

Welcome

"A CLEAR VOICE"

MARCH 2, 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.)

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 Adam 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.

Transfiguration of Our Lord

March 2, 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

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (Vv. 1,3,5)

LSB 821

INVOCATION

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us come before our Gracious Father and confess our sins to Him, trusting in His mercy for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. We confess together...

C: O God of mercy and forgiveness, of revelation and promise, we confess that we are burdened with sin. Our sin consumes, unravels, deceives, and stifles our faith. We have sinned against You, and against one another. We have failed to love as You love, and have let our pride and selfish ways lead us astray. Have mercy on us, O God, and forgive our sins for Jesus' sake. Amen.

L: Dear friends, hear this good news: Our almighty God and Father sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for your sins. By His perfect life, His sacrificial death, and His glorious resurrection, He grants freedom and forgiveness to all who trust in Him. Therefore, be at peace – for 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

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the Lord showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, ²all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, ³the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. ⁴And the Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, 'I will give it to your offspring.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there." ⁵So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord, ⁶and he buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day. ⁷Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated. ⁸And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended. ⁹And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the Lord had commanded Moses. ¹⁰And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face, ¹¹none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the Lord sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, ¹²and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

New Testament

Hebrews 3:1-6

Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession,² who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house.³ For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself.⁴ (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)⁵ Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later,⁶ but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 9:28-36

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

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

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray.²⁹ And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white.³⁰ And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah,³¹ who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.³² Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.³³ And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said.³⁴ As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the

cloud. ³⁵ And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" ³⁶ And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen. (ESV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

SERMON

"A Clear Voice"

Luke 9:28-36

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

Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray LSB 623
The Church's One Foundation LSB 644
Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here LSB 414

SABBATICAL LEAVE PRESENTATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise LSB 917

POSTLUDE

Last Week's Giving

Weekly Needed \$12,403.85
General Fund \$6,670.00
Online Giving \$1,058.89
Total Giving \$7,728.89

Last Week's Attendance

8:30 a.m. 134
11:00 a.m. 61
Total 195

Transfiguration of Our Lord

March 2, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.

OPENING SONGS

Battle Belongs

Living Hope

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

Draw Me Close

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 9:28-36

SERMON

"A Clear Voice"

Luke 9:28-36

Pastor Adam Ray

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

He Is

SABBATICAL LEAVE PRESENTATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

For All You've Done

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Adam Ray
Worship Leader	Pastor Aaron Bird
Reader	Frank Whitehead
Communion Helper	Alan Bishop & Kevin Tavarczyk
Lay Minister	8:30 – Larry Westbrook 11:00 – Mike Baggett
Organist	Ted Hesse
Ushers	8:30 – Dave Munson 11:00 – Tom Schollenbruch
Computer	8:30 – Mike Patzwitz 11:00 – Ellie Hesse
Live Stream	8:30 – Eric Brown
Camera	8:30 – Eric Brown
Sound	8:30 – John Salogga 11:00 – John Salogga
Vocals.....	Amanda Ray, Lindsay Tipsword, 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, Braden Highcock, Destiny Little, Noah Lung, Nathan Lung, Andrew Nailer, Jared Pinney, Caitlin Goodson, Tyler Salefski

CONGREGATION NEWS

Ash Wednesday Service is Wednesday, March 5th at 6:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes will be at 12:00 noon. The meal (Taco Bar) will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Outreach Team will be sponsoring a special Caring & Sharing door offering event **next Sunday, March 9th** at both services. Offerings collected will be sent to the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Pacific Southwest District to assist with the Southern California Wildfire Response. If you miss the caring and sharing event, but still want to help with the recovery, please access their website at: <https://www.psd-lcms.org/disaster-response>

Remember to turn your clocks forward next Saturday night, March 8th.

Lent Series: Join us this Lenten season as we explore and engage 6 spiritual disciplines from the book *Celebration of Discipline*. Our topics will include: Fasting; Study; Submission; Solitude; Guidance; and Worship. The series kicks off on Sunday, March 9th!

Lent Services will begin on Wednesday, March 12th at 6:00 p.m. Lenten meal will begin at 5:00 p.m. The meals will be provided by the Youth, and all donations will go toward their NYG trip.

Voter's Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 16th at 9:45 a.m. (during the Education Hour) in the Fellowship Hall.

Get ready to indulge in the vibrant flavors of New Orleans at our Taste of New Orleans and Dessert Auction - Sunday, March 23, 3p-6p. We are looking for brave souls who are willing to bring a New Orleans inspired dish to share to our next Youth Gathering fundraiser! Delicious options like jambalaya, gumbo, red beans & rice, bananas foster and more could be on display for people to taste...but we need your help! If you'd be willing to donate a dish to share, please contact the church office or Angela Cushing at aocushing@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE: Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is May 16, 2025. More details to come.

Bus Trips: It's still not too early to start thinking of summer fun. There are three trips planned for the summer season at the Little Theatre. The dates are June 25th (Ring of Fire, Johnny Cash), July 25th (Sound of Music), and August 14th (Forever Plaid). If you are interested, please contact Jerry Pelz (217-433-2961) or the church office. The is \$42.00 per ticket, which covers ticket, game, and ticket for the bus driver.

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.

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.

SAVE THE DATE: Join us for a celebration of Unity Christian School at our Country Boots & Christian Roots Dinner Auction on **May 2, 2025**. A fun night for everyone! Enjoy an evening of hors d'oeuvres, dinner, drinks, dessert, music, and silent & live auctions featuring exclusive items & experiences. More information, including tickets & childcare, will be available soon at unitydecatour.org/auction.

LSA ReSale Shop: Have you been spending your winter days purging and organizing? The LSA ReSale Shop would love to have your unwanted/no longer needed items. Drop-off times are: Monday & Tuesday 9-1 and Thursday 2-6. Our semi-annual 10¢ sale is on Thursday, March 13; with restocking on Friday & Saturday, March 14 & 15. Volunteers are needed for restocking. The shop will reopen on Monday, March 17 with all new spring & summer merchandise.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

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

MONDAY, MARCH 3

6:30 P.M. Properties Meeting
7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts (FH)

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

1:00 P.M. Staff Meeting
5:30 P.M. Outreach Meeting (FH)
6:00 P.M. Discipleship Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Study (FH)
12:00 P.M. Imposition of Ashes (Sanctuary)
5:00 P.M. Meal (Taco Bar)
6:00 P.M. Ash Wednesday Service

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

No church activities scheduled.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

No church activities scheduled.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

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