

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 23, 2023
8:00am & 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 IV with Holy Communion Page

**stand as you are able*

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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.

SERVING TODAY – Preaching & Presiding: Rev. Jeff Caithamer. **Organist:** Trevor Good. **Elders:** 8:00 – Dan, Mike, Dan, Bryce; 10:45 – Chuck, Jim, Steve, Chris. **Ushers:** 8:00 – Everett & Ethan; 10:45 – Eli & Lucas.

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 Richard & Judy in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary on July 28th. We also remember the following people in our prayers: *hospitalized:* Louise; *for healing and recovery:* Rev. Doug Evenson, Ellie, Sherry, Lydia, Robin, Greg, David, Karla, Charlene, Brian, Teresa, Barbara, John, Hendricks, Maria, Merv, Rebecca, Roy, Todd, Brett; *for successful treatments:* Rod, Dan, Nancy, Barb, Luke, Earl, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy; *for those in the military:* Nick, Andy, Brandon, Zachary, David; *for our homebound:* Alice, Linda.

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

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

Voter’s Meeting – There will be a Voter’s Meeting on Sunday, July 31st at 1:00pm in the

OUR WEEK AHEAD

- Today** *8th Sunday after Pentecost*; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion
- Tuesday** 10:00 Adult Bible Class; 5:15 Parish Ed; 7:00 Youth Board
- Wednesday** 7:15 Holy Communion
- Sunday** *9th Sunday after Pentecost*; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 Voter's Meeting

Witness & Outreach – Matthew 13:44-52: We look all around us and question the value of “things.” How can it all be worth so much? In our daily experiences, we are accustomed to the value of “things” being driven higher and higher. And then we look at the things of God – His Word, worship, music, water, bread, wine – and they all look pretty ordinary. But in God’s Kingdom, these are the pearls of greatest value because they reveal His love and presence with us. We need wisdom from the kingdom. If someone doesn’t tell us what something is truly worth, we would never know. That is why it is so important that we tell the world about the true treasures found in the things of God. How will they ever know if we don’t tell them? Let someone in on the pearls and treasures that you know in the wisdom of God.

CPH Reads – Summer reading that’s all about Jesus. This summer, we don’t want more screen time. While screens and other technology can connect us to others worldwide, we’re ready for something different. We’re ready for an authentic togetherness. Reading is a well-documented and studied way to benefit yourself and your children. It can help connect to one another and grow together. When we spend time together learning about Christ, we find hope, joy, and peace no matter the circumstances. This summer, join CPH Reads, a program that will reward your family for reading together about the Good News of Jesus Christ. Sign up at cph.org/reads

Daily Lutheran Chapel Service – You can listen to chapel services from Concordia Theological Seminary-Fort Wayne, IN live weekdays at 8:35 am Central and on-demand at issuesetc.org and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

Stewardship Corner – God has called and designated us as His stewards (Genesis 1:28-30). As God’s stewards, we are called to be caretakers of all that He has lent to us. In order to be effective stewards in doing the Lord’s work, we need to ask the Lord for faith, wisdom, compassion and generosity. When we rely on Him, God will be glorified by what we do. A steward’s motivation is not to earn salvation or gain rewards here on earth. He has no compulsion to serve others than a love for Christ. God will provide His strength and guidance for those who love and serve Him so that they can accomplish the plans He has for them.

EDUCATION HOUR TODAY

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

Sunday School – Summer Sunday School has begun. Kindergarten through High School will meet in the Sanctuary for opening before class. Preschool will meet in their room for opening. Parents, please note the room changes.

3/4yrs Room 4C

6th&7th

Help with Younger Grades

K-2nd Room 2C

High School Youth Room

3rd-5th Room 1C

July Newsletter – Hard copies of the July Newsletter are available on the narthex table. Pastor Caithamer has sent out an electronic copy through email. If you are not on Pastor's email list but would like to be, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Sunday School Teachers Needed – We want to give our teachers a break for the summer. We are still in need of teachers to fill a few spots in July. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the church office. The material will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy J.

Keys & Fobs – Those who are no longer on a board or in need of their keys or fobs, please return them to the church office. Thank you.

Ladies of the Church – The summer issue of the Lutheran Women's Quarterly has arrived. These are available to anyone, so pick up your copy of it or any of the previous issues, from the table in the narthex. You will find a Bible study, interesting articles from other LWML zones, and feature stories. Linda K

Network Server – We are currently in the process of transferring information back onto our computers. Membership information from 2023 may have been lost when our server went down. If anyone has had updates in the past year, please contact the church office to make sure we have the correct membership information (addresses, phone numbers, etc.) on file. Thank you.

Office Hours – The Church Office's summer hours are 10am-2pm. The School Office will not have regular office hours. If you need to get in touch with the School Office staff for any reason over the summer, please call the school office at (217) 359-1714. Messages will be checked regularly. You may also reach them through email at kschmidt - at - stjohnds.com.

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:

Review: Baptism

What is Baptism? Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.

Which is that word of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
Matthew 28:19

Bible Passage: For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:8-10

Psalm 28