



>Welcome

“JOINING JESUS ON HIS MISSION”

SEPTEMBER 29, 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

Lindsay Tipsword

Stephanie Wilkerson

JOINING JESUS ON HIS MISSION

SEPTEMBER 29, 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

Lift High the Cross (Vs. 1,4,5,6)

LSB 837

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 sent His Son Jesus on a mission to redeem and restore all people from the powers of sin, death, and the

devil. He died on the cross for you. He rose from the grave for you. To grant you forgiveness, freedom, and life. Upon this, your confession, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I announce the grace of God unto all of you. Your sins have been forgiven 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

New Testament

1 Timothy 2:1-6

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

New Testament

Romans 12:9-18

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the

lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Holy Gospel

Luke 19:1-10

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the nineteenth chapter.

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

¹He entered Jericho and was passing through. ²And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. ⁴So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. ⁵And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. ⁷And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." ⁸And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." ⁹And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (ESV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Adam

SERMON HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

LSB 832

SERMON

“Joining Jesus on His Mission”

Luke 19:1-10

Pastor Aaron Bird

APOSTLES’ CREED

OFFERING

*Tithes and gifts may be placed in the collection plate or given at
www.stjohnsdecatur.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

God of Grace and God of Glory

LSB 850

POSTLUDE

Last Week’s Giving

Weekly Needed.....	\$12,403.85
General Fund.....	\$5,814.00
Online Giving	\$
Total Giving.....	\$5,814.00

Last Week’s Attendance

8:30 a.m.	116
11:00 a.m.	54
Total	170

JOINING JESUS ON HIS MISSION

September 29, 2024 | 11:00 A.M.

OPENING SONGS

Battle Belongs

Living Hope

WELCOME & GREETING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE PEACE

OFFERING

How Great Is Our God

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 19:1-10

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Adam Ray

SERMON

"Joining Jesus on His Mission"

Luke 19:1-10

Pastor Aaron Bird

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Preacher	Pastor Aaron Bird
Worship Leader	Pastor Adam Ray
Reader	Jill Davis
Lay Minister	8:30 – Larry Westbrook 11:00 – Matt Cushing
Organist	Ted Hesse
Ushers	8:30 – Dave Munson 11:00 – Dan Zimmerman
Computer	8:30 – Brandon Patzwitz 11:00 – Zach Hesse
Live Stream	8:30 – Matt Cushing
Camera	8:30 – Matt Cushing
Sound	8:30 – Doug Hicks 11:00 – Doug Hicks
Vocals.....	Amanda Ray, Janice Wright, Ted Hesse
Acoustic Guitar	Nathaniel Stoll
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

Voter's Meeting is today at 9:45 a.m.

Children's Sunday School There are classes for K-4th and a class for 5th-8th each Sunday from 9:45-10:45am.

Fall Festival is next 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.

Desserts needed for the Fall Festival: Thank you to those who are donating food items. We still need many desserts. Please contact Wilma Golembeck or the church office if you can provide a dessert.

Nice shirt! Show your St. John's love by wearing one of our new shirt designs. You can order a short or long-sleeved t-shirt by filling out the order form in the back of the sanctuary. Give it to Georgia in the church office by October 6.

Blood Drive: St John's is sponsoring a blood drive from 12:00 to 5:00 PM on October 10, 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 9/22, 9/29 or 10/6 Other sign-up options include ImpactLife at 800-747- 5401 or online at www.bloodcenter.org. Please bring a photo ID October 10. ImpactLife is the sole supplier of blood to DMH and St. Mary's. The need is real. Please consider a donation.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month! Join us in appreciating our pastors by mailing cards and well wishes to Pastor Adam and Pastor Aaron.

Dishes: There are several unclaimed dishes on top of the coat rack by the fellowship hall. Please check to see if these dishes belong to you.

Ride to Church needed: We have a member needing a ride to the 8:30 a.m. service. They live off of Mound and Woodford St. Please contact the church office if you are available to do this.

LSA ReSale Shop: A BIG thank you to all the volunteers who helped with our fall/winter restock at the LSA ReSale Shop. Please stop by the ReSale Shop and see the “new” fall/winter merchandise. There is a great selection of Halloween and Christmas items too. The shop, located at 421 E. Cerro Gordo is open Mon.–Sat., 9am –3pm with extended hours on Thursday 9am–6pm. Follow us on the LSA ReSale Shop Facebook page for the most up-to-date information!

The **LWML CID Fall Retreat at Camp Cilca** is October 4th –5th. Registration packets are at the back of sanctuary; due September 23rd.

WSOY Community Food Drive is Friday, October 4th, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Take a grocery sack from the back of the sanctuary, fill it up with non-perishable food items, and take to Kroger’s on Route 36. See the flyer on the bulletin board in the foyer.

STEWARDSHIP SEEDS: *1 Corinthians 1:4 – “I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus.”* The grace of God and thanksgiving go together. When God gives to us, thankfulness wells up inside of us. How could it not? And as Paul shows us here, it’s not only the grace given to us that causes us to give thanks, but even the grace given to others. We certainly have much to be thankful for when we look at the gifts of grace all around us.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Voter's Meeting (FH)
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
12:30 P.M. Confirmation Class (FH)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

1:00 P.M. Staff Meeting
5:30 P.M. Outreach Meeting
6:00 P.M. Discipleship Meeting

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Study (FH)
6:30 P.M. Youth Group Hangout (Hesse House)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

No church activities scheduled.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

No church activities scheduled.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:30 A.M. Traditional Service
9:45 A.M. Education Hour (FH)
11:00 A.M. Contemporary Service
4-6 P.M. Fall Festival