

Welcome

"WHAT UNITES?"

JULY 21, 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.

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 21, 2024

Grounded in Christ, Growing in Faith, Branching to Others

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND A TIME FOR PRAYER

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & GREETING

OPENING SONG

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

LSB 709

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 40:11, 16; 145:1-4*

L: I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.

C: Every day I will bless You and praise Your name forever and ever.

L: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable.

C: One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.

L: As for You, O Lord, You will not restrain Your mercy from me; Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness will ever preserve me!

C: But may all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; may those who love Your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!"

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Let us humble ourselves before God, confess our sins to Him, and ask His gracious forgiveness.

C: We humbly confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and before one another, that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not always put God first. We have used His holy name in ways that do not honor Him. We

have not always been thoughtful caretakers of His creation, and have not shared His bounty with others at all times. We have not always kept our thoughts, words, and deeds pure and honorable. We strayed from His paths of righteousness and have sinned in ways we know and in ways we do not even recognize. We pray God to have mercy on us, to forgive us all our sins, and to bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

L: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I 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 *Jeremiah 23:1-6*

¹ “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” declares the Lord. ² Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my C: “You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the Lord. ³ Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the Lord. ⁵ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’ (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT

Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹Don't forget that you Gentiles used to be outsiders. You were called "uncircumcised heathens" by the Jews, who were proud of their circumcision, even though it affected only their bodies and not their hearts. ¹²In those days you were living apart from Christ. You were excluded from citizenship among the people of Israel, and you did not know the covenant promises God had made to them. You lived in this world without God and without hope. ¹³But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. ¹⁵He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. ¹⁶Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death. ¹⁷He brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and peace to the Jews who were near. ¹⁸Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. ¹⁹So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. ²⁰Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. ²¹We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. ²²Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit. (NLT)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:30-44

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

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

³⁰ The apostles returned to Jesus from their ministry tour and told him all they had done and taught. ³¹ Then Jesus said, "Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile." He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat. ³² So they left by boat for a quiet place, where they could be alone. ³³ But many people recognized them and saw them leaving, and people from many towns ran ahead along the shore and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. ³⁵ Late in the afternoon his disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. ³⁶ Send the crowds away so they can go to the nearby farms and villages and buy something to eat." ³⁷ But Jesus said, "You feed them." "With what?" they asked. "We'd have to work for months to earn enough money to buy food for all these people!" ³⁸ "How much bread do you have?" he asked. "Go and find out." They came back and reported, "We have five loaves of bread and two fish." ³⁹ Then Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups of fifty or a hundred. ⁴¹ Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he kept giving the bread to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people. He also divided the fish for everyone to share. ⁴² They all ate as much as they wanted, ⁴³ and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftover bread and fish. ⁴⁴ A total of 5,000 men and their families were fed. (NLT)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

SERMON

*“What Unites?”
Ephesians 2:11-22
Pastor Adam Ray*

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)*

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

AGNUS DEI *(sung)*

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

| | |
|--|----------------|
| <i>Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us</i> | <i>LSB 711</i> |
| <i>Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior</i> | <i>LSB 619</i> |
| <i>Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord</i> | <i>LSB 637</i> |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i> | <i>LSB 809</i> |
|----------------------------------|----------------|

POSTLUDE

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 21, 2024 | 11:00 A.M.

OPENING SONGS

House of the Lord

Great Things

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 2:11-22

SERMON

"What Unites?"

Ephesians 2:11-22

Pastor Adam Ray

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

God You're So Good

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

Amazing Grace

SUNDAY SERVANTS

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Preacher | Pastor Adam Ray |
| Worship Leader | Pastor Aaron Bird |
| Reader | Steve Funk |
| Communion Helper | Brian Cripe/Jerry Pelz |
| Lay Minister | 8:30 – Larry Westbrook 11:00 – Mark Langston |
| Organist | Ted Hesse |
| Ushers | 8:30 – Brady Fawcett 11:00 – Dan Murphey/Tom Schollenbruch |
| Computer | 8:30 – Brandon Patzwitz 11:00 – Ava Saurmann |
| Live Stream | 8:30 – Lindsay Tipsword |
| Camera | 8:30 – Eric Brown |
| Sound | 8:30 – Doug Hicks 11:00 – Doug Hicks |
| Vocals..... | Amanda Ray, 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: 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

Congregational Meeting today at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue the *Songs of Summer Bible Study* series next Sunday.

