



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 (19)

- 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
- 3:00 p.m. Visitation, Church Sanctuary and Narthex

Monday (20)

- 9:30 a.m. Visitation, Church Sanctuary and Narthex
- 11:00 a.m. Funeral, Church Sanctuary and Narthex
- 11:45 a.m. Funeral Luncheon, Church CLC
- 4:30 p.m. GriefShare, Church CLC

Tuesday (21)

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Church CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC
- 1:30 p.m. Women's Guild, Church CLC
- 6:30 p.m. Board for Christian Education, CDC
- 6:30 p.m. LWML, Church CLC

Wednesday (22)

- 9:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, meet at St. John's
- 12:00 p.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline, Email: churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com
- 5:00 p.m. Handbells, Church Balcony
- 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service, Church Sanctuary
- 7:15 p.m. Adult Choir, Church Balcony

Thursday (23) Happy Thanksgiving!

All ministries offices closed

Friday (24)

- All ministries offices closed
- 3:30 p.m. Float Decorating for Portage Holiday Lighted Parade, Church Parking Lot
- 5:00 p.m. Portage Holiday Lighted Parade, Line up at McFarlane Rd.

Sunday (26)

- 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. Christmas Tree Decorating, Church Sanctuary

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.

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

Three things from today's sermon I want to remember:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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 *Stetson Charles Dorn*

Medical

Jim Atkinson

Long-term Illness/Treatment:

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 *George Koepf*
The family of *Alice Atkinson*

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.

Advent and Christmas Schedule

Advent midweek services are held Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. **starting November 29.**

Advent Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. in the Christian Life center.

November 29, hosted by Youth Group, Baked Potato Bar

December 6, hosted by St. John's School staff, Chili

December 13, hosted by St. John's CDC staff, Tomato Soup and Grilled Cheese

The Christmas Choral Vesper Service will be held on **Saturday, December 2 at 5:30 p.m.** Come and share the Advent message and special music by the Handbells and the Adult Choir.

School Christmas Program, Connected to the Promise, **Wednesday, December 20th at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.,** St. John's Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Sunday, December 24

9:00 a.m. Service of Word and Sacrament

5:00 p.m. Festival of Scripture and Carols

9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight

Monday, December 25

9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service of Word and Sacrament

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Join us for **Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 22 at 6:30 p.m.**

Portage Holiday Lighted Parade!

Let your light shine before others!



Join Parish Life and walk or ride on the float in the Portage Holiday Lighted Parade **Friday, November 24.**

Float decorating will be prior to the parade at the church parking lot, starting at 3:30 p.m. For those who want to join for walking in the parade, line up is at 5:00 p.m. at MacFarlane Road, with the parade starting at 6 p.m.

Christmas Tree Decorating

Parish Life invites you to help decorate the Christmas Tree. Join them on **Sunday, November 26 at 11:30 a.m. in the Church Sanctuary.**

Women's Guild

Women's Guild will meet on Tuesday, November 21 at 1:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center. Members are to bring dessert bars. We will finish assembling bookmarks for hymnals.

Volunteer Opportunities!

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.

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.

Reminder

Please be considerate of our disabled worshippers' parking needs. If the driver is not disabled, it would be best if he or she would drop an individual at the door and use a regular parking stall when possible. Then, we will be sure we have enough handicap parking for our disabled drivers. We appreciate our caregivers and drivers.

School Calendar

Monday, November 20

5:00 p.m. Boy's Basketball @ St. Peter's Reedsburg

Tuesday, November 21

10:00 a.m. Spelling Bee, School Gym

5:00 p.m. Boy's Basketball –vs– Sacred Heart,
School Gym

Thanksgiving Break

Wednesday, November 22 — Friday, November 24

Thursday, November 30

5:00 p.m. Boy's Basketball –vs– St. Peter's, School Gym

Saturday, December 2

6:00 a.m. Boy's Basketball Tournament, School

Monday, November 20

5:00 p.m. Boy's Basketball @ St. Mary's Portage

Boy's B Basketball Referees Needed!

Games start at 5 p.m. (1 hour game) @
St. John's Lutheran School Gym

- Tuesday, November 21st
- Thursday, November 30th
- Tuesday, December 12th
- Thursday, December 14th

Contact Jim Krupski at 608-742-9000
option 3

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.

We're Hiring

WE ARE HIRING JOIN OUR TEAM

Are you passionate about safe healthy environments for nurturing young minds?

We are seeking a dedicated and compassionate

Child Development Center – Janitor.

- ✓ \$14/hour to start
- ✓ Evenings
- ✓ 10 to 15 hours per week
- ✓ **No** weekends or holidays.

Contact St. John's Lutheran Ministries:

☐ 608-742-9000 x109

☐ churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com



Young Adult Ministry (YAM)



Young Adult Ministry

Thanksgiving is coming! Young adults are coming home for the holidays. Let's be intentional about recognizing them as fellow church members. Evangelism Board encouraged this tear-out for the bulletin. Put this in the offering plate, and we'll get back to you. It's wonderful to reach out to our young adults.

-Danielle Rabl, YAM Coordinator

I am a young adult, and I'd like to be connected and involved.

I am actively staying connected to a young adult church member. YAM will know that I'm already involved in this ministry.

I am interested in reaching out to high schoolers or young adults when I see them at church.

I am a parent of a high schooler or young adult and would like to get involved,

I know a young adult or high school student to whom I'd like to reach out. Even once per month via text, for example. YAM can assist; let us know.

I would like to offer input or be involved in Young Adult Ministry. Here are some ideas, or contact me:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Daily Lectionary

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

Sunday,
Jer. 38:1-28 &
Matt. 27:57-66

Monday,
Dan. 1:1-21 &
Matt. 28:1-20

Tuesday,
Dan. 2:1-23 &
Rev. 18:1-24

Wednesday,
Dan. 2:24-49 &
Rev. 19:1-21

Thursday,
Dan. 3:1-30 &
Rev. 20:1-15

Friday,
Dan. 4:1-37 &
Rev. 21:1-8

Saturday,
Dan. 5:1-30 &
Rev. 21:9-27

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 book of Acts.
- ✚ **Men's Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** 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.

Weekly Offerings

November 12 In-person Attendance: 350
Unrestricted Unified Received: \$10,925.80
Restricted Contributions Received: \$435.00
TOTAL: \$11,360.80

Weekly Unrestricted Unified Needed: \$12,885.00
YTD Unrestricted Unified Giving: \$243,449.03
YTD Budgeted Unrestricted Unified Need: \$257,700.00
(week 20)

Life Thoughts

November 19 – Pentecost XXV (Proper 28A) – Many around us despair because the world pressures them into the violence and fraud (Zephaniah 1:9) of viewing death as a solution to difficulty. In the sanctity of every human life, we have riches to spare (Matthew 25:15). Gospel hope and joy are not just for us to possess. Jesus brings us faith and life to proclaim and put into practice.

Stewardship Thoughts

Matthew 25:30 – “And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness.” Why did the worthless servant act the way he did? Because of what he believed about the Master. He didn't trust or love the Master; so, his actions did not demonstrate love and trust, but rather hate and mistrust. It's the same with us, but in reverse: since we know our Lord God to be faithful and kind, we desire to serve Him and render faithful service with what He has given us.

LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*Continue steadfastly in prayer,
being watchful in it with thanksgiving.*

Colossians 4:2

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

November 19:
LWML

November 26:
Open

December 3:
Altar Guild

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
cdeoffice@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.