

# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School (LCMS)

Est. 1864



Pastors:

Matthew V. Moss      and      Matthew P. Johnson

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# Important Announcements

## For those who watch services on Live-Stream during the Coronavirus Pandemic

**Stay Home when Sick:** If you are sick or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 please stay home. If you start to experience symptoms while in attendance at a service or out anywhere else, please go home immediately. If at a service, notify a Safety Team member on your way out so we may direct our cleaning and communication efforts.

**Singing (updated):** MDH has gone from requiring no congregational singing to “not recommended” but does say that if a congregation sings masks and distancing are required. Please tune in early and stay late for the preludes, postludes, and sing with us the hymns that will be provided in the online bulletins.

**Maintaining Piety when Worshiping at Home:** The best way to get the most out of this temporary set-up is to keep things in your household as regular as possible:

- Print the bulletin or use your hymnals
- Dress like you would dress for church
- Stand when we stand, sit when we sit
- Sing along with the hymns
- Watch at the live time, Sunday morning, setting it aside as first priority instead of looking for whatever time is most convenient for you
- Limit the distractions, toys, and tech so that the time is truly "sacred" (set-apart) for Christ and His means of grace

These ideas can help you focus on the Service of the Word and will also help you prevent bad habits from developing during our temporary suspension of Divine Services

March 7, 2021

**Preacher:** Pr. Matthew Johnson

**Liturgist:** Pr. Matthew Moss

**Kantor:** Dr. Crystal Rossow

*Special Note for the Live Stream: Because the Absolution and Communion are sacramental acts that require the in-person interaction of penitent & pastor and communicant & pastor, we will not Live Stream those portions of the Divine Service. If you desire a more detailed explanation of the status of the controversies in Christianity and the LCMS around these acts that have led us to this decision on this practice, your pastors are more than willing to discuss it with you.*

## Service of the Word

### 533 Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure



1 Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal,  
2 Je - sus has come! Now see bonds rent a - sun - der!  
3 Je - sus has come as the might - y Re - deem - er.  
4 Je - sus has come as the King of all glo - ry!



Al - pha, O - me - ga, Be - gin - ning and End;  
Fet - ters of death now dis - solve, dis - ap - pear.  
See now the threat - en - ing strong one dis - armed!  
Heav - en and earth, O de - clare His great pow'r,



God - head, hu - man - i - ty, u - nion su - per - nal,  
See Him burst through with a voice as of thun - der!  
Je - sus breaks down all the walls of death's for - tress,  
Cap - tur - ing hearts with the heav - en - ly sto - ry;



O great Re - deem - er, You come as our friend!  
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,  
Brings forth the pris - oners tri - um - phant, un - harmed.  
Wel - come Him now in this fast - fleet - ing hour!



Heav - en and earth, now pro - claim this great won - der:  
Lifts us from shame to the place of His hon - or.  
Sa - tan, you wick - ed one, own now your mas - ter!  
Pon - der His love! Take the crown He has for you!



Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal!  
Je - sus has come! Hear the roll of God's thun - der!  
Je - sus has come! He, the might - y Re - deem - er!  
Je - sus has come! He, the King of all glo - ry!

## Introit

*Psalm 25:1–2, 17–18, 20; antiphon: vv. 15–16*

My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*  
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.  
Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,\*  
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.  
**To you, | O LORD,\***  
**I lift | up my soul.**  
**O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;\***  
let not my enemies exult | over me.  
**The troubles of my heart | are enlarged;\***  
bring me out of my dis- | tresses.  
**Consider my affliction and my | trouble,\***  
and forgive | all my sins.  
**Oh, guard my soul, and de- | liver me!\***  
Let me not be put to shame, for I take ref- | uge in you.

**G** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Kyrie

LSB 186

**G** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Let us pray.

**P** O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

Sit

### Old Testament Reading

*Exodus 8:16–24*

<sup>16</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the earth, so that it may become gnats in all the land of Egypt.’” <sup>17</sup>And they did so. Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff and struck the dust of the earth, and there were gnats on man and beast. All the dust of the earth became gnats in all the land of Egypt. <sup>18</sup>The magicians tried by their secret arts to produce gnats, but they could not. So there were gnats on man and beast. <sup>19</sup>Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” But Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “Rise up early in the morning and present yourself to Pharaoh, as he goes out to the water, and say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Let my people go, that they may serve me. <sup>21</sup>Or else, if you will not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you and your servants and your people, and into your houses. And the houses of the Egyptians shall be filled with swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they stand. <sup>22</sup>But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people dwell, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth. <sup>23</sup>Thus I will put a division between my people and your people. Tomorrow this sign shall happen.’”” <sup>24</sup>And the LORD did so. There came great swarms of flies into the house of Pharaoh and into his servants’ houses. Throughout all the land of Egypt the land was ruined by the swarms of flies.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

