

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. John Werner, Pastor

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Principal & Teacher: Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl; Teachers: Mrs. Laura Stunkel,
Mrs. Laurel Wurtz, Mrs. Renae Bott, & Mrs. Amy Duever

February 22, 2026

The First Sunday in Lent

Welcome to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are a guest or visitor with us today, we welcome you and invite you to come and worship with us again. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Pastor Werner, and we hope to see you again soon.

Remember that the Worship Service begins when you enter. As the Music for Meditation begins, you are invited to join in quiet, preparation time for worship. Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

Liturgy - Divine Service Setting Three (pg. 184)

Opening Hymn: 418 "O Lord, throughout These Forty Days"

Hymn of the Day: 656 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Distribution Hymn: 666 "O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe"

Distribution Hymn: 716 "I Walk in Danger All the Way"

Distribution Hymn: 770 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Distribution Hymn: 642 "O Living Bread from Heaven"

Closing Hymn: 647 "Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head"

Prayer Requests

Please text or call Pastor Werner at (612) 716-4753 to submit prayer requests.

Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.

Angie Reinert, Loren Bott, JoAnn Ohlde, & Gladys Stone (nursing home);

Annette Bott (cancer)

Acolyte today - Avery Ohlde

Acolyte March 1 - Hendrix Stunkel

Ushers today - *Zac Hiltgen, Mason Tiemeyer, Noah Thalmann, & Deavon Ohlde

Ushers Mar. 1 - *Aiden Sweet, Kingston Voelker, Liam Voelker, & Cash Stunkel

Fellowship Hour LYF serving today & Mar. 1 - Sam & Ben Werner

Fellowship Hour LYF serving Mar. 8 & 15 - Cash Stunkel & Emitt Tiemeyer

- LCMS memory verse challenge: **Romans 5:8** - "God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 22** 8:30 a.m. Mixed Choir Rehearsal (*new members welcome!*)
9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School
~11:30 a.m. LYF National Gathering Wrap-Up & Lunch
- Feb. 25** 5:30 p.m. Midweek/Confirmation
7:00 p.m. Midweek Lent 1
- Mar. 1** 9:00 a.m. Mixed Choir Rehearsal (*new members welcome!*)
9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School
2:00 p.m. LLS Musical at Linn Public School (old gym)

Announcements

- **Linn Lutheran School News:**
 - **Wed., Feb 25** - 8:30am Chapel with Pastor Wingfield at Zion
 - **Thurs., Feb. 26 - 11:30am** dismissal-no lunch served; Parent/Teacher Conferences from **Noon-7pm**
 - **Fri., Feb. 27** - NO SCHOOL - Just Linn Lutheran; Linn Public in session
 - **Sun., Mar. 1 - 2pm** (public school old gym) Linn Lutheran School would like to invite you to our annual musical; "Survivor Babylon" which is based on the Biblical Story of Shadrach, Meschach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace. Preschool will start with a few songs, followed by the 1st-8th grade students presenting the musical. Following the musical, we will have a cookie reception.
 - **Wed., Mar. 4** - 8:30am VIP Chapel at Zion; donuts & Bingo to follow in Zion basement. All are welcome to join us to celebrate Lutheran Schools Week!
- **TODAY, February 22nd**, following Sunday School, the LYF will be sharing about the National Youth Gathering trip that they took last July to New Orleans! Please join us for lunch and learn all about our trip and what it means to *Endure in Christ*.
- Mark your calendars for VBS. **June 8th-12th from 9:30am-Noon**. Open to ages 4 (attending preschool) through 5th grade.
- The Zone LWML Spring Event will be **Sunday, March 8 at 2:00**. Bethlehem, Greenleaf will be hosting a Kindness and Comfort Tea Party. Ladies are encouraged to dress in their best tea party attire. In-gathering will be baby and kid-size blankets for Swaddling Clothes and Orphan Grain Train, and cancer care kits (Aquaphor lip repair, Aquaphor ointment, gum, hard candy, stocking hats, mouth rinse for dry mouth and mouth sores, long charge cords for phones, etc.) We also will be collecting items you may have for the Orphan Grain Train. Tim and Michelle Voelker have graciously volunteered to deliver these items. Please join us for a fun afternoon!
- The Clay County Arts Council is presenting an organ recital concert **TODAY at 2pm** at St. Paul's in Clay Center. The concert will be performed by Dr. Tyler Boehmer, the primary organist for the "Messiah" presentation at Bethany College. He will be performing a variety of music styles on the newly renovated Reuter pipe organ at St. Paul. This concert will be FREE to all attending.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 4:1-11*

