

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
A Family Connecting in Christ



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WELCOME TO ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Masked or Unmasked

We seek to serve God's people whether masked or unmasked. Therefore, we have a "mask only" area at the back of church for those who wish to be masked and together with others who are masked. For those who are fully vaccinated and wish to worship without a mask, we have a "mask optional" area in the front of the church. If you have questions, please ask!

To Our Guests

- We pray that you receive a warm welcome and are blessed by the message of God's Word in our lessons and hymns. If you have questions, please ask!
- Our service is designed to focus us on Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The Holy Spirit does that by exposing our need for Christ and by showing us the wonders of God's grace in Christ – forgiveness and peace, help and hope for life in this world, and life forever with God in heaven.

Our Communion Practice

We practice close communion, the Biblical and ancient practice of the church. We invite our congregation members and visitors from sister WELS or ELS congregations to join us, but ask Christians from other denominations to kindly respect our practice. Further explanation is in the pew racks or from our pastor.

We Care about Your Children

We love to have children with us in worship.

- If your children are crying loudly, our nursery, Gathering Area (back of church), and downstairs Fellowship Hall are audio-equipped for you and your young children. When your children are ready, come back so we can worship together.

We Care about Your Special Needs

- **Hearing Assistance** for those with hearing aids is provided through our Hearing Loop or personal hearing devices available at the "sound table."
- A **wheelchair lift** is available for your assistance; please ask an usher.



Our Facilities

Restrooms are in our Fellowship Hall, downstairs and to the right of the kitchen.

Our Ministry

St. John offers an excellent preschool-8th grade school program. We are members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) - www.wels.net.

July 25, 2021

NEW MORNING PRAISE

IN OUR WORLD TODAY... we welcome Ryan Gurgel. Mr. Gurgel has finished his first year at our Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, Wisconsin. You can learn more about our seminary at www.wisluthsem.org.

OPENING HYMN

"Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun"

Hymn 582

Awake, my soul, and with the sun
Your daily stage of duty run;
Shake off your sleep and joyful rise
To bring your morning sacrifice.

All praise to you, who safe have kept
And have refreshed me while I slept.
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake,
I may of endless light partake.

Lord, all my prayers ascend to you:
Disperse my sins as morning dew,
Guard my first springs of thought and will,
And with your light my spirit fill.

Direct, control, suggest this day
All I design or do or say
That all my pow'rs with all their might
In your sole glory may unite.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, you heav'nly host--
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

L O Lord, o-pen my lips.

C And my mouth shall de-clare your praise.

L Hasten to save me, O God.

C O Lord, come quickly to help me.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C Come, oh, come, let us wor - ship.

COME, OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

①

Come, oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,

②

let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;

③

come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,

Repeat for use with canon

come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.

Verses

1. You are a great and a won - drous God,
 2. Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,

cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
 kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.

You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
 You are the God whom we call our own,

to Refrain

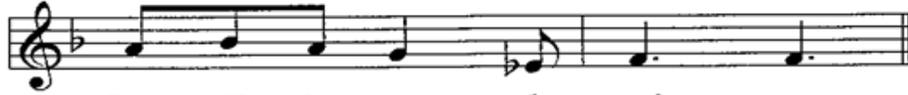
you made the seas and the dry land.
 we are the flock that you shep - herd.

PSALM 67

Refrain

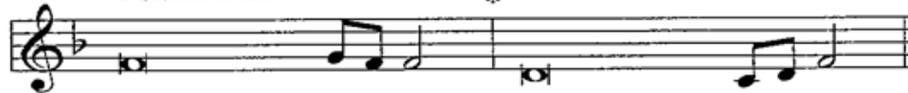


Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Psalm tone



May God be gracious to us and `bless us*
and make his face shine up`on us;

may your ways be `known on earth,*
your salvation among all `nations.

May the nations be glad and `sing for joy,*
for you rule the peoples justly
and guide the nations `of the earth. *Refrain*

Then the land will yield its `harvest,*
and God, our God, will `bless us.

God will `bless us,*
and all the ends of the earth will `fear him.

**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. *Refrain***

FIRST LESSON

1 John 3:18-24

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

HYMN (CHOIR)

"Christ Is With Me"
Hymn 761 (CWS)

GOSPEL LESSON

John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

"Forgive Us, Lord"

Hymn 482

Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,
For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,
For songs of praise for worldly wealthiness,
While of your richer gifts we're unaware.

Teach us to thank you, Lord, for love and grace,
For life and vision, for a purpose clear,
For Christ, your Son, and for each human face
That shows your message ever new and near.

Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise,
For words that speak at variance with deeds.
Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways,
Unmindful of a broken brother's needs.

Open our eyes to see your love's intent,
To know with minds and hearts its depth and height.
Let thankful days in loving labor spent
Reflect the truly Christ-like life and light.

HYMN

*“Son of God, Eternal Savior”***Hymn 492**

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
 Word made flesh, whose birth among us, Honors all our human race,
 You our head, who, throned in glory, For your own will ever plead:
 Fill us with your love and pity; Heal our wrongs and help our need.

Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
 Hush the storm of strife and passion; Bid its cruel discords cease.
 By your patient years of toiling, By your silent hours of pain,
 Quench our fevered thirst for pleasure; Stem our selfish greed for gain.

Bind us all as one together In your Church’s sacred fold,
 Weak and healthy, poor and wealthy, Sad and joyful, young and old.
 Is there want or pain or sorrow? Make us all the burden share.
 Are there spirits crushed and broken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.

As you, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
 Freely have your gifts been granted; Freely may your servants give.
 Yours the gold and yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
 We but stewards of your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.

PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

M: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: **We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

M: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: **Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

M: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C: **Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

M: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: **Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

M: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: **Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

M: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: **Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C: **Amen.**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING



L The Lord bless and keep you.



C A - men.



L The Lord's face ev - er shine up - on you.



C A - men.



L The Lord grant you peace for all your days.



C A - men.

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CLOSING HYMN

“Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

Hymn 462

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do his will!

Order my footsteps by your Word, And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget your way, Restore your wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in your commands - 'Tis a delightful road -
Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God.

OFFERING

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