



St. John Lutheran Church and School
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
Reverend Jeff Caithamer

Interim School Principal: Faith Block

Divine Service I with Holy Communion	Page
<i>*stand as you are able</i>	
Prelude – “ <i>The Old Rugged Cross</i> ”	Alleluia Ringers
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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.

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.

SERVING TODAY – Preaching and Presiding: Rev. Jeff Caithamer. **Organist & Director:** Keith Williams. **Elders:** 8:00 - Stephen, Bob, John & Steve; 10:45 – John, Terry, Larry & Jeremy. **Greeters:** 8:00 – Dan & Joanie; 10:45 – John & Bonnie.

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY - The altar flowers are given today by Robert to the Glory of God. We remember the following people in our prayers: *for upcoming surgery:* Pam; *for healing and recovery:* Mary, LaVonne, Earl, Judy -sister of Larry, Bill -son in law of Dave & Donna, Glenda, Rick, Brandon -nephew of Brenda, Bruce, Lorelai, Rachel - niece of Judy, Lois, Nicholas -grandson of Tony & Jill, Ellie, Lucille, Stephen -son of Ken, Dale -brother in law of Ellie, Cathy -sister of Millie, Merv, John, Todd -grandson of Harold, Tom; *for successful treatments:* Philip -son of Starley, Judy, Johnny -son in law of Letty, Joan, Jeannette, Nancy, Maxine; *for those in the military:* Mitchell, Heath, Taylor, Andy, Christopher, Brandon, Suzzanna, Ben, Allyson, Tom, Zackery; *for our homebound:* Leona, Floyd, Betty, Esther.

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

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

During Lent – We traditionally mark the Penitential nature of the season by omitting the Hymn of Praise, and by not singing “Alleluia.” This year we will also do so by singing the Introit without accompaniment.

Introit – With the start of the new church year, we introduce a new (old) way of singing our Introit. The Pastor and congregation will sing in alternation. The Pastor will sing the first verse, the congregation will sing the second verse, etc. All will sing the *Gloria Patri* together at the end.

EDUCATION HOUR TODAY

Adult Bible Class – Pastor Caithamer, fellowship hall

Sunday School Opening will be in the Sanctuary for 1st Grade - 8th Grade. 3 and 4 year olds and Kindergarten meet in room 4C. We begin at 9:30. Come and join us!

1 st & 2 nd	Room 4A	7 th & 8 th	Room 2B
3 rd & 4 th	Room 1C	High School	Youth Room
5 th & 6 th	Room 4B		

Fire Alarm/Security System Update – The new fire alarm installation has been completed, is in service, and the removal of the old system has begun. The process has begun to secure final proposal quotes for the upgrade to the security system. The congregation has raised in excess of \$24,000 thus far, which is approximately 25% of the total cost. The trustees and finance would like to see at least 50% of the total cost financed through the ongoing fundraising. Thank you to anyone who has donated their time or financially to this major project.

Thank You – The family of Gladys would like to thank Pastor Caithamer for his support, ministry, and encouragement during this difficult time as well as for the beautiful service to honor her memory. Your words were inspirational and a comfort for all who attended. To those who prepared the food for the funeral meal and the ladies who served it, thank you for helping to sustain our bodies as we endured the loss. For those who sent cards and flowers and to those who took time to visit with mom, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Mom especially loved the Christmas carolers and spoke of it for weeks after. And last but not least, for all the prayers spoken on mom's behalf. We cannot thank the members of St John enough for their expressions of love. God bless you.

Lenten Dinners – Sign-up sheets to donate food items for Pasta and Meatballs this Wednesday, March 7th or Sloppy Joes next Wednesday, March 14th are on the bulletin board outside the church office.

The Church Garage Sale is scheduled for Friday, April 20th and Saturday, April 21st. We are looking for volunteers to help our youth with this event. Volunteers will be needed for various tasks and times starting April 15th going through April 21st. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office showing what help is needed. Please consider volunteering to help with this very popular event. Questions? Contact.

