

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

National Lutheran Schools Week

January 21, 2024

8:00 & 10:45am



St. John Lutheran Church and School

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Reverend Jeff Caithamer

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School Principal: Cheryl Black

Divine Service III with Holy Communion

Page

**stand as you are able*

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| Prelude – “ <i>Jesus is God’s Living Vine</i> ” | Day School Choir |
| Hymn <i>Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty</i> | 901 |
| *Invocation, Confession, Absolution | 184 |
| *Introit | dated insert |
| *Kyrie | 186 |
| *Gloria in Excelsis | 187 |
| *Salutation & Collect | 189 |
| First Reading | |
| Gradual | dated insert |
| Epistle Reading | |
| *Alleluia | 190 |
| *Gospel Reading | |
| *Nicene Creed | 191 |
| Hymn <i>The Only Son from Heaven</i> | 402 |
| Sermon “ <i>The Gift of Repentance</i> ” Mark 1:14–20 | |
| *Offertory | 192 |
| Gathering of Tithes and Offering | |
| (8:00) “ <i>I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light</i> ” | Day School Choir |
| (10:45) “ <i>Earth and All Stars</i> ” | solo |
| *Prayers | 193 |
| *Service of the Sacrament | 194 |
| Communion Hymns – (8:00) “ <i>Earth and All Stars</i> ” | solo |
| 396 <i>Arise and Shine in Splendor</i> | |
| (551) <i>When to Our World the Savior Came</i> | |
| “ <i>In Christ We Are Forever Grafted</i> ” | insert |
| *Nunc Dimittis | 199 |
| *Thanksgiving | 200 |
| *Prayer and Benediction | 201 |
| Postlude – “ <i>Trumpet Tune</i> ” | Johnson |

Communion Hymns in Parentheses will be sung if time allows.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN! We ask members and guests to fill out an attendance card located by the hymnals; indicate your attendance at Holy Communion. Cards may be placed in the offering plate. Note that there are two glasses in the center of each tray with diluted wine.

SERVING TODAY – Preaching & Presiding: Rev. Jeff Caithamer. **Organist:** Keith Williams. **Elders:** 8:00 – Nick, Dan, Dan, Jeremy; 10:45 – Chris, Matt, Phil, Chuck. **Ushers:** 8:00 – AJ & Everett; 10:45 – Peter & Noah. **Day School Choir Director:** Alicia Haggin.

ABOUT THE LORD’S SUPPER: Our congregation is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a family of congregations who pledge themselves to teach and to believe the same doctrines. We invite those persons who are members in good standing of a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or of a church in fellowship with the LCMS to receive the sacrament. We want to express our sincere welcome to guests and to assure them that it is in their spiritual interest that we practice closed communion. Guests desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to make an appointment to speak with our pastor.

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY – The altar flowers are given today by Donna in loving memory of her husband Phil. We also remember the following people in our prayers: *following surgery:* Susan; *hospitalized:* Andy; *for healing and recovery:* David-grandfather of Sara & Ryan; Gary, Judy, Jim, Kaylianna, Robin, Karla, Charlene, Brian, Teresa, Barbara, John, Hendricks, Maria, Merv, Rebecca, Roy, Todd, Brett; *for successful treatments:* Kevin, Dan, Nancy, Barb, Luke, Earl, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy; *for our college students:* Nadia, Kai; *for those in the military:* Nick D, Nick F, Andy, Brandon, Zachary, David; *for our homebound:* Alice, Lola.

For requests for the prayer chain or to be added to the chain: <http://stjohnmedia.org/church/PrayerList.html>

OUR WEEK AHEAD

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| Today | <i>3rd Sunday after Epiphany; National Lutheran Schools Week (21st-27th);</i> 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion |
| Monday | <i>Newsletter Deadline; 6:00 Bylaws Committee</i> |
| Tuesday | 6:00 Parish Ed |
| Wednesday | 8:10 Chapel; 10:00 Adult Bible Class; 5:45 Midweek School, Lifelight; 6:00 Handbells; 7:15 Holy Communion |
| Thursday | 10:00 Lifelight; 6:00 Mixed & Men's Choirs |
| Friday | 5:30 Pasta Dinner and Dessert Auction; 7:00 School Talent Show |
| Sunday | <i>4th Sunday after Epiphany; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible</i> Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion |

The Bylaws Committee Meeting will be held tomorrow, Monday, January 22nd, at 6:00pm.

