

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD
ST. JOHN'S EAGLE'S NEST PRESCHOOL**

MISSION STATEMENT
Fellowship of Hope, Teaching, Serving and Proclaiming!

901 West Jefferson Avenue
Effingham, Illinois 62401
Phone: (217) 342-4334
Fax: (217) 342-6599

E-mail: saintjohnslcms@gmail.com
WEBSITE: stjohnslcms.net
PRESCHOOL WEBSITE: eaglesnestpreschool.com

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
"Reason To Rejoice"
5:30PM — April 6, 2019
8:00AM — April 7, 2019



THOSE WHO SERVE US

Each Member of St. John's	A Minister
Rev. Ted Gall	Pastor
Rev. Gary Fortkamp.....	Worship Leader
Mrs. Sandy Esker.....	Preschool Director
Mrs. Jerry Starner	Organist
Mrs. Andrea Wendling & Mrs. Ammon Probst	Song Leader
St. John's Praise Band.....	10:30AM
Mr. Todd Zeigler.....	5:30PM Elder on Duty
A. J. Radloff	5:30PM Acolyte
Mr. Jeff Stremming.....	8AM Elder on Duty
Andrew Lotz.....	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Howard Janis.....	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Aiden Hanks	10:30AM Acolyte
Mr. Todd Zeigler.....	Elder on Duty for April 8 – 13, 2019
Missionaries from Pakistan	Younis Darshan and Raja Shaleem
Missionaries from India	Ajay Paul & Sonne
Sister Congregation	in Blidene, Latvia
Adopted Chatelain School.....	Haiti
Mrs. Julie Scott	(343-3047) Prayer Chain Coordinator

WELCOME To our friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to the stranger, we extend our sincere greeting. If you are a visitor, please understand that you are our guest and we want you to feel welcome and comfortable. We are happy you chose to be with us in this service, and pray you have been blessed by our Lord today as He has blessed us by your presence.

CHRIST is important to us

- in our worship
- in our study
- in our fellowship
- in our lives.

YOU are important to us

- in our worship
- in our study
- in our fellowship
- in our lives.

HOLY COMMUNION – When the members of St. John’s Lutheran Church, (LCMS) celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we confess the Real Presence of Christ’s Body and Blood in the Bread and Wine, given and shed for the forgiveness of our sins. (*1 Cor 10:16 & 1 Cor 11:23-26*) We believe that Christ’s Body and Blood are present “in, with and under” the elements of the Holy Supper. (*Luther’s Small Catechism*) Members should register their intent to commune on the pew card. If you are visiting with us and you desire to join with us in communion fellowship in agreement with these beliefs, please speak to one of the Pastors or the elder on duty before the service.

HIS VISION FOR US:

St. John’s will be known for being involved in our changing community, for providing leadership in our changing world, and for serving others in Christian love.

We will welcome our diverse guests with open arms. Our friendly, loving and accepting people will engage our guests, mentor them in the faith, and inspire many to become members.

Our members will be motivated by the cross to be actively engaged in ministry, showing love and care to others. We will encourage one another, nurture one another, and enthusiastically serve our God together!

HIS GOAL FOR US:

We will pray and work with singleness of purpose to expand the impact of our ministry to God’s children of all ages, with special emphasis on young families, by developing new ways to strengthen the relationship between St. John’s, our members and our community, providing the facilities and resources to involve more people in ministry and outreach.

WELCOME CENTER Greeters are present at the Welcome Center in the atrium adjacent to our sanctuary before and after the service to answer any questions you may have, provide directions to restrooms, classrooms, etc. If you are a first time guest, we also have a gift for you. If you live in our community or surrounding area and you do not have a church home, we welcome your consideration. We offer true fellowship with a living Savior and membership in His Church.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER Kindly fill out a registration card (welcome side) located in the pew rack. Our guests are also asked to complete the address and phone number portion. Please pass your card to the center aisle to be gathered during the offering.

CELL PHONES Please turn your cell phones off before the service begins.

