

>Welcome

**"A POWERFUL PRAYER"**

**JULY 28, 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.)*

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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)

**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

Angela Martinek

Jeff Salefski

Brenda Salogga

Melissa Saurmann

Stephanie Wilkerson

# TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 28, 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

*Chief of Sinners Though I Be*

*LSB 611*

### INVOCATION

### OPENING SENTENCES

L: Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

**C: Enter not into judgment with Your servant, for no one living is righteous before You.**

L: Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.

**C: Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God! Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**

L: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**C: The Lord is good to all, and His mercy is over all that He has made.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on confession in the Small Catechism informs and directs us with these words, which summarizes it well.

**C: Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that**

**by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.**

L: Humbling ourselves then before God, we confess our sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

**C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.**

L: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

**C: Amen.**

L: May it be for you as you believe. As a called and ordained servant 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.**

## **SALUTATION**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

*Old Testament*

*Genesis 9:8-17*

<sup>8</sup> Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup> "Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, <sup>10</sup> and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. <sup>11</sup> I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." <sup>12</sup> And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that

is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup> I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup> When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup> I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup> When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." <sup>17</sup> God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth." (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **NEW TESTAMENT**

*Ephesians 3:14-21*

<sup>14</sup> When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, <sup>15</sup> the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. <sup>16</sup> I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. <sup>17</sup> Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. <sup>18</sup> And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. <sup>19</sup> May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. <sup>20</sup> Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. <sup>21</sup> Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen. (NLT)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

*Mark 6:45-56*

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

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

<sup>45</sup> Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup> And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>47</sup> And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. <sup>48</sup> And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, <sup>49</sup> but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, <sup>50</sup> for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." <sup>51</sup> And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, <sup>52</sup> for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened. <sup>53</sup> When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. <sup>54</sup> And when they got out of the boat, the people immediately recognized him <sup>55</sup> and ran about the whole region and began to bring the sick people on their beds to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup> And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well. (ESV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

## **SERMON HYMN**

### **SERMON**

*"A Prowerful Prayer"*

*Ephesians 3:14-21*

*Pastor Aaron Bird*

**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**

*I Am Jesus' Little Lamb*

*LSB 740*

**POSTLUDE**

**Last Week's Giving**

Weekly Needed .....	\$12,403.85
General Fund .....	\$8,898.60
Online Giving .....	\$
Total Giving .....	\$8,898.60

**Last Week's Attendance**

8:30 a.m. ....	115
11:00 a.m. ....	57
Total .....	172

**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

***July 28, 2024 | 11:00 A.M.***

**OPENING SONGS**

*Praise*

*Sing To The King*

**WELCOME & GREETING**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER**

**SHARING THE PEACE**

**OFFERING**

*Lord I Lift Your Name On High*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

*Ephesians 3:14-21*

**SERMON**

*"A Powerful Prayer"*

*Ephesians 3:14-21*

*Pastor Aaron Bird*

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**PRAYERS**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BLESSING**

**SENDING SONG**

*For All You've Done*



## SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher .....	Pastor Aaron Bird
Reader .....	Troy Harrison
Lay Minister .....	8:30 – Drew Miller 11:00 – Mark Langston
Organist .....	Ted Hesse
Ushers .....	8:30 – David Vanskike 11:00 – Dan Zimmerman
Computer .....	8:30 – Mike Patzwitz 11:00 – Allison Cushing
Live Stream .....	11:00 – Matt Cushing
Camera .....	11:00 – Matt Cushing
Sound .....	8:30 – Brandon Patzwitz 11:00 – Brandon Patzwitz
Vocals.....	Pam Saurmann, Lindsay Tipsword, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar .....	Wendy Salefski
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

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** has begun with our next installment of our *Songs of Summer* Bible Study series. During the months of July and August we will explore different songs of the faith that help instruct us and enliven us in the Christian faith. All ages are invited!

**Wednesday Adult Bible Study** has started again. Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. as we study Luther's Small Catechism.

**Mission Trip Recap:** Come and listen to all the exciting things the youth experienced during the Rapid City, South Dakota Mission Trip. Next Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 a.m., in the fellowship hall.

**The time is here** to begin our preparations for our youth's pilgrimage to New Orleans for the **2025 LCMS Youth Gathering!** If you have a child who will be in 8th-12th grade in this upcoming school year, they would be eligible to attend. For those interested in learning more about the Gathering, there will be an initial Information Meeting on Sunday, August 4th at 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**#lifetogether meals are back!** Why stay home and cook? You could come and join us Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m., for a cookout, fun games, and fellowship.

**Ladies of St. John's!** We are assembling one or two auction baskets for Camp Cilca. The theme for the baskets will be "Homemade". Do you can? Do you knit or crochet or sew? Do you make decorative items? Do you bake? Other? If you would like to donate an item, please text Brenda Salogga at 217-429-9183 or email [dnbsal@comcast.net](mailto:dnbsal@comcast.net) by August 11th.

**Bus Trips:** Tickets are available for the Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> performance of "Nunsense". Make your reservations with Jerry Pelz (217-433-2961) or the church office. Cost is \$36.00 per ticket. We will be leaving from the church at 12:45 p.m.

**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.

**Thrivent Members:** Many of our St. John's family have Thrivent Choice Dollars. Our Ministry Teams would benefit from using the Choice Dollars for upcoming church events. Please contact the church office if you are willing to let the Ministry Teams use your Choice Dollars. Thank you.

**Trinity's Youth Group** will have a rummage sale on August 23rd -24th, in our church basement. All proceeds will go to Trinity's youth trip to the NYG in 2025. Please join us! Trinity is located at 1960 East Johns Avenue in Decatur. For more information, call Trinity's Church Office at: (217)422-3630.

**LSA ReSale Shop:** Christmas in July has come to an end and August brings the beginning of sunflowers and fall decor for sale. If you need to recycle your fall decor, the ReSale Shop is the place. Mark your calendar for these important dates: Thursday, September 12 is the 10 Cent Sale from 9am to Noon and on Monday, September 16 the store re-opens with all new fall/winter/holiday merchandise. Volunteers are needed for restock on Friday & Saturday, September 13 & 14.

**STEWARDSHIP SEEDS:** *Luke 16:8-9 – "For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings."* The things of this world, including wealth, are merely tools. They can be used for good or ill. They can be squandered or used efficiently. How we use them will be determined by what is most important to us. What is most important to you in your life? Does the way you use the things of this world reflect that?

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

### SUNDAY, JULY 28

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

### MONDAY, JULY 29

6:30 P.M. .... Boy Scouts (FH)

### TUESDAY, JULY 30

1:00 P.M. .... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

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

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

12:45 P.M. .... Bus Trip to Sullivan  
5:30 P.M. .... TOPS (FH)  
7:00 P.M. .... Worship Practice

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

No church activities scheduled.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

No church activities scheduled.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

8:30 A.M. .... Traditional Service  
9:45 A.M. .... Youth Mission Trip Recap (FH)  
11:00 A.M. .... Contemporary Service  
12:00 P.M. .... NYG 2025 Informational Meeting