

April 30, 2023



# 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) Please complete either a Guest (blue) or Member (white) card found in the hymnal rack of the pews. You may place this card in the offering plate located in the Narthex.
- 2) 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 with service audio near the restrooms.
- 3) Regarding the Lord's Supper today: **If you are not a confirmed member of St. John's 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 (darker color). For those that have a gluten intolerance, gluten-free wafers are available. Share your need as you come forward to the altar.
- 4) 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.
- 5) We ask that if you have a mobile device, please silence it during the worship service.
- 6) Our elders and ushers are here to help with any of your worship needs today.

**Thanks for worshiping with us!**

## Sermon Reflections

**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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## 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*

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

## Weekly Events

### Sunday (30)

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Fellowship, and 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 APR

### Tuesday (02)

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport
- 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC
- 5:30 p.m. Lutherans For Life, Church APR

### Wednesday (03)

- 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. Handbells Practice, Church Balcony
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Practice, Church Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. Youth Group, School Gym

### Thursday (04)

- 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
- 5:00 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study, Church CLC

### Friday (05)

- 1:00 p.m. Church office Closed
- Friday Ladies Bible Study, W6808 Elk Rd. Westfield

### Sunday (07)

- 4:00 p.m. Pregnancy Resource Center
- Baby Shower Benefit, Church CLC

### Sunday (07)

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Fellowship, and Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
- 9:00 a.m. Blood Pressure Screening, Nursery
- 9:15 a.m. Praise Band Practice, Church Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Service, Church Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church APR

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).

## Please Pray

*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.*

### Thanksgiving

(birth, birthdays, baptisms, weddings, anniversaries, recovery):  
The baptism of Kaitlyn Marie Yaddof

### Other:

#### Medical:

Jane Kaiser, Kristen Ruchala (sister of Nicole Brockway)

#### Long-term Illness/Treatment:

George Koepf, Stacie Wheeler, Tom Waddell, Babette Schumann  
Lani Kohrt (daughter-in-law of Don and Carol Kohrt)  
Lisa Priske (daughter of Betty Mootz)

#### Mourning:

Family of Arlis Roetman, Family of Roger Hemler

### **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. Prayer requests for Thanksgiving, Medical, and Mourning will remain on the list for two weeks. Prayer requests for Long-term Illness/Treatment will remain for one month unless the church office is notified with an update on the individual. Please be sure that you have the permission of the individual before contacting the church office to add them to the public prayer list.

## Volunteer for VBS!



### **Vacation Bible School, June 5–9!**

**We are looking for volunteers ages 11 and up.** If you are able to help with VBS, please sign up on one of the sheets found at the **Welcome Center**. If we do not have enough volunteers signed up by April 30th, we will not have VBS 2023.

## Thank you

**Thank you to all our chefs and cooks** out there who bring food for funerals and other events. We have an amazing congregation and amazing volunteers. If you brought food for a funeral or other event, your dishes are located in the Christian Life Center kitchen.

## Get Involved

**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).

## Confirmation

### **Confirmation 2023**

Sunday, May 7 at 10:30 a.m.

Vance Beckett  
Francesca Daniels  
Isabelle Nummerdor  
Maya Oganezov  
Isaac Opaleweski  
Alexis Parchem  
Brevin Walker  
Julia Witkowski

Beginning with this year's catechumens, St. John's confirms in 7<sup>th</sup> grade or later.

Catechism instruction for public school students is on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. with two years of instruction. It is normally for grades 6 and 7.

Catechism instruction for St. John's School occurs three days a week during the school day for grade 7 students.

Watch the bulletin in August for details about next year's parent/student meeting.

## Want to be a part of St. John's Family?

**We would love to have you here!** If you would like to begin the path toward membership and the reception of Holy Communion at St. John's, it begins with worshiping with us regularly. The next step is to visit with Pastor Greg. You may set up a time to meet with him at <https://calendly.com/pastorhovland/newmember> or contact the church office during regular office hours, and Catharine will assist you in setting up an appointment.



## Save the Date

YOU ARE INVITED TO A

*Baby Shower*

**May 6, 4:00-5:00 pm**

**In the Christian Life Center**

to benefit

*Pregnancy Resource Center*

Contact Stephanie Hovland for more information. [SHovland@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:SHovland@stjohnsportage.com)

## Support our Ministries

**BoxTop\$ for Education is a great way to support St. John's School!**

All you have to do is download the Box Tops for Education app and scan your receipt. It's that simple!



**Support St. John's while you shop!**

Shop for gift cards with RaiseRight. You can place your order on Tuesday and pick up on Thursday. Or, stop in the church office and pick up a card from our stock.

Visit: [raiserright.com](http://raiserright.com)

Click: **Sign Up**

Enrollment Code: **Please call the church office, 608-742-9000 for the enrollment code.**

Festival	\$25 & \$50
Kwik Trip	\$25, \$50, & \$100
Pizza Ranch	\$25
Walgreens	\$25
Walmart	\$25
Culvers	\$25
Portage Movie Theater	\$10
Subway	\$10

## We're Hiring!

St. John's Lutheran Ministries is looking for energetic, patient, and kind Christians who would like to teach and pray every day with an amazing group of God's children.

**Available positions at St. John's Child Development Center:**

✝ Full-time Early Childhood Teacher

For a complete job description and employment application, please email Debbie Drew, [ddrew@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ddrew@stjohnsportage.com) or call 608-742-9000 x102.

## Lutheran Night with the Milwaukee Brewers

# KANSAS CITY ROYALS

VS

# MILWAUKEE BREWERS

SATURDAY | MAY 13 | 6:10 PM

## \$23-\$59

Loge Outfield Box  
Loge Infield Box/Field Infield Box

Order tickets by May 1.

