

**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

PRESCHOOL WEBSITE: eaglesnestpreschool.com

Effingham, Illinois 62401

Fax: (217) 342-6599

WEBSITE: stjohnslcms.net

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

"Amen!"



5:30PM — November 25, 2017

8:00AM — November 26, 2017

THOSE WHO SERVE US

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Each Member of St. John's | A Minister |
| Rev. Ted Gall | Senior Pastor |
| Mrs. Sandy Esker..... | Preschool Director |
| Mrs. Dana Keller | Organist |
| Mrs. Erin Wendling..... | Song Leader |
| St. John's Praise Band..... | 10:30AM |
| Mr. Dave Wall | 5:30PM Elder on Duty |
| Tori Budde | 5:30PM Acolyte |
| Mr. Jeff Stremming..... | 8AM Elder on Duty |
| Kaiden Kohnert | 8AM Acolyte |
| Mr. Howard Haake | 10:30AM Elder on Duty |
| Jon Perry & Evan Pryor..... | 10:30AM Acolytes |
| Mr. John Jackson 347-0883..... | Elder on Duty for November 27-December 1, 2017 |
| Missionaries from Pakistan | Younis Darshan and Raja Shaleem |
| Missionaries from India | Ajay Paul & Sonne |
| Sister Congregation | in Blidene, Latvia |
| 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers which grace our altar are given by Dave and Becky Ragan in honor of their 30th wedding anniversary.

AS WE GATHER “To be continued . . .” Those simple words sometimes show up on the screen at the conclusion of a television show, announcing that something is yet to come to complete what has already been presented. The theme of the Last Sunday of the Church Year is that sort of message. Over the past Church Year, the history of salvation in Christ has been presented, and the work of the Holy Spirit through the Church has been celebrated. Now, the return of Christ the King is awaited, when the divine plan is unfolded. To what has been, what is now, and what will be in God’s design, we add our joyful “Amen!”

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ PREPARATION +

HYMN..... **“Come, Thou Almighty King”**..... **[LSB 905]**

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Revelation 4:8b, 11*

Pastor: Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,

People: **who was and is and is to come!**

Pastor: Worthy are You, our Lord and God,

People: **to receive glory and honor and power,**

Pastor: for You created all things,

People: **and by Your will they existed and were created.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, sheep of the Good Shepherd, we know of His abiding goodness and mercy. With confidence, let us come before our Lord to confess our sins and to find the forgiveness we seek.

People: Almighty God, we admit our sinfulness, both that which is within us from the beginning and that which continues to occur in our lives through our transgressions in thought, word, and deed. Forgive us, renew us, and create in us clean hearts so that we may serve You as Your redeemed people, now and forever.

Pastor: God hears our cries for mercy, and because of the sacrifice of His beloved Son for the sins of all people, He grants forgiveness. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May you live confidently in this life as you await the joy of life everlasting. Be at peace!

People: Amen.

+ **WORD** +

INTROIT *Psalm 39:4–5, 7–8, 12a; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13*

Pastor: In keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

Women: *O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!*

Men: *Behold, You have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before You.*

People: And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You.

Women: *Deliver me from all my transgressions. Do not make me the scorn of the fool!*

Men: *Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not Your peace at my tears! For I am a sojourner with You, a guest, like all my fathers.*

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.

Pastor: In keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with You.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the Kingdom prepared for Your own from the

foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING..... **Psalm 103:1-14**
(Bless the Lord, O my soul.)

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! ² Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, ³ who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, ⁵ who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. ⁶ The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. ⁸ The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. ⁹ He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. ¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. ¹³ As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. ¹⁴ For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE..... **1 Corinthians 15:20-28**
(All will be made alive in Christ.)

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸ When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

8AM MINISTRY OF MUSIC.....“With Joyful Thanksgiving”.....by Crosstones

GRADUAL Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5

Pastor: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

People: **They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

Pastor: Blessed are those whose strength is in You,

People: **in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

HOLY GOSPEL..... Matthew 25:31-46

(The sheep and the goats are separated.)

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’ ⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CREED The Third Article

Pastor: In the Third Article, we affirm our confession of the last things and add our “Amen” to all we have professed that we believe.

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

HYMN OF THE DAY ..“Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing”..... [LSB 686]

SERMON..... “Count Your Blessings!”.....Psalm 103:1-14 by Rev. Gary Fortkamp

OFFERING/OFFERTORY “Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart..... [LSB 806]

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. We pray for the whole Christian community around the world that, as people united in faith, we may witness to the good news that is ours in Christ Jesus. Together we say:

People respond: Amen and amen.

Pastor: We pray for all nations of the earth, that in those places where strife and discord rule, there may be peace. And we pray for our own nation, that it may seek to bring that which is good and God-pleasing about in every global situation. Together we say:

Pastor: We pray for all those who labor in the fields of the Lord, that the Good Shepherd would lead them to pleasant pastures and give them joy in their callings. And we pray that the God of all grace would continue to raise up men and women to serve in vocations of service in the Church. Together we say:

Pastor: We pray for our lives and for the situations in which we are placed day by day at home, in the workplace, in schools, or wherever our paths lead us, that we may be peacemakers and peace bringers, carrying out the command to love one another as our Lord has loved us. Together we say:

Pastor: We pray for the special needs of this day, including health and family concerns, joys and sorrows, and all that is on our hearts, [*including . . .*]. Together we say:

Pastor: With gratitude, we remember all those who have completed their earthly journeys in faith, whose witness remains to bless and inspire us. May we with confidence follow in their footsteps and be led by the Holy Spirit. Together we say:

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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, heavenly Father, because You are with us to bless us for time and for eternity. With goodness and mercy You provide for all our wants of body and soul. May Your Holy Spirit guard, guide, and comfort us throughout the days of our journey on earth, while we live to Your glory as Your pilgrim people. Keep us focused in faith as we journey toward our final goal, Your everlasting kingdom, where 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.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

PAX DOMINI

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

People: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI(p. 198 in hymnal)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “The King Of Love My Shepherd Is” [LSB 709]
“Just As I Am Without One Plea” [LSB 570]

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Gracious God, heavenly Father, again You have welcomed us to Your Table and have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. Adding our amens to those of the saints and angels around Your throne, we thank You and ask that we may rejoice in Your presence and hold fast to Your promises. Grant Your Holy Spirit to enlighten us with His gifts so that we may live out our days in hope, eagerly awaiting the return of Christ in justice and glory. We ask this in the blessed name of our Savior Jesus Christ.

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..... “Crown Him With Many Crowns”..... [LSB 525]

SILENT PRAYER

GREETING OF PEACE

POSTLUDE

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Part 4. Copyright © 2017 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission