



**St. John Lutheran Church and School**  
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
Reverend Jeff Caithamer  
revcaithamer - at - [stjohn-lcms.org](http://stjohn-lcms.org)  
School Principal: Tim Gabbert

**Divine Service I**

**OPENING HYMN 790** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,  
Joining in glad adoration!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen All that is needful has been  
Sent by His gracious ordaining?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,  
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.  
What need or grief Ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of His mercy did shade you.
- 4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do  
As with His love He befriends you.
- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;  
Gladly forever adore Him!

## \*INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### \*KYRIE

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** *This Is the Feast*

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

2 Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

3 Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

4 Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

5 For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**\*SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

*The Collect of the Day is spoken.*

**C** **Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:** Isaiah 40:21-31

<sup>21</sup> Do you not know? Do you not hear?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

<sup>22</sup> It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;

<sup>23</sup> who brings princes to nothing,

and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.

<sup>24</sup> Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows on them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

<sup>25</sup> To whom then will you compare me,  
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup> Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
who created these?

He who brings out their host by number,  
calling them all by name;  
by the greatness of his might  
and because he is strong in power,  
not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup> Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

<sup>28</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup> He gives power to the faint,  
and to him who has no might he increases strength.

<sup>30</sup> Even youths shall faint and be weary,  
and young men shall fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup> but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;  
they shall run and not be weary;  
they shall walk and not faint.

*After the reading:*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-27

<sup>16</sup> For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! <sup>17</sup> For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. <sup>18</sup> What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as

not to make full use of my right in the gospel. <sup>19</sup> For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup> To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup> To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup> To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. <sup>23</sup> I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. <sup>24</sup> Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. <sup>25</sup> Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. <sup>26</sup> So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. <sup>27</sup> But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

*After the reading:*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

\*ALLELUIA AND VERSE

**C** **Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter. (29-39)

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>29</sup> And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup> Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. <sup>31</sup> And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. <sup>32</sup> That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. <sup>33</sup> And the whole city was gathered together at the door. <sup>34</sup> And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. <sup>35</sup> And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup> And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, <sup>37</sup> and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." <sup>38</sup> And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there

also, for that is why I came out.”<sup>39</sup> And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

*After the reading:*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY 398** *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

- 1 Hail to the Lord's anointed, Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression And rule in equity.
- 2 He comes with rescue speedy To those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight.
- 3 He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth.  
Before Him on the mountains Shall peace, the herald, go;  
And righteousness in fountains From hill to valley flow.
- 4 Kings shall fall down before Him And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing,  
To Him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.
- 5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand forever – That name to us is Love.

SERMON “*The Power of Preaching*” Mark 1:29-39

**\*NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God

of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### \*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

#### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

#### \*LORD'S PRAYER

#### \*COLLECT

#### \*BENEDICTION

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C Amen.**

#### **CLOSING HYMN 664** *Fight the Good Fight*

- 1 Fight the good fight with all your might;  
Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.  
Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
Your joy and crown eternally.
- 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;  
Lift up your eyes, and seek His face.  
Life with its way before us lies;  
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

- 3 Cast care aside, lean on your guide;  
His boundless mercy will provide.  
Trust, and enduring faith shall prove  
Christ is your life and Christ your love.
  - 4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near;  
He changes not who holds you dear;  
Only believe, and you will see  
That Christ is all eternally.
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**SERVING –**

**Preaching:** Rev. Jeff Caithamer  
**Organist:** Keith Williams  
**Videographer:** Lou Ann

**OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY –** The altar flowers are given by the Eunice family in celebration of Eunice’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday today. We remember the following people in our prayers: *for peace and comfort:* Dot and family at the death of husband Jim; *for healing and recovery:* Maelynn- granddaughter of Rick & Rita, Karla, Shirley, Pastor Ehlers, Esther, Judy, Martin-son of Letty, Aidan, Whitney-wife of Ellie grandson, Barbara-friend of the congregation, Ashlyn-infant relative of Joyce, Jan, John, Tom, Opal, Hendricks-grandson of Dan & Joanie, Jacob-great grandson of Bob & Joan, Maria, Brett-cousin of the Kindts’, Merv, Jessica-granddaughter of Bob & Joan, Joan-mother of Bill, Judy-mother of Rochelle, Rebecca-daughter of Marvin & Esther, Roy-father of Anne, Dan-brother of Bonnie, Todd; *for successful treatments:* Luke, Kendra (school parent), Cari (school parent), Nicole (school parent), Earl, Jayne, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy; *for our college students:* Jordan, Kate, Jacob; *for those in the military:* Roberto, Adam, Joshua, Nick, Taylor, Andy, Brandon, Ben, Allyson, Zachary; *for our homebound:* Geneice, Paul.

