A vertical photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a lighter blue and then to the orange of the sunset. There are scattered white and yellow clouds. A thin vertical line runs down the center of the image, possibly a scanning artifact or a design element.

On them  
a light  
has  
dawned

Matthew 4:16

## **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](mailto:stjohnvlutheran@juno.com)

**PARSONAGE: 361-275-9895**

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

[jboor1@juno.com](mailto:jboor1@juno.com)

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

### **Third Sunday after Epiphany**

January 26, 2020

**Greeter This Week:** Kernell & Elaine Moritz

**Greeter Next Week:** Cheryl Bramlette

**Reader This Week:** Dawn Otto

**Reader Next Week:** Dwight Jander

**Acolytes This Week:** Volunteer Needed

**Acolytes Next Week:** Volunteer Needed

**Altar Guild This Month:** Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

**Altar Guild Next Month:** Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

**Communion Assistant This Month:** Johnny Jank

**Communion Assistant Next Month:** Pam Haul

**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 – *Throughout the service you may remain seated or stand as you are able.*

Stand p. 56: BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

HYMN: LBW #252 “*You Servants of God*”

p. 57-58: KYRIE

p. 59: HYMN OF PRAISE

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray

**All Almighty and eternal God, graciously look down on our weakness. Reach out to us with your majestic right hand, and satisfy us with his glory. We ask through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### FIRST READING

#### ***Those in Darkness Will See a Great Light***

*The prophet spoke of the northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali, which had been in gloom and anguish living under the oppression of the Assyrian military. Isaiah proclaimed to them God’s promise to bring to them the light of his salvation. No longer would God’s people suffer in darkness and pain; God would send a deliverer.*

Isaiah 9:1-4

(Page 593, RSV Pew Bible)

<sup>1</sup>But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

### RESPONSIVE READING

#### ***The Lord of Light***

*The psalmist boldly declared the blessings of fearless living because the Lord is his light and salvation. There is nothing to fear when God is on our side. Adversaries and foes will fall at the hand of the Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?  
the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup>**When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,  
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.**

<sup>3</sup>Though an army should encamp against me,  
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

<sup>4</sup>**And though war should rise up against me,  
yet will I put my trust in him.**

<sup>5</sup>One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;

<sup>6</sup>**To behold the fair beauty of the Lord  
and to seek him in his temple.**

<sup>7</sup>For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter;  
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

<sup>8</sup>**Even now he lifts up my head  
above my enemies round about me.**

<sup>9</sup>Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great  
gladness; I will sing and make music to the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>**Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.**

<sup>11</sup>You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."  
Your face, Lord, will I seek.

<sup>12</sup>**Hide not your face from me,  
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.**

<sup>13</sup>You have been my helper; cast me not away;  
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

<sup>14</sup>**Though my father and my mother forsake me,  
the Lord will sustain me.**

## SECOND READING

### *The Cross is the Power of God*

*Paul, having greeted the Corinthian church with prayer and thanksgiving, urged them to put aside all division and enmity. Paul made a bold and profound confession of faith: "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."*

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

(Page 991, RSV Pew Bible)

<sup>10</sup>I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." <sup>13</sup>Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Stand page 62: GOSPEL VERSE "Alleluia"

## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:12-25

(Page 837, RSV Pew Bible)

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>12</sup>When {Jesus} heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. <sup>13</sup>And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles — <sup>16</sup>the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned." <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." <sup>18</sup>While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup>And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming

the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. <sup>24</sup>So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. <sup>25</sup>And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit MESSAGE

HYMN: LBW #245 *“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”*

Stand page 65: APOSTLES’ CREED

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Stand page 66: SHARING OF THE PEACE

Sit OFFERING

Stand page 75: OFFERTORY “Create in Me”

page 76: PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

HYMN: WOV #775

*“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”*

Lord, listen to Your children praying,

Lord, send Your spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to Your children praying,

Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace!

page 76: THE LORD’S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN: WOV #649 *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*

P Go in peace, serve the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn #565)

