



St. John Lutheran Church and School

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Reverend Jeff Caithamer

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School Principal: Cheryl Black

Divine Service IV with Holy Communion

Page

**stand as you are able*

Prelude – *Partita on “Sei gegrusset, Jesu gutig”* Bach

Hymn *The God of Abraham Praise* **798**

(st. 4-men, st. 6-women, st. 8-organ)

*Invocation, Confession, Absolution 203

*Introit dated insert

*Kyrie 204

*Salutation & Collect 205

First Reading

(8:00) Gradual dated insert

(10:45) *“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”* Men’s Choir

Epistle Reading

*Holy Gospel Reading

*Apostles’ Creed 207

Hymn *Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart* **708**

Sermon *“Preparing for the Cross”* Mark 8:27-38

*Prayers 207

Gathering of Tithes and Offering

(8:00) *“Lord, Thee I Love”* Karg-Elert

(10:45) *“My Song is Love Unknown”* Men’s Choir

*Service of the Sacrament 208

Communion Hymns – 563, 763, (688), 685

***Post-Communion Hymn** *(On My Heart...)* **422**

*Benedicamus and Benediction 212

Communion Hymn 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 & Choir Director:** Keith Williams. **Elders:** 8:00 – Jeremy, Nick, Dan, Mike; 10:45 – Matt, Mike, Harold, Chris. **Ushers:** 8:00 – Everett & Lucas; 10:45 – Keegan & Nic.

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 Gary & Tricia in celebration of their 11th wedding anniversary on February 15th. We also remember the following people in our prayers: *for healing and recovery:* 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:* Betty, Gilbert.

For requests for the prayer chain or to be added to the chain:

<http://stjohnmedia.org/church/PrayerList.html>

There will be a Voter’s Meeting today, at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

OUR WEEK AHEAD

Today	<i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i> ; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:00 Adult Choirs Rehearsal; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 Voter's Meeting
Tuesday	10:00 Adult Bible Class; 5:15 Parish Ed
Wednesday	8:10 Chapel; 3:30 Holy Communion; 5:45 Midweek School, Lighthouse; 7:15 Holy Communion
Thursday	10:00 Lighthouse
Friday	5:00 Youth Group
Sunday	<i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> ; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:00 Adult Choir Rehearsal; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 New Member Class

New Member Class – There will be no new member class today. We will resume class on Sunday, March 3rd at 1:00pm. Thank you.

Choir Rehearsals this morning at 10:00am. There will be no handbell rehearsal or singing choir rehearsal this coming Wednesday or Thursday.

Show Me Dough Fundraiser – Due Monday – Order forms are available on the narthex table. Return order forms to the school office by Monday, February 26th. Dough-livery date is Wednesday, March 6th. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards the middle school class trip.

You're Invited to join us for our Lenten midweek services. We will have services at 3:30pm & 7:15pm, which include the Lord's Supper. The Lenten theme this year is "*I Am a Worm and Not a Man*".

Lenten Dinners – You're invited to join us after the 3:30pm Lenten services for dinner. Upcoming meals include: 2/28-chili supper hosted by the School Board. 3/6-hot dog bar hosted by Fellowship. No meal on 3/13 due to spring break. 3/20-hosted by the Youth Board. Sign-up sheets to bring food will be available for upcoming meals next to the church office. We look forward to seeing you there.

Stewardship Corner – Because of what Jesus has done for us, we are redeemed people with infinite value. Our inherent value does not come from who we are, but from Whose we are. "*Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of My hands*" (Isaiah 49:16a). God pours out His love upon us as a father pours out love upon his children. Although each

person responds differently to the love that God gives, God's love is consistent and unwavering. Christians are people who believe that our lives are good gifts from God. We live our lives in response to God's marvelous love shown on the cross.

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

Music Notes – This morning's organ prelude by Johann Sebastian Bach is based on a less familiar Lutheran chorale which is not included in the LSB. The text of the first verse translates "Hail to Thee, my Jesu holy, None as Thee, the meek and lowly. Ah! How art Thou torn and hated, All Thy body lacerated! On Thy love, dear Lord, relying, So shall I be blest when dying."

Changes to Upcoming Newsletters – Due to changes to the USPS Bulk Mail system, we will be making a few adjustments to how you can receive the monthly newsletters. Please contact the church office or respond to Pastor's February Newsletter email with your preference on how you would like to receive newsletters moving forward. If you do not yet receive the newsletters but would like to be added to the list, please let the church office know. (churchoffice - at - stjoh-lcms.church or 217-359-1123). Thank you.

CID LLL Convention – The LLL District Convention will take place on Saturday, March 9th at 9am. The convention will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Altamont, IL. Lutheran Hour Speaker Rev. Michael Zeigler will be the main speaker. Registration is \$25/person. More information can be found on the narthex table. Anyone interested in carpooling to the event can contact Bill.

Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt – We are planning an Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday, March 31st during the Sunday School hour. Donation tags are available on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall to help with this event. Donation needs include plastic eggs and treats to go inside them and should be placed in the box in the coat room no later than March 17th.

2024 Altar Flower Chart – There are still a few dates available for 2024. Upcoming dates include March 24th and April 28th. Please leave your name and phone number so that the Altar Guild ladies can contact you. Thank you.

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 the Altar

Who receives this sacrament worthily? Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.”

But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

Bible Passage: And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.” John 20:22–23

Hymn 423 *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary* (st. 3)

Psalm 142

Bible Readings for the Week:

Touching the Hem of His Garment – Luke 8:40–56

The Feeding of the 5,000 – John 6:22–44

Jesus Is the Bread from Heaven – John 6:22–44

Jesus Is Rejected by His Own – John 6:47–69