*Psalms 9:19, 3*

**Arise, O LORD! Let not | man prevail;\***  
**let the nations be judged be- | fore you!**  
**When my enemies | turn back,\***  
**they stumble and perish before your | presence.**

### Epistle

*Ephesians 5:1–9*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>2</sup>And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

<sup>3</sup>But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. <sup>4</sup>Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be

thanksgiving. <sup>5</sup>For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. <sup>6</sup>Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup>Therefore do not associate with them; <sup>8</sup>for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Tract

*Psalm 123:1–3a*

To you I lift | up my eyes,\*

O you who are enthroned in the | heavens!

Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their | master,\*

so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy up- | on us.

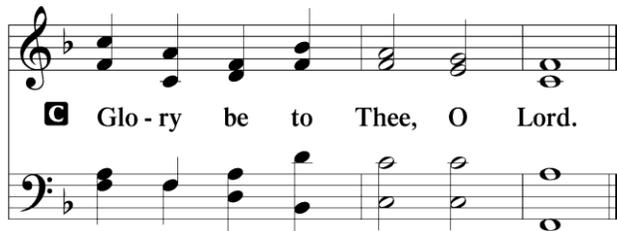
Have mercy upon us, | O LORD,\*

have mercy up- | on us.

Holy Gospel

*Luke 11:14–28*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup>Now [Jesus] was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. <sup>15</sup>But some of them said, “He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons,” <sup>16</sup>while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. <sup>17</sup>But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. <sup>18</sup>And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. <sup>19</sup>And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. <sup>20</sup>But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. <sup>21</sup>When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; <sup>22</sup>but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. <sup>23</sup>Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

<sup>24</sup>“When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ <sup>25</sup>And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. <sup>26</sup>Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.”

<sup>27</sup>As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!” <sup>28</sup>But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

## 659 Lord of Our Life



1 Lord of our life and God of our sal - va - tion, Star of our  
2 See round Your ark the hun - gry bil - lows curl - ing; See how Your  
3 Lord, be our light when world - ly dark - ness veils us; Lord, be our  
4 Peace in our hearts, where sin - ful thoughts are rag - ing, Peace in Your



night and hope of ev - 'ry na - tion: Hear and re - ceive Your  
foes their ban - ners are un - furl - ing And with great spite their  
shield when earth - ly ar - mor fails us; And in the day when  
Church, our trou - bled souls as - suag - ing, Peace when the world its



Church's sup - pli - ca - tion, Lord God Al - might - y.  
fi - ery darts are hurl - ing, O Lord, pre - serve us.  
hell it - self as - sails us, Grant us Your peace, Lord:  
end - less war is wag - ing, Peace in Your heav - en.

Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon: Watch Your Mouth, With Eyes Turned Toward the Lord's Living Word (Luke 11:21-22)**

**The Small Catechism:  
The Fourth Commandment**

Honor your father and your mother.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

**The Fifth Commandment**

You shall not murder.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

**The Sixth Commandment**

You shall not commit adultery.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

**The Seventh Commandment**

You shall not steal.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

**Offertory**

LSB 192

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

*Following the prayers, the Live Stream ends and the Service of the Sacrament begins.*

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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### **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Members who are sick and in need of healing and comfort**— Rick Bymark (wife Jackie, son Hank), Lynn Slauson, Pam Linton (daughter of LaVerne & Arlene Bagne), Ilene Shepherd, Brigette Ritter, Dr. Crystal Rossow, Charice McDowell, Mavis Kalk, Joyce O’Hern, Melvin Haag, Patrick Oberle, Ramona Von Ende, Bruce Hansen, Justin Brynjulfson, Doris Gangelhoff, Barb Grambart, Dick Rau, Randy Goerke, Diane Haag, and Sandy Meyer. Our Lord Jesus, who reached out to heal and comfort the sick and dying, continues to reach out with His healing Word through us. Cards, phone calls, and prayers are always appreciated. If you know of someone who is sick or hospitalized, please inform your pastors.

**Our homebound members** are John and Arleen Barrett, Sue Erickson, Inez Koehler, Steve Orbin, Mark Pruhs, Amy Schalo, and Ilene Shepherd.

**All those serving in our Armed Forces**— Agena Christophersen (Belgium), Emily Giefer (Georgia), Kevin Mazurowski (Alaska), Nathan Mazurowski (Arizona), Isak Preus (Florida), Brian Pruhs (Germany), Joseph Radintz (home), and Danny Schilling (home).

