

5:30 & 8:00 WORSHIP

5:30 Special Music *The Adult Choir*

Announcements *(if any)*

The Peace of The Lord

Hymn

"Lord, to You I Make Confession" LSB 608

Confession and Absolution LSB 184

Kyrie LSB 186

Collect of the Day

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 12:1-6

Epistle 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

5:30 Special Music *The Adult Choir*

Holy Gospel Luke 15:1-3a, 11-32

Apostles' Creed LSB back cover

Hymn of the Day

"Today Your Mercy Calls Us" LSB 915

Sermon

Offertory / Offering LSB 192

Prayers

Preface / Sanctus LSB 194

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini / Agnus Dei LSB 197

Distribution Hymns

"Soul Adorn Yourself with Gladness" LSB 636

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord" LSB 637

Nunc Dimittis LSB 199

Thanksgiving

Benediction

Hymn

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" LSB 686

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
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10:30 CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Announcements *(if any)*

The Peace of The Lord

Songs

"The Way Is Low"

"Once Again"

Confession and Absolution

Opening Prayer

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 12:1-6

Epistle 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Holy Gospel Luke 15:1-3a, 11-32

Apostles' Creed

Song

"Refiner's Fire"

Sermon

Offering Song

"Grace Like Rain"

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Distribution

"Lamb of God"

Closing Prayer

Benediction

Closing Song

"O Will Rise"

Serving the Worshipping Community Today

Organist: Sara Jakeman

Lectors: Jim Atkinson (5:30); Doug Jacoby (8:00);
Leah Smith (10:30)

5:30 Special Music:

Adult Choir dir. by Kathy Gerstenkorn
"Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing" • "Sing to the Lord"

Worship Team: Led by Lisa Tessmann and Kara Rietmann



Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12:1-6

You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.
"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.
"Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Holy Communion Saint John's celebrates The Lord's Supper, knowing that "it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and drink." In this meal, we receive the forgiveness of sins. It strengthens our union with Christ and one another. Our Lord invites to his table those baptized and instructed Christians who trust his words, repent of all sin, and forgive and love others as He forgives and loves us. Holy Communion is also a public testimony of our unity of faith. Please speak to the pastor before communing if you intend to receive the sacrament, but you are not yet instructed in Luther's Small Catechism, in doubt, or hold a different teaching from this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm, all individuals who commune should first spiritually examine and prepare themselves before communing. A self-examination includes the following questions:

- Do I believe I am a sinner?
- Do I, by the power of the Holy Spirit, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior?
- Do I believe Jesus' own words that I receive His true body and true blood in this meal?
- Do I, by the Holy Spirit, intend to change my sinful ways (repent)?

If you cannot say "yes" to these questions, please speak with the pastor privately before attending the Lord's Supper.

Holy Gospel

Luke 15:1-3a, 11-32

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus].
And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
So he told them this parable:
And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Week of March 6, 2016



Find us on Facebook

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

SUNDAY (06) FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

- 8:00 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 9:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 11:30 a.m. Youth Group, CDC

MONDAY (07)

- 4:00 p.m. Board of Stewards, APR
- 5:30 p.m. Walkie Talkies, Tivoli
- 6:30 p.m. Health & Wellness Committee, APR

TUESDAY (08)

- 6:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Class, CLC
- 2:30 p.m. Worship @ Wyocena
- 5:30 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study, Two Rivers Signs
- 6:30 p.m. Sisters In Christ Bible Study, CDC
- 7:00 p.m. Financial Action Committee, CLC

WEDNESDAY (09)

- 10:00 a.m. Lent Worship
- 5:00 p.m. Handbells, Balcony
- 5:30 p.m. Lent Supper, CLC
- 6:30 p.m. Lent Worship
- 6:30 p.m. Public School Confirmation
- 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir, Balcony

THURSDAY (10)

- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Class, CLC
- 9:30 a.m. Rachel Bible Class, CLC
- 10:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, Tivoli (DSH)

