

>Welcome

**"GLIMPSES OF THE MYSTERY"**

**MAY 26, 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.)*

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### **Contact Us**

**2727 North Union Boulevard, Decatur, IL 62526**

**Phone: (217) 875-3656; website: [www.stjohnsdecatur.com](http://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**

**Rev. Adam Ray**, Lead Pastor  
[pastoradam@stjohnsdecatur.com](mailto:pastoradam@stjohnsdecatur.com)

**Rev. Aaron Bird**, Assoc. Pastor  
[pastoraaron@stjohnsdecatur.com](mailto:pastoraaron@stjohnsdecatur.com)

**Malinda Standerfer**, Dir. of Christian Ed  
[dcemalinda@stjohnsdecatur.com](mailto:dcemalinda@stjohnsdecatur.com)

**Ted Hesse**, Worship Music Director  
[tedh@stjohnsdecatur.com](mailto:tedh@stjohnsdecatur.com)

**Georgia Newman**, Office Manager  
[georgian@stjohnsdecatur.com](mailto:georgian@stjohnsdecatur.com)

**Carol Reynolds**, Financial Secretary  
[carolr@stjohnsdecatur.com](mailto:carolr@stjohnsdecatur.com)

**Jeff Miller**, Custodian

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

*Ciara Collins*

*Anne Jesgarz*

*Angela Martinek*

*Jeff Salefski*

*Brenda Salogga*

*Melissa Saurmann*

*Stephanie Wilkerson*

# HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

May 26, 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

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

*LSB 507*

### INVOCATION

#### OPENING SENTENCES *Revelation 4:8, 11*

L: Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!

**C: Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power,**

L: for You created all things,

**C: and by Your will they exist and were created.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Almighty God, we are called to confess You as the God who has no equal;

**C: You are three distinct persons, yet one God.**

L: O God, You are holy, we are not; You are righteous, we are not. Yet in Your foreknowledge, You knew this would be our state, and You made a distinct and definite plan for a way to redeem us from our sins. In confidence of Your grace and with thanksgiving for it, we confess our sins to You.

**C: Gracious Father, we confess the sins of thought, which creep into our minds daily; we confess our sinful words, and the evil that**

**comes from our tongues; and we confess our sinful deeds, which we know go against Your holiness. Forgive us, Lord, for these and all sins, not because we are deserving, but for Your definite plan of mercy and grace shown to us at the cross. In Christ we pray, Amen.**

**L:** My friends in Christ, hear the good news on this day! God has forgiven you all your sins because of the blood of Jesus shed at the cross. And so it is in the stead and at 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! Thanks be to God for His mercy and grace!**

## **SALUTATION**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

#### **LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK TO US THROUGH HIS WORD**

*Isaiah 6:1-8*

<sup>1</sup>It was in the year King Uzziah died that I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple. <sup>2</sup>Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>They were calling out to each other, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Heaven's Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory!" <sup>4</sup>Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>Then I said, "It's all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the Lord of Heaven's Armies." <sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>He touched my lips with it and said, "See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven." <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?" I said, "Here I am. Send me." (NLT)

**L:** This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**NEW TESTAMENT**

*Acts 2:14, 22-36*

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd... "People of Israel, listen! God publicly endorsed Jesus the Nazarene by doing powerful miracles, wonders, and signs through him, as you well know. <sup>23</sup> But God knew what would happen, and his prearranged plan was carried out when Jesus was betrayed. With the help of lawless Gentiles, you nailed him to a cross and killed him. <sup>24</sup> But God released him from the horrors of death and raised him back to life, for death could not keep him in its grip. <sup>25</sup> King David said this about him: 'I see that the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me. <sup>26</sup> No wonder my heart is glad, and my tongue shouts his praises! My body rests in hope. <sup>27</sup> For you will not leave my soul among the dead or allow your Holy One to rot in the grave. <sup>28</sup> You have shown me the way of life, and you will fill me with the joy of your presence.' <sup>29</sup> "Dear brothers, think about this! You can be sure that the patriarch David wasn't referring to himself, for he died and was buried, and his tomb is still here among us. <sup>30</sup> But he was a prophet, and he knew God had promised with an oath that one of David's own descendants would sit on his throne. <sup>31</sup> David was looking into the future and speaking of the Messiah's resurrection. He was saying that God would not leave him among the dead or allow his body to rot in the grave. <sup>32</sup> "God raised Jesus from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this. <sup>33</sup> Now he is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today. <sup>34</sup> For David himself never ascended into heaven, yet he said, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit in the place of honor at my right hand <sup>35</sup> until I humble your enemies, making them a footstool under your feet.'" <sup>36</sup> "So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!"