Easter Breakfast Volunteer Sign-Up – Looking ahead, we will need volunteers to help with Easter Breakfast this year. Help needed includes set-up on Saturday, March 31st from 1-3pm as well as help Easter morning from 6-9am. There are sign-up sheets for this on the bulletin board next to the church office. Sign-up sheets for food donations will be available soon. Please consider volunteering your help. Any questions contact Vanessa.

This Week at St. John Lutheran School and Little Lamb Preschool – March 5-11: Monday – Beef House Rolls Orders Due, 9a, Ram Rebate Orders Due, 3p; Tuesday – Field Trip – K-3rd grade to Museum of the Grand Prairie, VB Regionals vs. Next Generation @ DeLand –Weldon HS, 6:30; Wednesday – Chapel, 8:10a - bring food offering for St. John Food Pantry, K-3rd Choir sing, 3:30p; Thursday – VB Regionals –TBD; Friday – Littler Lambs Playgroup, 8:10a, Ram Rebate Order Pick-up, Field Trip – 2nd-5th grade to Explore ACES at UI, Field Trip – Middle School to EOH at UI; Saturday – Meet & Greet for LL-1st grade families, 10a, Math Bowl in Springfield, IL; Sunday – Daylight Savings Time Begins, K-3rd Choir sing, 8a

OUR WEEK AHEAD

Today	<i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> ; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 Adult Information Class
Tuesday	10:00 Adult Bible Class; 5:30 Fellowship; 6:00 Trustees; 6:30 School Board
Wednesday	8:05 Chapel; 3:30 Lenten Service; 4:30 Lenten Dinner; 5:45 Midweek School, Lifelight; 7:15 Lenten Service
Thursday	7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast; 9:00 Lifelight; 10:00 Evangelism; 1:30 Mary Martha; 6:30 Church Security Discussion
Sunday	<i>4th Sunday in Lent; Daylight Savings Time Begins</i> ; 8:00 Holy Communion (Mixed Choir); 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 Adult Information Class

Lutheran Layman's League – Registration is due today. The convention will be held in our Fellowship Hall, Saturday, March 17th. It is titled “The Two Kingdoms and the Role of a Christian in the Political Process”. Speakers will include former Lutheran Hour Speaker Rev. Gregory Seltz and Congressman John Shimkus. Registration fee is \$12 for adults, students and children free.

Cancelations – The Thursday 6:30pm Lifelight Class along with Men's and Mixed Choirs are cancelled this week due to the Church Security Discussion.

Beef House Rolls Orders – Due tomorrow, March 5th by 9am. Please contact the office if you forgot to send in your order form. The orders will be delivered to the School on Thursday, March 15th.

Mary Martha will meet on Thursday, March 8th at 1:30p.m. in the church overflow. Our speaker will be Kathy, Donor Relations Manager, Ascending Roots, The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. All ladies of the church are welcome to attend.

Church Security Discussion – On Thursday, March 8th, 2018, at 6:30pm, Lt. Tod Myers from the Champaign Police Department will address security issues for the church, including what we have learned from recent events, and how it affects those involved. If you want to know what you can do, should do, or not do in the event that something should happen here, this will be your chance to have these questions answered. Larry asks that all Elders and Trustees attend this meeting, as they are available, in preparation of security plans for St. John. Contact Larry with any questions.

Meet and Greet – All Preschool, Kindergarten and 1st Grade students are invited to a Meet & Greet on Saturday, March 10th from 10:00-11:00am on the school playground (in case of rain, we'll meet in the gym). Students will have the opportunity to meet and play. Parents will have the opportunity to meet and visit with parents who have students in the current LL and K/1 classes as well as meet the teachers. Snacks and drinks provided. Invite friends and neighbors to come and meet us.

E.A.T. @ Culver's – The March E.A.T. night will be at Culver's on South Neil St. on Monday, March 12th, from 5-8pm. Culver's is giving back 20% of our purchases. Bring in the flyer to make sure that 20% of the proceeds will be donated to St. John Lutheran School. We will be receiving an additional 10% by providing Food Runners. Come out and see who will be delivering your food.

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*

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