

Welcome

“Homelife: How the Mundane Matters”
January 7, 2024



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

Welcome to St. John's Lutheran Church

Good morning and a blessed welcome to you! It is an honor to have you worshiping with us this morning and we pray that you find great comfort and peace in Jesus' Word of love, mercy, and forgiveness!

At St. John's we are pleased to offer two styles of worship services 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 worshiping with us; we would love to have you join us again!

(If you need 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 or Pastor Aaron 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.

FIRST SUNDAY IN EPIPHANY

January 7, 2024

8:30 a.m.

Our Vision: Grounded in Christ, Growing in Faith, Branching to Others

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 OF ONE ANOTHER

Please take time to complete the appropriate side of the attendance registration cards. Once completed, pass the cards toward the center aisle. They will be collected during the offering.

OPENING SONG

Son of God, Eternal Savior

LSB 842

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.

KYRIE (*responses sung*)

SALUTATION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 (ESV)

¹For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
²a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; ³a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; ⁴a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; ⁵a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; ⁷a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; ⁸a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. ⁹What gain has the worker from his toil? ¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹¹He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹²I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live; ¹³also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God's gift to man.

⁶ And now, dear brothers and sisters, we give you this command in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: Stay away from all believers who live idle lives and don't follow the tradition they received from us. ⁷ For you know that you ought to imitate us. We were not idle when we were with you. ⁸ We never accepted food from anyone without paying for it. We worked hard day and night so we would not be a burden to any of you. ⁹ We certainly had the right to ask you to feed us, but we wanted to give you an example to follow. ¹⁰ Even while we were with you, we gave you this command: "Those unwilling to work will not get to eat." ¹¹ Yet we hear that some of you are living idle lives, refusing to work and meddling in other people's business. ¹² We command such people and urge them in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and work to earn their own living. ¹³ As for the rest of you, dear brothers and sisters, never get tired of doing good.

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DCE Malinda Standerfer

SERMON

"Homelife: How the Mundane Matters"

Pastor Aaron Bird

NICENE CREED

OFFERING

Tithes and gifts may be placed in the collection plate or given at

www.stjohnsdecatour.com/giving

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

People respond with: "hear our prayer."

LORD'S PRAYER

PREFACE (*responses sung*)

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS (*sung*)

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

AGNUS DEI (*sung*)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

I Come, O Savior, To Thy Table

LSB 618

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

LSB 394

The Lord My God Be Praised

LSB 794

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go

LSB 854

FIRST SUNDAY IN EPIPHANY

January 7, 2024 | 11:00 a.m.

OPENING SONGS

*Sing We The Song of Emmanuel
Peace Has Come*

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 (ESV)
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 (NLT)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DCE Malinda Standerfer

SERMON

*"Homelife: How the Mundane Matters"
Pastor Aaron Bird*

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

King of Kings

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

Good Grace

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Aaron Bird
Worship Leader	Pastor Adam Ray
Reader	Frank Whitehead
Communion Helper	Dan Harrison/Brian Cripe
Lay Minister	8:30 – Steve Craycroft 11:00 – Mark Langston
Organist	Ted Hesse
Ushers	8:30 – Dave Munson 11:00 – Dan Murphey/Debbie Strong
Computer	8:30 – Mike Patzwitz 11:00 – Ava Saurmann
Live Stream	8:30 – Matt Cushing
Camera	8:30 – Matt Cushing
Sound	8:30 – Doug Hicks 11:00 – Steve Wright
Vocals	Amanda Ray, Janice Wright, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar	Malinda Standerfer
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: 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

What are you doing for dinner on January 10th? Let us take dinner off our plate! Wednesday, January 10th at 5:30 p.m., pizza, salad, ice cream bar. Food, fun, and free! #lifetogether

Youth Ski Trip Retreat: The youth are going on a Ski Trip Retreat on (Jan. 12-14). Some youth would like to go but cannot due to funding. If you would like to help by donating toward this, please contact Malinda.

All Ladies are invited to attend the LWML meeting on Sunday, January 14th after the 11:00 service. We will have lunch and discuss what we would like to do in 2024. We are considering running three groups based on schedule availability, which would roughly fall into women still in school, women to meet in the evening, and women to meet during the day. More information will be discussed at the meeting. **Bring a free will donation for lunch. Contact Brenda Salogga at dnbsal@comcast.net or text her at 217-429-9183 so we have a general headcount for food.** If you are able to come at the last minute, come! We really want you there.

SOUP'S ON! The Ladies Friendship Circle officers will prepare a variety of soups for our annual soup luncheon at 1:00 on Tuesday, January 16th. Bring your appetite and enjoy lunch with friends, followed by bingo. Old, new, and prospective members are welcome! Anyone who wants to help prepare favors for homebound members of St. John's should come at 12:30.

Poinsettia's: If you purchased a poinsettia, please take one with you.

Betty Mathis Memorial Service is Thursday, January 11th at 11:00 a.m. at Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home.

STEWARDSHIP SEEDS: Matthew 3:14 – “John would have prevented him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?’” John is right – what Jesus is doing makes no sense! But this is the upside-down, outlandish grace of God: the innocent Jesus takes our sinner’s place. This is the greatest act of giving the world has ever known or will know: the Father gives His Son to die in the place of sinners.

Last Week’s Giving

Weekly Needed	\$12,403.85
General Fund	\$5,956.52
Online Offering.....	\$2,004.26
Total Giving	\$7,960.78

Last Week’s Attendance

Traditional Service.	106
Contemporary Service.....	61
Total.....	167

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

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
5:30-6 P.M.	Shared Dinner
6:00 P.M.	Jr. High Youth Groups

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

6:00 P.M.	Discipleship Meeting
6:30 P.M.	Properties Meeting
6:30 P.M.	Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

10:00 A.M.	Pastors Circuit Meeting (FH)
10:00 A.M.	DMH Grief Counseling (Lounge)
1:00 P.M.	Staff Meeting
6:30 P.M.	Lay Ministry Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

10:00 A.M.	Adult Bible Study (FH)
5:30 P.M.	#LifeTogether Meal (FH)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

5:30 P.M.	TOPS
7:00 P.M.	Worship Practice

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

No church activities scheduled.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.	Memory Keepers Concert (FH)
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

8:30 A.M.	Traditional Service
9:45 A.M.	Education Hour (FH)
11:00 A.M.	Contemporary Service
11:45 A.M.	LWML Lunch & Meeting (FH)