

Sixth Week after Easter May 4th 2024

Pastor
Ryan Arnold

**Director of Worship, Music,
Adult Choirs and Organist**
Michael Elsbernd



Volunteer

Our church is the perfect place for you to utilize your unique talents for the greater good.

We focus on spreading God's love and assisting our global neighbors through the ELCA and St. John's Lutheran Church. Intrigued? We'll guide you towards volunteer opportunities that match your passion, gifts, and schedule. Discover these opportunities by scanning the QR code or visiting stjohnsdsm.org.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

As you exit the sanctuary, you will find Guides stationed at each exit with offering plates in case you would like to leave your weekly offering. Additionally, we kindly request you to complete a Worship Attendance Card that can be found in the racks in the pew and place it in the offering plate. If you happen to be a guest, filling out a card would help us know how to offer support as you learn more about the St. John's community.

READINGS: Acts 10:44-48, John 15:9-17

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

ABOUT THE COVER ART: "John 15:12. Love One Another" by Mark Lawrence, 2021

Christian modern art by Mark Lawrence is inspired by Bible verses that God has given to encourage, strengthen, and teach us about who we are in Jesus Christ. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12).

Prayer Requests -

The following people have requested prayers. If someone has passed away they are noted as "Friends/Family" of "name inserted". To add a prayer request, please notify Katie Pithan at 515-243-7691 or kpithan@stjohnsdsm.org by Tuesday at noon to be included in the following weekend's bulletin.

Immigrants and Refugees

Israel / Palestine

Jaime P

Alex N

Rachel

Jim K

Ben M

Mary Nesmith

Toni

Shannon H

Family of Bob Elder

Mary H

Dean

Audrey

Margaret

Sr. Elaine H

Lisa K

Pauline C

Hope

Dennis

Jim G

Linda & Tom

Emily & Andy

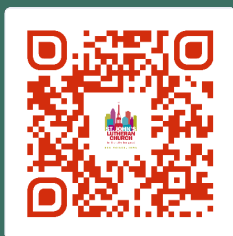
Paula C

Tornado Victims

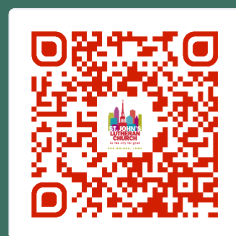
Dave B



We affirm, love, embrace, and invite all people in celebration of race, color, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, age, marital status, mental and physical abilities, cultural background, immigration status, education, and varied faith journeys. We respect and are committed to racial equality, anti-racism, and the promotion of social and economic justice.



Give



Learn



Grow



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. We encourage everyone to participate in worship as fully as possible. "ELW" refers to the red hymnal found in the pew racks. Page numbers refer to the front of the hymnal; hymns are listed by ELW # and can be found toward the back of the hymnal.

"ACS" refers to the All Creation Sings, the Purple Hymnals in the pew racks.

Indicators for who's speaking - [P] Pastor [L] - Lector [A] - Assisting Minister
[C] - Congregation

Prelude "Come Down O Love Divine" arr. Mark Sedio

Welcome

Please stand.

Thanksgiving For Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,

freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Song "*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* (ELW 836)

Apostolic Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

L: O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

Before the reading

L: People of God, listen for the Word of the Lord.

C: Our ears are open.

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48, Bible Page 895

After the reading

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

The gospel is announced.

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 15:9-17, Bible Page 878

The gospel concludes.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon *Rev. Ryan Arnold*

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

Hymn of the Day "*Come Down, O Love Divine*" (ELW 804)

Apostles' Creed (ELW p.105)

P: Together, let us profess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

MEAL

The Lord's Supper

Offering Prayer

The assembly is invited to stand.

**The Great Thanksgiving
Thanksgiving at the Table
Words of Institution**

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in God's grace.

Prayer After Communion

A: Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

Sending

Benediction

Sending Song "*In Christ There Is No East or West*" (ELW 650)

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude "*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*" arr. Paul Manz
From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Welcome, Gwen McQuaig!

Gwen is a fifth-year music education, religion, and church music triple-major at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. During the next four weeks, Gwen will be completing an internship requirement of 140 hours at St. John's Lutheran. You'll likely see Gwen around the church during the week and at worship, as she explores the many facets of church music ministry: leading choirs, instrumentalists, collaborating with members of the Worship Ministry Team and Arts Visioning Team – and much more! Welcome to St. John's, Gwen!



Coffee With Council

Join us after service today in **Neumann** to enjoy Coffee with our council. We will hear updates from council and clergy with space to ask any questions you may have. All are welcome!

EAGLES

The EAGLES will meet at 10am on Wednesday May 22nd at the Iowa State Historical Building following with a Pop Up lunch at 12:00 at Baratta's. At this time, there will be a limited lunch menu.

For questions call Margaret Townsend 515-779-2681.



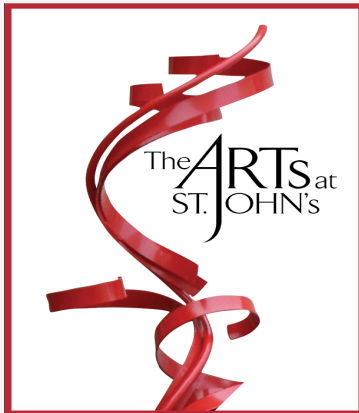
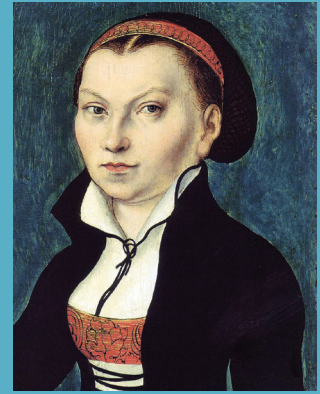
Celebrating Katy

May 6 - 6pm, Either/Or, 6222 Grand Ave, DSM

June 18 - 6pm, SingleSpeed Brewing, 303 Scott Ave, DSM

July 16 - 6:30pm, Reclaimed Rails Brewing Co., 101 Main St. SE, Bondurant

Celebrating Katy is open to anyone who would like to celebrate the life of Katarina Von Bora, the wife of Martin Luther. Katarina was known for her skills as a home brewer and we gather together to experience the skill of local breweries and fun conversation! If you have any questions contact Rob Snavely at (celebratingkaty@gmail.com)



Midweek Music Series

For over 20 years, St. John's Lutheran Church has hosted a Midweek Music Series, featuring the best in music Des Moines has to offer. Each week at 12:05pm, a 30 minute concert, free and open to the public takes place in our sanctuary. Following the concert, a light lunch will be offered in Neumann for \$8.

May 8 Christina Deeds, French Horn; Michael Elsbernd, piano

Mah Jongg

Would you like to get together Mondays 12:00pm - 3:00pm in Neumann Hospitality? All are invited! This group meets weekly except on holidays. If you have questions regarding the weekly meeting location or other group questions, please contact Judy to sign-up. jclatessa125@gmail.com



Vacation Bible School

Join us for VBS with St. John's and Faith Lutheran Churches! This event will take place June 9-12 at Faith Lutheran in Clive and there is no cost to participate. The kids will engage in music, games, crafts, Bible stories, and more! Scan below to register.

