

Welcomed

"ALL FOR WHAT?"

APRIL 7, 2024



ST. JOHN'S

Lutheran Church

Grounded • Growing • Branching

Welcome to St. John's Lutheran Church

Good morning and a blessed welcome to you! It is an honor to have you worshiping with us this morning and we pray that you find great comfort and peace in Jesus' Word of love, mercy, and forgiveness!

At St. John's we are pleased to offer two styles of worship services on Sunday morning. In our 8:30 a.m. traditional service, we offer familiar hymns and rich, traditional worship forms in a meaningful and inspirational setting. Our 11:00 a.m. contemporary service includes the same message as our 8:30 a.m. service, but in an informal style, enhanced with contemporary music. We encourage you to try both worship styles! Thank you for worshiping with us; we would love to have you join us again!

(If you need assistance or need a hearing aid device, please see one of the ushers.)

Contact Us

2727 North Union Boulevard, Decatur, IL 62526

Phone: (217) 875-3656; website: www.stjohnsdecatur.com

Church office hours: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday

Members of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod & Unity Christian School



St. John's Staff

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Unity Christian School Faculty & Staff – Members of St. John's Lutheran Church

Ciara Collins

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Angela Martinek

Jeff Salefski

Brenda Salogga

Melissa Saurmann

Stephanie Wilkerson

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 7, 2024

Grounded in Christ, Growing in Faith, Branching to Others

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND A TIME FOR PRAYER

RINGING OF THE BELLS

OPENING SONG

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

LSB 474

INVOCATION

CONFESSION OF SIN AND JESUS' FORGIVENESS

L: This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

C: But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

L: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. And so let us pause for a time of silent confession of our sins...

L: Now let us turn to our Father and ask for His forgiveness. We pray...

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. This we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

L: If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. Therefore as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in

the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

KYRIE

Gloria in Excelsis

Pg. 154

SALUTATION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK TO US THROUGH HIS WORD *Acts 4:32-35*

³² All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. ³³ The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great blessing was upon them all. ³⁴ There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them ³⁵ and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need. ³⁶ For instance, there was Joseph, the one the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (which means "Son of Encouragement"). He was from the tribe of Levi and came from the island of Cyprus. ³⁷ He sold a field he owned and brought the money to the apostles. (NLT)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT

1 John 1:1-2:2

¹ We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands. He is the Word of life. ² This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that he is the one who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then he was revealed to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And

our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy. ⁵This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. ⁶So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. ⁷But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. ⁹But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts. My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. ²He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world.

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (sung)

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.” ²⁴Now Thomas, one of

the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." ²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (ESV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (*sung*)

SERMON

"All for What?"

John 20:19-31

Pastor Adam Ray

NICENE CREED

OFFERING

*Tithes and gifts may be placed in the collection plate or given at
www.stjohnsdecatour.com/giving.*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

The Leader will conclude every prayer with: "Lord, in Your mercy"

People respond with: "hear our prayer"

LORD'S PRAYER

PREFACE (*responses sung*)

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS (*sung*)

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

AGNUS DEI (*sung*)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

<i>Awake, My Heart, with Gladness</i>	LSB 467
<i>Your Table I Approach</i>	LSB 628
<i>In Thee Is Gladness</i>	LSB 818

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

<i>I Know That My Redeemer Lives (Vv. 1-4)</i>	LSB 461
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POSTLUDE

Last Week's Giving

Weekly Needed.....	\$12,403.85
General Fund.....	\$11,445.00
Online Giving	\$903.98
Total Giving.....	\$12,348.98

Last Week's Attendance

Traditional Service.....	269
Contemporary Service.....	74
Total	343
Maundy Thursday Service	94
Good Friday Service	168

SECOND OF SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 7, 2024 | 11:00 A.M.

OPENING SONGS

Sing To The King

Praise

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING

John 20:19-31

SERMON

"All for What?"

John 20:19-31

Pastor Adam Ray

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

Living Hope

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

The Cross of Christ

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Adam Ray
Worship Leader	Pastor Aaron Bird
Reader	Jan Bryant
Communion Helper	Alan Bishop Jeff Salefski
Lay Minister	8:30 – Troy Harrison 11:00 – Mark Langston
Organist	Ted Hesse
Ushers	8:30 – David Munson 11:00 – Dan Murphey/Debbie Strong
Computer	8:30 – Lindsay Tipsword 11:00 – Zach Hesse
Live Stream	8:30 – Matt Cushing
Camera	8:30 – Matt Cushing
Sound	8:30 – Brandon Patzwitz 11:00 – Steve Wright
Vocals.....	Lindsay Tipsword, Kelli Langston, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar	
Drums	
Piano.....	Ted Hesse

OUR MISSION We are restored to God through the death and resurrection of Jesus. As a family of Christians, we are dedicated to the love and forgiveness of Christ as we reach out, preach and teach the truth of God's Word to each other, our community and the world.

