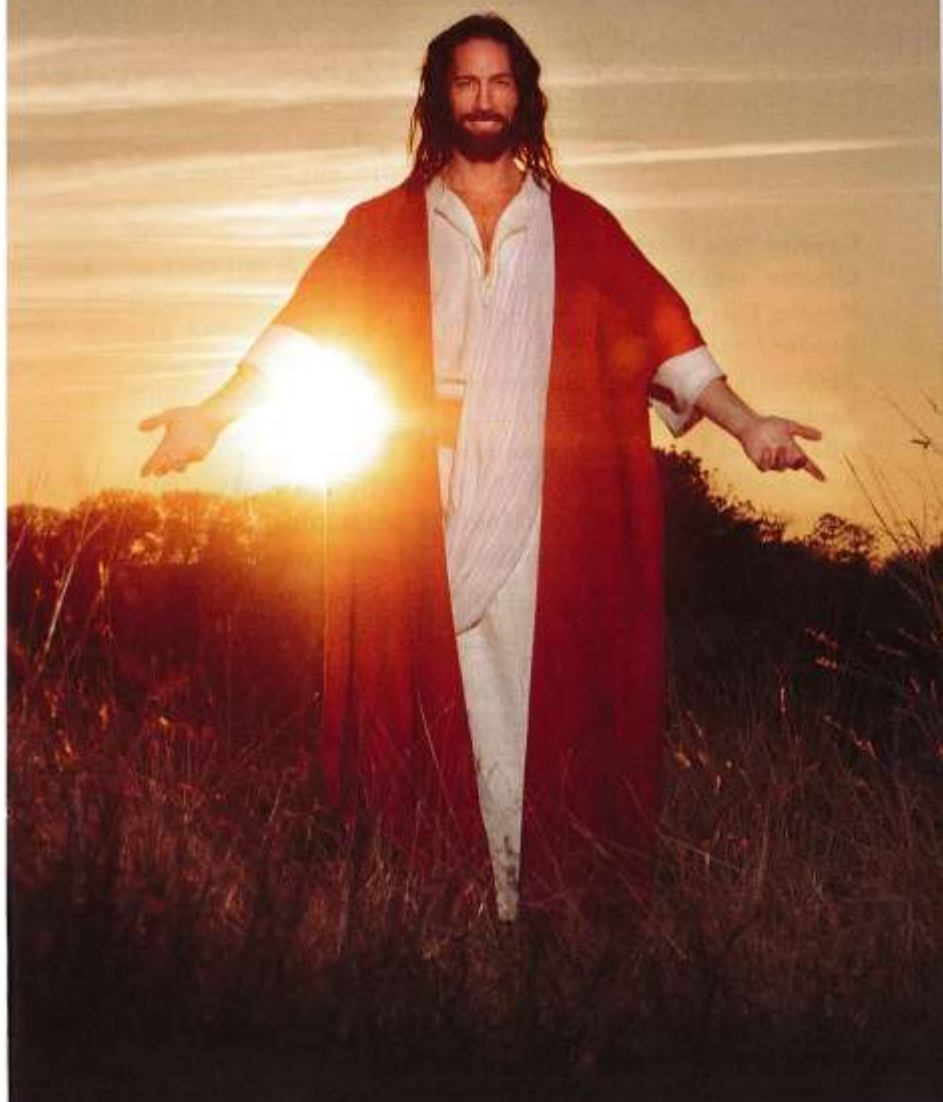


I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A North American Lutheran Church

1764 Meyersville Road

Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

CHURCH OFFICE: 361-277-8653

stjohnvlutheran@juno.com

PARSONAGE: 361-275-9895

(Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373)

jboor1@juno.com

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2017

Greeter This Week: Marvin & Norrean Sager

Greeter Next Week: Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt

Reader This Week: Mackenzie Blain

Reader Next Week: Kernell Moritz

Acolytes This Week: Volunteer Needed

Acolytes Next Week: Carlie Parsons

Altar Guild This Month: Dawn Otto & Kaley Otto

Altar Guild Next Month: Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

Communion Assistant This Month: Pam Haun

Communion Assistant Next Month: Wanda Hays

Large Print Bulletins are available on the narthex table. Please ask an usher for a copy if you would like one.

Busy Bags are available in the Narthex for all children to enjoy.

MISSION STATEMENT

We the members of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Meyersville, strive to be witnesses for Christ, a Christian family striving to be models and examples to others, loving one another and trying to be friendly to all; acknowledging that we are sinful, but being patient, faithful, giving, caring, forgiving, and forgiven believers.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Service begins with the first notes of the prelude. Please show your respect with silent meditation at this time.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISES AND CONCERNS

Stand as you are able.

