



They were astonished  
at His teaching

# ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31, 2021

**Greeter This Week:** Youth Group

**Greeter Next Week:** John & Margie Swannack

**Reader This Week:** Volunteer Needed

**Reader Next Week:** Trish Hood

**Acolytes This Week:** Hudson Zengerle

**Acolytes Next Week:** Volunteer Needed

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

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

**Communion Assistant This Month:** Obert Sagebiel

**Communion Assistant Next Month:** Brian Wendel

### 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.

Worship Notes regarding Today's Service:

Thank you for attending. We thank God that we are once again able to gather inside the church. For those who are not comfortable entering the church we are also broadcasting as we have for the past several weeks and you are more than welcome to remain in your car. The service, the organ music, and Pastor John's message will be routed through the church's sound system and broadcast on your car radio on FM channel 101.5. Please follow the service in the bulletin.

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**

### **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

L In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for Reflection and Meditation*

L Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

L Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

HYMN:

*“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain:*

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,  
sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Refrain*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Refrain*

**GREETING**

L 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.**

**KYRIE**

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
**C Lord, have mercy**

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  
**C Lord have mercy**

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.  
**C Lord have mercy.**

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.  
**C Lord have mercy.**

L Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**C Amen**

L Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:**

**We worship you, we give you thanks,**

**We praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world'**

**Have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father;**

**Receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One,**

**You alone are the Lord, You alone are the**

**Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**In the glory of God the Father. Amen**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray;

**O God, you know the perilous choices we are prone to make that fall short of your desire for human faithfulness and obedience. Without you, our fragile nature cannot survive. Support us with your Word of truth, that we may grow in faith in the midst of our trials. Grant this, we pray, 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: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

<sup>15</sup>“The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers — it is to him you shall listen — <sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>And the Lord said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. <sup>20</sup>But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’”

## Responsive Psalm Reading

### Psalm 111

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

<sup>2</sup>**Great are the deeds of the Lord!  
They are studied by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup>His work is full of majesty and splendor,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup>**He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;  
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>He gives food to those who fear him;  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

<sup>6</sup>**He has shown his people the power of his works  
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice;  
all his commandments are sure.

**<sup>8</sup>They stand fast forever and ever,  
because they are done in truth and equity.**

<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant forever;  
holy and awesome is his Name.

**<sup>10</sup>The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures forever.**

### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

<sup>1</sup>Concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup>But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. <sup>4</sup>Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth — as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords” — <sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. <sup>7</sup>However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup>And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup>Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

### GOSPEL VERSE

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

### **GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:21-28**

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>21</sup>{Jesus, Simon, Andrew, James and John} went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath {Jesus} entered the synagogue and was teaching. <sup>22</sup>And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup>“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are — the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

***“In The Morning When I Rise”  
Give Me Jesus***

**In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise,  
in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.**

***Refrain:***

**Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.  
You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.**

**Dark . . . midnight was my cry, dark . . . midnight was my cry,  
dark . . . midnight was my cry, give me Jesus.**

***Refrain:***

**Just about the break of day, just about the break of day,  
just about the break of day, give me Jesus.**

***Refrain:***

**Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,  
oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Jesus.**

***Refrain:***

**And . . . when I want to sing, and when I want to sing,  
and . . . when I want to sing, give me Jesus.**

***Refrain:***

***Installation of Council Members***

**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.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always,  
**And also with you**

**Offering** – If you wish to give an offering it will be received as you leave.

**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.**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

**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!**  
(after each petition "Lord in your mercy,"      RESPONSE "HEAR OUR PRAYER")

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

**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.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C Amen**

HYMN:

*"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"*

**Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love;  
The unity of heart & mind Is like to that above.**

**Before our Father's throne We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares.**

**We share our mutual woes, Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows The sympathizing tear.**

**From sorrow, toil and pain, And sin, we shall be free;  
And perfect love and friendship reign Through all eternity.**

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

**THE DOXOLOGY**

HYMN:

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

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

<b>Today 1/31</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</b> 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship ~ <i>Installation of Council Members</i> 6:00 p.m. New Member Class
<b>Mon 2/1</b>	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
<b>Tues 2/2</b>	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Worship Team Meeting
<b>Wed 2/3</b>	<i>Office Closed</i>
<b>Thurs 2/4</b>	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
<b>Fri 2/5</b>	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
<b>Next Sun</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</b> 8:00 a.m. Parish Ed Meeting 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. New Member Class



*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 24, 2021**

General \$1,800.00, MOM-Boys & Girls Club \$1,260.00, CAMAL House \$50.00, Old Stone Church \$50.00, Sunday School \$71.00, Building \$540.00, Reno. \$2,095.00 **Total: \$5,866.00**

**Attendance:** Worship - 63 Sunday School - 15 - Children, 12 - Adults Confirmation - 5



### **New Member Class**

Pastor John will be holding a New Member Class starting on January 10, 2021. The class will be on Sunday evenings from 6-7 PM for four weeks in the Parish Hall. Anyone interested in becoming a new member please contact Pastor John. If you are already a member and would like to attend you are welcome to attend. Please advise Pastor John so he can order the workbook.