POSTLUDE

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

<b>Today 1/26</b>	<b>Third Sunday after Epiphany</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Worship <i>*Annual Congregational Meeting Following Worship</i> <i>*2:00-4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class</i>
<b>Mon 1/27</b>	<b>Office Closed</b>
<b>Tue 1/28</b>	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
<b>Wed 1/29</b>	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:30 p.m. Quilters
<b>Thurs 1/30</b>	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours
<b>Fri 1/31</b>	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours
<b>Next Sun</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Worship <i>*Youth Group Stew to-go after church</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.*



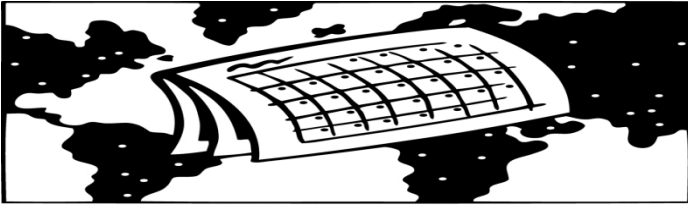
*Prayer request cards are available in the pews and can be filled out and handed to an usher during the first hymn for your request to be included in the day's prayer. If you have a private prayer request please fill out the appropriate side and give to the pastor.*

### **Sunday, January 19, 2020**

General \$1,959.00, MOM \$215.00, Sunday School \$3.00,  
Youth \$70.00, Cemetery \$20.00, Organ \$2.00, Building \$200.00,  
Church Reno. \$25.00                      **Total: \$2,494.00**

**Attendance:** Worship - 83    Sunday School - 6 - Children, 12 - Adults

## Mission of the Month of January



### *Mission of the Month*

#### Boys & Girls Club of DeWitt County

##### Mission Statement

In our community there are hundreds of boys and girls left to find their own recreation and companionship in the streets, or who, in increasing numbers, spend many hours at home with no adult care or supervision.

These youngsters often form groups or gangs and risk getting involved with the wrong leaders, eventually finding themselves in serious trouble.

The Boys and Girls club mission is to work with youth of all backgrounds, with a special concern for those from disadvantaged circumstances, to help them develop the skills to become productive citizens and leaders.

The DeWitt county community has needed something like this for a number of years. It has been well accepted by the school districts, the City of Cuero and area church leaders. St. John's own Laurie Pokluda sits on the board of this club. If you have questions Laurie will be glad to answer them.



##### Annual Congregational Meeting

St. John's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held today, Sunday, January 26, 2020 immediately following worship.

##### CHURCH PASTURE LEASE

St. John is offering for lease approximately 22 ac. to be used for agricultural purposes only. The lease term is 3 years. Anyone interested in bidding on this property may pick up a lease package in the church Narthex. Deadline for bids is Feb. 14, 2020.



##### Sharing of the Peace

There has been some concern about sharing the peace during the cold & flu season. Those persons not wanting to take part, feel free to stay sitting or share the peace as you feel comfortable. Those of you sharing the peace, please honor the wishes of those who are not taking part.







## Youth Group Stew Fundraiser

St. John's youth group will be selling quarts of stew "to go" after church on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Price is \$10/quart and proceeds raised will go towards youth group activities held in 2020. If you are interested in purchasing some stew, please let Doug or Wendy Bishop know how many quarts you'd like. Thank you in advance for supporting St. John's youth group and bon appetit!

## Boys & Girls Club of DeWitt County

You are invited to the BGCDC Gospel Brunch on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at the Venue in Cuero. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Entertainment by the Cuero Community Choir and Mary Poppins Ensemble. See Laurie Pokluda for tickets.



## Sunday School Supplies

The Sunday School department is reaching out to the congregation for supply donations for the 2020 school year. We have several events and projects planned throughout the year and would appreciate any help from our congregation members.



The following timeline is the supply lists for the year:

For Now – February:

- Mason jars with lids, clear, any size

For Now – May:

- Medium to large clear glass jars, vases, bowls, decorative in nature, with or without lids
- Succulent plants

For the Whole Year:

- Medium to large appliance boxes, preferably not cut
- Paint, finger paint, house paint, any leftover useable paint, all colors

Please contact Johnna Kethan 361-649-4234 or leave donations in the parish hall. We thank you for all your help and donations and look forward to a great Sunday School year!

