

HE WILL GIVE YOU ANOTHER HELPER . . .
THE SPIRIT

JOHN 14:16, 17



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A North American Lutheran Church
1764 Meyersville Road
Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

CHURCH OFFICE: 361-277-8653

stjohnevlutheran@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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Confirmation Sunday

May 21, 2017



Greeter This Week: Beverly Bodden

Greeter Next Week: Dickie & Cathie Bettge

Reader This Week: Confirmands/Parents

Reader Next Week: Trish Hood

Acolytes This Week: Mackenzie Blain

Acolytes Next Week: Seth Wendel

Altar Guild This Month: May Dell Jacob & Brenda Boor

Altar Guild Next Month: Pam Haun & Nikki Nagel

Communion Assistant This Month: Johnny Jank

Communion Assistant Next Month: Glenn Ruschhaupt

Large Print Bulletins are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher for a copy.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to commune with us if, as a baptized Christian, you believe that you are a sinner and in need of God's forgiveness; that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the Sacrament; that this is more than a symbolic act, but a way God proclaims forgiveness to us who are repentant.

May your participation increase your faith and strengthen your love for God and one another.

A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN NURTURE
A service based on the six chief parts of the Catechism

AS WE GATHER

Today we celebrate the ministry of Christian nurture – the entire spectrum of things we do to foster Christian growth in people of all ages. As we celebrate, we are aware of the power of the Word and the Sacraments, and all the ways in which they are central to spiritual growth. But we are also aware of all the many people who are involved in these ministries of nurture, and we thank God for the way He uses these servants to personalize His message for each of us.

THE PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

“I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry” (WOV) #770

WELCOME

Welcome to our Confirmation Service. Thank you for coming to share this service with us. This is an important day for us, a day on which we confirm our faith in our Lord. We hope that as you participate in this worship service, you can reaffirm your faith in Him along with us. LET US BEGIN OUR WORSHIP IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

WHY ARE WE HERE?

In Baptism, we become a child of God. We are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the Cross of Christ forever. As infants we were told to “Let our light shine before others that they may see our good works and glorify our Father in Heaven.” Now, as Confirmands, we may affirm these words. As children, we came to Sunday School to learn about God’s love and His Holy Word. Our Confirmation classes also helped us learn more about Jesus Christ. Today we are here because we know the Lord will love us no matter where we go or what we do and we love Him and want to serve Him.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Jesus said, “Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in Heaven.”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The Ten Commandments and Office of the Keys

Student: God says in His word, “You shall have no other gods.”

People: Lord, have mercy.

Student: God says in His word, “You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.”

People: Lord, Have mercy.

Student: God says in His word, “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy”

People: Lord, Have mercy.

Student: God says in His word, “Honor your father and your mother.”

People: Lord, have mercy.

Student: God says in His word, “You shall not murder.”

People: Lord, have mercy.

Student: God says in His word, “You shall not commit adultery.”

People: Lord, have mercy.

Student: God says in His word, “You shall not steal.”

People: Lord, have mercy.

Student: God says in His word, “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.”

People: Lord, have mercy.

Student: God says in His word, “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.”

People: Lord, have mercy.

Student: God says in His word, “You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

People: Lord, have mercy.

(Silence for reflection)

Pastor: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said unto them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whosoever sins you remit, they are remitted unto them,. And whosoever sins you retain, they are retained,"

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name he gives the power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

People: AMEN

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, all good things can come from you alone; generously consider then our humble prayers. Inspire us to consider what is true, and direct us to accomplish what is right; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

(Silence for reflection)

Pastor: Loving Father, as we gather again around the Word and Sacraments,

People: we give you thanks for those who labor in the ministry of nurture,

Pastor: so that through the Word and Sacraments,

People: our faith may be strengthened, and our lives enriched.

Pastor: Help us to live what we believe,

People: and to reach out towards others with our nurture,

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,

People: Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

FIRST READING

Acts 17:16-31

¹⁶Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babblers wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities” — because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?” ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. ²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’ ²⁹Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:5-12

⁵ For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that *it is* in you as well. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with *me* in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, ⁹ who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, ¹⁰ but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher. ¹² For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

VERSE (Sung) “Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life

Alleluia, Alleluia”

Stand

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 7:15-29

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 7th chapter.

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

¹⁵ “Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn *bushes* nor figs from thistles, are they? ¹⁷ So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ So then, you will know them by their fruits.

²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*. ²² Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not

prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’ ²⁴ “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and *yet* it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ Everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.” ²⁸ When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; ²⁹ for He was teaching them as *one* having authority, and not as their scribes.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor John Boor

HYMN

“I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY”

(WOV) #752

CREED

The Apostles’ Creed is a statement of what Christians believe about the triune God.

The Creed is of ancient origin, tracing its roots back to the first century.

The Apostles’ Creed is the Church’s baptismal creed; that is, it expresses the faith into which we are baptized.

When we confess the Creed, we witness to our unity with Christians of all times and all places who confess the same faith.