FRIDAY (11)

NO ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED

SATURDAY (12) FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

- 5:30 p.m. Service of Word & Sacrament

SUNDAY (13) FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

- 8:00 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 9:00 a.m. Blood Pressure Screenings, Nursery
- 9:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 11:30 a.m. Youth Group, CDC

*Christian Education Hour This Week

Adult Bible Class, CLC • Study of Exodus, APR
Sunday School, School Gym

APR = All Purpose Room; CLC = Christian Life Center

CDC = St. John's Child Development Center

Also listed on www.stjohnsportage.com under "calendar" link.

BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS @9:15

Pastor Hovland will lead Sunday Morning Bible study with us in the Christian Life Center. We hope to see you there for coffee, fellowship, and study!

STUDY OF THE EPISTLES This class is led by Dave Tamminga **Sunday mornings at 9:15** in the All-Purpose Room.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets Tuesday mornings at 9:15 and is led by Pastor Hovland. Come a few minutes early for treats and coffee.

THIRSTY SOULS BIBLE STUDY meets **Tuesdays, at 5:30 p.m.** at Two Rivers Signs (1316 Wauona Trail, Portage). Contact Marilyn Jahn at 617-7787.

SISTERS IN CHRIST BIBLE STUDY meets @ **6:30 pm Tuesday nights** to study *Heroes of the Faith*-in the CDC lower level. All women are welcome. Contact Elaine Hull 742-2034.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets **Tuesday mornings at 6:00 a.m.** in the CLC. Contact Ken Manthey at 742-5216.

ESTHER BIBLE STUDY meets **Thursday mornings at 8:00 a.m.** in the CLC. Contact Mary Loomans at 742-3972.

RACHEL BIBLE STUDY meets **Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m.** in the CLC. If you have questions, contact Gladys Chance @ 742-2014.

**Announcements to be printed must be in the church office no later than Wednesday NOON.*

I ONCE
WAS LOST.
BUT NOW
I'M FOUND.

ST. JOHN'S INFO CORNER

Last Weekend's Attendance: 396

Unified Received: \$12,711.40

Other Contributions: \$1160.00

TOTAL: \$13,871.40

Weekly Unified Needed: \$13,781.00

ST. JOHN'S ELDER DIRECTORY

The Elders listed below are available to talk with 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:

Elder Gene Thompson 697-4786

Elder Ron Mueller 369-1845

Elder Bob Griepentrog 566-9810

Elder Al Volpentesta 697-9566

Elder Don Waukerhauser 617-6171

Elder Ray Wiser 617-6816

Elder Ken Chvojicek 697-2102

Head Elder Jim Atkinson 697-7052

PRAYER REQUESTS

(Names in bold face are members of St. John's)

Illness:

Connie Chapman (dealing with chemo treatments);

Delores Fandrich; Verona Gray; Michael Johnson

(battling leukemia); **Jane Kaiser; James Mientke;**

Edmond Spaeth (husband of **Ray Wiser's** sister-in-law);

Hospitalized:

Tiffany Veach (daughter of **Ken** and **Marilyn Baars**)

Recovering:

Dennis Bennett; Veronica Clymer; Robert Hoffer;

Joyce Mael; Kenneth Schwanz

How Do I Get Someone on the Prayer List?

If you or someone you know would like to have your name added to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Individuals will remain for a 2-week period. Please keep us **updated on a regular basis.**

***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.**

ALSO: Please be sure that you have the permission of the individual before contacting the church office to add them to the public prayer list.



MR + MRS

Marriage Milestones

March 10: Eric & Barbara Erickson celebrate 15 years!



coffee hour.

Thank you Virginia and Shirley for serving this weekend!

