



# ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

April 20 & 21, 2024

## WELCOME!

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This Sunday's lessons are *Acts 4:1-12*, *1 John 3:16-24*, and *John 10:11-18*. Pastor Vergin's sermon is titled "*Peter & John: A Portrait of Christian Boldness*," and it's based on *Acts 4:1-12*.

## Holy Communion

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In Holy Communion we eat and drink the true body and blood of Jesus under bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26:26-28).

Because taking part in this Sacrament is a visible act of unity (1 Corinthians 10:17), we kindly ask that those visiting from outside the confession of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod complete a course of instruction with us before receiving the Sacrament. If you will not be communing, you are invited to come forward during the distribution with your arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing.

In keeping with Paul's admonition to examine ourselves before receiving Communion (1 Corinthians 11:28-29), the following questions can be used in your personal preparations:

- Do you believe that you are a sinner in need of God's forgiveness?
- Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?
- Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
- Do you believe that in this Sacrament we eat and drink Jesus' true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine for our forgiveness?
- Do you desire by the power of the Holy Spirit to live a God-pleasing life according to His Word?

\*Gluten-free wafers are available, and a wine alternative is located in the center of the tray of individual cups of wine.

## PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

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*"Heavenly Father, God of all grace, waken our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness, that we may live in Your fear until with all Your saints we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord."*



And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.  
Colossians 3:17

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Church: (616) 842-4510  
School: (616) 842-0260



## PRAYERS

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**Prayers for Strength & Healing:** **Teresa Taylor** (further testing), **Mark Anderson** (recovering from back surgery), **Helen** (fractured pelvis), **Bill Kooi** (health), **Tom** (health, Parkinson's), **KD** (complications from Parkinson's), **Ross Klages** (health), **Becky Wade** (health), **Ken Larson** (healing), **Ken Luytjes** (health), **Wesley** (health), **Arno Guske** (vision), **Ruth Pasman** (dementia), **Karen Shields** (vision), **Elijah Klages** (peace & healing), **Vicky & Louis Johnson** (health), **Todd Hardebeck**, **Sandy**, **Jeff VandenBosch**, **Rob Eich**, **Steve**, **Ellyn**, **Malissa**, **Jonathan S.**, **Betty J.**, **Nancy Pringnitz**, and **Joan Fett** (cancer).

**Prayers for Peace** for **Carol Hirr**.

**Lifting Up Our Church in Prayer:** Galatians 3:13-14 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us...He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit." Lord, I believe help my unbelief.

**Lifting Up St. John's School in Prayer:** This week let us pray for SJLCS Board of Education members. Father God, we ask that you give them wisdom and insight for their decisions of this and the upcoming school year. We pray that your will be done.

If you have a prayer request, please contact the church office at 616-842-4510 or [office@stjohnsgrandhaven.com](mailto:office@stjohnsgrandhaven.com).

## MEMORIALS

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In memory of **Ron Kieft** given to the Save the Bell Tower Campaign by Gene & Donna Hasenbank. In memory of **Ron Kieft** given to the General Fund by Ruprich Barber. In memory of **Lois Yonker** given to God's Pantry by Les & Ronda Chapman. In memory of **Carol Schmidt** given to the Day School by Harry Schmidt & Family. In memory of **Ron Kieft** given to the Day School by Carol Linneman, Karen Walbridge, Fayee Russell, Robert and Julie Brouwer, Pete and Jan VanderKolk, and Carol Linneman.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

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This week's altar flowers are sponsored by **Harry Schmidt** in loving memory of Carol Schmidt.

## ATTENDANCE

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From last week...5 p.m. Saturday:60, 8:15 a.m. Sunday: 71, 10:30 a.m. Sunday: 128 **Total: 259**

## ONLINE GIVING

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Did you know that you can give monetary donations online? You can visit our website at [www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com](http://www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com) or scan the QR Code below.



## WHAT'S THE LATEST NEWS

**A Few Lines for Lutherans for Life:** In today's gospel reading, we have the tender scene that we are sheep under the care of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Viewing Jesus this way reminds us of his humanity, as many of his countrymen had the same profession. But Jesus rises to the top as one who would lay down his very life for his sheep (John 10:11). It is very comforting to be under the watch of such a self-sacrificing shepherd. Another take away message is found here as well. We are always to strive to be like Christ, and this compels us in our collective presence as his sheep, to share the good shepherd's love and compassion with all his little lambs. God pours his love into every believer's heart (Romans 5:5). With this gift we come to our neighbors with both words of encouragement and the giving of our goods (1 John 3:17) "that they may have life and have it abundantly."

**We will have door offering to support the Military Biblesticks** program the weekend of April 20-21.

If you are writing a check, please make it out to St. John's Lutheran Church with "Biblesticks" in the memo line. The organization requests just one check from the church.

