

Welcome

"SACRIFICE & SUBMISSION"

AUGUST 25, 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

Rev. Adam Ray, Lead Pastor
pastoradam@stjohnsdecatur.com

Rev. Aaron Bird, Assoc. Pastor
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Ted Hesse, Worship Music Director
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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

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 25, 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

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

LSB 575

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 66 & 40*

L: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

C: sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!

L: Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds!

C: All the earth worships You and sings praises to Your name."

L: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard,

C: who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Let us now turn to our gracious God with repentant hearts, humbling ourselves as we confess our sins to him...

C: Gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that my heart may know peace. This I ask in Jesus' Name, Amen.

L: By the mercy of God, we are redeemed by Jesus Christ and in Him we are forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by

His authority, I 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

Isaiah 29:11-19

¹¹ And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." ¹² And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read." ¹³ And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, ¹⁴ therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden." ¹⁵ Ah, you who hide deep from the Lord your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" ¹⁶ You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? ¹⁷ Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? ¹⁸ In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. ¹⁹ The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 5:21-33

²¹ And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²² For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. ²⁴ As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. ²⁵ For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her ²⁶ to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. ²⁷ He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. ²⁸ In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. ²⁹ No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. ³⁰ And we are members of his body. ³¹ As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." ³² This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. ³³ So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. (NLT)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-13

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

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

¹ One day some Pharisees and teachers of religious law arrived from Jerusalem to see Jesus. ² They noticed that some of his disciples failed to follow the Jewish ritual of hand washing before eating. ³ (The Jews, especially the Pharisees, do not eat until they have poured water over their cupped hands, as required by their ancient traditions. ⁴ Similarly, they don't eat anything from the market until they immerse their hands

in water. This is but one of many traditions they have clung to—such as their ceremonial washing of cups, pitchers, and kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and teachers of religious law asked him, “Why don’t your disciples follow our age-old tradition? They eat without first performing the hand-washing ceremony.” ⁶Jesus replied, “You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you, for he wrote, ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. ⁷Their worship is a farce, for they teach man-made ideas as commands from God.’ ⁸For you ignore God’s law and substitute your own tradition.” ⁹Then he said, “You skillfully sidestep God’s law in order to hold on to your own tradition. ¹⁰For instance, Moses gave you this law from God: ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and ‘Anyone who speaks disrespectfully of father or mother must be put to death.’ ¹¹But you say it is all right for people to say to their parents, ‘Sorry, I can’t help you. For I have vowed to give to God what I would have given to you.’ ¹²In this way, you let them disregard their needy parents. ¹³And so you cancel the word of God in order to hand down your own tradition. And this is only one example among many others.” (NLT)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Aaron Bird

SERMON HYMN

Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens

LSB 589

SERMON

“Sacrifice & Submission”

Ephesians 5:21-33

Pastor Adam Ray

APOSTLES’ 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go

LSB 854

POSTLUDE

Last Week's Giving

Weekly Needed.....	\$12,403.85
General Fund.....	\$12,925.00
Online Giving.....	\$2,085.58
Total Giving.....	\$15,010.58

Last Week's Attendance

8:30 a.m.	144
11:00 a.m.	55
Total.....	199

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 25, 2024 | 11:00 A.M.

OPENING SONGS

All The Earth

I Will Look Up

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 5:21-33

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Aaron Bird

SERMON

"Sacrifice & Submission"

Ephesians 5:21-33

Pastor Adam Ray

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

Lay Me Down

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Adam Ray
Worship Leader	Pastor Aaron Bird
Reader	Cathi Tavarczyk
Lay Minister	8:30 – Troy Harrison 11:00 – Mike Baggett
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 – Doug Hicks
Vocals.....	Amanda Ray, Janice Wright, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar	Nathan Stoll
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 School is Back! All children grades K-8 are invited to join us for Sunday School hour beginning Sunday, September 8th. There will be a class for K-4th and a class for 5th-8th each Sunday from 9:45-10:45am. Our Discipleship Team has prepared engaging lessons and activities that will help our children grow in their faith while having fun! We look forward to seeing your children in Sunday School and growing together in Christ!

Confirmation Orientation: We will be hosting a Confirmation Orientation meeting today at 12:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is for all our 7th and 8th grade students and their families. We look forward to seeing you there!

All women of St. John's! We are hosting the LWML Decatur Zone Fall Rally on Thurs., Sept. 19th. We will provide a meal and listen to speaker Dr. Gerald Perschbacher of the Orphan Grain Train as we dine. Doors open at 4:30, dinner at 5:00. Cost is 10.00 per person. Please bring a non-perishable item for NECF. Contact Brenda Salogga at 217-429-9183 or email dnbsal@comcast.net or the church office if you plan to attend.

4th Annual St. John's Golf Scramble Fun-Raiser to be held September 22, at 1:30 at the Moweaqua Golf Course. The 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 on the back table of the sanctuary or in the church office. Deadline is September 6th!

Transfer the Blessing: Do you have a Lifetime Plan for Giving? Would you like to have one? Or do you have one you'd like to revisit and reconsider? Join us on Wednesday, September 25th at 10am for a presentation from Rev. Charles Olander and Scott Radden of the LCMS Foundation as they provide information and materials to help you develop a "Lifetime Plan for Giving." Topics will include how wills, beneficiary designations, charitable trusts and gift annuities might be used to help you better

provide for yourself, your family and your church. This presentation comes at no cost to you. We hope to see you there!

Mark your calendars for our first Fall Festival on Sunday October 6th from 4-6 p.m. Come play some games, decorate a pumpkin and engage in some good ole' Fall Festival fun! This event will be great for families of all ages and will be an easy opportunity to invite friends or neighbors that you are seeking to build relationships within our community. Contact Pastor Aaron with any questions.

LSA ReSale Shop: September brings our semi-annual 10¢ sale along with restocking and reopening with all new merchandise. Mark your calendar for Thursday, September 12 for the 10¢ sale from 9:00 AM – Noon. The shop will be closed Friday & Saturday, Sept. 13 & 14 for restocking. Volunteers are needed for our restocking. Come anytime those days that fits your schedule. If you have questions, contact the shop at 217-423-0122. The shop will re-open on Monday, Sept. 16 with all new fall/winter/holiday merchandise.

You are invited to Camp CILCA's **26th Annual Chicken Dinner and Auction on September 1, 2024**. The meal is served 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Meals are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children 4-12. Menu: grilled chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, roll, homemade desserts, and drinks. The live auction begins at 12:30. The Trading Post and beach will be open in the afternoon.

St. Paul's Early Learning Center has immediate openings in the three and four-year-old rooms. Please call or email Jamie Stanzione to set up a tour. Jamie@spldecatour.org 217-424-9183.

NECF Farm to Fund Event: Saturday, September 28th at 6:00 p.m. Purchase your tickets now at northeastcommunityfund.org

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Education Hour (FH)
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
12:15 P.M. Confirmation Orientation Meeting (FH)

MONDAY, AUGUST 26

7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts (FH)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

10:00 A.M. DMH Grief Support Group (Lounge)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Study (FH)
6:30 P.M. NYG Meeting (FH)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

5:30 P.M. TOPS (FH)
7:00 P.M. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

No church activities scheduled.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

No church activities scheduled.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

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