



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 who 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 worshipping with us!

Sermon Reflections

What problem (sin) did the sermon address?

What solution (gospel) was presented for the problem?

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

Worship Times

- ✠ Saturdays 5:30 p.m. — *Abbreviated service*
- ✠ Sundays 8:00 a.m. — *Communion at the rail*
- ✠ Sundays 10:30 a.m. — *Abbreviated service*

Livestreaming of the 8:00 a.m. service continues to be available at stjohnsportage.com/live.

Weekly Events

Sunday (22)

- 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

Monday (23)

- 9:00 a.m. Strong Bodies, Church Narthex
- 4:30 p.m. GriefShare, Church CLC
- 4:30 p.m. Board of Finance, School Cafeteria Classroom

Tuesday (24)

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport
- 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC
- 6:30 p.m. Private Event, School Gym

Wednesday (25)

- 9:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, meet at St. John's
- 12:00 p.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline, Email: 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 Class, Church CLC
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. Youth Group, School Gym

Thursday (26)

- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Study, Church CLC
- 9:00 a.m. Strong Bodies, Church Narthex
- 10:15 a.m. Rachel Bible Study, Church CLC
- 5:00 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study, Church CLC

Friday (27)

- Church office closed
- Grandparents' Day, School
- 11:00 a.m. School Chapel, Church Sanctuary

Sunday (29)

- 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
- 11:30 a.m. Reformation Potluck, School Gym
- 2:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat, Church Parking Lot

Book Fair, School Rm. 225 (upper level)

October 23rd to 26th

7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

October 27th

7:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

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):

Medical

Samantha Encarnacion (daughter of *Don* and *Terri Soppe*)

Long-term Illness/Treatment:

George Koepp, Stacie Wheeler, Tom Waddell,

Ellowyn Kershaw,

Lani Kohrt (daughter-in-law of *Don* and *Carol Kohrt*)

Lisa Priske (daughter of *Betty Mootz*)

Jim Nummerdor (father of *Curt Nummerdor*)

Gary Tennyson (son of *Jim* and *Nola Tennyson*)

Mourning:

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.

GriefShare

GriefShare – Surviving the Holidays seminar

St. John's will host a Surviving the Holidays seminar on Thursday, November 16 at 4:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center. A \$10.00 free-will donation to cover the cost of participant materials is appreciated.

The Surviving the Holidays seminar is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. You'll learn:

- How to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays
- What to do about traditions and other coming changes
- Helpful tips for surviving social events
- How to discover hope for your future

For information or to register, you may contact the church office at churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com.

Walkie Talkies

Looking to get your steps this fall? Join the Walkie Talkies! We meet on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. at St. John's. If you have any questions, call Theresa at 608-697-0509. Join us. All are welcome!

Join us!

Reformation Day Potluck

Sunday, October 29, 2023

11:30 a.m.

**St. John's Lutheran
School—Gym**

Join us for lunch,
games, fellowship & the
Packer Viking football game.

Doors open at 9:00 a.m.
to drop off food.

Sign up at the Welcome Center!



Sunday, October 29, 2023

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**St. John's Lutheran Ministries
850 Armstrong St.
Portage, WI**

Grandparents' Day!

Grandparents' Day at St. John's Lutheran School

Grandparents, mark your calendars for Friday, October 27 to spend time with your grandkids at school. It will be a fun-filled day to remember.

The school is also looking for volunteer grandparents to share the day with some of our students who do not have grandparents close by.

Contact school office if interested at schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com or call 608-742-9000 press 3.

Support our Ministries

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

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

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!



Children in Church

To the parents of young children, may we suggest:

God gave children vibrant energy that sometimes causes them to wiggle and make noise. They belong right here with God's people where you have so faithfully brought them. Stick with it!

Feel free to sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.

Quietly explain the parts of the service, and the actions of the pastor, ushers, singers, etc. **Check out the Kids in the Divine Service booklets located by the busy bags.**

Sing the songs and participate in the prayers and responses. Children learn how to worship by watching you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, please feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."

To the members of our church:

Children are a gift, not a distraction. The sound of children in the church is the sound of Jesus keeping his promises; it is the should of his church that lives on and never dies. Please welcome children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

Project Connect

Project Connect, from Lutheran Hour Ministries, is an excellent evangelism resource. It gives congregations and individuals an outreach program that works and is easy to maintain. This app not only allows you to download and share these great resources, but to listen to high quality recordings as well.

