

Welcome

“LEGALISM OR LOVE?”

JUNE 2, 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 worshipping 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 worshipping 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.)

The Lord's Supper

Though we are eager for all to participate fully in the Lord's Supper, we do not want to compromise any portion of God's Word among us. Because Scripture states that the Lord's Supper can be taken to one's spiritual harm if not properly understood, we ask all visitors to refer to the following statement of belief regarding the Lord's Supper before communing:

I am truly sorry for the sin in my life. I am struggling to die to my sin and to live in faith in Jesus. I am looking to Jesus to empower me to stop my sinning and to live a new life in Him. I believe when I receive the bread, I am receiving the true body of Christ, and when I receive the wine, I am receiving the true blood of Jesus. I believe that when I receive His true body and blood my sins are forgiven, I am given power over sin, death and the devil, and the gift of eternal life. My faith is completely in the words of Jesus.

The Lord's Supper offers the two-fold gift of forgiveness and peace with God on the one hand, and unity and oneness among those who commune together on the other hand (Matt. 26:28; 1 Cor. 10:16-17). Those who receive the body and the blood of the Lord do so in terms of their relationship with God as well as with their fellow-communicants. Therefore, all baptized believers who understand and agree with the above Lutheran teaching of the Lord's Supper are welcome to attend. As always, we encourage you to speak with Pastor Ray or Pastor Aaron with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

Disabled – The pastor and lay minister will gladly commune anyone unable to come to the communion rail. Let the pastor or an usher know before the service begins.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 2, 2024

Grounded in Christ, Growing in Faith, Branching to Others

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND A TIME FOR PRAYER

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & GREETING

OPENING SONG

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

LSB 904

- 1 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word
We are gathered all to hear You.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
Now to seek and love and fear You,
By Your teachings, sweet and holy,
Drawn from earth to love You solely.
- 2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till Your Spirit breaks our night
With the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
You must work all good within us.
- 3 Gracious Savior, good and kind,
Light of Light, from God proceeding,
Open now our heart and mind;
Help us by Your Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry Your Church now raises;
Hear and bless our prayers and praises.
- 4 Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord,
Praise to You and adoration!
Grant that we may trust Your Word,

Confident of our salvation,
While we here below must wander,
Till we sing Your praises yonder.

INVOCATION

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: 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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination.

L: 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.

L: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE (*responses sung*)

THIS IS THE FEAST (*sung*)

C: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. 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. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation. 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. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK TO US THROUGH HIS WORD *Deuteronomy 5:12-15*

¹²“Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁴but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. ¹⁵You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore, the Lord your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the

knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. ⁸ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. ¹¹ For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death is at work in us, but life in you. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 2:23-28

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the second chapter.

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

²³ One Sabbath he was going through the grainfields, and as they made their way, his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴ And the Pharisees were saying to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" ²⁵ And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: ²⁶ how he entered the house of God, in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?" ²⁷ And he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath." (ESV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

SERMON

"Legalism or Love?"

Mark 2:23-28

Pastor Aaron Bird

NICENE CREED

C: 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

OFFERING

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Please refer to the screen for the congregation responses.)

- L: Almighty God, You commanded the Israelites to remember and keep the Sabbath day.
- C: We confess as Your people we have not always set this day aside for You. We are consumed by the things of this world. Forgive us, Lord.**
- L: You call us by Your Holy Spirit to faith and to serve You with our lives.
- C: You use us despite our sin and shortcomings to reach this world**

for You. Thank You for entrusting this message to us. Help us by Your Spirit to reach people around us and around the world with the Good News.

L: Just as Jesus was accused of breaking the Law on the Sabbath, so we are also accused of breaking the Law.

C: Lord Jesus, help us to always look to You and Your saving work for us on the cross for our hope instead of anything we do.

L: Lord Jesus, just as there were many afflicted with diseases whom You healed, so it is today. We remember the sick, our members who are homebound, and all afflicted in any way, [*especially . . .*] We ask You to be with them, just as You have promised.