OPENING HYMN: WOV #777 *“In the Morning When I Rise”*
Give Me Jesus

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

P The word is near you,

C on your lips & in your heart.

P If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

C and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

P Faith comes from what is heard,

C and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

SCRIPTURE SONG

WOV p. 47

Salvation belongs to our God

and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

Great and wonderful are your deeds,

O God of the universe;

Just and true are your ways,

O Ruler of all the nations.

Who can fail to honor you Lord,

And sing the glory of your name?

Salvation belongs to our God

and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

For you alone are the Holy One.

All nations will draw near, and worship before you,

For your just and holy works have been revealed.

Salvation belongs to our God

and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray

All Almighty God, grant that we, who for our evil deeds worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of your grace may mercifully be relieved; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING

Isaiah 42:14-21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." ¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the Lord? ²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. ²¹The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

RESPONISVE READING

Psalms 142

¹I cry to the Lord with my voice;
to the Lord I make loud supplication.

**²I pour out my complaint before him
and tell him all my trouble.**

³When my spirit languishes within me, you know my path;
in the way wherein I walk they have hidden a trap for me.

**⁴I look to my right hand and find no one who knows me;
I have no place to flee to, and no one cares for me.**

⁵I cry out to you, O Lord;
I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."

**⁶Listen to my cry for help, for I have been brought very low;
save me from those who pursue me, for they are too strong for me.**

⁷Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks to your name;
when you have dealt bountifully with me, the righteous will gather
around me.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

WOV p. 48

Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you!

Word of life, Jesus Christ, all praise to you!

Our hearts burn with-in us

while you open to us the Scriptures.

Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you!

Word of life, Jesus Christ, all praise to you!

GOSPEL READING

John 9:1-41

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 9th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.** (*spoken*)

¹As {Jesus} passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one

can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”
⁶Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You

do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*spoken*)

Please be seated.

SERMON

HYMN: WOV #776 “*Be Thou My Vision*”

Stand as you are able.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

P In Christ, you have heard the Word of truth, the Gospel of your salvation.

C **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

Stand as you are able.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith.

C Pray in the Holy Spirit.

P Keep yourselves in the love of God.

C Look forward in the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

C Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection.

P Gracious God,

C Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in the newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

C Amen

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P Let us share that peace.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

WOV p. 50-51

**Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;
Yours is the hosannas, the dying, rebirth.
Ours the rejoicing for nature reclaimed;
Ours the thanksgiving to your Holy name.
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done;
Yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Merciful God,

C in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P As God's people called to love one another let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

After each prayer or petition, we respond:

P God of mercy

C Hear our prayer.

P All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless us now
and forever.

C Amen.

HYMN: LBW #448 "*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*"

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Please stand as you are able.

THE DOXOLOGY HYMN LBW #565

POSTLUDE

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 3/26 Fourth Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m.

Sunday School/Confirmation

10:15 a.m.

Worship-SOTW

Mon 3/27 Office Closed

Tues 3/28 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Office Hours

7:00 p.m.

Council Meeting

Wed 3/29 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Office Hours

1:30 p.m.

Quilters

7:00 p.m.

Lenten Service

Thurs 3/30 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Office Hours

Fri 3/31 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Office Hours

Next Sun Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m.

Sunday School/Confirmation

10:15 a.m.

Worship

Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors. If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would consider St. John's.



Wednesday Lent Service, March 15, 2017

Offering: General \$53.00, MOM \$60.00,

Church Reno. \$10.00 **Total: \$123.00**

Attendance: 29

Sunday, March 19, 2017

Offering: General \$1,417.05, MOM \$485.00, NALC \$148.00,

Sunday School \$50.00, Church Reno. \$615.00 **Total: \$2,715.05**

Attendance: Worship- 97 Sunday School- 18 Adults, 14 Children

Mission of the Month of March:



House of Dreams

Mission Statement

The House of Dreams is a Scholarship Program for homeless women and their children.

The heart of the program is to embrace and strengthen their potential equipping them for a better future. Each resident will be provided with a room and living space for them (and their children if they have children), food, on-site day care and on-site guidance 24/7. They will participate in an Intern Program learning marketable skills that will allow them to become self-sufficient.

The home will be a Christ-centered home of second chances, promoting self-sufficiency, emphasizing teamwork in a compassionate, caring, positive and encouraging environment.

Women will be able to sustain themselves based on improved skills and technical skills taught at House of Dreams. They will learn honor and a healthy self-respect to maximize personal growth and save children from a life of dependency, crime, poverty and hopelessness.

The home will be able to house 13 to 15 women, and have two paid staff members.

House of Dreams is a 501C3 organized under the leadership of Faith Family Church in Victoria.