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

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

**OUR WEEK AHEAD**

<b>Today</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 New Member Class
<b>Monday</b>	5:30 Finance Board
<b>Tuesday</b>	6:00 Elders
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:20 Chapel; 10:00 Adult Bible Class; 5:45 Midweek School, Lifelight; 7:15 Holy Communion
<b>Thursday</b>	7:00 Men’s Prayer Breakfast; 9:00 Lifelight; 6:00 Lifelight; 6:30 Mixed Choir
<b>Friday</b>	No School

**Sunday**      *Transfiguration*; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 New Member Class

**New Member Class** starts today in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in joining St. John Lutheran Church, if you know of anybody who is interested in joining, or if you would like to refresh your own Lutheran catechesis, then this class is for you. Pastor Caithamer will teach this class on Sunday afternoons from 1pm to 2:30pm through the end of April. If you have any questions, please let pastor know. And, if you would like to attend, please let Pastor know or call the church office.

**Registration for Church Services Suspended** – At their January meeting, the elders agreed that it is not currently necessary for members to register for church services. Our numbers are consistently below our pandemic capacity of 100 people. If the need arises, registration can be used again in the future. Special services, such as Easter in April, will utilize registration, if still needed.

**Email Addresses** – Pastor Caithamer has compiled a list of members' email addresses to communicate with the congregation. If you are not receiving these email communications, please call the church office with your email address so we can add you to the list.

**Lutheran Church Charities** – Our school was blessed to have Bethany, a comfort dog, visit our school this week. Bethany is a trained LCC K-9 Comfort Dog at Trinity Lutheran in Danville. She interacts with people at churches, schools, nursing homes, hospitals, events, and in disaster response situations. Bethany is a friend who brings a calming influence and allows people to open up their hearts and receive help for whatever is affecting them. Visit [www.K9Comfort.org](http://www.K9Comfort.org) for more information. Visit Bethany's Facebook page at [BethanyComfortDog](#) to see pictures of her visit.

**Happy Birthday Eunice** – It is with great joy that we will celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday of our mother, Eunice Carmichael. How blessed we were to grow up in a home where Tom and Eunice provided us all the essentials, but especially the main ingredient of the path to salvation by grace alone through the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please join us in wishing Eunice a very happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and keep doing what you have always done as a loving congregation...pray for her, lift her up, watch over her, and bless her with your words of kindness. With love from Thomas & Heidi, Steve & Lori, Susan, and a large family of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

**Thank You** – The altar guild ladies who have been working on the refurbishment of the candles would like to thank all who have had input and physically helped them with this project. A special thanks to Chris Wise for all his creative talents which made our candles extra special with the adornment of the crosses. Also a big thanks to Mark who helped create the design and did all the assembling and had no extra parts leftover. Also a big thanks to all who donated to this project. Thanks a million our altar looks great.

**2021 Contribution Envelopes** are in the overflow. Some envelope numbers were changed so please throw away all old envelopes. Please stop by and pick up your new envelopes for 2021. If you do not see your envelopes, please contact the church office.

**Altar Flower Chart** – The 2021 Flower Chart has several upcoming available dates: 2/28, 3/7, 3/14. Please leave your phone number and you will be telephoned before the Sunday you signed up to find out what flowers you would like and if you would like them in memory or in honor of something or someone.

**Church Directory Update** – The Church Directories have arrived, and are in the church overflow. Anyone who got their pictures taken will find a directory with their name on it. Extra directories are available for those who were unable to get their pictures taken, while supplies last.

**Open House** – We will be hosting an Open House for Little Lamb Preschool and St. John Lutheran School on Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00-6:30pm. Prospective families will have an opportunity to meet our teachers, see the classrooms, and ask questions about our school. Please invite friends, neighbors, family members, or anyone else who may be interested in sending their child to St. John this upcoming school year. \*Masks and social distancing required.

**Call Committee** – A committee has been formed to begin the process of calling a teacher for the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade class. Members of the committee are as follows: Pastor Caithamer, Tim Gabbert, Maxine, Leah, Faith and Susan. They are asking the congregations to submit names of possible candidates for them to consider. Please contact the school office 359-1714.

**Nursery Remodel** – Be sure to stop by the Julia Eakin Nursery to see the progress of the remodel. Also, check out the bulletin board next to the Nursery (in the hallway) to track the progress on the chart.

**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:

Confession

*What is the Office of the Keys?* The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

*Where is this written?* This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” [John 20:22–23]

*What do you believe according to these words?* I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

**Bible Passage:** The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” John 1:29

Hymn 413 *O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair* (sts. 4-5)

Psalm 128

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

The Tree of Knowledge and the Tree of Life – Genesis 2:4-17

Man Eats the Forbidden Fruit – Genesis 3:1-24

The Passover – Exodus 12:1-14, 17

The Wedding of Cana in Galilee – John 2:1-11