



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 an attendance card located on the back of the pew, including your address and noting that you are a visitor.

ETERNAL CANDLE The eternal candle glows to the glory of God from Evan & Dawn Antolik, in celebration of Collin's birthday.

ALTAR FLOWERS The flower bouquet that adorns the Altar are from Tim & Tamee Stone.

CHURCH WORKER SCHOLARSHIP St. John's is taking a special offering for financial aid to any students who are working towards a career in church work. If you would like to contribute to this 'scholarship', please mark your offering envelope as "Church Scholarship".

BLACKSMITHING The arbor leaves project is completed. Thank you to all that helped!

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS *Matthew 11:28 – "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."* Jesus has come to do the work so that we might have rest from burdens and labors we are not capable of bearing. He frees us from sin, death and the demands of the Law. In that peace and rest of Jesus we find a new purpose — His light yoke is not a burden to bear, but a joy!

THANK YOU Caleb and Kimberly and their families thank you for the cards, gifts, and your presence at their reception! They are truly grateful for the love and support of their St. John's family!

BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES: What are some of your best childhood memories? Psychologist Mary Pipher says there are three things that most people usually remember with great happiness from childhood -- time spent outdoors, vacations and family meals. During these long summer days, spend time with your children or grandchildren outdoors. Take some time off work...plan a picnic...explore a new park or hiking trail. Let your children or grandchildren help choose the spot. You don't have to go far from home or spend a lot of money to create forever memories!
www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**

THE LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ADVOCATES FOR TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE. Adam and Eve – Marriage grounded in creation, not culture In the beginning—before the Supreme Court, before America, before the church, before Israel, before culture, before sin—God created humanity. He formed the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve. Their union is the first marriage, created, defined, and blessed by God at the dawn of time. Marriage is not a cultural invention but a divine institution grounded in creation itself. God spoke the first legal formula for marriage: "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). LEARN MORE ABOUT THE LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY <https://www.lcrlfreedom.org>

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.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE "That They May Have Life" Summer has come, school is out, vacations are happening and time is flying! We are planning for a time of fellowship, inspiration, and encouragement on August 29th at the Lutherans For Life Summer Life Gathering. The keynote will be "Human Trafficking, the Pandemic in Plain Sight", given by Chris Baker. It is time to register, so we count you when we are planning the meals! This years' gathering will take place at Cross Lutheran Church in Yorkville, IL. There are registration forms at the Sign-Up Station if you are interested in attending.

UPCOMING OFFICE CONSTRUCTION Beginning the first week of August, the office will be inaccessible as the floors are re-done. At approximately the same time, the doors by the office will be out of order as automatic openers are installed.

COURTYARD HELPERS NEEDED The flowers in the courtyard have been such a beautiful blessing to see this spring and summer! If you would like to help keep this going, please see Sara Anderson; she is willing to help assist anyone willing to learn about seeding, planting, and the maintenance required to keep it thriving. Sara will still be helping in the courtyard into the fall after Rev. Anderson retires as our vacancy pastor.

**July 4th and 5th, 2026
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Divine Service Setting IV**

Prelude "Be Still, My Soul"
 Arr. by: Gary Lanier
 Ethan Pritchard, trombone

Preparation
"O Day of Rest..." 906
 Invocation — Absolution 203

Service of the Word
 Introit (See Cream Insert)

Kyrie — Gloria 204

Salutation and Collect 205

Readings (See Cream Insert)
 Alleluia Verse 205
 Holy Gospel (See Cream Insert)

Nicene Creed 206

"I Heard the Voice of..." 699

Sermon:
 (Sat.) Pastor Astrowski
 (Sun) Pastor Anderson

Prayers 207

Service of the Sacrament
 Preface – Agnus Dei 208-210

Distribution
"Eat this Bread" (Sunday only) 638
 (Congregation to sing refrain only)

"The Lamb" 547

Nunc Dimittis 211

Collect — Benediction 212

"Abide, O Dearest Jesus" 919

Postlude "Be Thou My Vision"
 Arr. by: Stan Pethel
 Ethan Pritchard, trombone

The Lord's Week

Sunday, July 5th

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

Monday, July 6th

1:30pm– Activities Room– dominoes

Tuesday, July 7th

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

Wednesday, July 8th

1:30pm– Activities room-dominoes

Saturday, July 11th

5:00pm– Worship
(Pastor Mueller)

Sunday, July 12th

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

Bible Study Opportunities

Sundays, 10:15am

Join Pastor Anderson in the Janssen rooms following worship; we are doing a study on the book of Matthew.

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? On summer break. We will resume Sunday, September 13th.

Wednesdays, 10am– Women's Bible study

We are on summer break. Class will resume after Labor Day

Saturdays, 8am– Men's Bible study: On Summer break.

We will resume Saturday, September 12th

Weekly Memory Verse:

John 5:39

You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.

Serving the Lord this Week:

Organist: Christine Engebrecht

Greeters: (Sat.)