Col. Mike Petrash is the Administrator (not paid)

LENTEN



Lenten

St. John Mid-Week Lenten Services will be
Wednesdays, March 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 7:00 pm.

Habitat For Humanity Fish Fry

The Habitat for Humanity will have their annual Good Friday fish fry on April 14th at St Mark's Lutheran Church in Cuero from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm with plates to go. Advance tickets can be purchased at Meyersville Store for \$8.00. Plates will be delivered to the Store at 11:30 am on April 14.



Soup & Sandwich Supper

Come join us for fellowship Wednesday March 29th at 6:00PM. We will be serving soup and sandwiches for supper before church. A sign-up sheet will be located in the back of the church to bring sandwiches and cookies. The Parish Life Team will supply the soup. We hope to see you there!



Church Picture Directory

Pictures for the Pictorial Directory will be taken April 12th 2:00 PM to 8:30 PM and April 13th 11:30 AM to 6:00 PM. A sign-up sheet for picture times will be located in the back of the church. Volunteers are needed to assist with signing people in during picture times. There is a sign-up sheet to help out as you can. Thank You to those who can help! There will be no charge to the church, and each member will receive a free 8x10 and Pictorial Directory. Everyone will have the option to order other photos for a fee. If you are interested in serving on a committee to put the directory together, please contact Terri Jank at (361)550-9827.



Save the Date for Summer Day Camp July 31 through August 4th

Four Camp Counselors from Luther Hill in LaGrange will lead our youth in Worship, Music, Activities and lots of fun. Day Camp is open to youth ages 5 through 12. All older youth are needed to help as Junior Counselors. Contact
Kathy Dunn for more info: 361-275-432





WORK DAY at the CHURCH

SAVE THE DATE – Sat., April 29, 2017

8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

Spring Workday

We are planning a spring workday and encourage everyone to participate. There are a lot of odd jobs around the Church, pariah hall, parsonage, and grounds that are hard to contract out, but need to be done. Please consider giving one Saturday morning of your time to help us care for God's House. The following are jobs that need to be done:

- **Brush removal along east property line fence.**
- **Trim trees.**
- **Pressure wash & paint pump house.**
- **Pressure wash church building.**
- **Fix drainage problem on west side of church.**
- **Basement Clean-up.**
- **Banister at parish hall needs painting.**

If you cannot be there on the Saturday of workday, but would like to undertake a project on your own, please see one of the property team members. With more daylight in the evenings, it may be better for some to work in the evenings. Please contact a property team member if you see other areas around the church, parish hall, parsonage, and grounds that need our attention. Property team members are as follows: Dickie Bettge, chm, Marv Sager, Pastor John, Clay Haun, Vance Egg, Glenn Ruschhaupt, and Will Roeske.

Church Renovation Fund

On August 28, 2016, our congregation voted to establish a fund for installation of the elevator and other church renovations. Anyone wishing to give to the renovation project may do so by designating "Church Renovation" or "Elevator Fund" on their check or on the pew giving envelope.



*Need a
Ride?*



Sunday School

Need a ride to Sunday school? Sometimes parents need that extra hour of sleep. Let us pick up your kids! Call or text Kathy Dunn at 361-275-4322 or Wanda Hays at 361-648-4033.



PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, contact Evelyn Diebel. And please update your request at least once a month so the list can be kept current and up to date. If you wish to receive the Prayer Chain requests, please contact Evelyn Diebel (361-275-5979)

Our Military and their families:

Nicholas Jacobs - U.S. Air Force,
Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada
Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves
John Otto - USMC, Bahrain
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Jennifer Cornett - U.S. Air Force

Please Pray for: Adam Womble
Nate Boehl
Hunter Jacob
Glynn Yurick
Mike Meyer



Nursing Homes: Arlen Mueller - Yorktown Nursing & Rehab

Homebound: Cleo Wendel, Helen Mae Egg, Bette Jo Haun

Prayer request cards are available in the pews and can be filled out and handed to an usher during the first hymn for your request to be included in the day's prayer. If you have a private prayer request please fill out the appropriate side and give to the pastor.

Lent 4

March 26, 2017

Fourth Sunday in Lent



Themes of light and darkness, sight and blindness pervade the lessons for this Sunday. As humans mired in the sin that holds us captive, we fail to recognize our blindness. Christ calls us into the light of his life, love, and mercy as he beckons us to come and follow him. In that following, we come to see things in ways we have never seen them before, and the light of Christ shines through us.



Words from Martin Luther

“(Christ) makes it so that we consider it of no consequence, even though the whole world contends against us. “The rule of the church is not located in pomp and appearance but in the Word, even in the spoken Word, on which we may stand firm against all insults.

For ‘if God is for us, who is against us?’”

-Martin Luther-

Lectures on Isaiah, LW 17