**Those who have lost loved ones during the past year**— Jan Stadler & family (at the loss of her sister, JoAnne Hackbarth), Justin Bermel & family (at the loss of his brother Jeffrey), John Meyer & family (at the loss of his brother Jeff), the family of Larry Jobes, Dan Kappel & family (at the loss of his father Francis), Joellyn Wicht & family (at the loss of her mother Frances Spielman), Larissa Alvarez & family (at the loss of her grandmother Luci Correa), the family of Fred Hunt, the family of Diane Lawrence, Gerald Anderson & family (at the loss of his father Dale), Joyce O’Hern & family (at the loss of her father-in-law Marland), Arlene Rogge & family (at the loss of her father George Hackler), Lois Foggia & family (at the loss of her brother-in-law Tom Hooker), the family of Vivian Kuns, Stephanie Haver & family (at the loss of her brother Brandon), Char Abraham & family (at the loss of her brother Russell), the family of Linda Bredenberg, the family of Tracey Rosso, Cindy Cook & family (at the loss of her brother, Daniel Anderson), the family of Gerald Oswald, Kyle Gaffaney & family (at the loss of his grandfather Bill Reese), Jim Day & family (at the loss of his sister), and Heidi Brackeen & family (at the loss of her father Dennis Anderson).

**And we remember those who have recently lost loved ones**— the family of Marlys Johnson, the family of Harold Grambart, the family of Courtney Meine, Marlys Kothrade & family (at the loss of her great-grandson Lukas Bouska), Bob and Char Abraham (at the loss of their daughter-in-law Debra Abraham), and Tony Stadler & family (at the loss of his brother Ted).

**All expecting families and their unborn children**— especially Stephanie & Noah Heidorn, Martha & Aaron Reseburg, Jenna & Leighton Spaulding, and Ashley & Nick Baltes. If you would like to announce your pregnancy to the Church that we might pray for you, please contact one of our pastors.

**THIS WEEK:** The congregations in our circuit are praying for Redeemer Lutheran, Robbinsdale.

**PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL:** This week we pray for Tech Board Deacon Sam Kulberg & the Board Members, and also for our Teachers Elizabeth Crawford (Middle School) and Linda Kalk (Educational Resource).

## † Announcements †

**SPECIAL FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK:** *no special feast days this week.*

**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY (1<sup>st</sup> Peter):** Faithful Christians should expect trials and suffering in this life. Our Lord promised it. In Peter's first epistle he strengthens the Church for such suffering and trials. It is a message of great hope and the promises of glory for those who endure the fiery trials. Join us at 9:30 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall as we take up this great Book of Holy Scripture.

Mar. 7 – 1 Peter 5:1-14 – *Humility & Trust Define the Christian Community*

Mar. 14 – 2 Peter 1:1-2 – *The Great Apostle's Last Testament: Purpose and Place of the Letter*

**TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** has resumed as we take up again the Book of Acts. We meet via Facebook Live at 9:45 am each Tuesday. This format will allow any questions you might have, simply post a comment and if it is seen it will be answered. We will convene with the church in the Jerusalem council and overhear the Scriptural quotation brought to bear by James, the brother of our Lord, from Amos 9.

**PREPARING FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** Parents with hands full in the pews on Sunday morning sometimes need a little *time with the texts* in the week leading up to a Service. People new to Lutheranism sometimes need more context to the Service. Some members simply look for more in-depth study of the appointed readings. We encourage you to follow Issues, Etc. on your podcasting App or at their website, especially using Pastor David Peterson's "Looking Ahead to Sunday Morning (the 1-Year Lectionary)." Next Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup> you will hear: *Isaiah 49:8-13, Galatians 4:21-31, John 6:1-15.*

**CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY:** We will have our spring Congregational Assembly meeting on Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The primary items on the agenda, in addition to our standard board reports, will include the approval of our 2021-22 annual budget, discussion of our revised Gifting and Endowment Fund Operating Plan, and a review of our new Board structure. We ask that members wear masks to the meeting and respect Covid social distancing protocols. In the event that attendance makes social distancing in the Fellowship Hall difficult, we will move the meeting to the gymnasium. Materials will be made available two weeks prior to the meeting.

