

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 Mary Whipple, in honor of her birthday.

ALTAR FLOWERS The flower bouquet that adorns the Altar are from George & Marlene Fellows, in honor of their anniversary.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS *Romans 8:12 – “So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.”* We owe the flesh, the world and the devil nothing at all. We are not debtors to these enemies; we are freed by the blood of Christ. We are joyful servants in Christ’s kingdom — servants that He calls friends. We share our Lord’s plans and purposes, and this gives direction and purpose to our lives.

BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES: Many of us were raised on a familiar script: be tough, don’t ask for help, and “pull yourself up by your bootstraps.” It sounds admirable—but it’s not a recipe for a healthy life, and it’s not what God calls us to. Scripture points us in a different direction. Paul writes in Galatians 6:2, “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” We were never meant to carry everything alone. God places us in community—where we can be supported, and where we can support others in return. So challenge those old messages, even the deeply ingrained ones about self-reliance. Replace them with truth. Let someone in. Share what you’re carrying with a trusted brother or sister in Christ. Reach out to family, friends, your pastor, or a LFS counselor who shares your faith and values. Strength isn’t found in isolation—it’s often revealed in the courage to seek and receive help. Learn more at www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**

ATTENTION CIRCUIT MEN The next “Brats, Bibles, & Beverages” will be held on Sunday, July 26 at 5:00pm. The first BBB had members from 4 circuit churches present; let's double that in July! Each time we meet, the Bible Study will be a different topic, so come when you can. Brats, hot dogs, buns, unsweetened iced tea, and water will be provided (feel free to bring your own beverage). Bring something to share such as chips, salads, casseroles, desserts. Weather permitting this will be an outdoor event, so bring a lawn chair. If it rains we will move indoors. Please sign up by July 19th so we know how much food to purchase. This will be a great opportunity for fellowship with others in the Circuit.

LADIES LUNCHEON The ladies of St. John’s are meeting for lunch on Thursday, July 16th and you are invited! They meet at Deerfield Family Restaurant in Silvis at 11:30am. The more the merrier!

GOD’S MISSION HERE DISTRICT PRESENTATION St. John’s Geneseo is hosting a workshop on Saturday, August 8th for both congregational leaders and laity in a Bible study about the work of God in accomplishing His mission through the congregation. This will run from 8:30am-3:30pm; lunch is provided. There is a sign-up sheet at the sign-up station; please help them plan for the day.

Apologetics Boot Camp is August 16–19 at
Concordia University Chicago, 7400 August St., River Forest, IL
Have you ever been asked questions—or have your own questions—about faith, the reliability of the Bible, the truth of Jesus’ resurrection, or how Christianity connects with society and science? Join Concordia University Chicago for an in-depth exploration of apologetics during its second annual Apologetics Boot Camp. Find strength and confidence as you learn to defend your faith, fortify yourself against personal doubt, and respond to the many and various challenges posed to our faith in recent years.
This four-day on-campus event includes an agenda full of presentations from world-class speakers and panel discussions, as well as opportunities for chapel services, film screenings, interactions with others interested in apologetics, and more.

Adult lay member registration ranges from \$25 to \$75, with single-session, one-day, and full-conference options. Learn more about the event at <https://www.cuchicago.edu/events/2026/08/apologetics-boot-camp/>

If you have any questions, please reach out to Rev. Dr. Kirk Clayton, assistant professor of theology and director of CUC's Pre-Seminary program, at Kirk.Clayton@CUChicago.edu or by calling 708-209-3195. Flyers available at the sign-up station. Registration closes August 2

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. This only requires 1-2 hours a week, and can be a fun opportunity to learn a new skill and spend time with a friend!

THANK YOU A very special thank you goes out to all those who had a part in this year's very special Independence Day Parade. Thank you to those who had the vision, stuffed the giveaway bags, shopped for supplies, donated the trailer and the supplies, built the float, decorated the float, gave us space out of the sun to decorate the float, pulled the float, road on the float, walked or scooted by the float, and...dismantled the float. It was great to see St John's Lutheran Church represented in the East Moline Parade once again!

July 12th, 2026 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Matins	
Prelude	
“From All the Dwell...”	816
Opening Versicles	219
Psalmody	220-221
Additional Psalm (<i>See Cream Insert</i>)	
“For the Fruits...”	894
Readings	(<i>See Cream Insert</i>)
Responsory	221
“Sing to the Lord...”	893
Sermon (<i>Sat</i>) Pastor Batchelor (<i>Sun</i>) Pastor Anderson “Same Soil, Different Seed”	
Canticle	“Tell Out, My Soul” 935
Prayer	
Kyrie and Lord’s Prayer	227
Collects	227-228
Benedicamus and Benediction	228
“Almighty God...”	577
Postlude	

The Lord's Week

Sunday, July 12th

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

Monday, July 13th

1:30pm– Activities Room– dominoes

Tuesday, July 14th

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

Wednesday, July 15th

1:30pm– Activities room-dominoes

Thursday, July 16th

11:30am– Ladies Luncheon @ Deerfield
Family Restaurant

Saturday, July 18th

12:00pm– Baby Shower
5:00pm– Worship w/Communion
(Pastor James Batchelor)

Sunday, July 19th

9:00am– Worship w/Communion
10:15am– Bible study/Sunday school
2:00pm– Pastoral Call Voter's Meeting

PASTORAL CALL VOTER'S MEETING!