We encourage groups to host coffee hour on Sunday mornings so that individuals aren't overwhelmed. If you are involved in a Bible Study, Board or group that would

like to host, please contact the church office to sign up!

| | | | |
|--------|---------------|---------|------------------|
| Mar 13 | Sunday School | Mar 27 | Easter Breakfast |
| Mar 20 | OPEN | April 3 | OPEN |

Radio Ministry



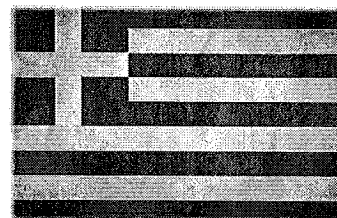
Our **Sunday morning broadcast** of the previous Sunday service continues at 10:00 a.m. on WPDR

1350 AM. Broadcasts (\$50) as well as the order of service booklets (\$30) may be sponsored in honor or in memory of a special person or occasion.

This weekend's order of service was sponsored by Al and Sonia Zook in Memory of Danny. Thank you.

Attention Ladies!

ALTAR GUILD: We are meeting on Monday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m. and will be signing up for Holy Week Please plan on attending.



Want to go on a GREECE Cruise Trip and walk in the footsteps of Paul?? Go with other Christians, and invite your family and friends. This excursion will be taking

place Oct. 29- Nov. 8, 2016, and early bird savings apply. For more info, go to Welcome Center to pick up a brochure or contact Elder Jim Atkinson 608-697-7052.



Easter Breakfast

Gary Zastrow will be coordinating this year's Easter Breakfast (Sunday, March 27). Please give him a call if you can help! 608-742-4775

CAN YOU HELP?

HELP NEEDED! Volunteers are needed to help with the 4000 newsletter mailing for Our Savior Deaf Church. We will meet at Monona Lutheran church, 4411 Monona Drive in

Monona at 9:00 am on Saturday, March 19, until the task is completed. Does anyone need to fulfill service hours for confirmation or school? This would be an ideal opportunity to do so. Feel free to bring your friends.

Need a ride?



Transportation

Need a ride to church or for an appointment. Phone the church office or Paul Persson @ 951-282-1046.



THRIVENT FINANCIAL
Connecting faith & finances for good.

DON'T FORGET TO DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®

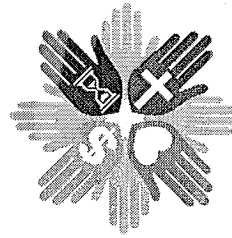
Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support St. John's! Don't let designated

Choice Dollars expire. Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until March 31, 2016, to direct any remaining 2015 Choice Dollars. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more and find program terms and conditions. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



A number of

items are in a lost and found box located above the coat racks at the church's main entrance. If you are missing something that you may have left at church, please look to see if you can claim some of the items.



STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

Luke 15:12 "And the younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.'

So he divided his property between them." This prodigal son only sees the father as a source of wealth: give me my inheritance now! Which is to say: you are better off dead in my eyes. This is the sin at the heart of all greed: valuing things over people. This parable calls us to "come to our senses" as well: to see God as the loving Giver of all good, the true Father to be valued above and beyond all the things of this world. **Witness:** Children are a blessing sent from God. Encourage them to stay true to their faith.

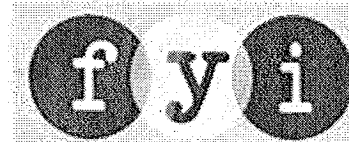


In Christ Alone
LCMS YOUTH GATHERING



FUNDRAISING

St. John's Youth Group is raising funds to go to the LCMS National Youth Gathering in July 2016, and would like to offer their services to the congregation and community for snow shoveling and spring clean up, like leaves, windows, etc. This is open-ended offer, so please call Joel Leeland at 608-697-5173 or the church office if you need help.



