

Week of  
October 2, 2022



Join the  
**St. John's Lutheran  
Ministries**  
Facebook group for news,  
updates and daily  
encouragement!

## Welcome in the name of the Lord !

As God serves us today in Word and Sacrament, may we rejoice in His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation.

1) To parents of small children, we love the sound of children in worship. Thank you for bringing your child to worship; they belong here! If your child is actively crying, we have a cry room near the restrooms.

2) Regarding the Lord's Supper today: If you are not a confirmed member of this congregation or a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, please speak to the pastor before communing. Pastor is readily available in the narthex before worship for this conversation. For those with medical need, the center section of the individual cup trays is filled with cups of grape juice (lighter color). For those that have a gluten intolerance, gluten-free wafers are available. Share your need as you come forward to the altar.

3) Children are invited to come forward to the altar while the Lord's Supper is distributed; encourage them to bow their heads and fold their hands. While there, they will receive a Baptismal blessing from the Pastor.

4) We ask that if you have a mobile device, please silence it during the worship service.

5) Our elders, greeters, and ushers are here to help with any of your worship needs today.

Thanks for worshipping with us!

### Worship Times

+ Saturdays 5:30 p.m. — *Abbreviated service*

+ Sundays 8:00 a.m. — *Communion at the rail*

+ Sundays 10:30 a.m. — *With Praise Band*

Masks are optional at all services.

**Livestreaming** of the 8:00 a.m. service continues to be available at [stjohnsportage.com/live](http://stjohnsportage.com/live).

### Please Pray

**Thanksgiving (birth, baptisms, weddings, recovery):**

**Milestone (birthdays, anniversaries):**

**Medical:**

*Margery Schultz, George Koepp, Ken Baars*

**Long-term Illness/Treatment:**

**Mourning:**

**Other:**

**How Do I Get Someone on the Prayer List?**

**If you, or someone you know, would like to have a name added to the prayer list, please contact the church office by noon on Wednesdays.** Please be sure that you have the permission of the individual before contacting the church office to add them to the public prayer list.

**\*Please notify the church office when one of our church family members is in the hospital, so that a pastoral visit may be made or arranged.**

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

-Philippians 4:6-7

### Ministries Calendar

#### Calendar events for the week of October 2, 2022:

##### Sunday (02)

9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour and Fellowship, Church CLC  
9:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour, Church CLC  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School, School Cafeteria  
9:15 a.m. Praise Band Practice, Church Sanctuary  
11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC

##### Monday (03)

1:30 p.m. Health and Wellness, Church CLC

##### Tuesday (04)

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport  
9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC  
4:30 p.m. GriefShare, Church APR  
6:30 p.m. Board of Stewardship, Church CLC  
6:30 p.m. Sisters in Christ Bible Study, Church APR

##### Wednesday (05)

10:00 a.m. Chapel, Church Sanctuary  
12:00 p.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline,  
Email: [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)  
4:30 p.m. Jr. Youth Group, School Gym  
5:00 p.m. Handbell Choir, Church Balcony  
6:30 p.m. Adult Choir, Church Balcony  
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Instruction, Church CLC  
6:30 p.m. Sr. Youth Group, School Gym

##### Thursday (06)

**No School—LEA Convocation**  
8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Study, Church CLC  
10:15 a.m. Rachel Bible Study, Church CLC  
11:00 a.m. Heritage House monthly worship, Heritage House  
5:30 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study, Church CLC

##### Friday (07)

**No School—LEA Convocation**  
Church office closed

##### Sunday (09)

9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour and Fellowship, Church CLC  
9:00 a.m. Blood Pressure Screening  
9:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour, Church CLC  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School, School Cafeteria  
9:15 a.m. Praise Band Practice, Church Sanctuary  
11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC

Calendar events are subject to change. For the most up-to-date calendar information, please visit our website, <http://www.stjohnsportage.com/st-johns-calendar>. To schedule your group activity, please contact the church office at 608-742-9000 or email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).