Thank you  
Pastor John



## Mission of the Month of January



# **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

## 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.

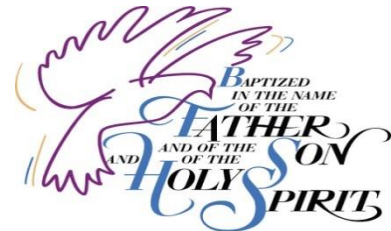
The Boys and Girls club mission is to work with youth of all backgrounds, with a special concern for those from disadvantaged circumstances, to help them develop the skills to become productive citizens and leaders.

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.



### Altar Flowers

*The altar flowers are placed in honor of Sadie Mae Garrett's baptism. Sadie was baptized on Saturday, January 30, 2021. She is the daughter of Richard & Kally Garrett.*



## UPDATE - Worship Team Notes - UPDATE

We will be having church in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. from now on, unless something changes. Communion will be by stations on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday until further notice. Please note there are certain guidelines that have to be followed. These specific guidelines are posted on our website & FaceBook page. The service will still be broadcasted on the radio station FM 101.5 for those who wish to stay in their vehicles. The service will also be videoed & posted to the church website on Sundays, after noon sometime. Please continue to check the church website & FaceBook page for updates.



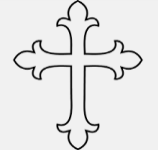
### Important Dates



1/31/21 Installation of Council Members

## Youth Group News

St. John's is looking for someone who enjoys working with young people to be our new youth leaders. Please prayerfully consider this and let Pastor John or Laurie Pokluda know if this is your calling.

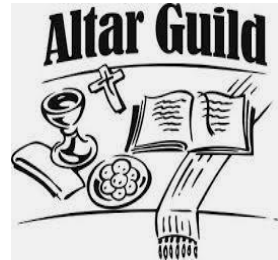


## NALC Warehouse and Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

We will be collecting for these charities all year. Each month we will feature items to be donated. We will be collecting combs & brushes for the month of January. Thank you.

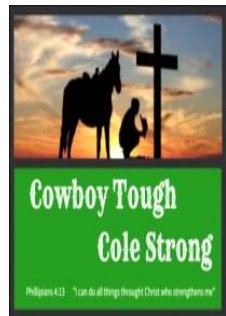
## ALTAR GUILD OPPORTUNITY/PLEA

One of our faithful Altar Guild teams is no longer able to serve. Therefore, the Altar Guild is urgently asking for each of you to prayerfully and seriously consider being a part of a team to serve on the Altar Guild. You and your teammate (as do the 5 other teams) serve approximately 2 months per year setting up communion before and cleaning up afterward and filling candles. Please contact Carol Ann Sagebiel (361)243-0122 or any Altar Guild member for more information, etc. Thank You.



## Special Prayers for Cole

Cole is at home doing well surrounded by the love and support of all his family. He continues to have therapy on a daily basis at his home and will soon also be doing therapy in Victoria. God continues to be with Cole each and every day strengthening his faith, patience, and courage as he travels down this long and difficult journey. We thank each and every one again for all your prayers, concerns, and support for Cole and his family. We ask for you to continue praying for Cole's healing and for strength and patience for him and his family. Thank you and God Bless.



**+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)*

## 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 is \$599,553. 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 24, 2021: \$565,858.30



**PRAYER REQUESTS:** If you have a prayer request or wish to be on the prayer chain please contact Mary Wagner (361)275-9500 or Pastor John (361)243-0373. We ask that you would update the prayer request regularly. If we do not have an update, in an effort to keep our list current and up to date, we will presume the situation has improved and remove the request after 30 days. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

**Our Military and their families:**

Jeff Zengerle - U.S. Army NG, Kuwait  
Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves  
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky  
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy  
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy  
Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, 2-4 CaB, Charlie Company, Black Hawk Medevac Pilot, Fort Carson, Colorado  
Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force  
Michael Petrash II - 1<sup>st</sup> LT, United States Army  
Andrew Washington, L CPL - USMC, Pensacola, FL  
Jacob Redmond - USMC, San Diego, CA  
Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, North Carolina



**Please Pray for:** Adam Womble  
Nate Boehl  
Hunter Jacob  
Glynn Yurick  
Kenny Jacob  
Cole Ohrt  
Carly Waters  
Joy Hoy  
Marie Liner  
Bill Roeske  
Janice Turner  
Jimmy Caskey  
Britany Jank Tomas  
Dugan Chandler  
Bea Fagg

**Nursing Home:**

Stevens Healthcare of Yoakum ~ Marjorie Ideus  
Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Alfred Rangnow  
Twin Pines Nursing Facility-Victoria ~ Bette Jo Haun, Meta Bennett



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 4

January 31, 2021

### Epiphany 4 (Year B)

The Old Testament historian proclaimed that there would be another prophet raised up from among Moses' brothers. This one would speak the words of God with truth and authenticity. As Jesus taught in the synagogue, the people were amazed at his ability to instruct them in the Word and also at his ability to cast out evil from a man who was held captive by a demonic spirit.



## SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

Is it not a plague that the wretch, the devil, wants to accuse and judge us and is himself worse than all human beings? What business of his is it that I have sinned? I have not sinned against him but against God. - Martin Luther -