When we confess the Creed, we affirm that the Church of Jesus Christ transcends the limits of time and geography.

So with the whole Church on earth, and with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we confess our faith in the God who saves us.

stand

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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

BAPTISMAL DIRECTIVE

At Baptism the following is directed to parents and Godparents and the congregation:

“In Christ’s love you presented us for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring us to the services of God’s house, teach us the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As we grow in years, you should place in our hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for our instruction in the Christian faith, that living in the covenant of our Baptism and in communion with the Church, we may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ.”

GUIDANCE ALONG THE WAY TO CONFIRMATION

We would like to thank Pastor John, our families, our sponsors, our Sunday School teachers, and our friends for their guidance. We have spent much time learning to get along with each other, learning to trust in the Church, its teachings and each other. Confirmation has strengthened the bonds of love in all these things.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for making these people a part of our lives. Without them, we would not be as close to you as we are. Our parents, along with our Godparents, brought us into Your Family when we were baptized. Your teachers brought meaning into what you and Your Words are all about. They helped us understand that You will always be our friend, just like they have been. Please watch over them and let them know they are loved for everything they have done for us.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

The following people, Marlee Blain, Abbey Dreier, Travis Eichhorn, Jeri Ficklen, Morgan Goebel, Cason Jander, Desirae Flessner, Caleb Reinecke, and Caroline Roeske, having been instructed in the Christian faith, now desire to make public affirmation of their faith.

In Holy Baptism you were received by our Lord Jesus Christ and made members of His Church. Now you choose to affirm the faith of the Church as your own, and to accept personal responsibility for active participation in the life and ministry of this congregation. I therefore ask you:

Do you believe in God the creator? Do you accept His Son, Jesus Christ, as your Lord and as the Savior of the world? Do you believe that this same God continues to be with you, through His Holy Spirit?

THE PLEDGE OF THE CONFIRMANDS

“I DO BELIEVE THAT God is my creator and that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior and that the Holy Spirit will be with me now and forever and I promise to be faithful unto Him, even unto death. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism;

To live among God’s Faithful people,
to hear His word and share in his supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to
strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

If so answer, “YES WITH THE HELP OF GOD.”

Do you intend to honor their unique gifts, support them with your prayers, attend to their spiritual and physical needs, and work with them in harmony, that God’s will may be done in and through this corporate body? Do you intend to grow with them and to continually confirm and reconfirm YOUR faith?

If so answer, “YES, WITH THE HELP OF GOD.”

LET US PRAY

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these men and women your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, and the spirit of joy in your presence’ through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. AMEN

THE BLESSING

Father in heaven, for Jesus’ sake, stir up in _____ the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his/her faith, guide his/her life, empower him/her in his/her serving, give him/her patience in suffering, and bring him/her to everlasting life.

Student: Amen

THE PRAYER (Congregation in unison)

Almighty and merciful God, complete the work that is begun in these young people today. Let their partnership with people of faith throughout the world be such that no false doctrine, no selfish desires, and no love of any material thing will lead them away from you or from the faith which we jointly hold, in joyful obedience to You and to Your Word, enable all of us to serve You more faithfully, in both word and deed, that your name may be honored and your will be done. AMEN

THE PRAYERS

Leader: Heavenly Father, as you have given us the gift of life, and the gifts of thinking and acting, and feeling, so give us the gift of you Holy Spirit.

People: That we may make of our lives a response of loving service in your name.

Leader: As you have given us new birth in baptism, so gather us together as your people.

People: That we may live as Christ to our world and witness His love to our generation.

Leader: Gather old and young, men and women, boys and girls, into common tasks for you.

People: For we are all your children, each with his own strength to contribute to your work.

Leader: Forgive our frailties, and our sinning, and our blindness to doing your will.

People: And once forgiven, strengthen us in the new life in Christ.

Leader: We ask you to help parents be your channels of guidance and caring to their children.

People: Building on their baptism the knowledge of you, their Lord, and your love for them.

Leader: We ask you to help young people accept the responsibilities of loyalty and commitment to you.

People: Strengthening our church in vitality and vision and enthusiasm.

Leader: We ask you to help young people respect those of experience who have and are now serving your church.

People: Preserving the wisdom and knowledge of the past as a firm foundation for change and development.

Leader: We ask you to make all of us the means by which you reach to the needy, the troubled, the lonely, the sorrowful.

People: That one day we may stand among those who are already welcomed into your eternal kingdom.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

THE OFFERING

Solo by Kate Turner

Stand

THE OFFERTORY (sung in unison)

“Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
And uphold me with your free Spirit.”

p. 66: OFFERTORY: “Let the vineyards...”

p. 67: OFFERTORY PRAYER

p. 68: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 70: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER #33 (right column)

p. 71: LORD’S PRAYER

p. 72: LAMB OF GOD

Sit

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION
SOFT HYMNS FOR MEDITATION

Stand

p. 72: POST COMMUNION: “Thank the Lord . . .”

p. 74: PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn #565)

POSTLUDE



Celebrating their Confirmation

Marlee Lauren Blain

Marlee is the daughter of Britton & Sara Blain. She was born on November 3, 2003 and was baptized at St. John Lutheran on April 18, 2004.

