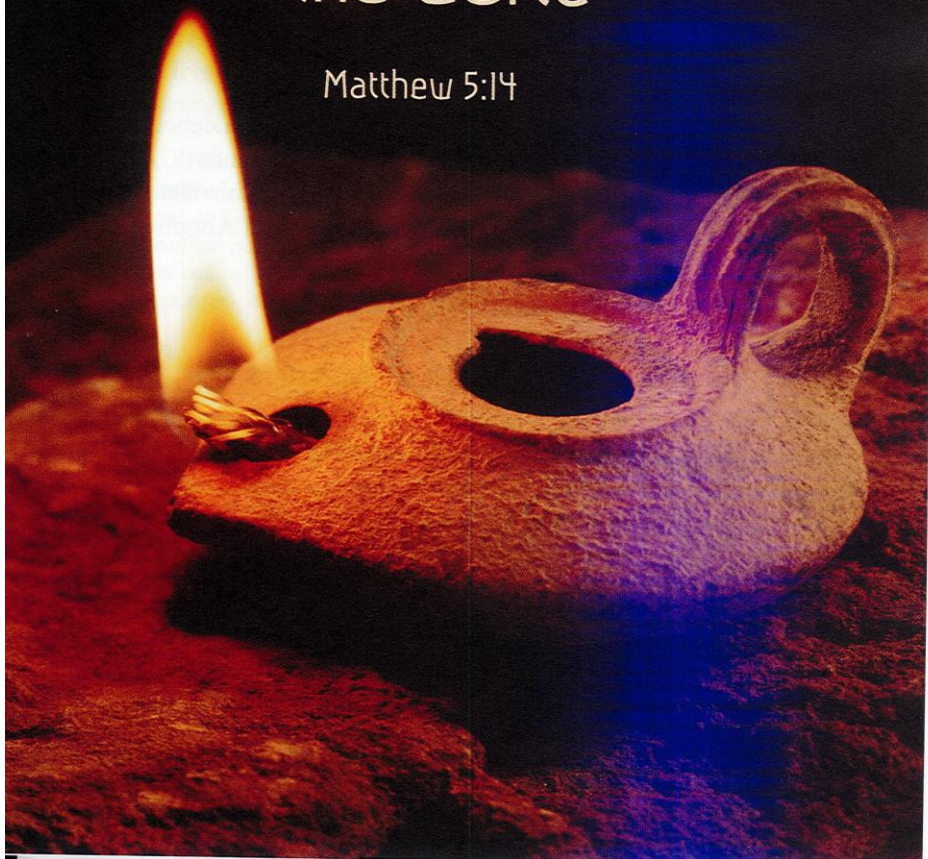


You
are
the light
of
the world

Matthew 5:14



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

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 9, 2020

Greeter This Week: Doug & Wendy Bishop

Greeter Next Week: Beverly Bodden

Reader This Week: Trish Hood

Reader Next Week: Beverly Bodden

Acolytes This Week: Kendra Redmond & Mackenna Diebel

Acolytes Next Week: Kendra Redmond & Lexi Flessner

Altar Guild This Month: Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

Altar Guild Next Month: M'Liss Moore & Virginia Abrameit

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

Stand p. 56: BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

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 Stand watch over your family, O Lord, that we who depend entirely on your heavenly grace may always be protected in the mighty fortress of your love; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Genuine Devotion

Israel cried out to God in frustration, wondering why their external act of piety in fasting was neither acknowledged nor rewarded by God. God reminded them that empty outward acts of piety are of no value unless they are accompanied by sincere humility and care for others. God always knows our hearts and our motivations.

Isaiah 58:3-9a

(Page 637-638, RSV Pew Bible)

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?” Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers.⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high.⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide

yourself from your own flesh? ⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

RESPONSIVE READING

The Upright Will Be Blessed

Light will shine on those who walk the paths of righteousness and justice. The psalmist provided a detailed description of that which God’s people are called to do and he explained the freedom and blessings that arise from walking in the light of God. The righteous will never be moved for their trust is in the Lord.

Psalm 112:1-9

(Page 529, RSV Pew Bible)

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in his commandments!

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.

⁸**Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast
forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

SECOND READING

Nothing But Christ Crucified

Paul continued to remind the Corinthians that God’s wisdom is hidden from plain sight. In spite of our human fascination with knowledge and wisdom, only when we can rightly judge ourselves and others through the wisdom of God’s revelation in Christ will we be living a mature faith. The message of Christ’s crucifixion is not based in lofty words, but rather in the prime example of God’s hidden wisdom.

¹I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. ⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” — ¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. [¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. ¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.]

