

Introit

℟ Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

**☩ The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

**This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**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.**

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

Readings

℟ The Old Testament reading is from Isaiah, the fifth chapter.

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of
stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded
wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge
between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I
have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild
grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its
hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be
trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars
and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain
upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men
of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold,
bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry! (*Is. 5:1-7*)

℟ This is the Word of the Lord **☩ Thanks be to God.**

℟ The Epistle reading is from Philippians, the third chapter.

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I
have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of
Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a
persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. But
whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count

everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my
Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as
rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a
righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through
faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— that I may
know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings,
becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the
resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already
perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his
own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do:
forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on
toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (*Phil.*
3:4b-14)

℟ This is the Word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

℟ The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

☩ J Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who
planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a
tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season
for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the
tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again
he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally
he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants
saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and
have his inheritance.’ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and
killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to
those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable
death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in
their seasons.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The
stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s
doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God
will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the
one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone,
it will crush him.” When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables,
they perceived that he was speaking about them. And although they were
seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a
prophet. (*Matt. 21:33-46*)

℟ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

☩ J Praise to You, O Christ.

ST. JOHN'S PRAYER CARD

October 3rd and 4th, 2026

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

Members

Larry & Jane Hipple
Ingrid Hodshire
Joyce Hoffman

Anniversaries

Brian & Carmae Kern(29)
Russell & Diane
Kosche(33)
Tom & Jessica Hart(9)
Brian & Cori
Rossmiller(31)
Tom & Jackie Keogh(27)

Military Deployment

Elijah Medina- Iran

Ill and Hospitalized

Marsha Boarts- sepsis
infection
Bev Brokaw- hospice
Cindy Hart
Marce McAnally (Kevin's
dad)
Lilly Peterson
(granddaughter of Glen &
Lori McMillin- ongoing
health struggles)

Missionaries Serving

Rev. Tyler & Yanela
McMiller- Eurasia

Sister Congregation

Rev. David Speers
St. Paul Ev. Lutheran
Altamont, IL

**Prolonged Illness &
Special Needs**

Joan Britton
Chuck Brokaw
Steve Fors
Duane Gosa
Nancy Gosa
Bill Green
Jerry Hill
Dale Johnson
Melinda Loete
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, & Jason
Cass
Darlene Dopson
MaryAnn Eckert
Rick & Sylvia Fauser
Angie, Hailey, & Jordan
Fischer
Peg Heitzman
Chris Higgins
Ingrid Hodshire
Lori Hopkins
Mary McGee
Terry Tipsword
Barbara Veskauf



The Lord's Week

Sunday, October 4th

9:00am– Worship w/Communion
10:15am– Bible study/Sunday School/
5/6th grade Confirmation class

Monday, October 5th

1:30pm– Activities Room– dominoes
6:00pm- Altar Guild Meeting
6:00pm- **NO CHIMES REHEARSAL**
6:30pm- Heavenly Ringers rehearsal

Tuesday, October 6th

10:00am- Food Pantry
6:30pm– Guitar Jam
6:30pm- Grief Share class

Wednesday, October 7th

10:00am- Women's Bible study
1:30pm– Activities room-dominoes
3:30pm- Fellowship Cmte mtg

Saturday, October 10th

8-11:00am- Blood Drive
8:00am- Men's Bible study
9:30am- Choir Rehearsal
3:00pm- Catechism Instruction
5:00pm– Worship

Sunday, October 11th

9:00am– Worship
10:15am– Bible study/Sunday School/
5/6th grade Confirmation class

Serving the Lord this Week:

Organist: Christine Engebrecht

Ushers: (Sat.) Greg Burke, Bill Johnson, Todd Miller & Larry Ripka
(Sun.) Dave & Esther Cashion, Brent Antolik, & Mark Grtolueschen

Communion Assistants: Glen McMillin & Ralph Grotelueschen

Altar Guild(Oct): Diana Lackey & Margie Schaefer

Bible Study Opportunities

Sundays, 10:15am

The Lutheran Confessions: Pope vs. Pastor. Paul Timothy McCain the editor of Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions introduces the “Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope” with these words: How do Christians receive pastors? How is the Church organized, structured, and governed? The Roman Catholic answer is that everything depends on the pope, the “vicar of Christ,” the one who is said to be the immediate successor to the Apostle Peter. Through the pope, so it is thought, flows Christ's authority to His Church on earth. This is not the Bible's answer. In this document Philip Melanchthon provides the Lutheran view of authority in the Church and the basis on which the Church is founded and continued. In this class, we will learn how the sixteenth century reformation returned the office of the pastor back to its Biblical roots using the “Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope.”

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?

Meet in the Yellow room in the Education wing; each week we will discuss 3 common 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

We are studying the book of Romans.