C: Give them Your healing, according to Your will; Your presence; and especially Your peace.

L: Your Word commands us to pray for kings and all in authority, that we might live our lives in peace.

C: We lift up all world leaders, those of our enemies as well as allies; we lift up all in authority in every place, asking You would give each one Your Spirit and wisdom on how to govern our world, that we might live in peace.

L: Lord Jesus, You remind us to care for those suffering and oppressed. We remember those who at this moment are in prison because they are bold to preach Your name. Give them strength, especially those whose lives may be taken from them today.

C: We also remember the homeless, those living in poverty and hunger, and those who are not able to find a job. Be with all; give relief, comfort, and hope according to Your will.

L: Heavenly Father, we also pray for the many upon our hearts this day that we have not named.

C: Hear our prayers now as we bring those people before Your altar in our hearts.

Time for silent prayer.

L: We bring these and all prayers before Your throne, asking according to Your will that You hear us. So remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

PREFACE (*responses sung*)

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS (sung)

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

AGNUS DEI (sung)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Almighty God, Your Word is Cast

LSB 577

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Now let the dew of heav'n descend | Like seed into the ground;
And righteous fruits abound. |
| 2 | Let not the sly satanic foe
But give it root in ev'ry heart | This holy seed remove,
To bring forth fruits of love. |
| 3 | Let not the world's deceitful cares
But let it yield a hundredfold | The rising plant destroy,
The fruits of peace and joy. |
| 4 | So when the precious seed is sown,
That all whose souls the truth receive | Life-giving grace bestow
Its saving pow'r may know. |

Alleluia! Let Praises Ring

LSB 822

- 1 Alleluia! Let praises ring! To God the Father let us bring
 Our songs of adoration. To Him through everlasting days
 Be worship, honor, pow'r, and praise,
 Whose hand sustains creation.
 Singing, ringing: Holy, holy, God is holy;
 Spread the story Of our God, the Lord of glory.
- 2 Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto the Lamb of God we sing,
 In whom we are elected.
 He bought His Church with His own blood,
 He cleansed her in that blessèd flood,
 And as His bride selected. Holy, holy
 Is our union And communion.
 His befriending Gives us joy and peace unending.
- 3 Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto the Holy Ghost we sing
 For our regeneration. The saving faith in us He wrought
 And us unto the Bridegroom brought,
 Made us His chosen nation. Glory! Glory!
 Joy eternal, Bliss supernal;
 There is manna And an endless, glad hosanna.
- 4 Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto our triune God we sing;
 Blest be His name forever! With angel hosts let us adore
 And sing His praises evermore For all His grace and favor!
 Singing, ringing: Holy, holy, God is holy;
 Spread the story Of our God, the Lord of glory!

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (v. 1-4)

LSB #633

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King,
 Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His piercèd side.
 Alleluia!
- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,
 Gives His Body for the feast-- Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
 Alleluia!

3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Sent Forth By God's Blessing

LSB 643

1. Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.
2. With praise and thanksgiving To God everliving,
The tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring
Embracing his children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us,
Unite us as one in this life that we share
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

POSTLUDE

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 2, 2024 | 11:00 A.M.

OPENING SONGS

Praise

Good Grace

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 2:23-28

SERMON

"Legalism or Love?"

Mark 2:23-28

Pastor Aaron Bird

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

I Speak Jesus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

For All You've Done

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Aaron Bird
Worship Leader	Pastor Adam Ray
Reader	Cathi Tavarczyk
Communion Helper	David Salogga/Brian Cripe
Lay Minister	8:30 – Drew Miller 11:00 – Matt Cushing
Organist	Ted Hesse
Ushers	8:30 – Dave Munson 11:00 – Dan Murphey/Tom Schollenbruch
Computer	8:30 – Mike Patzwitz 11:00 – Zach Hesse
Live Stream	8:30 – Matt Cushing
Camera	8:30 – Matt Cushing
Sound	8:30 – Brandon Patzwitz 11:00 – Brandon Patzwitz
Vocals.....	Becky Dosien, Kristin Hesse, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar	Mike Dahn
Drums	Julia Cushing
Piano.....	Angela Cushing

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

Summer Break: Adult Bible Study and children's Sunday School will be on "Summer Break" and will not be meeting for the following Sundays: June 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. However, a time of fellowship and refreshments will be offered on those Sundays between services in the lounge.