AS WE GATHER From the outside looking in, our walking together through the forty days of Lent does not seem nearly as exciting as the cheerfulness of Christmas or the elation of Easter, which we will experience two short weeks from today. Yet there is much joy to be found! There's a great reason to rejoice! God blesses us with time together today to fix our eyes on Jesus and receive Him who was rejected for our redemption, forsaken for our forgiveness, and sacrificed for our salvation. Following the example of Paul, we cast everything else aside and find joy—true, lasting, eternal joy—in “the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:8). Jesus longs for us to receive Him as He reveals Himself by His Word and Spirit, learning to know Him for who He truly is and what He has come to give. Christ alone is our joy—at Christmas, at Easter, during the season of Lent, and every day we are given! “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4).

+ PREPARATION +

HYMN “*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*” **[LSB 803]**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In humility and faith, let us come before the Lord, counting everything as loss for the sake of knowing Christ Jesus, our Lord.

People: **We count all things as rubbish, in order that we may gain Christ and be found in Him.**

Pastor: If righteousness before God were to depend on our obedience of the Law, we would all be lost and condemned forever.

People: **But our righteousness depends on faith alone; therefore, we trust in Christ, who suffered, died, and rose again for us.**

Pastor: Confident in the work of our Savior, we confess our sins to God our Father. Father in heaven, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: Father in heaven, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Forget what lies behind! Strain toward what lies ahead!

People: We press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus!

+ WORD +

INTROIT Psalm 3:3–6; antiphon: v. 8

Pastor: Salvation belongs to the LORD; Your blessing be on Your people!

People: But You, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.

Pastor: I cried aloud to the LORD, and He answered me from His holy hill.

People: I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.

Pastor: I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.

People: 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. Salvation belongs to the LORD; Your blessing be on Your people!

KYRIE (p. 186 in hymnal)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

VERSICLE *Philippians 4:4*

Pastor: Rejoice in the Lord always;

People: **again I will say, Rejoice.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING..... *Isaiah 43:16–21*

(The Lord gives refreshment in the wilderness to His chosen people.)

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ “Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. ¹⁹ Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰ The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Hebrews 12:2*

Pastor: O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

People: **the founder and perfecter of our faith,**

Pastor: who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,

People: **and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

EPISTLE..... *Philippians 3:(4b–7) 8–14*

(Everything is counted as loss compared to the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus.)

⁴ though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:⁵ 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; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ 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 ⁹ 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— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his

resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² 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. ¹³ 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, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL..... Luke 20:9–20
(The rejected Son of God is our cornerstone.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twentieth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹ And he began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while.¹⁰ When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹ And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹² And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³ Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’ ¹⁴ But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.’ ¹⁵ And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶ He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!” ¹⁷ But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written: “‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’? ¹⁸ Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” ¹⁹ The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰ So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

HYMN OF THE DAY..... “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”[LSB 425]

SERMON.....”The Surpassing Worth of Knowing Jesus”.....Philippians 4:8-14

OFFERING/OFFERTORY..... (p. 956 in hymnal)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to joyfully lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us. God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant us Your joy.

Pastor: Grant that Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil’s kingdom to come to know You by faith and find their righteousness in Jesus Christ, Your Son, that the number of Christians be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant us Your joy.

Pastor: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [*names . . . and*] all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant us Your joy.

Pastor: Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs, rejoicing always in Your fatherly care. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant us Your joy.

Pastor: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts be at peace and rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant us Your joy.

Pastor: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil as he seeks to rob us of our joy and confidence in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer and grant us Your joy.

Pastor: And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer and grant us Your joy.

Pastor: We joyfully trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION *Philippians 4:4*

Pastor: Rejoice in the Lord always;
People: again I will say, Rejoice.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Numbers 6:24-26
People: Amen.

HYMN..... *“Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”***[LSB 918]**

SILENT PRAYER
GREETING OF PEACE
POSTLUDE

WE EXIT TO SERVE

If this service moved you spiritually and you have questions regarding your spiritual life, please feel free to visit with Pastor after the service.