

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. John Werner, Pastor

Mrs. Sheila Stuenkel, Organist

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Member - Linn Lutheran School Association

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

February 15, 2026

Quinquagesima

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 Four (pg. 203)

Opening Hymn: 558 "Not unto Us"

Hymn of the Day: 685 "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

Distribution Hymn: 570 "Just as I Am, without One Plea"

Distribution Hymn: 573 "Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee"

Distribution Hymn: 619 "Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior"

Distribution Hymn: 849 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

Closing Hymn: 417 "Alleluia, Song of Gladness"

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 - Emmerich Hornkohl

Acolyte Feb. 22 - Avery Ohlde

Ushers today - *Ethan Bott, Cade Hiltgen, Dylan Ohlde, & Emmitt Tiemeyer

Ushers Feb. 22 - *Zac Hiltgen, Mason Tiemeyer, Noah Thalmann, & Deavon Ohlde

Fellowship Hour LYF serving today - Noah Thalmann & Lucious Petesch

Fellowship Hour LYF serving Feb. 22 & Mar. 1 - Sam & Ben Werner

- LCMS memory verse challenge: **1 John 1:8** - "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 15**
 - 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
 - 5:30-7:30 p.m. Annual PTL Roller Skating Party
- Feb. 16**
 - 6:00 p.m. Linn Lutheran School Board Meeting
- Feb. 18**
 - 5:30 p.m. Midweek/Confirmation
 - 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Divine Service w/Holy Communion
- 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

Announcements

- The flowers on the altar are in celebration of Delwin and Lois's 68th wedding anniversary and Delwin's 90th birthday!
- **Linn Lutheran School News:**
 - **Sun., Feb. 15** - PTL SKATING PARTY!!! at Rolla-Rena Skate Center (1133 S. 6th St. Beatrice, NE); \$6.00 per skater **5:30-7:30pm**; concession stand available to purchase items. All are welcome to join Linn Lutheran School for this annual night of fun!!!
 - **Mon., Feb. 16** - NO SCHOOL; **6pm** LLS School Board Meeting
 - **Wed., Feb. 18** - Vicar Milbrath leads Chapel at Zion at **8:30am**; come join us!
 - **Thurs., Feb. 26-11:30am** dismissal-no lunch served; **noon-7pm** Parent/Teacher Conf.
 - **Fri., Feb. 27** - NO SCHOOL - Just Linn Lutheran; Linn Public in session
 - **Sun., Mar. 1 - 2pm** LLS Musical at Linn Public School old gym; Preschool-8th grade students will be in the musical!
- **Linn Lutheran Preschool Enrollment for 2026-27** - Preschool enrollment for Linn Lutheran is now open for St. John & Zion members & returning students. Incoming students must be 3 years old by Aug. 31, 2026. Parents may call the school at 785-348-5792 or come to the school office that morning. No early enrollment accepted. Enrollment will open to the public starting on March 23, 2026. Questions, please contact Preschool teacher- Laura Stunkel or call the school office. Friday, Feb. 13 Enrollment Open for: 1. Linn Lutheran Preschool returning students; 2. Association member church families (St. John & Zion); 3. Current Linn Lutheran Families; The aforementioned list (#1-3) have priority until March 23, 2026. After that date, enrollment is open to the entire community and is based on first come, first serve basis. 4. Live within the USD#223 boundaries; 5. Live beyond USD#223 boundaries.
- Next **Sunday, 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*.

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.



Introit *(Psalm 31:1, 5, 9, 16; antiphon: vv. 2b-3)*

Be a rock of refuge | for me,*
a strong fortress to | save me!
For you are my rock and my | fortress;*
and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me.

In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to shame;*
in your righteousness de- | liver me!

Into your hand I commit my | spirit;*
you have redeemed me, O Lord, | faithful God.

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am | in distress;*
my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body | also.

Make your face shine on your | servant;*
save me in your | steadfast love!

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.

Be a rock of refuge | for me,*
a strong fortress to | save me!
For you are my rock and my | fortress;*
and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me.

Collect for Quinquagesima

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; 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: *1 Samuel 16:1-13*

¹ The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ² And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’” ³ And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him whom I declare to you.” ⁴ Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” ⁵ And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is before him.” ⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” ¹⁰ And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.” ¹¹ Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.” ¹² And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.” ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

Gradual (*Psalms 77:14-15*)

**You are the God who works wonders;
you have made known your might among the peoples.
You with your arm redeemed your people,
the children of Jacob and Joseph.**

Epistle Reading: *1 Corinthians 13:1-13*

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³ So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 18:31-43*

³¹ Taking the twelve, [Jesus] said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³² For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. ³³ And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise.” ³⁴ But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

³⁵ As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶ And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. ³⁷ They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” ³⁸ And he cried out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ³⁹ And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁰ And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, ⁴¹ “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me recover my sight.” ⁴² And Jesus said to him, “Recover your sight; your faith has made you well.” ⁴³ And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

As We Gather...

Faith Alone

The seeing are blind, while the one who is blind can see (Luke 18:31-43). Jesus tells the twelve that He is going up to Jerusalem to suffer and die and rise again, but they cannot understand or grasp what He is saying. The meaning of His words is hidden from their sight. However, as Jesus makes His way up to Jerusalem, a blind man calls out to Him for mercy. This blind man sees that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior, for he calls Him “Son of David.” Indeed, Jesus is the Lord’s anointed, the keeper of sheep (1 Samuel 16:1-13) who goes to lay down His life for the sheep. He is the incarnate love of the Father who suffers long and is kind, who is not puffed up, who never fails us (1 Corinthians 13:1-13). Jesus opens the eyes of the blind (Isaiah 35:3-7) to see Him not according to outward appearances of lowliness, but according to His heart of mercy and compassion. Those who behold Him thus by faith follow Him to the cross through death into life.

Catechetical Review

Christian Questions with Their Answers

Prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament

After confession and instruction in the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, the pastor may ask, or Christians may ask themselves these questions:

7. *Who is Christ?*

The Son of God, true God and man.

8. *How many Gods are there?*

Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

9. *What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?*

He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

10. *Did the Father also die for you?*

He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.

11. *How do you know this?*

From the Holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.

Ash Wednesday in the Kansas District

The 2026 Kansas District Ash Wednesday Offering supports grants for future church worker recruitment visits to Concordia University System (CUS) schools and seminaries and education loan repayment grants for active church workers. Last year, we were able to award over \$88,000 in scholarships and \$49,500 in education loan repayment grants. Of that amount, over \$32,000 was raised in last year's Ash Wednesday Offering. On behalf of our grateful recipients, THANK YOU!

You can participate in this year's offering either through your congregation or by sending a gift directly to the District. You can contribute online atkslcms.org/donate or send a check to the LCMS Kansas District (1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS, 66604-1104) with the designation, "Ash Wednesday Offering."

Ash Wednesday also marks a Districtwide Day of Repentance. We encourage you to pray the Litany (found in Lutheran Service Book, pp. 288-289), worship, consider fasting, and give to someone in need, whether to the Ash Wednesday Offering or another worthy cause.

The Sunday of Faith Alone



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