### Weekly Offerings

Last Week's In-person Attendance: 241

Unified Received: \$11,189.38

Other Contributions: \$900.00

TOTAL: \$12,089.38

**Weekly Unified Needed: \$13,975.00**



## This Weekend's Lectionary Summary

### **PROPER 22—Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost** (2 October 2022)

Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4

2 Timothy 1:1–14

Luke 17:1–10

#### ***We Walk by Faith, and Not by Sight, in the Peace of Christ's Forgiveness***

We are surrounded by “*destruction and violence*” (Hab. 1:3) because the Law “*is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth*” (Hab. 1:4). In fact, the Law cannot rescue us from our enemies; it is our fiercest enemy of all. Therefore, not by sight, experience or feeling, nor by works, “*the righteous shall live by his faith*” (Hab. 2:4). “*Temptations to sin are sure to come*” (Luke 17:1), but as often as we sin, the Lord rebukes us, turns us to repentance and forgives us. We pray that He would thus “*increase our faith*” (Luke 17:5). And indeed, He does! Though we are His “*unworthy servants*” (Luke 17:10), He prepares His Supper for us, dresses us properly and gives us His body and blood to eat and drink. He appoints pastors for us, “*by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus*” (2 Tim. 1:1). For the Gospel brings “*life and immortality to light*” (2 Tim. 1:10). This we believe. Therefore, “*follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard,*” by which He guards you “*in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus*” (2 Tim. 1:13).

## Beware of Email and Text Scams

### **Did you get a text or email from Pastor Hovland asking you for help or to purchase gift cards?**

Recently I received an email from what looked like Pastor Hovland asking me to purchase gift cards. Pastor will not send an email or text requesting you to purchase gift cards or financial help.

If you received an email or text like this, please check the sender's email address or phone number. If it does not match the one you have on file for the sender, it might be a scam. Do not hit reply! Email or text the sender, using their known email address or phone number from your contacts list, to verify the request.

Example of spoof email address:

**Rev. Greg Hovland <officeemail2908@gmail.com>**

## Strong Bodies

Due to unforeseen circumstances, **Strong Bodies classes will be suspended until Monday, October 10.**

Thank you for your understanding. See you on the 10th!

## Census 2022



**St. John's is taking a census of its entire membership.** If you haven't done so, please complete the Census 2022 form inserted in the bulletin or complete the census online at [stjohnsportage.com/census2022](http://stjohnsportage.com/census2022).

It takes less than 2 minutes. Paper copies can be returned to the basket at The Welcome Center. We are looking for 100% participation of our families. Thanks to all who have participated.

## St. John's Athletics

**St. John's Lutheran School needs concession and score table volunteers** on 10/17 for a volleyball game. We are hosting for St. Mary Knights blue team. Three of our Crusader girls are on this team. Contact school office at 742-9000 option 3 if interested.

## Radio Broadcast

### **Last Radio Broadcast October 2**

WPDR has informed us that the last Sunday of our services being broadcast on the air will be October 2. This is due to a change in their radio programming. We thank those that have sponsored the radio broadcast over the years. We also thank WPDR for offering the time slot through the decades.

## Financial Peace University

**Are inflation, high gas prices, & food prices affecting your life?** Want to learn how to have financial peace and enjoy God's blessings? Come to FPU classes in the CLC at 6:00–7:30 p.m. every Monday for 9 weeks starting Oct. 17. Materials will be shared in the class. Cost is \$100 (flex payments available). Children are welcome. No need to hire a sitter.

## Sanctuary Projector

**The new sanctuary projector is fixed!**

**We still need people willing to assist with the operation of the projector at each of our services.** If you are interested in helping, please email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).

## Dinner just got a little easier.

**Jose's Food Truck** is coming to St. John's on **Thursday, Nov. 3, 3:00-7:00 p.m.** Cash only. Menu available online and in the office.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2538732139766377>

Tell your friends! Bring your appetite!  
(Pray for good weather!)

## Coffee Hour and Fellowship

**Adopt a Sunday! It's a fun and easy way to get to know your church family.**

We encourage families and groups to "Adopt a Sunday" by hosting coffee hour on Sunday mornings. Hosting coffee hour involves providing a simple snack, making coffee, and enjoying fellowship time with our church families. Sign up in the Christian Life Center or email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

Oct. 02:	Altar Guild
Oct. 09:	<b>Open</b>
Oct. 16:	<b>Open</b>
Oct. 23:	<b>Open</b>
Oct. 30:	<b>Open</b>

## Youth Ministry

**All youth are invited to join us for fun and fellowship.**

### ✠ **Sunday School**

Meets Sundays from 9:15 a.m.–10:15 a.m. in St. John's School Cafeteria. Lessons are based on the weekly readings. There will be games, Bible lessons, and snacks.

### ✠ **Jr. Youth Group**

For grades 4-7 meets on Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m. in St. John's School Gym. The focus of Jr. Youth Group is Martin Luther's Catechism to help prepare for confirmation. There will be pizza and games to help us learn God's Word.

### ✠ **Senior Youth Group**

For grades 8-12 meets on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. in St. John's School Gym. The focus of Senior Youth Group is being "equipped" with God's armor. There will be games, Bible study, servant work, and pizza.