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

### HOLY GOSPEL

*John 3:1-17*

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

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

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (ESV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

**SERMON HYMN**

*Glory Be to God the Father*

LSB 506

**SERMON**

*"Glimpses of the Mystery"*

*John 3:1-17*

*Pastor Adam Ray*

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**OFFERING**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN**

*Now Thank We All Our God*

LSB 895

**POSTLUDE**

**HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY**  
***May 26, 2024 | 11:00 A.M.***

**OPENING SONGS**

*This Is Our God*  
*King of Kings*

**WELCOME & GREETING**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER**

**SHARING THE PEACE**

**OFFERING**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

*John 3:1-17*

**SERMON**

*"Glimpses of the Mystery"*

*John 3:1-17*

*Pastor Adam Ray*

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**PRAYERS**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BLESSING**

**SENDING SONG**

*Mighty Warrior*



## SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher .....	Pastor Adam Ray
Reader .....	Jeff Salefski
Lay Minister .....	8:30 – Troy Harrison 11:00 – Mark Langston
Organist .....	Sharon Cripe
Ushers .....	8:30 – David Vanskike 11:00 – Debbie Strong
Computer .....	8:30 – Mike Patzwitz 11:00 – Ellie Hesse
Live Stream .....	11:00 – Brandon Patzwitz
Camera .....	11:00 – Eric Brown
Sound .....	8:30 – Doug Hicks 11:00 – Doug Hicks
Vocals.....	Melissa Saurmann, Pam Saurmann, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar .....	Wendy Salefski
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

**Voter's Meeting** is today during the education hour in the Fellowship Hall.

**Reception Hour:** During the month of June, there will be a Reception Hour during the Education Hour. Please join us in the Lounge for refreshments and time of fellowship.

**Youth Mission Trip Fundraisers:** Support our youth going on the South Dakota Mission Trip by **taking an envelope(s)** from the back table and fill them with that dollar amount and return them to the church office.

**Students at Your Service!** Students will help with yard work, deep cleaning, dog walking, painting and more. Call the Church office to get a project set up. Talk to Angela Cushing if you have any further questions."

**2025 Youth Gathering:** If you have a student entering 8th thru 12th grade this fall, then he/she is able to attend the 2025 Youth Gathering with us in New Orleans, July 19-23, 2025! If you have not done so already, please reach out to Angela Cushing ([aocushing@gmail.com](mailto:aocushing@gmail.com)) by Wednesday, May 29, with the name of your student and what grade he/she will be in this coming fall. Once you reply, your email will be added to all correspondence moving forward.

**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](mailto: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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> for the bus ride to Sullivan.

**Mite Boxes:** Remember mite boxes are collected the first Sunday of every month at the back of the sanctuary. There are 31 grants being supported in 2023 and 2024. Ladies contact Brenda Salogga via email [dnbsal@comcast.net](mailto:dnbsal@comcast.net) or 217-429-9183 if interested in being included in St. John's LWML emails concerning our activities.

**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, it's FUN, It's FREE and FULL OF SURPRISES! Weekday sessions begin June 6,13,20,27 and meet from 12-2:30 (lunch served). Weekend Sessions June 15 & 29 and meet from 10 – noon (snacks provided). Each session will have devotions, body bingo and a service project. You can attend one or all of the sessions. If you have questions or would like to register, please contact Beth Langdon at 217-423-3213 or Mt. Calvary office 217-428-0641.

**Last Week's Giving**

Weekly Needed.....	\$12,403.85
General Fund.....	\$9,330.00
Online Giving.....	\$1,240.30
Total Giving.....	\$10,570.30

**Last Week's Attendance**

8:30 a.m. ....	120
11:00 a.m. ....	64
Total.....	184
Wednesday Adult Bible Study.....	18

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

### SUNDAY, MAY 26

8:30 A.M. .... Traditional Service  
9:45 A.M. .... Voter's Meeting (FH)  
11:00 A.M. .... Contemporary Service

### MONDAY, MAY 27

Memorial Day – Church Office Closed

### TUESDAY, MAY 28

9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. .... YMCA Training (Rock)  
10–11:00 A.M. .... DMH Grief Support Meeting (Lounge)  
1:00 P.M. .... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. .... YMCA Training (Rock)

### THURSDAY, MAY 30

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

### FRIDAY, MAY 31

No church activities scheduled.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 1

No church activities scheduled.

### SUNDAY, June 2

8:30 A.M. .... Traditional Service  
9:45 A.M. .... Reception Hour (Lounge)  
11:00 A.M. .... Contemporary Service  
12:00 – 6:00 P.M. .... Fellowship Hall Reserved