Lifelight has started. Join us as we study the Gospel of Mark, a 9-week Bible study that take us into Lent. You can join us Wednesday evenings at 5:45pm or Thursday mornings at 10:00am. To sign up contact Matt, Donna or Bill.

Community Open House – St. John Lutheran School and Little Lamb Preschool will be hosting a Community Open House on Tuesday, January 30th, 5:00 - 7:00 PM. Prospective school families will have an opportunity to meet our teachers, visit the classrooms, and ask questions. If you know a family interested in the school for 2024-2025, please encourage them to attend this event. School tours may be scheduled by contacting the main office at 217-359-1714.

SJL Youth – Join us on Saturday, February 10th for a ski trip to Sundown Mountain in Dubuque, IA. We will leave at 6am from the St. John parking lot and return by 10pm. The cost, which includes ski and helmet rental, lift ticket, a lesson, and transportation, is \$50 for all youth (17 and younger) and \$75 for adults. All St. John members are welcome to join our group rate but must sign up ahead of time. To sign up, go to this link or email Karen: <https://gforms.app/GcOkt8O>.

Thank you for the get well wishes, Christmas greetings, phone calls, and pictures that I have received this past year. I truly appreciate the thoughtfulness. Mimi

EDUCATION HOUR TODAY

Adult Bible Class – led by Pastor Caithamer in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday School – Kindergarten-High School will start out in the Sanctuary for opening, and then go to their respective classrooms. Preschool will have opening in their own classroom.

3/4yrs Room 4C

K-1st Art Room

2nd-3rd Room 4B

4th-5th

6th-8th

High School

Band Room

Conference Room

Youth Room

Celebrating 40 Years of Lutheran Education – St. John Lutheran School is celebrating its 40th anniversary. Be sure to visit the Fellowship Hall following the first service today for a special reception. You are also invited to pick up a thank you note written by our students for St. John church members. Our school community is very grateful for the prayers and support we receive from the congregation. Thank you.

2024 Contribution Envelopes are available on the table in the hallway near the fellowship hall, please stop by and pick yours up. If you do not see your envelopes or would like envelopes and do not have them, please contact the church office.

2024 Altar Flower Chart – The Altar Flower Chart is available in the overflow. Please print your name and leave a phone number for the Altar Guild ladies to contact you. Upcoming available dates include: February 4th, 18th, and March 17th, 24th. Thank you.

Pasta Dinner and Dessert Auction – The 7th and 8th grade classes are hosting a Pasta Dinner and Dessert Auction on Friday, January 26th, 5:30-7:00pm in the gymnasium, to raise funds for their class trip in April 2024. Join us for a great evening of food and fellowship while supporting our students. Tickets may be purchased in the school office or at the door.

Desserts for Pasta Dinner – Interested in donating a dessert for the auction to be held during the Pasta Dinner? Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

St. John Lutheran School Talent Show – Our Parent Teacher Fellowship is organizing a talent show planned for Friday, January 26th. The event will follow the Pasta Dinner and begin at approximately 7:00pm. Mark your calendars, and we hope to see you there.

LEARN BY HEART
THE FAMILY ALTAR

The families of St. John are encouraged to learn these words from the Small Catechism by heart this week:

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: “We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” [Rom. 6:4]

Bible Passage: The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? 1 Corinthians 10:16

Hymn 395 *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* (sts. 1-2)

Psalm 147:1-12

Bible Readings for the Week:

The Parable of the Lost Sheep and Coin – Luke 15:1-10

The Parable of the Prodigal Son – Luke 15:11-32

David’s Sin with Bathsheba – 2 Samuel 11:1-27

Nathan Confronts David – 2 Samuel 12:1-25