



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 The eternal candle glows to the glory of God from John and Rhea Oakes, in honor of their wedding anniversary.

ALTAR FLOWERS The flower bouquet that adorns the Altar is from John and Rhea Oakes, in honor of their wedding anniversary.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS 1 Peter 2:9 - "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." God has called us to be His own. He has chosen us out of love, out of mercy, out of sheer, divine joy. The apostle Peter says that God chose us so that we might share in His glory and "proclaim the excellencies of Him" who has made us His own. And truly, this is our delight! His joy brings joy to our hearts as well.

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!

FOOD PANTRY The Silvis Hy-Vee will once again be supporting our food pantry with their annual garden center fundraiser. Bring your flyer (bulletin insert +extras on the information table) to the Silvis Hy-Vee Garden Center and they will donate 10% of your sale to our food pantry! This offer is only good Monday, May 11th-Sunday May 18th.

LCMS Health Ministry In May, congregations and schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are invited to celebrate and give thanks to God for teachers. Commissioned Lutheran teachers are one of the seven auxiliary offices that support the work of the Holy Ministry – by assisting in teaching God's Word and by teaching many other subjects in a way that is faithful to that Word. From May 4 to 8, or anytime, consider letting those who teach – commissioned or non-commissioned, part-time or full-time, paid or volunteer – know how much you value their contribution to your church and/or school community. Pray for your teachers, share a word or written note of appreciation, bake their favorite treat, or post a social media shareable that highlights their service.

BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES: Would your mom or dad make it into a "Perfect Parent Hall of Fame"? Probably not—because let's be honest, there's no such thing as a perfect earthly parent. But imperfect, amazing Christian parents for whom we're eternally thankful? Absolutely! Open your hymn book today and revisit Luther's explanation of the 4th commandment. How are you doing with this one? Where does it challenge you—or gently nudge you to do something different? Prayerfully consider how you might better apply this instruction. In doing so, may you discover a deeper joy in following God's path – honoring, loving, respecting, and appreciating the imperfect parents who are part of your story. www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**

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 care givers. Thank you, Kay Iwen

**May 2nd and 3rd, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Divine Service Setting IV**

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The Lord's Week

Sunday, May 3rd

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

Monday, May 4th

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

Tuesday, May 5th

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

Wednesday, May 6th

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

Thursday, May 7th

6:30pm– Board meetings

Thursday, May 8th

6:30pm– 2nd Friday Fellowship

Saturday, May 9th

8:00am– Men's Bible study
9:30am– Choir Rehearsal
5:00pm– Worship
(Pastor Astrowski)

Sunday, May 10th

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

Serving the Lord this Week:

Organist: Lucille Perley

Greeters: (Sat.) Chuck Brokaw

(Sun.)