The Financial Action Committee

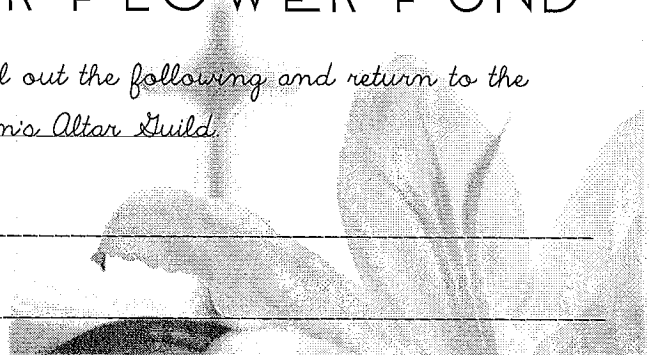
will be meeting Tuesday, March 8 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.

ALTAR GUILD EASTER FLOWER FUND

Those interested in donating for Easter flowers, please fill out the following and return to the church office by March 22. Make checks payable to St. John's Altar Guild.

A Gift in Loving Memory of: _____

Given By: _____





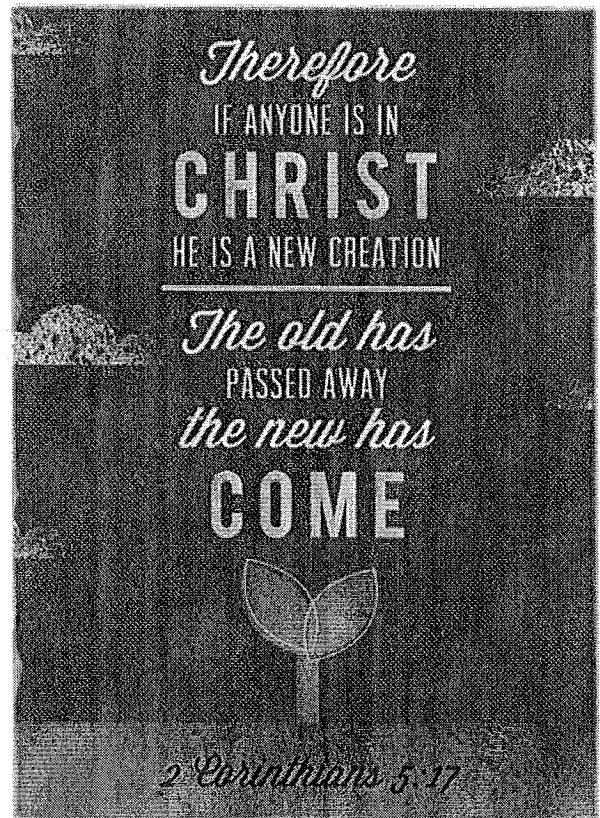
YOU'RE INVITED TO A PIZZA RANCH TIP NIGHT
TO BENEFIT ST. JOHN'S YOUTH GROUP TRIP

MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016 4 TO 9PM

LOCATION: 2905 New Pinery Rd., Portage, WI 53901

PIZZA RANCH WILL DONATE 10% OF YOUR GUEST
CHECK TO THE DESIGNATED ORGANIZATION.

LCMS National Youth Gathering 2016, New Orleans
Held every 3 years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity. During the five days of the Gathering, youth spend time together in God's word, worship, service and fellowship with others from across the synod. This event is organized by LCMS Youth Ministry in Saint Louis, MO.



St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

850 Armstrong Street
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608) 742-2387 fax 742-7154

Rev. Greg Hovland, Senior Pastor
ghovland@stjohnsportage.com
Cassandra Musser, Business Manager
cmusser@stjohnsportage.com
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St. John's Lutheran School

A Nationally Accredited School
430 West Emmett
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608)742-4222 fax 745-4889

Doug Jacoby, Principal
djacoby@stjohnsportage.com
Karen Taft, School Coordinator
ktaft@stjohnsportage.com
Mike Lally, Facilities Manager
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St. John's Child Development Center

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426 West Emmett
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phone (608)742-9000 fax 742-0040

Debra Drew, Director
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Mary Soch, Assistant Director
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