(Sun.) Kathy McDowell

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

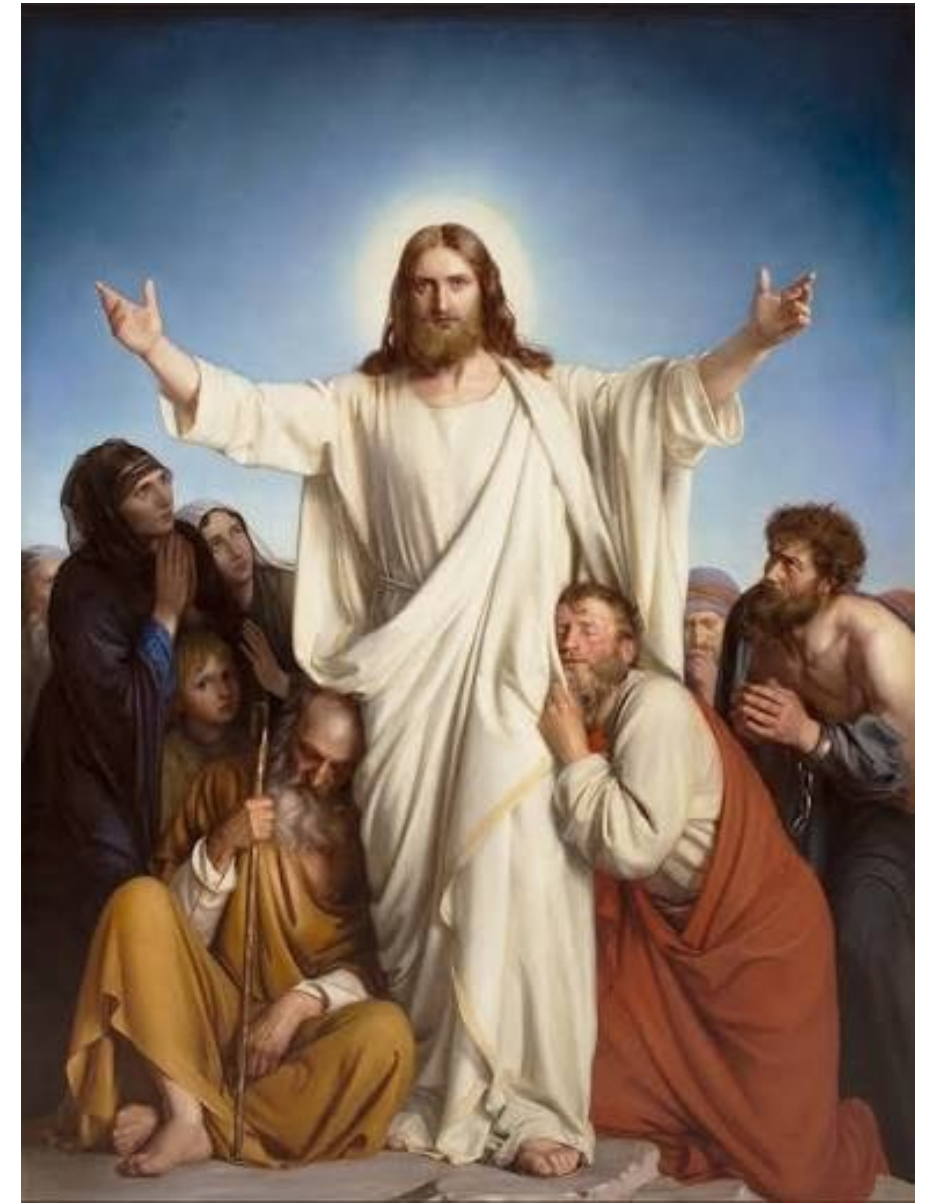
(Sun.)

Communion Assistants: (Sat.) Dennis Boarts

(Sun.) Jim Homann & Kevin McAnally

Altar Guild (July): Kathy Ahrens and Rebecca Hinman

THE FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS. IF YOU COULD RECYCLE YOURS BY DONATING, IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!



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Introit

P He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

C **I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”**

Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—
**no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
no plague come near your tent.**

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.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

Readings

P The Old Testament reading is from Zechariah, the ninth chapter.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double. (*Zech. 9:9-12*)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Epistle reading is from Romans, the seventh chapter.

We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So

now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! (*Rom. 7:14-25a*)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (*Matthew 11:25-30*)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

ST. JOHN'S PRAYER CARD

July 4th and 5th, 2026

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

Members

Patty Ekin
Hailey Ekin
Hillary Ekin
Brian & Christine Engebrecht

Special Needs

Michael Dodge

Military Deployment

Elijah Medina- Iran

Anniversaries:

Merle & Melinda Loete(50)
George & Marlene Fellows(55)
Thomas & Linda Wojcik(44)

Missionaries Serving

Rev. Carlos & Deaconess
Danielle Schumann-
Dominican Republic

Ill and Hospitalized

Bev Brokaw
Tom Keel
Grayson Schultz- grandson of
Ron and Cora Whipple
Todd Ripka

Military Chaplains

Capt. Chadwick Potts

Sister Congregation

Rev. Adam Rouse
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Springfield, IL

**Prolonged Illness &
Special Needs:**

Joan Britton
Bev Brokaw
Chuck Brokaw
Steve Fors
Duane Gosa
Nancy Gosa
Bill Green
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

Homebound Members:

Nancy Bonow
Ann Bowman
Don, Wanda, and Jason Cass
Darlene Dopson
Mary Ann Eckert
Rick & Sylvia Fauser
Angie Fischer
Peg Heitzman
Christopher Higgins
Ingrid Hodshire
Lori Hopkins
Mary McGee
Terry Tip sword
Barbara Veskauf