## Bible Studies

**Join us for fellowship and Bible study!**

- ✠ **Christian Education Hour meets Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** This is a Pastor-led Bible study of The Lutheran Spirituality Series: *Witness: We Share Our Faith*, by Klaus Detlev Schulz.
- ✠ **Late Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 11:30 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently studying the Gospel of Matthew and the Synoptic Gospels.
- ✠ **Men's Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. at the Portage Airport.** We are currently studying the Gospel of Matthew.
- ✠ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:15 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** This is a Pastor-led Bible study of the upcoming week's readings.
- ✠ **Sisters in Christ Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the All Purpose Room.** We are currently studying the book of Ruth.
- ✠ **Esther Bible Study meets Thursdays at 8:00 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently studying the Gospel of John.
- ✠ **Rachel Bible Study meets Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently watching and discussing *The Chosen* series.
- ✠ **Thirsty Souls Bible Study meets Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently working through the Epistles. If you have questions, please contact Marilyn Jahn, 608-617-7787.

### **St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church**

850 Armstrong Street  
Portage, Wisconsin 53901  
phone (608) 742-9000  
fax 742-7154

Rev. Greg Hovland,  
Senior Pastor  
(c) 608-571-3360  
[ghovland@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ghovland@stjohnsportage.com)

Rev. Rod Armon,  
Pastoral Care  
[rarmon@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:rarmon@stjohnsportage.com)

Jenni See,  
Business Manager  
[jsee@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:jsee@stjohnsportage.com)

Catharine Daily,  
Ministries Coordinator—Church  
[cdaily@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:cdaily@stjohnsportage.com)

**Office Hours: M—Th / 8:00a–3:30p**

### **St. John's Lutheran School**

*A Nationally Accredited School*  
430 West Emmett  
Portage, Wisconsin 53901  
phone (608)742-9000

Jim Krupski,  
Principal  
[jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com)

Amanda Kohn,  
Ministries Coordinator—School  
[akohn@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:akohn@stjohnsportage.com)

**School Hours:**  
**M—F / 7:30a–3:15p**

### **St. John's Child Development Center**

*A Five-Star Rated Center*  
426 West Emmett  
Portage, Wisconsin 53901  
phone (608)742-9000

Debra Drew,  
Director  
[ddrew@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ddrew@stjohnsportage.com)  
[cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

**Center Office Hours:**  
**M—F / 7:00a–5:00p**

### **St. John's Elder Directory**

The elders listed below are available to talk and pray with you. Feel free to contact us wherever you are, with whatever you may be going through. We CARE and are here for you:

Ken Chvojicek 697-2102  
Gene Thompson 697-4786  
Mark Witt 697-0224  
Bob Fairfield 296-4012, Chairman  
David Hall 493-2125  
Pete Smith 697-3807  
Ron Mueller 369-1845

## Sermon Reflections

Readings \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel \_\_\_\_\_

What problem (sin) did the sermon address?

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What solution (gospel) was presented for the problem?

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What part of the sermon did you find easiest to remember?

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### Daily Lectionary

This week's readings comes from the Daily Lectionary found in the Lutheran Service Book page 299.

#### Sunday,

Deut. 3:1–29 &  
Matt. 7:1–12

#### Monday,

Deut. 4:1–20 &  
Matt. 7:13–29

#### Tuesday,

Deut. 4:21–40 &  
Matt. 8:1–17

#### Wednesday,

Deut. 5:1–21 &  
Matt. 8:18–34

#### Thursday,

Deut. 5:22—6:9 &  
Matt. 9:1–17

#### Friday,

Deut. 6:10–25 &  
Matt. 9:18–38

#### Saturday,

Deut. 7:1–19 &  
Matt. 10:1–23

### Stewardship Thoughts

**Luke 17:10** – “So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’ ” We can never put God in our debt. Even if we lived in perfect compliance with the Law, we would still only be unworthy servants. Our giving to the Lord’s work in the Church is a sign that we recognize our role as servants. Furthermore, we give because we recognize our own need for that work of the Lord in the Church. And what a blessing it is to give to the Church so that the ministry of His Word and Sacraments may reach all in community.

### Life Thoughts

**October 2 – Pentecost XVII (Proper 22)** – Abortion, assisted suicide, and other deals with death bless with their mouths – as Psalm 62 warns us – by promising freedom and control. But inwardly these measures curse by delivering guilt and grief. Power over life and death belongs to God alone (Psalm 62:11), and His steadfast love provides salvation even amid surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis. The Gospel of Jesus Christ always brings life and immortality to light (2 Timothy 1:10).

### LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,  
and he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are  
worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens.*

1 Chronicles 16:25–26