



# 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?

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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. — *Abbreviated service*

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

## Weekly Events

### 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

### Monday (30)

- 9:00 a.m. Strong Bodies, Church Narthex
- 4:30 p.m. GriefShare, Church CLC
- 6:15 p.m. New Member Class, Church Narthex

### Tuesday (31)

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

### Wednesday (01)

- 9:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, meet at St. John's Chapel, Church Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline, Email: [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)
- 12:00 p.m. Jr. Youth Group, School Gym
- 4:30 p.m. Handbells, Church Balcony
- 5:00 p.m. Adult Choir, Church Balcony
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, Church CLC
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. Youth Group, School Gym

### Thursday (02)

- 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
- 11:00 a.m. Heritage House Monthly Worship
- 5:00 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study, Church CLC

### Friday (03)

Church office closed

### Sunday (05)

- 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

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):

### Medical

### 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)  
Kristen Ruchala (sister of Nicole Brockway)

### Mourning:

The family of Marilyn Jahn  
The family of Jason Bryant Sr. (cousin of Nicole Brockway)

### **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.

## Youth Ministries

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

**Sunday School (ages 3–3rd grade)** 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 (grades 4–7)** meets on Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m. in St. John's School. The focus of Jr. Youth Group is Luther's Small Catechism to help prepare for confirmation. There will be pizza and games to help us learn God's Word.

**Senior Youth Group (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.

## 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**

## 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](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).

## 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](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

### 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.

## Rachel Bible Study

Rachel Bible Study is joining Sheila Walsh on her "First Trip to Israel tour." Sheila is a Christian Vocalist, songwriter, evangelist, author, and inspirational speaker. We meet Thursday mornings, starting November 2nd at 10:15 in the Church CLC. Everyone is welcome to come along on this journey. If you have visited Israel, please come and share your experiences with the group. If you have any questions, call Bonnie at 608-742-6893.

## Save the Date!

**FAMILY GAME NIGHT!**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11**  
**6:30 P.M.**  
**SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

**You're Invited**

Please join us to celebrate our House Blessing on Sunday November 5 at 2:00PM at our new home!

Ron and Dawn Mueller  
2528 Airport Road  
Portage, WI 53901

## Volunteer Opportunities!

**St. John's is ready to use Church Music Solutions for music during church services when an organist is not available.** We are looking for volunteers to attend training and run the Church Music Solutions program as needed. Any volunteers please contact Bob Fairfield, Elder. Thank you.

**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).

## Daily Lectionary

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

<b>Sunday,</b> Deut. 31:1–29 & Matt. 19:16–30	<b>Tuesday,</b> Deut. 32:28–52 & Matt. 20:17–34	<b>Friday,</b> Jer. 3:6—4:2 & Matt. 22:1–22
<b>Monday,</b> Deut. 31:30—32:27 & Matt. 20:1–16	<b>Wednesday,</b> Deut. 34:1–12 & Matt. 21:1–22	<b>Saturday,</b> Jer. 5:1–19 & Matt. 22:23–46
	<b>Thursday,</b> Jer. 1:1–19 & Matt. 21:23–46	

## 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](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

**October 29:**  
St. John's School Choir

**November 5:**  
Open

## 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).

## Weekly Offerings

**October 22** In-person Attendance: 284  
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: \$219,045.00**  
(week 17)

## Life Thoughts

**October 29 – Pentecost XXII (Proper 25A)/Reformation Day** – Our Reformation heritage includes boldly and gladly confessing God's Word. The Scriptures speak frequently and forcefully of taking care of children (1 Thessalonians 2:7) and standing up for a neighbor's life (Leviticus 19:16). Christians cannot promote or even permit putting people to death by abortion, assisted suicide, and embryo experimentation. Love for our Father means love for each other!

## Stewardship Thoughts

**John 8:36** – “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” Today we celebrate Reformation Day! Luther is rightly remembered as a champion of the Gospel — but he also called himself “the apostle of good works.” For only by being set free by the Gospel can we do good works. Jesus has set us free: His blood covers over our sins, and now we stand before God as His beloved children, invited to live our lives to His glory for the good of His kingdom.

## LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*For by grace you have been saved through faith.  
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,  
not a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

Ephesians 2:8–9