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

(Sun.) Esther and youths from the congregation

Acolyte: Briella Churchill

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

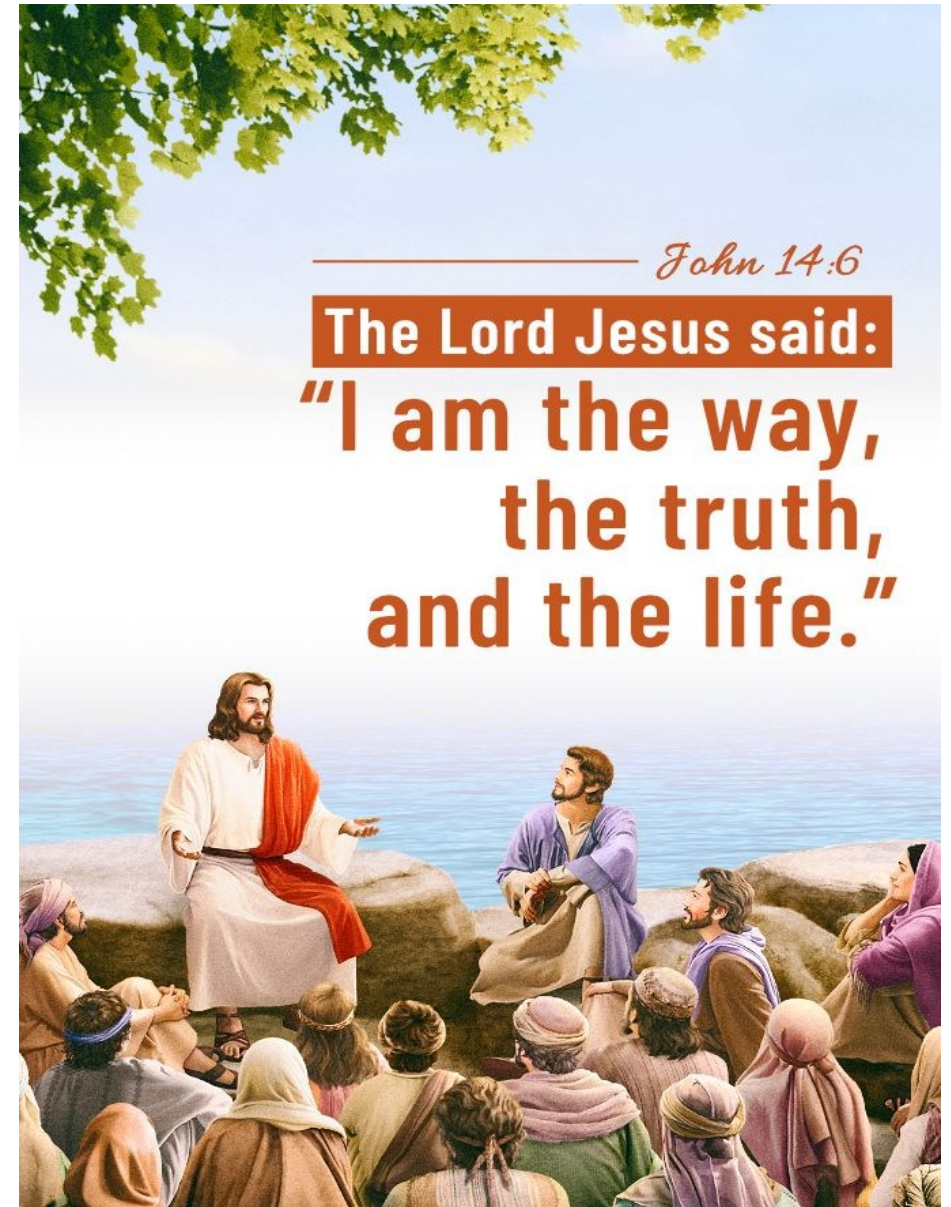
Great Women of the Bible In this Bible study series, we will look at the lives of only the most familiar women in God's Word. From Eve, the first woman, to those women who helped Jesus' apostles, participants will see God's grace in action as He calls and leads these women in their daily lives. Through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

Romans 12:12

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.



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Introit

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the godly!

**I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up
and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**

O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.

**O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;
you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints,
and give thanks to his holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the godly!

Readings

P The Old Testament reading is from Acts, the sixth and seventh chapters.

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . . And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . . You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city

and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep. (*Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60*)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (*1 Peter 2:2-10*)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it." (*John 14:1-14*)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

ST. JOHN'S PRAYER CARD

May 2nd and 3rd, 2026

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

Anniversaries:

Ronald & Diane Ransom(50)
John & Rhea Oakes(39)
Mark & Sherry Orey(51)
Bill & Donna Green(58)
David & Paula Pratt(47)

Sister Congregation

Rev. Scott Niermann
Immanuel Lutheran
Altamont, IL

Members

Christopher & Shannon Brand
Charlie & Joan Britton
Chuck & Bev Brokaw

Missionaries Serving

Deaconess Anika Slayton-
Germany

Military Chaplains

Lt Col James Buckman
LT Karl Gibbs

Ill & Hospitalized

Craig Johanson
Sarah Schofield- surgery

Military Deployment

Elijah Medina- Iran

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