



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
<i>*stand as you are able</i>	
Prelude – (8:00) <i>“Ach Gott, vom Himmel sieh' darein”</i> School Students	
(10:45) <i>“Es ist gewisslich”</i> Buxtehude	
Hymn <i>We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God</i>	941
*Invocation, Confession, Absolution	184
*Introit	dated insert
*Kyrie	186
*Gloria in Excelsis	187
*Salutation & Collect	189
First Reading	
(8:00) Gradual	dated insert
(10:45) <i>“Let Light Shine Out of Darkness”</i>	Mixed Choir
Epistle Reading	
*Alleluia	190
*Gospel Reading	
*Nicene Creed	191
Hymn <i>The Day Is Surely Drawing Near</i> (st. 3 women, st. 5 men)	508
Sermon <i>“Privileged Children”</i> Matthew 25:14-30	
*Offertory	192
Gathering of Tithes and Offering	
(8:00) <i>“Oh God of Light”</i>	Williams
(10:45) <i>“We Walk by Faith”</i>	Mixed Choir
*Prayers	193
*Service of the Sacrament	194
Communion Hymns – 411, 536, (691), 733	
*Nunc Dimittis	199
*Thanksgiving	200
*Prayer and Benediction	201
Postlude – <i>“St. Anne”</i>	Best

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 & Music Director:** Keith Williams. **Elders:** 8:00 – Nick, Jeremy, Dan, Mike; 10:45 – Phil, Harold, Mike, Chris. **Ushers:** 8:00 – Henry & Lucas; 10:45 – Eli & Peter. **Day School Band Director:** Alicia Haggin. **Day School Instrumentalists:** Maggie-clarinet; Taylor-oboe.

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 in appreciation and thankfulness for our music director, Keith Williams. We also remember the following people in our prayers: *for thanksgiving:* Jim & Karen in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary today, John & Nancy in celebration of their 31st wedding anniversary on 11/21; *for peace and comfort:* Alex & Sue at the death of Sue’s sister Patricia; *for healing and recovery:* Judy, Rod, Jim-brother of Karla, Kaylianna Arnold-great granddaughter of Bob & Joan, Robin, Karla, Tengwall, Brian, Teresa, Barbara, John, Hendricks, Maria, Merv, Rebecca, Roy, Todd, Brett; *for successful treatments:* Susan, Dan, Nancy, Barb, Luke, Earl, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy; *for our college students:* Charlie, Margaret; *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>

OUR WEEK AHEAD

Today	<i>25th Sunday after Pentecost; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 New Member Class; 4:00 Hymn Festival</i>
Tuesday	<i>8:10 Chapel; 10:00 Adult Bible Class; 6:00 Council; 6:30 LWML</i>
Wednesday	<i>No School; 7:15 Thanksgiving Eve Service with Holy Communion</i>
Thursday	<i>Thanksgiving; Church & School Closed</i>
Friday	<i>Church & School Closed</i>
Sunday	<i>Last Sunday of the Church Year; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion</i>

Hymn Festival – We will be singing hymns for All Saints Day today, at 4:00pm. Join us as we celebrate some of the great hymns of our faith. Instruments, Organ, Handbells, Brass and you.

November E.A.T. Night @ Monical's – Thank you to everyone who enjoyed a meal at Monical's last week. The December E.A.T. Night will be at El Rancho Grande on Dec. 11.

LWML will meet on November 21st at 6:30pm. We will be finalizing plans for the Cookie Walk.

Thanksgiving – Please join us for our Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 22nd at 7:15pm. The Church and School will be closed November 22-24th in observance of Thanksgiving. We wish you a wonderful time with family and friends giving thanks to God for His many blessings.

Family Advent Night – All St. John Families are invited to begin their Christmas preparations by joining us for Family Advent Night on Friday, December 1st, from 5:30-7:30pm. We will have a pizza dinner, crafts for kids, devotions, singing of Christmas carols and cookie decorating. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall.

Church Decorating – Please join us on Saturday, December 2nd, at 9:00am to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. We will be meeting in the Sanctuary/Narthex to start the morning and welcome all volunteers. Thank you.

Advent By Candlelight – Join us for an evening of fellowship, praise, and song. This event will be held at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Sadorus on Sunday, December 3rd, 2023 at 5:00pm. An evening meal will be provided. There is limited seating so reservations must be made by November 27th and no late reservations will be allowed. For reservations call Sandy.

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

Sunday School Christmas Program – The Christmas Program will be presented by the Preschool - 8th grade children on Sunday, December 17th during the Sunday School hour. They will practice during Sunday School on December 3rd and 10th. They will also be practicing the songs during the openings leading up to the program. We look forward to their message.

Midweek School – We hold a Midweek School on Wednesday evenings for Kindergarten through 5th grade. An opening is held in the sanctuary at 5:45p.m and then the children are dismissed to their class. Each week a Bible lesson is taught. The program concludes at 7:00pm. Bring a friend. All are welcome.

PE Teacher for St. John Lutheran School – St. John Lutheran School is seeking a qualified teacher with a strong Christian commitment to teach and guide students (kindergarten – 5th grade) through the position of Physical Education Teacher on a part-time basis. The PE Teacher will create a Christ-centered classroom environment that fosters, promotes, and develops an understanding of the relationship between a healthy body and exercise. The PE Teacher will motivate each student to cultivate physical fitness, developing strength, skill, agility, poise, and coordination in individual, dual and team physical activities/sports, in accordance with each student's ability. Please send all interest and inquiries to Mrs. Cheryl Black, Principal, at cblack - at - stjohlns.com.

Witness & Outreach – Matthew 25:14-30: Jesus again teaches us about His Kingdom with a parable but as He does – He reveals two diametrically different understandings about the Master, the Creator and Giver of all things: one where the receiver of the talents sees the Master as a generous giver and invests the talents with joy in the “business” of the Master; the other where the receiver of the talent sees the Master as hard and stingy and therefore hides the talent in fear of the Master. As a steward of all that God has given you, how do you see the Giver? If you see Him as hard, stingy, unfair in comparison to what others have and question His giving to you, you will never steward with the joy that God intended. But, if you believe that God gave you exactly the talent and the blessings and has in mind the purpose for His Kingdom that He has intended through you, you will go about your daily tasks with joy and contentment and you will rejoice to hear the words, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” May God fill your heart and life with this trust and joy going about the stewardship of your Master’s business.

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 Lord's Prayer

The Third Petition – Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean? The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God's will done? God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

Hymn 677 *For All the Saints*

Psalm 19

Bible Readings for the Week:

Christ's Birth is Foretold to Joseph – Matthew 1:18-25

The Visitation – Luke 1:39-56

The Nativity of John the Baptist – Luke 1:57-80