## NALC Disaster Relief

We will continue collecting **Health Kits** and **Flood Buckets** for the **NALC Disaster Relief** indefinitely. Because the Texas warehouse was totally depleted of all the disaster relief items during the recent tornadoes and flooding in the midwest we will continue to try to stock it for the next need. The instructions for building them are in the back of the church in a folder. Norrean Sager has made about 30 bags for the health kits and Norrean or Linda will be glad to get as many as you need from storage. If you just want to purchase some of the items, Linda will put it together. Leave the items in the kitchen at church. Linda will collect them if you let her know - (361) 275-2059.



## Church Renovation Update

Remaining items for the construction progress are to complete the canopy and final grade the site. After completion, a final walk through will be held to address any items that need to be touched-up. The estimated costs for construction, change orders, materials testing, architect, and incidentals are \$599,553.00. We are required to pay as construction progresses so the bills are coming in on a regular basis. This project received almost unanimous support so we ask that you prayerfully consider giving generously to this project. GOAL: \$599,553 RECEIVED AS OF January 19, 2020: \$524,531

## Special Prayers for Cole

### ~NEW UPDATE~

Cole has returned from China after a six month treatment program for his injury. This included surgery, stem cell injections, and extensive therapy. He has

also recently recovered from a surgery done in New Jersey on his diaphragm to help him eventually get off the ventilator. Cole has now returned to TIRR Rehabilitation Hospital in Houston for continued therapy.

God has been with Cole every step of the way through this very long and difficult journey and by faith we know He will continue to carry him through. We want to thank each and everyone for all your prayers, concerns, and support for Cole and his family. We ask for your continued prayers for Cole's healing and for strength and patience as he continues forward. Thanks again and God bless you.

**+Please pray at 12:00 PM daily for Cole+**

**At his request, these are the prayers he has on his list:**

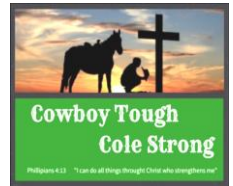
*Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual*

*To help family stay strong*

*Patience*

*Stay positive*

*The drive to keep trying (perseverance)*



**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 at (361)275-5979.

**Our Military and their families:**

Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves  
John Otto - USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC  
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky  
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy  
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy  
Jennifer Cornett - U.S. Air Force  
Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant,  
Fort Rucker, AL, going to Warrant Officer  
Candidate School then to Army Aviation Flight School  
Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force  
Michael Petrash II - 1<sup>st</sup> LT, United States Army  
Andrew Washington, PFC - USMC, Camp Pendleton, CA  
Jacob Redmond - USMC, San Diego, CA



**Please Pray for:**

Adam Womble  
Nate Boehl  
Hunter Jacob  
Glynn Yurick  
Kenny Jacob  
Cole Ohrt  
Carlton Migura  
Carly Waters  
Joy Hoy  
Marie Liner  
Slade Doehrman

*(Slade likes to receive cards, his address is:  
11049 FM 236, Cuero 77954)*

**Nursing Home:** Elmcroft-Victoria ~ Bette Jo Haun  
Yorktown Nursing & Rehab. ~ Barbara Mueller  
Stevens Healthcare of Yoakum ~ Marjorie Ideus



**Keep up with St. John online  
St. John Meyersville**

**<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>  
Or visit our website at: [stjohnmeyersville.org](http://stjohnmeyersville.org)**

## **Epiphany 3**

January 26, 2020

### **Third Sunday after the Epiphany (Year A)**



Jesus calls his disciples to follow him on his way. They have no idea what they are in for, but they drop their nets, leave everything behind, and follow. Discipleship is not merely a statement of belief, as in “I am a Christian.” It is a radical turning to Jesus in passionate obedience to his holy will in our lives. St. Paul reminds the Corinthians that this includes putting aside all divisions and strife.