

Communion Notice Today we celebrate Holy Communion in which we joyfully receive Christ's own body and blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. Because we believe that participation in this sacrament is also a public confession of unity in the faith we invite communicant members of congregations in fellowship with the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod to receive the sacrament.



We welcome our fellow Christians who wish to come forward but do not share all our beliefs to fold their arms in front of them and receive a blessing. We pray that our common baptism and the continued work of the Holy Spirit will draw us closer to one another and dispel the sad divisions that separate us. We pray that as we are led into all truth from God's Word such divisions will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). Let us all express in our hearts a prayerful desire for such unity of faith to be achieved.

General Announcements:

Welcome to our guests. We are glad you have joined us in worshipping our Lord and Savior. We trust you will draw strength, peace, and hope as together we hear God's Word spoken here today. So that we may serve you better, we ask that you fill out a yellow attendance card located on the back of the pew, including your address and noting that you are a visitor. If you would like information on becoming a member at St. John's, please mark the yellow card accordingly, and we will contact you.

ETERNAL CANDLE This warm, steady glow, encourages us to offer our thanks to our faithful Lord and God especially for our Music director and the many volunteers who assist her, along with the many children, youth and adults who enhance our worship with their God-given talents

ALTAR FLOWERS The flower bouquet that adorns the Altar are from Nancy Williams

PASTORAL CALL UPDATE At a special voter's assembly on April 12th, the members of St. John's voted unanimously to extend a call to Rev. Peter Deberny from Grace Lutheran Church in New York. Please keep Rev. Deberny and his congregation in your prayers as he deliberates our call.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS 1 Peter 2:21 - "For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps." Our heavenly Father wants us to grow into the image of His Son and to follow in His steps. Jesus suffered for us not only to redeem us, but also to show us what love looks like and to leave us an example of self-giving, sacrificial generosity. "Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure."

USHERS NEEDED If you are willing and able to assist with Usher duties on Sundays, please contact Glen McMillin (309.314.2419). Any help would be greatly appreciated!

DIRECTOR OF PARISH MUSIC APPRECIATION April is a full month of celebration – both in our Risen Lord and in the work that He still accomplishes through His church. We give thanks for our Directors of Parish Music (DPMs) who fill our churches with beautiful music and song. Visit lcms.org/workerwellness for more details.

EASTER LILIES Thank you to everyone that purchased lilies to beautify the sanctuary for Easter! Please take them home now. Any lilies still left on the table after church Sunday, April 26th, will be donated.

CAMP CILCA Annual HOG ROAST & AUCTION Sunday, May 24, 11:30am-1:30pm at Camp CILCA's Dining Hall. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children, 3 and under free. Come support the work that the Lord is doing in the great outdoors!

DOLLARS FOR MISSIONS The second 2026 project for Dollars for Mission is a new lighted sign for Wittenberg Lutheran Center. \$7,000 will be collected for the cost. The cast aluminum sign will be of the Wittenberg logo and will be placed on the steeple of the building to proclaim the work of Christ and the Holy Spirit for all

Dear St. John's Family, For comforting, encouraging, supportive words, for hugs, for cards, for meals, for chores done (even washing windows!) for rides to and from church, for laughter, and for prayers, especially for prayers, I am eternally grateful to you for getting me through eight months of a broken neck, neck braces, and surgery. You are blessings from God, and I thank Him and you for letting me be among this loving family of believers, prayer warriors and car givers. Thank you, Kay Iwen

**April 25th and 26th, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Divine Service Setting 3**

Prelude– The Guitars Group
"The Lord's My Shepherd" 710
"Have No Fear Little Flock" 735

"Now All the Vault..." 465

Invocation-Absolution 184-185

Introit (See Cream Insert)

Gloria Patri – Gloria in Excelsis 186-189
 Salutation & Collect 189

Readings (See Cream Insert)

Alleluia 190
 Holy Gospel (See Cream Insert)

Creed 191

"The King of Love..." 709

Sermon
 (Sat.) Pastor Mueller
 (Sun.) Pastor Anderson- "Sheep, Shepherds, and Predators"

Offertory 192
 Prayer 193
 Lord's Prayer 196
 Concluding Collect
 Benediction 202

