

Welcome

"HOLY UNCLEAN LIPS"

FEBRUARY 9, 2025



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
pastoradam@stjohnsdecatur.com

Rev. Aaron Bird, Assoc. Pastor
pastoraaron@stjohnsdecatur.com

Ted Hesse, Worship Music Director
tedh@stjohnsdecatur.com

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Jeff Miller, Custodian

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

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 9, 2025

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

OPENING SONG

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

LSB 611

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | Chief of sinners though I be,
Died that I might live on high,
As the branch is to the vine, | Jesus shed His blood for me.
Lived that I might never die.
I am His and He is mine. |
| 2 | Oh, the height of Jesus' love,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Love that found me--wondrous thought!
Found me when I sought Him not. | Higher than the heav'ns above,
Lasting as eternity! |
| 3 | Only Jesus can impart
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God | Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n.
In the way that Enoch trod. |
| 4 | Chief of sinners though I be,
All my wants to Him are known,
He sustains the hidden life | Christ is all in all to me.
All my sorrows are His own.
Safe with Him from earthly strife. |

5 O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

INVOCATION

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

C: **Amen**

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.**

SALUTATION

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your family the church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Old Testament

Isaiah 6:1-8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" ⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" ⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." ⁸And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

New Testament

1 Corinthians 14:12-20

¹²Strive to excel in building up the church. ¹³Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret. ¹⁴For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful. ¹⁵What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also. ¹⁶Otherwise, if you give thanks with your spirit,

how can anyone in the position of an outsider say “Amen” to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying? ¹⁷ For you may be giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up. ¹⁸ I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. ¹⁹ Nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue. ²⁰ Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 5:1-11

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

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

¹ On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, ² and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴ And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” ⁵ And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.” ⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷ They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.” ⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do

not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.”¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him. (ESV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Adam Ray

SERMON HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy

LSB 507

- 1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.
- 3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.
- 4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

SERMON

“Holy Unclean Lips”

Isaiah 6:1-8

Pastor Aaron Bird

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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: "let us pray to the Lord,"

People respond with: "hear our prayer;..."

L: Let us pray for ourselves, the church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances.

For those who grow crops, tend flocks, distribute goods, and share this world's riches, that God would keep them safe and guide them to use their talents wisely, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Hear our prayer; bless their use of what they manage.

L: For those who protect and defend us at home and abroad, those who work in government and social agencies to care for others, and those who go in harm's way to rescue people in danger, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Hear our prayer; guide, protect, and strengthen them for the benefit of all.

L: For the church here and around the world, wherever the Gospel is preached in its truth and purity, that God would raise up people of faith to be fishers of men and women wherever they find open ears

and hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Hear our prayer; grant us grace to grow in faith and numbers.

L: For those that we know and those unknown to us struggling through challenges of mind or body whether in illness, grief, or loss, [*especially...*], let us pray to the Lord.

C: Hear our prayer; may healing, strength, peace, and comfort extend from your bountiful hands.

L: For those who do not have enough food, clothing, or shelter, that God would provide them what they need, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Hear our prayer; use us and the resources You have given us as part of Your answer.

L: These and any other things You would have us ask, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to pray...

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling

LSB 827

- 1 Hark, the voice of Jesus calling,
"Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting—
Who will bear the sheaves away?"
Loud and long the Master calleth;
Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
"Here am I, send me, send me"?

- 2 Some take up His task in morning,
To their Lord responding soon;
Some are called in heat of midday,
Others late in afternoon;
Even as the sun is setting,
Some are sent into the fields,
There to gather in the bounty
That God's Word so richly yields.

- 3 For as rain and snow from heaven
Water seeds in dusty soil,
Causing them to bud and flower,
Giving bread to those who toil;
So the Lord sends forth His promise,
Words of life and joy and peace—
Never void to Him returning,
Bearing fruit with great increase.

- 4 Hearken to the Lord whose coming
Marks the time when grace shall end,
When with His angelic reapers

He in glory shall descend.
Soon the night, the final harvest;
Soon the time for work shall cease.
Then the souls His grace has garnered
Shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 9, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.