IN NEED OF PRAYER: If you would like to be added to the prayer list or the prayer chain, please contact the church office. Please call the prayer chain with an update of your prayer request.

IN THE MILITARY: Laura Byers, Bryon Chaney, Kimberly Chaney, Kristel Chaney, Travis Chaney, Dan Cheney, Tristin Comer, Randy Edwards, Caleb Goodson, Austin Highcock, Braden Highcock, Destiny Little, Noah Lung, Nathan Lung, Andrew Nailer, Jared Pinney, Caitlin Goodson, Tyler Salefski, Jacob Thornell

CONGREGATION NEWS

Easter Lilies: If you purchased an Easter Lily, please take one home with you.

Northeast Community Fund Sunday is April 14th. There will be **one service at 9:30** and a presentation with refreshments at 10:45 a.m. Please come and hear what NECF is doing for the community and what we can do for NECF. There will be a box at the back of the sanctuary to collect non-perishable food items and another for those who might like to make a monetary donation to NECF.

Service Connect Night is Sunday, April 14th, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. There will be stations to make fleece blankets for Growing Strong, birthday bags for NECF, stuffing back packs for Webster Cantrel Hall, and coloring/making placemats for the nursing homes. This is for all ages. Come and enjoy refreshments, games, and fun fellowship.

Ladies Friendship Circle will meet in the fellowship hall at 1:00 on Tuesday, April 16th. The program will be a representative from the Park District who will tell us about their programs for senior citizens. The District offers indoor and outdoor opportunities for both active and sedentary seniors at different times of the day throughout the year.

Save the date! On May 21 we will take a field trip to the Millikin Home. A spring field trip is a popular activity and the more the merrier!

Good Samaritan Inn: St. John's will host the noon meal at Good Samaritan Inn on Sunday, April 21st. Volunteers are appreciated. If you are interested, please call the church office so we know to expect you. The menu will be grilled hot dogs/buns, baked beans, chips, fresh fruit (apples/oranges/bananas) and a dessert. We are looking for **cookie donations** for the dessert. If you are willing to help, please call the church office. Please have the cookies to the church by the end of the early service on 4/21/2024. You can leave them in the kitchen.

Blood Drive: St John's is sponsoring a blood drive in the Fellowship Hall from 12:00 to 5:00 PM on April 30, 2024. Donors will receive instructions about claiming a gift card from one of the following: Amazon, Walmart, Starbucks, Target, Home Depot, Lowe's, or Subway. Sign up after the 8:30 or before the 11 am services on 4/7, 4/14 or 4/21. Other sign-up options include ImpactLife at 800-747- 5401 or online at www.bloodcenter.org. Please bring a photo ID. ImpactLife is the sole supplier of blood to DMH and St. Mary's. The need is real. Please consider a donation.

The Properties Team is looking to fill the position of Cemetery Caretaker. This position is responsible for the basic upkeep of the grounds of the St. John's Lutheran Church Cemetery from April thru October, and should require no more than (16) hours per week. If you're interested, a full job description is available in the Church Office or you can speak with Del Gross or Gary Schwartzle.

STEWARDSHIP SEEDS: *John 20:19 – “Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’”* The peace we have in Jesus is what makes a life of good works possible. Since we know that it is Jesus who saved us, and not our works, we are now free to do good works not out of self-interest, but for the right reasons: out of thanksgiving toward God and love for our neighbors.

The Unity Era Red & black Gala: Tickets are available now. The annual Dinner Auction is Friday, May 3! Please go to the Unity Christian School Facebook page for more information.

Musical Concert at Trinity Lutheran Church: Rachel Versemann, Trinity's organist, will have a concert on Saturday, April 27, 2024, 2:00 pm at the church. She will play selections by various artists using her musical talents on the organ, piano, and clarinet. She may add an accompanist for some of her selections. A reception with light refreshments will follow the concert. Plan to attend this special concert and enjoy Rachel's musical talents.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Education Hour (FH)
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
4-5:30 P.M. Confirmation (FH)
5:30-6:00 P.M. Shared Dinner
6:00 P.M. Jr. High Youth Groups

MONDAY, APRIL 8

6:30 P.M. Properties Meeting (Rock)
6:30 P.M. Boy Scouts (FH)

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

10-11:00 A.M. DHM Grief Support (Lounge)
1:00 P.M. Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
6:30 P.M. Hospitality Meeting (Rock)
6:30 P.M. Lay Ministry (FH)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Study (FH)

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

5:30 P.M. TOPS
6:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal
7:00 P.M. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

..... Set-Up for NECF Sunday Presentation

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

..... Set-Up for NECF Sunday Presentation

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

9:30 A.M. One Service – NECF Sunday
10:45 A.M. Presentation & Reception for NECF Sunday
5:00 – 7:00 P.M. Service Connect Night