



Welcome

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 5, 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 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.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 5, 2023

Grounded in Christ, Growing in Faith, Branching to Others

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND A TIME FOR PRAYER

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME/GREETING OF ONE ANOTHER

OPENING SONG

For All the Saints (Vv. 1-5)

LSB 677

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES

L: Lord, on this All Saints' Day, we gather in Your name to remember and rejoice.

C: We remember the ones we love—ones loved also by You.

L: We remember how You embraced them, showed them grace, and filled them with faith.

C: We remember with heavy hearts. We remember with thankful hearts.

L: We rejoice in the resurrection life promised in and through Jesus.

C: We rejoice that Jesus has overcome death forever.

L: We rejoice that You are God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—who will never leave us nor forsake us.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

L: In Baptism, God welcomes us into the family of Christ and embraces us with His love. Welcomed and embraced, we are free to confess our sins, trusting the power of Christ to lead us to newness of life.

C: We confess, good Lord, that we have sinned against You and our

neighbors in thought, word, and deed. We have hungered and thirsted for unworthy things. Our hearts are not right within us. Forgive us, O God, for the sake of Jesus, our Brother.

L: Today we hear these beautiful words from John: "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, 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*)

THIS IS THE FEAST (*sung*)

SALUTATION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

New Testament

Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and

he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (ESV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

New Testament

1 John 3:1-3

¹ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears^[a] we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

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

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

¹ Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (ESV)

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

“What Is The Church?”

Revelation 7:9-17

Pastor Aaron Bird

NICENE CREED

OFFERING

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

PRAYERS AND REMEMBRANCE OF THE SAINTS

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

People respond with: “hear our prayer.”

BELL TOLLING FOR OUR DEPARTED SAINTS

Bonny Andrewson

Juanita Dietz

Robert Monska

Rowena Balvanz

Frank Frisby

Donald Schultz

Terry Blankenship

Dorothy Gosda

Glenn L. Simpson

Joyce M. Burcham

Kathleen Hall

Douglas Sroka

Thomas Cruikshank

Kimberly Hicks

Mary Tomkinson

LORD’S PRAYER

PREFACE (*responses sung*)

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS (*sung*)

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

AGNUS DEI (sung)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise LSB 680

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing LSB 633

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

For All the Saints (Vv. 6-8) LSB 677

Last Week's Giving

Weekly Needed.....	\$12,403.85
General Fund.....	\$7,223.00
Online Offering.....	\$1,351.38
Total	\$8,574.38

Last Week's Attendance

8:30 a.m.....	169
11:00 a.m.	52
Total	221
Wednesday Bible Study.....	15

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 5, 2023 | 11:00 a.m.

OPENING SONGS

God So Loved
Goodness of God

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

He Is

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 7:9-17

SERMON

"What is the Church?"

Revelation 7:9-17

Pastor Aaron Bird

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

Grace So Glorious

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

For All You've Done

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Aaron Bird
Worship Leader	Pastor Adam Ray
Reader	Steve Funk
Communion Helper	Jason Frisby/Alan Bishop
Lay Minister	8:30 – Troy Harrison 11:00 – Matt Cushing
Organist	Sharon Cripe
Ushers	8:30 – David Munson 11:00 – Dan Murphey/Tom Schollenbruch
Computer	8:30 – Ted Hesse 11:00 – Ellie Hesse
Live Stream	8:30 – Brandon Patzwitz
Camera	8:30 – Brandon Patzwitz
Sound	8:30 – Brendan Duewer 11:00 – John Salogga
Vocals	Amanda, Ray, Janice Wright, 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 Goodson, Tyler Salefski, Jacob Thornell

CONGREGATION NEWS

Living Nativity is only two weeks away! (November 18-19) The stars are up in the sanctuary to volunteer as a character in one of the scenes. Pam Saurmann will be in the back of the church collecting the stars. There are many more volunteer opportunities available as well. Please fill out the volunteer forms in the bulletin and return to the office. Together we can bring the story of our Savior's birth and life to the community!! If you have any questions, please call Cathi Tavarczyk 217-433-0447.

Living Nativity Postcards & Flyers are on the back table. Please take some postcards to hand out to friends, family, co-workers, etc. Flyers are available to post at work, nursing homes, restaurants, etc. Please help spread the word about the story of our Savior's birth and life to the community!

Yard Clean-Up: Thank you to the men who braved the cold and cleaned up the leaves. The next leaf clean-up is November 15th at 8:30 a.m. and work until done. The more help, the less time this will take. Please bring your leaf vacuum. If you have any questions, please contact Gary Schwartzle.

Ladies' Friendship Circle will meet at 1:00 on Tuesday, November 21 to learn about SAIL (Soyland Access to Independent Living). Our speaker will tell us about the organization, what they do to support residents in our community, and to support us in relating to people with various handicaps without embarrassment. We also will sign Christmas cards for homebound and former members. If you want to help make Christmas treats for homebound members of St. John's, come at 12:30! We delivered about 22 pumpkins in October and will be making the same number of visits in December, so your help is needed!

Connect Night is Wednesday, November 29th at 6:00 p.m. Join us for fellowship as we create ornaments from hymnals. Use your favorite carol

to spark your creativity! All ages are welcome and light refreshments will be served.

Blood Drive: The October 26th Blood Drive had 17 sign ups from which 13 units of blood were donated, as 3 were temporarily deferred, 2 canceled and we had 1 walk in! Encouraging is the news that 2 of the 17 were first time donors. ImpactLife noted that as many as 39 lives could be saved from the efforts and generosity of St. Johns Blood Drive. We thank those who signed up and encourage others who weren't able to participate to consider being donors for upcoming blood drives.

Stewardship Seeds: *Matthew 5:7 – “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.”* This is one of many Bible passages that remind us that we reap what we sow. Likewise, what God puts into us (His own love, mercy, kindness and generosity) – flows back out of us. It all starts with His self-giving.

NECF is having people come in and "shop" for their Thanksgiving dinner instead of delivering pre-filled boxes. They will need 3 volunteers for every shift for their distribution. Volunteers will help keep the shelves stocked as well as assisting the shoppers. You can sign up to volunteer on their website www.northeastcommunityfund.org/volunteer. Distributions will begin on Monday Nov. 6 and will continue through Tuesday Nov. 21.

LSA ReSale Shop: The LSA ReSale Shop accepts the following clean items: New & used clothing with no rips or holes; useable kitchen items including small, working appliances, pots & pans, dishes, glassware, serving pieces, home décor, etc., with no chips or broken pieces. Holiday items for any holiday and toys with all parts. All items should be put in bags or boxes of a manageable size with clothing separate from household items. A good question to ask yourself before donating: “Is the item something that i would buy?” If the answer is “yes”, then the resale shop would love to have your donation. Volunteers are needed. Stop by or call the shop for details. The LSA Resale Shop is located at 421 E. Cerro Gordo in Decatur. phone number is 217-423-0122.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

1:00 P.M.....Staff Meeting
5:30 P.M.....Outreach Meeting

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Study (FH)
6:00 P.M.....Choir Practice

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

No church activities scheduled.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

No church activities scheduled.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

8:30 A.M.....Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Education Hour
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
4:00 P.M.....Confirmation Class (FH)