A donor to Faith Comes By Hearing is providing a match (up to \$1 million) in May and June. Since St. John's will send donations in during that time, our donations will go even further.

This program offers free audio Bibles to troops. These sticks are easier for troops to carry than a Bible. Troops have the option of sending a Bible home to their family.

The Biblesticks are just one of the projects happening through the organization Faith Comes By Hearing. If you are interested in learning more about this organization, you can visit [faithcomesbyhearing.com](http://faithcomesbyhearing.com).

**Do you know anyone in the need of a lap robe and prayer shawl** for strength, comfort, and to help with stress during illness? If so, please let the church office know. We can get one to you to deliver for the Prayer Shawl Ministry. You can call the church office at 616-842-4510 or Kathy Fisher at 616-935-7328.

**Join fellow St. John's families for an afternoon of fun at Spring Lake Fitness & Aquatic Center.**

Families are welcome to hit the water park 1-3 p.m. April 28. The cost is \$10 per swimmer and \$30 maximum for a family. Payments will be made the day of the event. All skills and ages are welcome!

Please scan the QR code below to register. The deadline to register is April 21. A parent/guardian must be present.



**If you would like to purchase geraniums in celebration of Pentecost,** please use the envelopes that are available on the bulletin board by the church office. Geraniums are \$6 per plant. Orders are due by May 5.

Thank you to Bosch's Best Bushes for their continued partnership!

Sadly, we are on the last three Sundays of Sunday School. **Come while you can before summer break!** Be sure to sign up for St. John's pool party on April 28. Today is the last day to sign up! It's going to be a blast! Also, keep open June 17-18 for our Summeramma (Vacation Bible School). You won't want to miss out on the fun! Happy Sunday!

Leah Appold  
Director of Children's Ministry

## SUNDAY

8:15 a.m. Worship  
9:35 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
9:35 a.m. Sunday School  
9:45 a.m. Youth Bible Study  
10:30 a.m. Worship

## MONDAY

Pastor's Day  
10 a.m. Quilters  
10:30 a.m. Recorders  
1 p.m. Women's Bible Study

## TUESDAY

9 a.m. Staff Devotions  
4 p.m. GEMS Girls' Club  
6 p.m. Handbells  
6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study  
7:15 p.m. Choir

## WEDNESDAY

10 a.m. Chapel  
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

## THURSDAY

9 a.m. Prayer Group  
7 p.m. Praise Team

## FRIDAY

## SATURDAY

8:30 a.m. Issues As We Age Workshop  
5 p.m. Worship

Flowers ordered through the **youth fundraiser can be picked up 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, May 10.** If you missed your chance to order baskets, there will be a limited number of extras available for purchase.

## ANNIVERSARIES

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MULLEN, Stephen & Denise (34)  
THIBAUT, George & Kris (30)

04/21  
04/23

EICH, Rob & Lois (56)

04/27

## BIRTHDAYS

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ROBINSON, Chelsea  
CIPOLLA, Dorian  
CONRADT, Robert  
LYONS, Sherry  
SAYEN, Gloria  
SPENCER, Katelyn

04/21  
04/22  
04/22  
04/23  
04/23  
04/23

TOPPEN, Hunter  
BERG, Nancy  
EICH, Rob  
TIMMER, Donna  
GORESCH, Jerry  
SNYDER, Frances

04/23  
04/24  
04/24  
04/24  
04/25  
04/25

BLANCHETTE, Sue  
BOEVE, Monica  
DANIELS, Agnes  
DRESS, Judy  
OBERLEE, Brooke  
REARY, Bradie

04/26  
04/26  
04/26  
04/27  
04/27  
04/27

**Mark your calendar for Unity Music Festival!** It will be held Aug. 7-10 at Heritage Landing in Muskegon. Tickets go on sale in April. Tickets will cost \$40 per person for a one-day pass, \$75 per person for a three-day pass, and \$325 for a family three-day pass. May 5 is the deadline to purchase tickets.

Unity includes music, a children's area, and booths featuring various ministries. This year's main stage artists include Zach Williams, Matthew West, Mac Powell, Tenth Avenue North, Matt Maher, and more

**Ken & Sue Larson would like to thank** Pastor Vergin and the wonderful family at St. John's for all the prayers, cards, and calls to check on Ken during his health struggles. We are happy and full of gratitude to tell you that Ken has made a turn for the better and getting stronger each week. You all have given both of us the strength to get through this time.

Ken & Sue Larson

A **new member reception** will be held 9:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday, May 5, in the Social Hall, to honor those members who have joined our St. John's family from January 2023 to the present. Take this opportunity to get to know these individuals who now call St. John's their spiritual home. Refreshments will be served. This event is hosted by the Evangelism/Fellowship Board.