.m.	68
Total	210

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, APRIL 9 – EASTER SUNDAY

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service

10:30 A.M. Contemporary Service

MONDAY, APRIL 10

Church Office Closed

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

10 A.M.-12 P.M. Grief Counseling by DMH (FH)

1:00 P.M. Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Study

4:15 P.M. Nomination Committee (Conf. Rm.)

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

4:30-6 P.M. Fellowship Hall Reserved

5:30 P.M. TOPS

7:15 P.M. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

NO CHURCH ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

NO CHURCH ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service

9:45 A.M. Education Hour

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