

*Our mission is to glorify God as we seek to make disciples of all nations  
by bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to all people within and outside  
of the one holy Christian Church.*

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**ST. JOHNS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
(Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod)

Highway 34 West

Park Rapids, MN 56470

ABC Preschool  
Church Office



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**Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

November 12, 2023

We will follow the special order of service.

**The Sermon: "From Strength to Strength"**

**The Text: Psalm 84**

**+Holy Communion** will be celebrated at the 8:00 a.m. service today. Guests, it is our desire for you to commune with us. In the Lord's Supper, in with and under the bread and the wine, we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of faith. You should also know that when you commune with a group of Christians, you are saying you agree with the teachings of that church body. If you are a member of a different church body, please use this time for prayer and reflection upon God's Word. We then invite you to speak with one of the pastors about how you, too, can share in this wonderful gift. If you believe what Christ says about His supper and share the beliefs we have at St. Johns, an LCMS congregation, you are welcome to join us for communion. Gluten free wafers are available. If you prefer a gluten free wafer please let the pastors know.

**This Week at St. Johns**

Monday	DAC Staff Training	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Monday	Staff Meeting	8:45 AM
Monday	Scouts	5:45 PM
Tuesday	Bible Study - <i>Limping with God</i>	8:30 AM
Tuesday	TOPS	9:00 AM
Tuesday	Evening Guild	2:00 PM
Wednesday	Release Time	8:25 AM
Wednesday	Bible Study - <i>Christmas Traditions</i>	10:30 AM
Wednesday	Communion Service	NOON
Wednesday	Confirmation	3:30 PM
Wednesday	Bell Choir	5:00 PM
Wednesday	New Member Class	6:30 PM
Thursday	Scouts	6:00 PM

**Next Sunday**

Worship	8:00 AM
Sunday School	9:15 AM
New Member Welcome/Pastor Appreciation	9:30 AM
Worship (Comm.)	10:30 AM
Potluck & Voters Meeting	NOON
High School Youth Pizza Night	4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**LISTEN** to the Lutheran Hour Sundays on KPRM 870 AM at 9:30 a.m., or KTIG 102.7 and 95.9 FM at 5:00 p.m. You can also listen on Sirius XM Family Talk Channel 133 on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. or any time on [lhm.org/sentradio](http://lhm.org/sentradio). Today's sermon is "Again and Again and Again" (Matthew 18:1-4) with Lutheran Hour speaker, Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler.

**ON MAIN STREET LIVING NORTH:** Rev. Kent Borglum, St. John Lutheran Church, Montevideo, MN, presents the message, "God's Word For All Who Grieve" based on I Thessalonians 4:13-18. *This Is the Life:* "Transition" - A young boy reacts to the divorce of his parents and the new reality he now faces. Main Street Living is broadcast Sundays at 9:00 a.m. on KVRR Fargo-Moorhead or watch online at [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com), "North (Fargo)."

**TODAY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON** is "Food from Heaven."

**SUNDAY WORSHIP PAGES FOR YOUTH AGES 7 & UP** are available on the entry table by the confirmation sermon note basket. These are a step up from busy bags.

**WE'RE STARTING SOMETHING NEW** today at the 10:30 a.m. service - Children's Church. Just before the sermon, parents of children ages 2-6 will be invited to bring their children to the nursery for a time of faith focused videos and activities. This time will last about 20 minutes, while the parents have an opportunity to return to worship. We are looking for at least 4 pairs of volunteers to staff this time. You will be provided with materials to use. Contact the church if you are willing to volunteer for this new ministry.

**MIKE RIEWER** retired on October 15 after serving as the custodian and general handyman for St. Johns for many years. We haven't found a replacement for Mike yet so he has continued to serve past his retirement date. If you know anyone who might be interested in the job, please call the office. A job description with more information is available upon request.

**THANK YOU** to the crew who cleaned up the kitchen last Tuesday. It looks great!

**THERE IS ONE SPOT** still open for furnishing and serving treats for Sunday morning coffee in 2024. If you can help, please sign your name and phone number on the sheet provided outside the church office. Thank you!

**PLAN TO JOIN** the Fellowship Board on Sunday, November 19 between services for a reception welcoming our new members and observing Pastor Appreciation Sunday. There'll be special treats and our newest members will be introduced.

**VOTERS MEETING AND POTLUCK** will be held Sunday, November 19 following the 10:30 a.m. service. Bring your favorite dish! Please mark your calendar.

**2025 YOUTH GATHERING:** Youth members, grade 7 and up, if you are interested in attending the gathering in New Orleans in 2025, please talk to Pastor Berg.

**THE NEEDS AND WANTS COMMITTEE** has been working hard to look at physical improvements to the church and property. They started with a broad view and have been narrowing down items into a few different phases to accomplish over the next couple of years. A proposal for updates and repairs for the church and facilities will be presented to the voters at the November 19 meeting. A booklet explaining the updates is available in the front lobby.

**PLEASE NOTE** the new bulletin boards in the education hallway and in the front entry that will provide information of groups that may need your help. There may be a variety of requests for time and talent.

**SUBSTITUTES** are needed for Sunday School and Release Time. Serving as a substitute is a great way to volunteer if you can't commit to teaching every week. Helpers are also appreciated! If you're interested, please contact Staci Lee for Sunday School or Laurie Kimball for Release Time.

**ARE YOU** willing to bring your nativity scene to church to be included in the Nativity Gallery for Breakfast in Bethlehem? Please bring your sets to church any time by November 30.

**THERE WILL BE** a dress rehearsal for all characters, singers and musicians in our *Breakfast in Bethlehem* drama in the social hall at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 30.

**IT'S TIME** for our annual basket fund raiser. Baskets may be brought to the church by December 3. The last day to bid will be December 17. Proceeds will go to the building fund.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Att. - 22. Offering \$5.00.

**LAST SUNDAY:** Att.: 8:00 - 93. 10:30 - 53. Total - 146. Offering: Unified: \$5,128.00. Unified Electronic - \$1,752.63. Plate - \$2,268.00. Healthy Balance - \$200.00. Release Time - \$100.00. Breakfast in Bethlehem - \$200.00. Total - \$9,648.63.

**NOON SERVICE:** Att. - 24.