Stand page 62: GOSPEL VERSE “Alleluia”

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:13-20

(Page 838, RSV Pew Bible)

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

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

¹³{Jesus said,} “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. ¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so

that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. ¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit MESSAGE

HYMN: LBW #300 *“O Christ, Our Hope”*

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: LBW #301 *“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”*

P Go in peace, serve the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn #565)

POSTLUDE

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 2/9	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 8:00 a.m. Property Team Meeting 9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Worship *2:00-4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
Mon 2/10	Office Closed
Tue 2/11	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Wed 2/12	Pastor John at Conference 2/12 - 2/15 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:30 p.m. Quilters 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
Thurs 2/13	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Fri 2/14	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours ~Happy Valentine's Day!~
Sat 2/15	*Pasture Lease Bid Due
Next Sun	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 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.



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, February 2, 2020

General \$2,275.00, MOM \$810.00, Sunday School \$60.41,
Youth \$20.00, OSC \$20.00, Organ \$3.00, Church Reno. \$375.00
Total: \$3,563.41

Attendance: Worship - 86 Sunday School - 15 - Children, 13- Adults

Mission of the Month of February



Warrior's Weekend Mission Statement

Warriors Weekend - Victoria, Texas

Founded in 2007, Warrior's Weekend is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 Corporation dedicated to the support of veterans of The United States of America with an emphasis on those wounded in The Global War on Terrorism. This is accomplished through holding an annual fishing event for wounded military personnel in May in Port O'Connor, Texas as well as donations to veterans and veteran based causes. 500 Veterans from around the United States are selected to participate. Military bases around the country select those who come for the weekend. There are about 300 wounded vets who are flown in from these military bases.

One need is for funds before the event is so they have enough monies to purchase airline tickets. The average cost of an airline ticket is \$400.00 each and is paid for in March.

The Warrior's Weekend will be held on May 15th through May 17th. The youth of St. John's will be selling flag sponsorship for the Field of Dreams display to honor veterans. For more ways you can get involved talked to Margie Swannack or Dawn Otto.

We keep the family of Clifford Marris, Father of Susan Egg, in our prayers. May God comfort his family at this time of loss.



With
Deepest
Sympathy...

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. 15, 2020.



Boys & Girls Club of DeWitt County




BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF DEWITT COUNTY

You are invited to the BGDC Gospel Brunch on Sunday, February 16th 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.

Come and join St. John's Sunday school February 17 at 6:00 pm. All family members are invited Monday evening for a night of fun activities, good food, and great company as we explore the word of God. The students will be making Glow In The Dark Mason Jars while learning the 2 Corinthians 4:6 passage. While the students are supervised and working, the parents are invited to join us in a bible study of the same passage and how we can bring God's light into our families and lives. Chick-Fil-A will be provided by St. John's, so bring the family to an evening of Gospel based fun. This event is an inclusive event for all surrounding churches as well, so invite your friends as well!



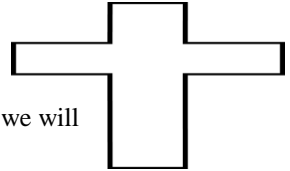
THANK YOU!

St. John's Youth Group would like to thank everyone who supported our stew fundraiser. Special thanks to our "stew crew" Dickie Bettge, Marvin Sager, and Clifton Jacob for their hard work and also to Laurie Pokluda for helping out with the stew fixings. Not only was it delicious but a very successful fundraiser as well that will help fund our youth group activities in 2020.

Many thanks,
Doug & Wendy Bishop

NALC Warehouse and Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

We will be collecting for these charities all year. Each month we will feature items to be donated. For the month of **February** we will collect **tooth brushes** and **tooth paste**.



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.

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 February 2, 2020: \$526,374



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

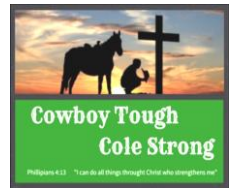
Please contact Johnna Kethan 361-649-4234 or leave donations in the parish hall.

We thank you for all your help and donations and look forward to a great Sunday School year!



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
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 - 1st LT, United States Army
Andrew Washington, PFC - USMC, San Angelo, TX
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
Bill Roeske
Janice Turner
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

Epiphany 5

February 9, 2020



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany (Year A)

Those who are blessed by God are salt and light for the world. Even though God's wisdom is often hidden from the world, it is shown to those who believe that Jesus, born of Mary, is God. In the waters of Baptism, we are called to be light to the world as the light of Christ shines through us so the world can see. We are called to be salt, to infiltrate a hurting world with the good news of God's love and mercy.