Abbey Renee Dreier

Abbey is the daughter of Brent & Shelley Dreier. She was born on November 12, 2003 and was baptized at St. John Lutheran on January 18, 2004.

Travis Wyatt Eichhorn

Travis is the son of Carl & Crystal Eichhorn. He was born on May 22, 2001 and was baptized at St. John Lutheran on September 23, 2001.

Jeri Elizabeth Ficklen

Jeri is the daughter of Lindsey & Pam Ficklen. She was born on September 25, 2003 and was baptized at Zion Lutheran on March 28, 2004.

Desirae Nicole Flessner

Desirae is the daughter of Randall & Melissa Flessner. She was born on June 18, 2004 and was baptized at St. Mark's Lutheran on August 1, 2004.

Morgan Makenzie Goebel

Morgan is the daughter of Morgan & Sharon Goebel. She was born on June 21, 2004 and was baptized at Resurrection Lutheran on August 29, 2004.

Cason Layne Jander

Cason is the son of Dwight & LeAnn Jander. He was born on March 20, 2004 and was baptized at St. Paul Lutheran on May 2, 2004.

Caleb Jordan Reinecke

Caleb is the son of Leroy & Beth Reinecke. He was born on August 12, 2004 and was baptized at First English Lutheran on October 3, 2004.

Caroline Anice Roeske

Caroline is the daughter of William & Heather Roeske. She was born on October 14, 2003 and was baptized at St. Paul Lutheran on November 16, 2003.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 5/21	Sixth Sunday of Easter
	9:00 a.m. Sunday School
	10:15 a.m. Worship ~ <i>Confirmation Sunday</i>
Mon 5/22	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Office Hours
Tues 5/23	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Office Hours
	7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
Wed 5/24	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Office Hours
	9:00 a.m. Old Stone Church
	1:30 p.m. Quilters
Thurs 5/25	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Office Hours
	<i>*Ascension of Our Lord</i>
Fri 5/26	Office Closed
Next Sun	Seventh Sunday of Easter
	9:00 a.m. Sunday School
	10:15 a.m. Worship ~ <i>Veterans Recognition</i>

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.



Sunday, May 14, 2017

Offering: General \$1,047.00, MOM \$95.00, Sunday School \$4.00, Cemetery \$25.00, NALC \$3.00, Church Reno \$210.00

Total: \$1,384.00

Attendance: Worship- 120 Sunday School- 10 Adults, 12 Children

Mission of the Month of May



Christian Warrior's Retreat Mission Statement

Christian Warriors retreat will be held for the second time at the end of October. It will again be held at the El Shaddi Retreat Center in Yorktown. The retreat is a 72 hour spiritual renewal through Jesus for Veterans by Veterans. This year the veterans who went last year will serve as team members. This will be St. John's fourth year to support this retreat which has grown to include a retreat in the Spring also. We hope to have the warriors at worship on a Sunday in the near future to give testimony on their experience at the retreat.

Memorial Day Service

Our Memorial Day, Veterans recognition service will be next Sunday, May 28, 2017. We have a long list from last year. Please let the office know during office hours if there are any changes to your status or you need to add someone that was not on there last year. If you are not sure, call the office & the secretary can let you know. You can also leave a note in the box outside of the church office. Thank you.



Altar Flowers

The altar flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in honor of the entire 2017 Confirmation Class. May God continue to fill their lives with His blessings.

By The Parents



Calling All Graduates!

Graduates

Please send graduating 8th graders, high school seniors & college graduates names to the church office. Either by email: stjohnvlutheran@juno.com, call during office hours (361)277-8653 or leave names in the secretary's box outside of the office door. Thank you.

Save the Date for Summer Day Camp

July 31st 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: 361-275-4322



St. John Lutheran Summer Sunday School Schedule

May 28 – No Sunday School due to the Memorial Day Holiday.

Sunday School will be closed all of June and July and most of August.

Vacation Bible School Day Camp will be **July 31 through August 4th**

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.





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
Lee Magrauder - U.S. Army, Afghanistan



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

Homebound: 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.



Keep up with St. John online
St. John Meyersville
<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>
Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

Easter 6

May 21, 2017

Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year A)



The theme of following Christ in truth and love abounds on this Sunday. Paul is faced with foreign gods, Peter teaches that suffering is bound to come, and Jesus promises his disciples that he will send them the Holy Spirit to accompany them as they continue his work in the world God loves. Obedience to the Lord's commands means nothing less than the sacrificial love showed the world on the cross.



“But to us he is called a Comforter, and a comforter is one who makes a sad heart glad and joyful toward God and tells you to be of good cheer for your sins are forgiven, death is slain, heaven is open, and God smiles upon you.”

- Martin Luther -