Envelope Fundraiser: Support our youth attending the South Dakota Mission Trip. Take an envelope(s) from the back table and fill them with that specific dollar amount and return them to the church office. If you have any questions, please reach out to Angela Cushing!

"It's Spring Cleaning Season! Students at Your Service are here to help! Your donation will go toward the student's summer mission trip to South Dakota. From yard work, deep cleaning, dog walking, painting and more our students are ready to serve. Call the Church office to get a project set up. Talk to Angela Cushing if you have any further questions."

Any interested ladies! Our St. John's chapter of LWML is hosting a book discussion starting Monday, June 3rd at 6:30 pm. We will meet 6 times. The book is "A Case for Character: Towards a Lutheran Virtue Ethics" by Joel D. Biermann. You will need to provide your own copy of the book. It is a bit pricey, but there are used and Kindle versions available. Contact Brenda Salogga 217-429-9183 or dnbsal@comcast.net for more details.

#lifetogether meals are back! Wednesdays, June 12, July 10, August 14 at 5:30 p.m. Cookout & Yard Games

Bus Trips: St. John's will be sponsoring bus trips to the Little Theatre again this summer. First trip will be Saturday, June 8th for a 2pm performance of The Bible Story of Joseph. Tickets are \$36 each and reservations may be made with the church office or Jerry Pelz (217-433-2961). Please meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. on June 8th for the bus ride to Sullivan.

Northeast Community Fund will be hosting an appreciation dinner for their donors and volunteers here at St. John's on the evening of Saturday June 22nd. We are hoping to provide a few desserts for the event to help

out. Would you be willing to make something tasty to share with our friends at Northeast? Contact Pastor Aaron if you are interested and able to help!

4th Annual St. John's Golf Scramble Fun-Raiser to be held September 22, at 1:30 at the Moweaqua Golf Course. Cost is \$400 per team. Includes golf, prizes, and dinner afterwards. Proceeds go back to the church through various needs and governed by Lay Ministry Board. Sign-up sheets will be available in a few weeks. Please mark your calendars.

DO YOU HAVE? Garden Tools? Hand Tools? Nuts, Bolts & Screws? Nail Polish? Make-up and Perfume You Bought and Changed your mind? Flower Arrangements? Lamps? These items sell very well at the LSA ReSale Shop. If you are spring/summer cleaning and purging, consider donating these items. As Always, we will take your clothes, shoes, purses and holiday decor. Donation times are Mondays and Tuesdays from 9am to 1pm and Thursdays from 2pm to 6pm.

Adult VBS at Mt. Calvary: Join Mt. Calvary's Adult VBS this summer! Weekday sessions begin June 6,13,20,27, from 12-2:30 (lunch served). Weekend Sessions June 15 & 29, from 10 – noon (snacks provided). Each session will have devotions, body bingo and a service project. Any questions or to register, please contact Mt. Calvary office 217-428-0641.

Last Week's Giving

Weekly Needed.....	\$12,403.85
General Fund.....	\$4,306.00
Online Giving	\$757.97
Total Giving.....	\$5,063.97

Last Week's Attendance

8:30 a.m.	103
11:00 a.m.	41
Total	144

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Fellowship in the Lounge
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
12-7:00 P.M. Fellowship Hall Reserved

MONDAY, JUNE 3

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

1:00 P.M. Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
5:30 P.M. Outreach Meeting
6:00 P.M. Discipleship Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

No church activities scheduled.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

5:30 P.M. TOPS
7:00 P.M. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

No church activities scheduled.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

12:30 P.M. Bus Trip to Little Theatre in Sullivan

SUNDAY, June 9

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Reception Hour (Lounge)
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service