Purchase tickets online at the SWD website, [swd.lcms.org](http://swd.lcms.org) or <https://fevogm.com/event/Lutheranschools2>.

Event questions, please contact Robin, SWD office, 414-292-0741. Ticket questions, please contact Teddy Sibilsy, Milwaukee Brewers, 414-902-4657.

## Every One His Witness Session 1

# EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS

LUTHERAN EVANGELISM™

Class will be Saturday, June 3 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Lunch will be served. This is a one day class in the Christian Life Center. We must have a minimum of six people to start. So spread the word and bring your family and friends. Sign up at the Welcome Center. Or contact [jim@atkinsonrealtor.com](mailto:jim@atkinsonrealtor.com) or 608-697-7052.

## Every One His Witness Session 2

YOU ARE A FIRSTHAND WITNESS OF GOD'S GRACE



# EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS

LUTHERAN EVANGELISM™

### Witnessing DeChurched Adult Children

Do you know any children or adults that were raised in the church but have left the church for whatever reason? Learn how to witness to them. You must have completed the Session 1 first, to take this course. Class starts Thursday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m. in the All Purpose Room. Sign up at the Welcome Center. Or contact [jim@atkinsonrealtor.com](mailto:jim@atkinsonrealtor.com) or 608-697-7052.

## Interested in helping your neighbor?

**With ongoing worldwide disasters taking place, Orphan Grain Train has a constant need for shipping out hygiene kits.**

LWML will be packing kits at our next meeting, Tuesday May 16. Join us, along with St. John's students in donating items needed for the kits.

- Bath size bars of soap
- Plastic soap dish with closing lid
- Bath towels
- Wash cloths
- Toothbrushes
- Sturdy combs
- Nail clippers
- Small packs of facial tissues

Items must be new with tags and can be placed in the basket located by the entrance to the Christian Life.

## Blood Pressure Checks

**St. John's Health & Wellness Ministry will be offering blood pressure checks at church Sunday, May 7 at 9:00 a.m.**

We follow the Health and Human Services guidelines for Columbia County, which recommends that everyone wear a mask. We will sanitize surfaces between clients and provide masks.

Stop by our table in the coat area and sign up!

## Life Thoughts

**April 30 – Easter IV** – The earliest Church found great delight in not giving themselves over to radical autonomy. Instead they invested in fellowship and community that accompany each other rather than abandoning in time of need (Acts 2:44). May we likewise proclaim and put into practice our Lord’s promise that the abundant life is the one that is shared especially in adversity (John 10:10).

## Stewardship Thoughts

**1 Peter 2:21** – “**For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.**” Our heavenly Father wants us to grow into the image of His Son and to follow in His steps. Jesus suffered for us not only to redeem us, but also to show us what love looks like and to leave us an example of self-giving, sacrificial generosity. “Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure.”

## LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*Jesus answered, “The most important [commandment] is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”*

Mark 12:29–31

## Daily Lectionary

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

<b>Sunday,</b> Lev. 8:1–13, 30–36 & Luke 9:1–17	<b>Tuesday,</b> Lev. 10:1–20 & Luke 9:37–62	<b>Friday,</b> Lev. 18:1–7, 20–19:8 & Luke 11:1–13
<b>Monday,</b> Lev. 9:1–24 & Luke 7:1–17	<b>Wednesday,</b> Lev. 16:1–20 & Luke 10:1–22	<b>Saturday,</b> Lev. 19:9–18, 23–37 & Luke 11:14–36
	<b>Thursday,</b> Lev. 17:1–6 & Luke 10:23–42	

## Weekly Offerings

Last Week’s In-person Attendance: 282

Unified Received: \$12,149.39

Other Contributions: \$875.00

TOTAL: \$13,024.39

**Weekly Unified Needed: \$14,875.00**

YTD Unified Giving: \$539,155.14

**YTD Budgeted Unified Need: \$570,576.92**

## 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 Lifestyles of Reconciliation Series: *Conflict Resolution vs. Reconciliation*, produced by Ambassadors of Reconciliation
- ✚ **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 book of Acts.
- ✚ **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.
- ✚ **Esther Bible Study meets Thursdays at 8:00 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently studying the book of Revelation.
- ✚ **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 meets Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.**
- ✚ **Friday Ladies Bible Study meets Fridays at 1:00 p.m. at the home of June R., W6808 Elk Rd., Westfield, WI.** We are currently studying Colossians.

## Coffee Hour

**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)

April 30:	8th-grade
May 07:	Lutherans For Life
May 14:	LWML
May 21:	Health & Wellness
May 28:	Every One His Witness

## Contact us: 608-742-9000

**Church:**  
option 4  
Office Hours:  
M—Th 8:00a–3:30p  
[churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

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

**Child Development Center:**  
option 2  
Office Hours:  
M—F 7:00a–5:00p  
[cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

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

**School:**  
option 3  
Office Hours:  
M—F 7:30a–3:15p  
[schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com)

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

**St. John’s Elder Directory:**  
Bob Fairfield 296-4012, Chairman  
Roger Baerwolf 617-6088  
Ken Chvojicek 697-2102  
Bill Hageman 279-0272  
David Hall 493-2125  
Patrick Kirchenwitz 575-3959  
Ron Mueller 369-1845  
Pete Smith 697-3807  
Gene Thompson 697-4786  
Mark Witt 697-0224

To schedule your group activity or add a loved one to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 608-742-9000 option 4 or email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).