



>Welcome

"LIFE-BLOOD"

NOVEMBER 10, 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.)

Contact Us

2727 North Union Boulevard, Decatur, IL 62526

Phone: (217) 875-3656; website: www.stjohnsdecatur.com

Church office hours: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday

Members of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod & Unity Christian School



St. John's Staff

Rev. Adam Ray, Lead Pastor
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Rev. Aaron Bird, Assoc. Pastor
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Unity Christian School Faculty & Staff – Members of St. John's Lutheran Church

Ciara Collins

Angela Martinek

Jeff Salefski

Brenda Salogga

Melissa Saurmann

Lindsay Tipsword

Stephanie Wilkerson

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 10, 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

Children of the Heavenly Father

LSB 725

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES

L: I was glad when they said to me,

C: "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

L: Christ Jesus is the mediator of a new covenant,

C: so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Scripture says, "under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. . . . But Christ has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." Let us prepare to receive forgiveness and cleansing from God our Savior by confessing our need and repentance of our sin.

C: Lord God, we come before You this day seeking Your mercy and grace for the forgiveness of our sins and the cleansing of our lives. We confess to You all our sins, both the wrong we have done as well as the love we have withheld and the good we have failed to do for others. Lord, have mercy on us.

L: God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ: 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

New Testament

Hebrews 9:11-28

¹¹ So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world. ¹² With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever. ¹³ Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer could cleanse people’s bodies from ceremonial impurity. ¹⁴ Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. ¹⁵ That is why he is the one who mediates a new covenant between God and people, so that all who are called can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant. ¹⁶ Now when someone leaves a will, it is necessary to prove that the person who made it is dead. ¹⁷ The will goes into effect only after the person’s death. While the person who made it is still alive, the will cannot be put into effect. ¹⁸ That is why even the first covenant was put into effect with the blood of an animal. ¹⁹ For after Moses had read each of God’s commandments to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, along with water, and sprinkled both the book of God’s law and all

the people, using hyssop branches and scarlet wool.²⁰ Then he said, "This blood confirms the covenant God has made with you."²¹ And in the same way, he sprinkled blood on the Tabernacle and on everything used for worship.²² In fact, according to the law of Moses, nearly everything was purified with blood. For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.²³ That is why the Tabernacle and everything in it, which were copies of things in heaven, had to be purified by the blood of animals. But the real things in heaven had to be purified with far better sacrifices than the blood of animals.²⁴ For Christ did not enter into a holy place made with human hands, which was only a copy of the true one in heaven. He entered into heaven itself to appear now before God on our behalf.²⁵ And he did not enter heaven to offer himself again and again, like the high priest here on earth who enters the Most Holy Place year after year with the blood of an animal.²⁶ If that had been necessary, Christ would have had to die again and again, ever since the world began. But now, once for all time, he has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice.²⁷ And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment,²⁸ so also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him. (NLT)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 12:28-37

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

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

²⁸ And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?"²⁹ Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'³⁰ And

you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’³¹ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”³² And the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him.”³³ And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”³⁴ And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.³⁵ And as Jesus taught in the temple, he said, “How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David?”³⁶ David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared, “‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.”’”³⁷ David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?” And the great throng heard him gladly. (ESV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Aaron Bird

SERMON HYMN

Not All the Blood of Beasts

LSB 431

SERMON

“Life-Blood”

Hebrews 9:11-28

Pastor Aaron Bird

APOSTLES’ 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

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

The Lamb

LSB 547

POSTLUDE

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 10, 2024 | 11:00 a.m.