The next meeting to vote on a pastoral call candidate is

Sunday, July 19th, at 2:00pm.

All members of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

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:

Hebrews 1:1–2

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world.

Serving the Lord this Week:

Organist: Jean Grewe

Greeters: *(Sat.)*

(Sun.)

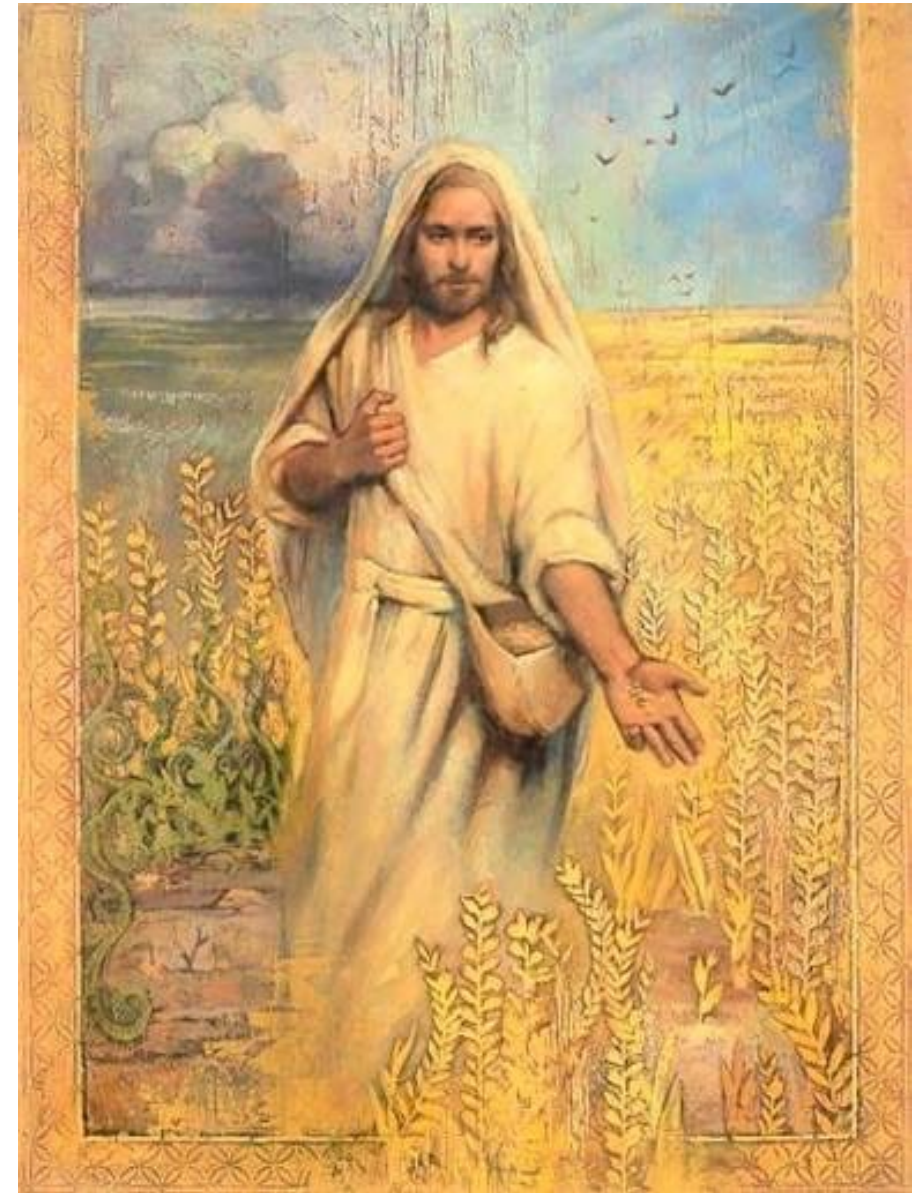
Ushers: *(Sat.)* Greg Burke, Bill Johnson, Todd Miller
& Larry Ripka

(Sun.) Glen McMillin

Communion Assistants: *(Sat.)* Dennis Boarts

(Sun.) Jim Homann & Kevin McAnally

Altar Guild (July): Kathy Ahrens and Rebecca Hinman



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Psalm

P You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it.

C **You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.**

You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,

the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

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.

Readings

P The Old Testament reading is from Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter.

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. “For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the Lord, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.” (*Isaiah 55:10-13*)

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

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

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. (*Rom. 8:12-17*)

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

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

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear. . . . “Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.” (*Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23*)

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

ST. JOHN’S PRAYER CARD
July 11th and 12th, 2026
Please remember the following in your prayers this week...

Members
Grant Engelkes
Rick Engle
Ron, Brandi & Gracie Erickson

Anniversaries:
Michael & Jill Ryan(19)

Ill and Hospitalized
Bev Brokaw
Tom Keel
Grayson Schultz– grandson of
Ron and Cora Whipple

Military Deployment
Elijah Medina– Iran

Missionaries Serving
Rev. Dr. David & Jennifer Preus
Romania

Military Chaplains
LT Jaime Nava
CPT Kyle Mietzner

Sister Congregation
Rev. Michael Ruhlig
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Milford, IL

Deepest Sympathies
To the family of Todd Ripka at
his passing

Prolonged Illness & Special Needs:
Joan Britton
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 Tipsword
Barbara Veskauf