

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. Joshua Hayes, Pastor

Mrs. Sheila Stuenkel, Organist

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Principal & Teacher: Mr. David Beikmann; Teachers: Mrs. Laura Stunkel,

Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl, Mrs. Ramona Tiemeyer, & Mrs. Renae Bott

March 10, 2024

Fourth 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 Hayes, 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: 813 "Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng"

Hymn of the Day: 743 "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

Sanctus: 960 "Isaiah, Mighty Seer in Days of Old"

Agnus Dei: 434 "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy"

Distribution Hymn: 622 "Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared"

Distribution Hymn: 423 "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

Distribution Hymn: 752 "Be Still, My Soul"

Closing Hymn: 740 "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

Prayer Requests

Please email prayer requests to Pastor Hayes at pastor.hayes@outlook.com. Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.

Angie Reinert, Marilyn Ohlde, Loraine Oldehoeft, & Lorna Heitman (nursing home)

Kamden Peters (surgery & recovery)

Acolyte today - Sophia Hiltgen **Acolyte March 17** - Cade Hiltgen

Ushers today - *Elijah Meier, Noah Thalmann, Dylan Ohlde, & Greyson Ohlde

Ushers Mar. 17 - *Eli Thalmann, Ethan Bott, Zac Hiltgen, Ryan Stuenkel

LYF Serving for Bible Class today & Mar. 17 - Daniel Nabors & Liam Voelker

LYF Serving for Bible Class Mar. 24 & 31 - Zac Hiltgen & Noah Thalmann

Upcoming Events

- March 10** 8:45 a.m. Men's Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School
- March 11-15** Linn Lutheran School Spring Break
- March 11** 7:00 p.m. LWML Meeting
- March 13** 5:30 p.m. Midweek/Confirmation
7:00 p.m. Midweek Lent 4
- March 17** 8:30 a.m. Mixed Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School
~11:45 a.m. Baked Potato Bar (LYF fundraiser for Nat'l. Youth Gathering)
- March 18** 7:00 p.m. Linn Lutheran School Board Meeting

Announcements

- Zion's Men's Club would like to invite our congregation's men to a Card Night. This will be held at Terry Ohlde's house on **March 11** at 7:00 p.m. Snack food will be provided. "We'd love to see you there!"
- The Linn LWML Zone Spring Event will be Sunday, March 17, at Zion Lutheran Church in Linn, KS. Registration will begin at 1:30 and the event will begin at 2:00. Pastor Timothy Koch will be the speaker. Ingathering will go to Swaddling Clothes in Greenleaf and area food pantries. Items needed are most food items, especially canned fruit and meat with pop-top lids, Ramen noodles, toilet paper, feminine hygiene items, diapers and wipes. Elections will be held. Please join us for an afternoon of fellowship!
- Linn Lutheran Preschool Enrollment times are near for the 2024-2025 School Year. Returning students, Association member church families (St. John & Zion), & current LLS Families- your enrollment is open. If you do not fall under the above criteria, your enrollment opening date is set for **March 18**. NOTE: To enroll, call Linn Lutheran School @ 785-348-5792 or stop in the office to get your child's name on our list starting at 8am. *Early enrollment prior to the dates listed above, enrollment via text, email and/or Facebook messenger will NOT be accepted; please hold your request until the enrollment window is open, as listed above.
- St. Peter's, Barnes, is inviting us to their Spaghetti Dinner on **April 7**, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in their church basement. Proceeds from the dinner will go to Linn Lutheran School.
- The 2024 Middle School Huddle (MSH) will be held April 19-20 at Rock Springs 4-H Ranch, south of Junction City. More information and registration can be found here: <https://kslclcms.org/education-youth/youth-ministry/middle-school-events/>
- LCMS memory verse: **1 Peter 5:8-9** - "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith."

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. Joshua Hayes, 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.



Introit *(Psalm 122:1-2, 6, 8; antiphon: Isaiah 66:10a, 11a)*

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,*
all you who | love her;
that you may nurse and be | satisfied*
from her con- | soling breast.

I was glad when they | said to me,*
“Let us go to the house | of the Lord!”
Our feet have been | standing*
within your gates, O Je- | rusalem!
Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!*
May they be secure who | love you!
For my brothers and com- | panions’ sake*
I will say, “Peace be with- | in you!”
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.

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,*
all you who | love her;
that you may nurse and be | satisfied*
from her con- | soling breast.

Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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: *Exodus 16:2-21*

2 And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, 3 and the people of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

4 Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. 5 On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.” 6 So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “At evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, 7 and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against the Lord. For what are we, that you grumble against us?” 8 And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the Lord has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the Lord.”

9 Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, ‘Come near before the Lord, for he has heard your grumbling.’” 10 And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. 11 And the Lord said to Moses, 12 “I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

13 In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. 14 And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. 15 When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. 16 This is what the Lord has commanded: ‘Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.’” 17 And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. 18 But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat. 19 And Moses said to them, “Let no one leave any of it over till the morning.” 20 But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. 21 Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

Gradual (*Psalms 122:1, 7*)

**I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”
Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers!**

Epistle Reading: *Galatians 4:21-31*

21 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. 23 But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. 24 Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. 25 Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. 26 But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. 27 For it is written,

“Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear;
break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!
For the children of the desolate one will be more
than those of the one who has a husband.”

28 Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. 30 But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” 31 So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

Tract (*Psalms 125:1-2, 5b*)

**Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.
As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people,
from this time forth and forevermore. Peace be upon Israel!**

Gospel Reading: *John 6:1-15*

1 After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. 2 And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. 3 Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. 4 Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. 5 Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” 6 He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. 7 Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” 8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, 9 “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?” 10 Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. 11 Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, “Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost.” 13 So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten. 14 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!”

15 Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Catechetical Review

An Explanation of the Small Catechism
The Ten Commandments

The Seventh Commandment

[God's Gift of Possessions]

You shall not steal.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

59. What does God forbid in the Seventh Commandment?

God forbids every kind of robbery, theft, and dishonest way of getting things.

194 **Leviticus 19:35** - Do not use dishonest standards when measuring length, weight, or quantity.

195 **Psalm 37:21** - The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously.

196 **Ephesians 4:28** - He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

197 **2 Thessalonians 3:10** - If a man will not work, he shall not eat.

Bible narratives: Achan stole when he secretly took a garment and silver and gold (Joshua 7:20-22). Judas was a thief (John 12:6). Gehazi obtained a present by lying and trickery (2 Kings 5:20-24).

As We Gather...

The Lord provided bread from heaven for His people in the wilderness (**Exodus 16:2-21**). Now He who is Himself the living bread from heaven miraculously provides bread for the five thousand (**John 6:1-15**). This takes place near the time of the Passover, after a great multitude had followed Jesus across the sea, and when He went up on a mountain. Seen in this way, Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mount Sinai and makes us free children of the promise (**Galatians 4:21-31**). Five loaves become twelve baskets—that is, the five books of Moses find their goal and fulfillment in Christ, whose people continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship of the twelve apostles, and in the breaking and receiving of the bread of life, which is the body of Christ together with His precious blood, and in the prayers (**Acts 2:41-47**). So it is that God's people "shall not hunger or thirst" (**Isaiah 49:8-13**). For He abundantly provides for us in both body and soul.

The Lord Feeds His People

The Sunday of Feeding the 5,000



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