OPENING SONGS

Praise

Goodness of God

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

We Fall Down

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 9:11-28

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Aaron Bird

SERMON

"Life-Blood"

Hebrews 9:11-28

Pastor Aaron Bird

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

Way Maker

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Aaron Bird
Worship Leader	Pastor Adam Ray
Reader	Jeff Salefski
Lay Minister	8:30 – Troy Harrison 11:00 – Matt Cushing
Organist	Ted Hesse
Ushers	8:30 – Gary Schwartzle/Rick Laskowski 11:00 – Dan Zimmerman
Computer	8:30 – Mike Patzwitz 11:00 – Zach Hesse
Live Stream	11:00 – Brandon Patzwitz
Camera	11:00 – Brandon Patwitz
Sound	8:30 – Brandon Patzwitz 11:00 – Jessie Denning
Vocals.....	Melissa Saurmann, Pam Saurmann, 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: 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

CONGREGATION NEWS

Lifetime Plan for Giving: Join us for a “Lifetime Plan for Giving” seminar during the Bible Class hour at 9:45 a.m., today. Rev. Charles Olander and Scott Radden from the LCMS Foundation will provide a short presentation and provide information to help you develop a “Lifetime Plan for Giving”. They will discuss how wills, beneficiary designations, living trusts and gift annuities might be used to better provide for yourself, your family and your church. Individual follow-up meetings may be scheduled to continue the conversation at no cost to you.

Voter’s Meeting will be Sunday, Nov. 17th at 1:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Ladies Friendship Circle: A representative from the Macon County Animal Shelter will attend our November 19th meeting and tell us more about the organization, their accomplishments and challenges. Bring a friend and join us in the fellowship hall at 1:00. This is a perfect time for animal lovers to join us. Come at 12:30 if you are interested in making favors to be delivered to the homebound members of St. John's.

Life Together Event! Join us on Wednesday, November 20th at 6:00 p.m. We will be making a craft, having light refreshments and fun fellowship. Please join us.

St. John’s Youth Fundraiser: Panda Express will do your cooking and donate 20% to our youth! When? Saturday, November 23rd. How? By presenting the flyer. The flyer is in your bulletin, on the back table, and in the church office.

Yard Clean-Up: Leaf clean-up will be on *Tues., Nov. 26th* at 8:30 a.m., and work until done. The more help, the less time this will take. Please bring your leaf vacuum. If any questions, please contact Gary Schwartzle.

Thanksgiving Eve Service with Communion will be on Wednesday, November 27th at 6:00 p.m.

Decorating the Church: We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 7th starting at 8:30 a.m. Would appreciate any help.

Bus Trip: St. John's will be taking a group to the Little Theatre on Wed.; Dec. 18th for the 2:00 p.m. performance of "Elf the Christmas Story". To sign up, please contact Jerry Pelz at 217-433-2961 or the church office. Cost is \$42.00 per person.

Northeast Community Fund's Thanksgiving Shopping Days are starting soon! **St. John's family will be gathering to volunteer to help stock shelves on Saturday, Nov. 16th and Nov. 23rd at 4:00 p.m.** If you would like to help in the pantry during the Thanksgiving Shopping, go to NECF Facebook page.

Thank you: Thank you for your generous donation of \$1,500 to Camp Linn Haven, Linville, North Carolina. Outreach Team is working on a mission trip to Camp Linn for Spring of 2025 to assist with making the facility ready for the summer season.

LSA ReSale Shop: Christmas is coming! We take Christmas items year-round, but now is a great time to donate the items you don't plan on using this year. Donation days are Monday & Tuesday 9:00am – 1:00pm and Thursday 2:00 –6:00pm. The shop is located at 421 E. Cerro Gordo. Follow the LSA ReSale Shop Facebook page for the most up to date information.

Last Week's Giving

Weekly Needed	\$12,403.85
General Fund	\$15,932.00
Online Giving.....	\$1,616.86
Total Giving	\$17,548.86

Last Week's Attendance

8:30 a.m.	123
11:00 a.m.....	54
Total.....	177

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Education Hour (FH)
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
12:30 P.M. Confirmation Class (FH)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts (FH)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Study (FH)
6:00 P.M. Choir Practice
7:00 P.M. Call Committee Meeting (Conf.)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

No church activities scheduled.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

4:00 P.M. Stocking Shelves at NECF

SUNDAY, November 17

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Education Hour (FH)
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
12:30 P.M. Confirmation Class (FH)
1:30 P.M. Voter's Meeting (FH)