Saturdays, 8am- Men's Bible study.

We are studying 1 Corinthians.

BIBLES, BRATS, AND BEVERAGES Our next BBB men's fellowship evening is scheduled for October 25th at 5pm. If the weather cooperates, we plan on being outdoors in the new courtyard around the new firepit. Please sign-up or call Annie in the office to let us know if you will be attending so we can purchase adequate food.



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Vacancy Pastor

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Music Director Christine Engebrecht bcengebrecht@att.net (309) 738-2797
Secretary Annie Churchill office@stjohnsem.org

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 This warm, steady glow, encourages us to offer our thanks to our faithful Lord and God, especially for our creator’s continued blessings of sunshine and rain, for the gifts of food for our bodies, and a harvest for which we offer Him our Thanks.

ALTAR FLOWERS The flower bouquet that adorns the Altar is from Flo Moore, with thanks for God’s blessings.

GRIEF SHARE An upcoming class is starting on Tues., Oct. 6th at 6:30pm. GriefShare is a welcoming support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. Each meeting will include honest conversations and encouragement from others who understand what you’re going through. There’s no pressure to have the right words or to “move on.” Instead, you’ll find a safe place to share your story (when/if you’re ready), listen when you need to, ask questions, and discover timely tools that can help you navigate life after loss—one step at a time. Whether your loss is recent or happened years ago, GriefShare is here to walk alongside you as you find hope for the road ahead. Please sign up at the sign-up station if you would like to attend!

BLOOD DRIVE We are hosting our annual blood drive on Sat., Oct. 10th from 8-11am. Please sign up at the sign-up station, or you can scan the QR code and register digitally

ALTAR GUILD MEETING Please attend, if you can, a meeting on Mon, Oct. 5th at 6pm. We will be scheduling the upcoming holiday season!

BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES From the newborn infant to the hospice patient in his final hours and for all stages of life in between, physical touch from another person is vitally important. Infants who aren’t touched, even though they receive nourishment, will die from Failure to Thrive Syndrome. God designed humans of all ages to need human touch. Safe physical contact releases oxytocin, which lowers stress hormones and builds social bonds. Safe touch can lower blood pressure, decrease anxiety, and reduce pain. In a world increasingly shaped by digital interaction and isolation, physical touch has become a rare form of connection. How long has it been since you have held another person’s hand or given or received a hug? If you have to think about it for too long, it’s been too long! www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**

FOOD PANTRY/GARDEN BOUNTY We are in dire need for plastic grocery bags to help in food pantry, and for taking home produce that is generously donated by Clark Stojan. We would be very grateful for any extras you could bring in!

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS *Matthew 21:43* – “*Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.*” The Pharisees were not bearing fruit. Though they were faithful to the letter of the Law in keeping the Sabbath, tithing and all the rest, they neglected the heart of God’s will. The grace of God belongs at the center. Our giving and all our other good works flow forth from receiving God’s grace and living in that grace on a daily basis.

PASTORAL CALL On Sunday, Sept. 27th, the Voter’s of St. John’s called Rev. Lucas Booher of Zion Lutheran in Storm Lake, IA. Please pray for Rev. Booher, his family, and the congregation of Zion as he deliberates this call.

TRUNK OR TREAT The Board of Youth and Family is planning its annual Trunk or Treat! Please decorate a trunk and join the fun on Sunday, October 18th from 2-4pm. Trunk set up begins at 1...please sign up!

MOLINE MEMORY CAFÉ Build a support system with others who understand cognitive changes in loved ones- Moline Memory Café offers a relaxing environment for socialization, educational opportunities, and stimulating activities. Join in on the Second Thursday of the Month, beginning Oct. 8th at 10am at the Moline Public Library. No registration required.

OKTOBERFEST CIRCUIT EVENT Faith Lutheran in Kewanee is hosting a fundraiser on Oct. 15th from 4:30-6:30pm. They are serving brats, German hot potato salad, ‘kraut, desserts and drinks, all for just \$12! Proceeds benefit Concordia Seminary and HELP (aids families with babies).

October 3rd and 4th, 2026
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Divine Service IV

Prelude- The Guitars Group
(Congregation invited to sing)
“On Eagle’s Wings” 727
“Jesus Loves Me” 588
“How Great Thou Art” 801

Confession and Absolution
“Christ Is Made...” 909
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
Children’s Sermon

“O Love, How Deep” 544

Sermon: Pastor Batchelor “*Salvation is God’s Gift. Abuse It and Lose It.*”

Prayers 207

Service of the Sacrament
Preface – Agnus Dei 208-210
Distribution
“Amazing Grace” 744
“If Your Beloved...” 568
“Draw Near...” 637
Nunc Dimittis 211
Collect- Benediction 212
“Christ Is Our Cornerstone” 912

Postlude