OPENING SONGS

Praise

Trust in God

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

Cornerstone

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 6:1-8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" ⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" ⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." ⁸And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." (ESV)

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SERMON

"Holy Unclean Lips"

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I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Hymn of Heaven

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Aaron Bird
Worship Leader	Pastor Adam Ray
Reader	Cathi Tavarczyk
Lay Minister	8:30 – Larry Westbrook 11:00 – Matt Cushing
Organist	Carol Pelz
Ushers	8:30 – Gary Schwartzle/Rick Laskowski 11:00 – Dan Zimmerman
Computer	8:30 – Brandon Patzwitz 11:00 – Ellie Hesse
Live Stream	11:00 – Lindsay Tipsword
Camera	11:00 – Pat Robinson
Sound	8:30 – Doug Hicks 11:00 – Doug Hicks
Vocals.....	Lindsay Tipsword, Melissa 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, Braden Highcock, Destiny Little, Noah Lung, Nathan Lung, Andrew Nailer, Jared Pinney, Caitlin Goodson, Tyler Salefski

CONGREGATION NEWS

Super Bowl Subs: The Super Bowl Subs are ready for pick-up between services and after the 11:00 a.m. service. Thank you for your support to the Youth for the 2025 National Youth Gathering.

Ladies Friendship Circle soup luncheon has been rescheduled for Tuesday, February 18. Several different kinds of soups will be served, and you will be able to sample as many as you want. After lunch we will play bingo, so come at 1:00 to eat then stay to play and win prizes! Friends always are welcome. Anyone who is interested in making favors for homebound members of St. John's should come at 12:30.

Camp Linn Haven, Linville, North Carolina Mission Trip – April 28–May 3, 2025 – Informational Meeting to be held on Sunday, February 23rd in the Lounge between services. We want to send a team to Camp Linn Haven to help with cleanup from the devastating hurricane, Helene. Come find out more.

Updated Church Directories are available on the back table and in the church office. Please take one per household.

Seeking Names: St. John's is seeking to call a Director of Faith Formation! As we begin this process, we are gathering names of potential candidates for the position. How can you help? 1) Review the job description (located on the back table) 2) Spread the word – share this news with family, friends, and any LCMS contacts! 3) Let us know of any possible candidates! Contact Rachel Tavarczyk (rtavarczyk@gmail.com) or Pastor Adam.

Unity High School Office Manager Position: If you or you know of someone who would be interested, please reach out to Brian Booth (bbooth@unitydecatour.com) with resume and letter of interest

Unity Part-Time Janitor Position: Please contact Mr. Ed Keane, Facilities Manager at 217-853-5923 for more information

Trinity Lutheran Church Secretary/Office Manager Position. If you would like more information on this position and an application, please contact the St. John's church office.

Unity Auction Team - Unity's largest fundraiser of the year will take place May 2, 2025, and we need your help! Unity is looking for people with event planning/fundraising experience, or just a passion for the school and willingness to help to join our 2025 Auction Team. Please get in touch with Brian Booth at bbooth@unitydecatour.org to learn more.

SAVE THE DATE: You are cordially invited to join us for a celebration of Unity Christian School at our Country Boots & Christian Roots Dinner Auction on May 2, 2025. Get out your cowboy boots & hat, or maybe a flannel shirt & jeans, & let's celebrate our school together. This fun night is for parents, grandparents, friends, neighbors, teachers, coaches, pastors, alumni, everyone is welcome! Enjoy an evening of hors d'oeuvres, dinner, drinks, dessert & music, as well as silent & live auctions featuring exclusive items & experiences. More information, including ticket sales & childcare, will be available soon at unitydecatour.org/auction.

STEWARDSHIP SEEDS: Matthew 17:8 – “And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.” Moses and Elijah point to Jesus, and speak about Jesus and His sacrifice, and then they are happy to fade into the background. They know that what we need is Jesus. With our eyes focused on Him and Him alone, the rest of our lives comes into focus. He is primary, all else secondary. When that order is right in our lives, things truly fall into place. Or as Jesus Himself said, “Seek first the kingdom of God and all these things will be added unto you.”

Last Week's Giving

Weekly Needed	\$12,403.85
General Fund	\$13,632.00
Online Giving.....	\$
Total Giving	\$13,632.00

Last Week's Attendance

8:30 a.m.	113
11:00 a.m.....	54
Total.....	167

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Study (FH)
6:30 P.M. Youth Hangout

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

5:30 P.M. TOPS (FH)
6:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal
7:00 P.M. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

No church activities scheduled.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

12-5:00 P.M. Fellowship Hall & Kitchen Reserved

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

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