Pumpkin Cake Rolls!

Now that we have your attention... St. John's Lutheran Ministries is selling Joyful Traditions cake rolls to raise money for updating and maintaining the new playground. You can order your cake rolls from a St. John's student at the school or CDC, the school office, or the church office. **The sale ends on October 23.** The cake rolls will arrive on November 15, just in time for Thanksgiving.

Price per cake roll: \$17.00

(payment is due at the time of order)

Available flavors: Carrot Cake, Chocolate Crème, Lemon Crème, Pumpkin, Red Velvet, and Strawberry Cheesecake. Each cake roll will serve 8 people.

Book Fair!

October 23rd to 26th

7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

October 27th

7:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

St. John's School Room 225

Prepare for the Book Fair and visit our webpage to set up an eWallet, a safe cash-free way for your child to shop the fair.



SWD Teacher of the Year Award

Each year, the South Wisconsin District selects an outstanding educator for the Teacher of the Year award in the following categories:

- early childhood teacher (infant - 3 yr olds)
- early childhood teacher (4K-3rd Grade)
- elementary teacher (4th-8th Grade)
- high school teacher
- early childhood director principal

To nominate an educator who has at least two years of teaching experience and is currently teaching full-time in one of our LCMS schools in the SWD, go to swd.lcms.org/TOTY or scan the QR code. Nominations are open through November 15.



Young Adult Ministry (YAM)!

It's so exciting to share that our new outreach group is making progress! Recent high school graduates were sent outreach cards, encouraging them to stay connected to St. John's members.

YAM is also working on reaching out to the confirmation class and youth groups. While family is always important, research has proven that if young people have a positive connection with other unrelated adults, the young adult is much better able to thrive. Let's stay connected!

Join us at our next meeting on **Wednesday, November 8 at 5:00 p.m. in the CLC.** Contact Danielle at 608-697-3560 for more information. Hope you can join us!

Daily Lectionary

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

Sunday, Deut. 21:1–23 & Matt. 16:1–12	Tuesday, Deut. 25:17–26:19 & Matt. 17:1–13	Friday, Deut. 29:1–29 & Matt. 18:21–35
Monday, Deut. 24:10–25:10 & Matt. 16:13–28	Wednesday, Deut. 27:1–26 & Matt. 17:14–27	Saturday, Deut. 30:1–20 & Matt. 19:1–15
	Thursday, Deut. 28:1–22 & Matt. 18:1–20	

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 Luther's Catechism: The Lutheran Confessions Series produced by Concordia Publishing House.
- ✠ **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 Romans.
- ✠ **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 My First Trip to Israel by Sheila Walsh.
- ✠ **Thirsty Souls meets Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.**

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

October 22:

Open

October 29:

St. John's School Choir

Contact us: 608-742-9000

Church:
option 4
Office Hours:
M—Th 8:00a–3:30p
churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com

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

Child Development Center:
option 2
Office Hours:
M—F 7:00a–5:00p
cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com

Debra Drew,
Director
ddrew@stjohnsportage.com

School:
option 3
Office Hours:
M—F 7:30a–3:15p
schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com

Jim Krupski,
Principal
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.

Weekly Offerings

October 15 In-person Attendance: 262
Unrestricted Unified Received: \$9,509.72
Restricted Contributions Received: \$724.00
TOTAL: \$10,233.72

Weekly Unrestricted Unified Needed: \$12,885.00
YTD Unrestricted Unified Giving: \$182,489.53
YTD Budgeted Unrestricted Unified Need: \$206,160.00
(week 16)

Life Thoughts

October 22 – Pentecost XXI (Proper 24A) – Taxes and politics may belong to Caesar, but every human life belongs to God from fertilization to forever. He made our bodies—and those of our neighbors—in His own image (Matthew 22:19-21). And since He retains responsibility for deciding the manner of our life and the timing of our death, abortion and euthanasia are choices no one needs to make.

Stewardship Thoughts

Matthew 22:21 – “Then he said to them, ‘Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’” So what is Jesus saying? Doesn't everything belong to God? Yes — and God has a place for everything. Some of what He gives us goes to Caesar. Some must come back to the work of His church. And some goes to support the families He has given us. All belongs to God, and He has work for us to do with what He has given us in the home, in the church and in society.

LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28