**PALM SUNDAY** is March 28<sup>th</sup> and we would love to have your children process in with palm branches. We will meet right outside the sanctuary in the narthex 10 minutes before the service starts. Your children may attend one or both services. Questions or concerns: please contact Erika Rossow at [erossow17@gmail.com](mailto:erossow17@gmail.com)

**THE SERVICE OF INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** is available this month by appointment only. Take advantage of this opportunity to hear God's Word of forgiveness spoken to you individually in Jesus' Name. "If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Year-to-date</u>
	<i>02/28/21</i>	<i>since 07/01/20</i>
<b>FINANCIAL UPDATE</b>		
<i>Total General Fund Receipts-All Sources</i>	\$ 35,473	\$ 1,110,594
<i>Amount Needed</i>	\$ 36,001	\$ 1,172,502
<i>Amount Ahead (Behind)</i>	\$ (528)	\$ (61,907)
<i>% Ahead (-Behind)</i>		-5%
<i>Current Building Mortgage Balance (February 28, 2021):</i>		\$ 200,540

Amount Needed above includes all budgeted revenues, including offerings, school tuition and third-source income, for the current budget year beginning July 1, 2020. There was no cumulative deficit as of July 1. Questions can be directed to Church Treasurer Mike Gaffer ([mtgaff@comcast.net](mailto:mtgaff@comcast.net))

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK...** Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>: Total 162 CM 110

Reminiscere Wed, March 3<sup>rd</sup>: Total 45

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE:** St. John's Lutheran School is seeking to hire individuals for the following positions to start in the 2021-2022 school year:

- Resource/Special Education Teacher (contracted with LSEM)
- Hot Lunch Coordinator (part-time or full-time)
- Teacher Assistants (potential part-time or full-time help in PreK, 1st grade, 3rd grade)
- ESP Aides (after-school care positions available)
- Music Teacher (part-time, primarily grades 5-8)
- Substitute Teachers (any availability)
- We are also interested to know if anyone has or is willing to attain a bus driving license to be hired as needed for help with school activities and transportation.

If you or anyone you know has interest in one of these roles, please contact Gretchen Dolan at the school office 763-420-2426 or [gretchen.dolan@stjlutheranschool.org](mailto:gretchen.dolan@stjlutheranschool.org).

**CANDIDATES:** A call committee has been formed to fill the Pre-K teacher position at St. Johns. The following candidates are currently being considered: Katie Gulley, Gina Bossow, and Christina Warnier. If you have concerns about any of these candidates, please contact Jayme Kruse.

**NEW STUDENT APPLICATIONS:** St. John's School is now accepting new student applications for the 2021-22 school year. Please contact [admissions@stjlutheran.org](mailto:admissions@stjlutheran.org) if you are interested in registering your student at St. John's. There are a limited number of spots for additional students and our waitlist is beginning to fill so please contact us ASAP.

**WEST LUTHERAN** is hosting this recruitment event for the 2021-2022 school year: Today, ***Sunday March 7***, 4:00 - 5:30 pm "Parent Information Night"...Presentation followed by a question and answer session. Visit [www.wlhs.net](http://www.wlhs.net) for more information.

**PLEASE CALL FIRST:** In order to better protect you, our students and staff, we are limiting foot traffic through the building during the day. Please make an appointment with one of our secretaries to pick up any church items. Your materials can be placed in a holding bin located in the vestibule, between the double doorway for pick up at your designated appointment.

**SCHEDULING CHURCH AND SCHOOL EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S:** We are not scheduling member events at this time. Please direct any questions to 763-420-2426.

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Items received by *noon* on Wednesday are considered for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin; kindly please submit your request timely to ensure your announcement gets published as needed.

**EMAIL ADDRESS REQUESTED:** If you are not already getting weekly emails from church, please submit your email address so we can communicate notices such as upcoming church services, funerals, weather closures, etc. Please provide your email address to [secretary@stjlutheran.org](mailto:secretary@stjlutheran.org).

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** (March 7 – March 13) ***Sunday***- John Costello, ***Monday***- Elizabeth Crawford/Karin Swiggum, ***Tuesday***- Leah Gordon/Dana Rossow/Harold Schmidt/Holly Von Ende, ***Wednesday***- Michael Brown/Ellie Bussing/Anneliese Stavig, ***Thursday***- Pam Kothrade, ***Friday***- Marian Tillmann, ***Saturday***- Charlene Abraham/Curt Besel/Faith Grant/Dan Koehler/Mason Philipp/Leighton Spaulding

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME** begins next Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.

**HOLY WEEK/EASTER SIGN-UP FOR SERVICE ATTENDANCE:** Please visit our website, [stjlutheran.org](http://stjlutheran.org), and check out our Holy Week & Easter page for the tentative plan, the list of services, and links to the sign-up. Please help us plan for services by signing up early and encouraging friends and family to do the same.