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” 4 But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple 6 and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,”
and

“On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

7 Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10 Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.”

11 Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

As We Gather...

Jesus Does Battle in Our Place

In the Garden, man exalts himself to be a god in place of God (Genesis 3:1-21). He succumbs to the temptation of the devil, and eating of the forbidden fruit, he receives death. But in the sin-cursed wilderness, God humbles Himself to become man in place of man (Matthew 4:1-11). He does not eat but fasts and bears the onslaughts of the devil for us that we may be restored to life. Jesus stands as David in our place to do battle against the Goliath, Satan (1 Samuel 17:40-51). Though outwardly Jesus appears weak, yet He comes in the name of the Lord of hosts. He draws from the five smooth stones of the books of Moses and slings the Word of God. The stone sinks into the forehead, and the enemy falls. In Christ we are victorious over the devil. Let us therefore not receive the grace of God in vain (2 Corinthians 6:1-10), but seeing that we have a great High Priest, let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain help in time of need (Hebrews 4:14-16).



Introit (Psalm 91:1-2, 9-10, 13; antiphon: vv. 15a, c, 16)

When he calls to me, I will | answer him;*
I will rescue him and | honor him.
With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

**He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.
I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my | fortress,*
my God, in | whom I trust.”
Because you have made the Lord your | dwelling place—*
the Most High, who is my | refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*
no plague come | near your tent.
You will tread on the lion and the | adder;*
the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

When he calls to me, I will | answer him;*
I will rescue him and | honor him.
With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

Collect for the First Sunday in Lent

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading: *Genesis 3:1-21*

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” 2 And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” 10 And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” 11 He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” 12 The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” 13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

14 The Lord God said to the serpent,
“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

16 To the woman he said,
“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

17 And to Adam he said,
“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

20 The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.
21 And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

Gradual (*Psalm 91:11-12*)

**He will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.**

**On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

Epistle Reading: *2 Corinthians 6:1-10*

1 Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. 2 For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. 3 We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4 but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5 beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6 by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; 7 by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8 through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9 as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; 10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Tract (*Psalm 91:1, 4a, 15a, 16*)

**He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.**

**He will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge.**

**When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble.**

**With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His Table those who trust His words, repent all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily, according to Holy Scripture, do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from communing with us until such a time as they are properly instructed.

A short, more detailed explanation of our Confessional practice is available from our Ushers or Elders. If you would like to learn more about the Sacrament of the Altar and our confessional position, I would be happy to visit with you.

-Rev. John Werner, Pastor, St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

In preparation for Holy Communion, you may use the following statements as part of your self-examination:

- I admit that I am a sinner. **(1 John 1:8-10)**
- I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, from Satan and death. **(Acts 4:10-12; John 14:6)**
- I desire to live as God wants me to. **(John 14:15; 1 John 2:6)**
- I am sure of my eternal salvation because Jesus died for me and rose again. **(John 3:16; Romans 8:14; & 1 John 5:11-12)**
- I believe the Risen Christ is really present in Holy Communion and that with the bread and wine I receive His Body and Blood. **(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 4:22-24; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; Luke 22:17-20)**
- I forgive those who have wronged me.

Morning Prayer

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

The Sunday of the Temptation



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