"I Am Jesus'..." 740

Postlude

The Lord's Week

Sunday, April 26th

9:00am– Worship
10:15am– Bible study/Sunday school
10:15am– Confirmation instruction

Monday, April 27th

1:30pm– Activities Room– dominoes
6:30pm– Heavenly Ringers rehearsal

Tuesday, April 28th

10:00am– Food Pantry
6:30pm– Guitar Jam

Wednesday, April 29th

10:00am– Women's Bible study
1:30pm– Activities room-dominoes

Saturday, May 2nd

8:00am– Men's Bible study
5:00pm– Worship w/Communion
(Pastor Hagen)

Sunday, May 3rd

9:00am– Worship w/Communion
10:15am– Bible study/Sunday school
10:15am– Confirmation instruction

Serving the Lord this Week:

Organist: Christine Engebrecht

Greeters: (Sat.) Chuck Brokaw
(Sun.)

Ushers: (Sat.) Greg Burke, Bill Johnson, Todd Miller
& Larry Ripka

(Sun.) Rod Hopkins, George Aukee, & Penny Schreck

Acolyte: Henry Schmidt

Bible Study Opportunities

Sundays, 10:15am

Join Pastor Anderson in the Janssen rooms following worship - we are studying the Acts of the Apostles, looking at the beginnings of the Christian Church, and how the Church two millennia later still bears the imprint of that first Church.

Holy Land Geography, Customs & History

Join Clark Stojan in the Keyl room, as he leads us to explore the world of the Bible along with select events recorded in Scripture.

Coffee with Christ– Myth or Faith? There are plenty of misconceptions about Christianity in today's society. From false rumors to biblical teachings that are heavily distorted from their subject matter, there's no lack of myths to find. Do you know how to respond to them? More importantly, do you know the **truth** backed up by God's Word and teachings?

Wednesdays, 10am- Women's Bible study

Great Women of the Bible In this Bible study series, we will look at the lives of only the most familiar women in God's Word. From Eve, the first woman, to those women who helped Jesus' apostles, participants will see God's grace in action as He calls and leads these women in their daily lives. Through their God-given faith and their faith-filled deeds, you will be inspired by these great women of the Bible.

Saturdays, 8am- Men's Bible study We are doing a chronological study of the Gospel.

Weekly Memory Verse:

John 17:17

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth



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Introit

P I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

C **Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

**For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.**

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

**For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.**

LSB 186– Gloria Patri

Readings

P The first reading is from Acts, the second chapter.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. (*Acts 2:42-47*)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Epistle reading is from 1 Peter, the second chapter.

This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in

his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. (*1 Peter 2:19-25*)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LSB 190– ♪ Alleluia

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C ♪ **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” (*John 10:1-10*)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C ♪ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

ST. JOHN'S PRAYER CARD

April 25th & 26th, 2026

Please remember the following in your prayers this week...

Anniversaries:

Glen & Lori McMillin (46)

Military Chaplains

MAJ Matthew Mortenson
CPAT Daniel Vang

Sister Congregation

Rev. Timothy Nerud
St. John's Lutheran
Geneseo, IL

Ill & Hospitalized

Craig Johanson
Sarah Schofield- surgery

Members

Ann Bowman
Kaley Bowman
Susan Bowman
Steve, Cris, Owen, &
Payton Braddy

Military Deployment

Elijah Medina- Iran

Missionaries Serving

Rev. Dr. Walter & Robyn Steele
- Philippines

**Prolonged Illness &
Special Needs:**

Joan Britton
Bev Brokaw
Chuck Brokaw
Hoa Cooper (Lucille's daughter
- cancer)
Steve Fors
Duane Gosa
Nancy Gosa
Jerry Hill
Dale Johnson
Merle Loete
Reid McDonald
RaeJean Murphy
Tom Nielsen
Robin Passman
Brenda Roggendorf
Earl Schaefer
Karen Schmidt
Kathleen Schmidt
David Sountris
Ken Weidenbach
Cora Whipple

Ingrid Hodshire
Lori Hopkins
Mary McGee
Nancy Smart
Terry Tipsword
Barbara Veskauf

Homebound Members:

Nancy Bonow
Ann Bowman
Don, Wanda, and Jason Cass
Darlene Dopson
Mary Ann Eckert
Rick & Sylvia Fauser
Angie Fischer
Peg Heitzman
Kathy Herron
Christopher Higgins