Sunday Morning Bible Study has begun with our next installment of our *Songs of Summer Bible Study* series. During the months of July and August we will explore different songs of the faith that help instruct us and enliven us in the Christian faith. All ages are invited!

Which singer “stumbled out of bed, walked to the kitchen, & poured herself a cup of ambition? Today is your last chance to email Brenda Salogga at dnbsal@comcast.net or sign up in the back of the sanctuary for **LWML trivia night**, which will take place this Saturday at 6pm in the fellowship hall. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Your team of 8 may pay in cash or check at the door, with the cost of \$10/member. All proceeds will go to LWML Mission Grants and the Fall Zone Rally we will be hosting. (Answer: Dolly Parton)

Wednesday Adult Bible Study has started again. Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. as we study Luther's Small Catechism.

Thrivent Members: Many of our St. John's family have Thrivent Choice Dollars. Our Ministry Teams would benefit from using the Choice Dollars for upcoming church events. Please contact the church office if you are willing to let the Ministry Teams use your Choice Dollars. Thank you.

St. John's Cemetery has a new entrance. Turn onto E. Harrison Ave. (north of the cemetery), continue past the Pepsi building, turn right to cemetery.

Bus Trips: Tickets are available for the Aug. 21st performance of "Nunsense". Make your reservations with Jerry Pelz (217-433-2961) or the church office. Cost is \$36.00 per ticket. We will be leaving from the church at 12:45 p.m.

4th Annual St. John's Golf Scramble Fun-Raiser to be held September 22, at 1:30 at the Moweaqua Golf Course. Cost is \$400 per team. Includes golf,

prizes, and dinner afterwards. Proceeds go back to the church through various needs and governed by Lay Ministry Board. Sign-up sheets will be available in a few weeks. Please mark your calendars.

Trinity Lutheran Church will be hosting Dr. Reed Lessing this summer for a Continuing Education Event/Bible Study on: "The Book Of Numbers", this August 12th-14th! We would LOVE to have you join us for this most edifying study of God's Word, on a rarely studied book. For more information, or to register for the class, contact LeAnna Rondot at Leeanna.rondot@ctsfw.edu or 260-452-2204.

Beginning July 1, the **LSA ReSale Shop** will celebrate **Christmas in July**. The merchandise will continually change throughout the entire month. If you have never shopped at the LSA, this may be the time for your first visit. If you are thinking of purging your own Christmas decorations, we would love to have them. Normal donation times are Mondays and Tuesdays from 9am to 1pm and Thurs. from 2pm to 6pm.

Last Week's Giving

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|--------------------|-------------|
| Weekly Needed..... | \$12,403.85 |
| General Fund..... | \$11,003.00 |
| Online Giving..... | \$1,417.30 |
| Total Giving..... | \$12,420.30 |

Last Week's Attendance

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| 8:30 a.m. | 121 |
| 11:00 a.m. | 62 |
| Total..... | 183 |

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, JULY 21

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Congregational Meeting (FH)
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service

MONDAY, JULY 22

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

TUESDAY, JULY 23

10:00 A.M. DMH Grief Counseling (Lounge)
1:00 P.M. Staff Meeting (Conference Room)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Study (FH)

THURSDAY, JULY 25

5:30 P.M. TOPS (FH)
7:00 P.M. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, JULY 26

No church activities scheduled.

SATURDAY, JULY 27

6:00 P.M. LWML Trivia Night (FH)

SUNDAY, JULY 28

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