

**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

Phone: (217) 342-4334

E-mail: [saintjohnslcms@gmail.com](mailto:saintjohnslcms@gmail.com)

**PRESCHOOL WEBSITE:** [eaglesnestpreschool.com](http://eaglesnestpreschool.com)

Effingham, Illinois 62401

Fax: (217) 342-6599

**WEBSITE:** [stjohnslcms.net](http://stjohnslcms.net)

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

*"The Whole World Is God's Field"*



**5:30PM — July 22, 2017**

**8:00AM — July 23, 2017**

**THOSE WHO SERVE US**

Each Member of St. John's .....	A Minister
Rev. Ted Gall .....	Senior Pastor
Rev. Earl Brown .....	Assistant Pastor
Mrs. Sandy Esker .....	Preschool Director
Mr. Dean Manuel .....	Organist
Mrs. Andrea Wendling.....	Song Leader
St. John's Praise Band.....	10:30AM
Mr. Dave Wall .....	5:30PM Elder on Duty
Coralin Ohnesorge .....	5:30PM Acolyte
Mr. Jeff Stremming.....	8AM Elder on Duty
Kaiden Kohnert .....	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Howard Haake .....	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Jon Perry .....	10:30AM Acolyte
Mr. Todd Zeigler 821-6135.....	Elder on Duty for July 24 – July 28, 2017
Missionaries from Pakistan .....	Younis Darshan and Raja Shaleem
Missionaries from India .....	Ajay Paul & Sonne
Sister Congregation .....	in Blidene, Latvia
Mrs. Arnetia Osborn .....	(342-2210) 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** With the whole creation we groan together in birthing pains, waiting for the redemption of all things. Things are not how they were intended to be. We are not home yet. This sad state of affairs is the result of people who are not God playing God. The devil is in on this, sowing weeds throughout the field of this world. But there is no God besides God the Holy Trinity, not in heaven above nor on earth below—not you, not me, not anyone. The real God has appointed that we and all humanity are saved in hope through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our true home is the kingdom of God introduced by Jesus. Along our journey home, even when we do not know what to pray, our hope is sustained by the intercessions of God the Holy Spirit, whose groanings on our behalf are deeper than words can tell.

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**+ PREPARATION +**

**HYMN..... “To God Be The Glory” ..... [TOSB #241]**

- 1. To God be the glory, great things He hath done,  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son.  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the lifegate that all may go in.**

**REFRAIN**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father, thro’ Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.**

2. **O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. REFRAIN**
3. **Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done  
And great our rejoicing thro' Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. REFRAIN**

### **INVOCATION**

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

**People:** **Amen.**

### **OPENING SENTENCES** *Based on Isaiah 44:6–8; Psalm 119:64a*

**Pastor:** Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:  
“Who is like Me?”

**People:** **You are the first and You are the last; besides You there is no God.**

**Pastor:** Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it?

**People:** **Behold, we are Your witnesses!**

**Pastor:** Is there a God besides Me?

**People:** **O Lord, we know no Rock besides You, and the earth is full of Your steadfast love.**

### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** Only God most high,

**People:** **the earth is full of Your steadfast love, but we have turned away to the many passing loves that arrest our attention. Forgetting there is no God besides You, we often think we know what is best for ourselves and for others. But we don't. And so we groan in pain with the consequences of our sins. Hear our cry for Jesus' sake and have mercy on us.**

**Pastor:** Beloved in Christ, God—the only God—hears your cry for mercy, blotting out your transgressions for His own sake and remembering your sins no more. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

**KYRIE** *Based on Isaiah 44:8; Romans 8:21; Matthew 13:30*

**Pastor:** Lord, who is God alone and besides whom there is no other God,

**People:** **have mercy on us.**

**Pastor:** Christ Jesus, who has set us free from our bondage to decay that we may obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God,

**People:** **have mercy on us.**

**Pastor:** Lord, who owns the field of the world and preserves the weeds for the sake of Your wheat,

**People:** **have mercy on us, and grant us Your peace. Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**..... **“Holy, Holy, Holy”** .....**[LSB 507]**

**SALUTATION**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:** O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**..... **Isaiah 44:6–8**

(“Is there a God besides Me?”)

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

<sup>7</sup> Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.

<sup>8</sup> Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** *Romans 11:33, 36*

Pastor: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

People: **For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.**

**EPISTLE** ..... ***Romans 8:18–27***

*(The Spirit helps our weakness as we wait in hope with all creation.)*

<sup>18</sup> For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup> And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. <sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**..... ***Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43***

*(The parable of the weeds of the field)*

<sup>24</sup> He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup> but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. <sup>27</sup> And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ <sup>28</sup> He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup> But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both

grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.""<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field."<sup>37</sup> He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.<sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one,<sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.<sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.<sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers,<sup>42</sup> and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.<sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **NICENE CREED**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** ..... *"The Day Is Surely Drawing Near"* ..... [stz 1,3,5,7 LSB 508]

**SERMON**..... *"Homebound"* ..... **Romans 8:18-27**

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY** ..... (p. 192 in hymnal)

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. O God, You are merciful and gracious. The world and all it contains belongs to You, yet the sufferings of this present time remind Your people that we are not yet home. Help us to trust in Your mercy as we wait for You to fulfill all things. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O God, You are merciful and gracious. You set up and depose rulers according to Your will. Grant us wise and just men and women in all positions of public trust in this and every land. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O God, You are merciful and gracious. Together with Your whole creation people everywhere cry out in pain of body, mind, and spirit. Today we especially hold before You [*names*] along with all we name in our hearts. Sustain these and all who suffer afflictions, bringing them healing and wholeness in Your good time and ways. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O God, You are merciful and gracious. As one Body, we come at Your invitation to the Lamb's high feast spread here before us. Help us always to return to Your love, trusting in Your mercy given to us in this blessed Sacrament of Jesus' body and blood. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O God, You are merciful and gracious. Each day we are reminded that we are not home yet. But according to Your promise, we are waiting for the new heavens and the new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Until that day, Lord, keep us from all evil, and keep our going out and our coming in from this time forth and forevermore. For all of these things and whatever else You know that we need, we ask through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns in communion and love with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**+ SACRAMENT +**

### ***PREFACE***

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### ***PROPER PREFACE***

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

**SANCTUS** ..... (p. 195 in hymnal)

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST**

**Pastor:** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*

**People:** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *Revelation 22:20*

**PAX DOMINI**

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** **Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI**.....(p. 198 in hymnal)

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** ..... "*Just As I Am Without One Plea*" [LSB 570]  
*Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me*" [LSB 761]

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

**Pastor:** Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

**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**..... "*My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less*"..... [LSB 575]

**SILENT PRAYER**

**GREETING OF PEACE**

**POSTLUDE**