

And He healed many

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 7, 2021

Greeter This Week: John & Margie Swannack

Greeter Next Week: Dickie & Cathie Bettge

Reader This Week: Trish Hood

Reader Next Week: Volunteer Needed

Acolytes This Week: Volunteer Needed

Acolytes Next Week: Volunteer Needed

Altar Guild This Month: Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

Altar Guild Next Month: Pending

Communion Assistant This Month: Brian Wendel

Communion Assistant Next Month: Dickie Bettge

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

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

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.

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,

All 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:

“I Love to Tell the Story”

**I love to tell the story Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, Of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, Because I know it’s true;
It satisfies my longings As nothing else would do.**

Refrain:

**I love to tell the story; I’ll sing this theme in glory
And tell the old, old story Of Jesus and his love.**

**I love to tell the story: How pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it, More wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, For some have never heard
The message of salvation From God’s own holy Word.**

Refrain:

**I love to tell the story, For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting To hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
I’ll sing the old, old story That I have loved so long.**

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.

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

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor,
Blessing and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and
the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray;

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: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Responsive Psalm Reading

Psalm 147: 1-12

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

²**The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem;
he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

³He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

⁴**He counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.**

⁵Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
there is no limit to his wisdom.

⁶**The Lord lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
make music to our God upon the harp.

**⁸He covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth;**

⁹He makes grass to grow upon the mountains
and green plants to serve mankind.

**¹⁰He provides food for flocks and herds
and for the young ravens when they cry.**

¹¹He is not impressed by the might of a horse;
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

**¹²But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who await his gracious favor.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-27

¹⁶For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. ¹⁹For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. ²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

GOSPEL VERSE

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

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:29-39

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹Immediately {Jesus} left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." ³⁸And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." ³⁹And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

***“You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord”
On Eagle’s Wings***

**You who . . . dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life, Say to the Lord:
"My . . . refuge, . . . my . . . rock . . . in whom I . . . trust!"**

Refrain:

**“And I will raise you up on eagle’s wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of my hand.”**

**Snares of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear, under God’s wings your . . .
refuge . . . with . . . faithfulness your shield.**

Refrain:

**For to the angels God’s given a command
to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands
they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

Refrain:

Let us confess our faith through the Apostles’ Creed

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.

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always,

And also with you

OFFERING

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

P Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
That all those who believe in him should not perish,
But have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation
You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
That we may receive our Lord
With a living faith as he comes to us
In his holy supper.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed
Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying;
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people
For the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Father remember us always and teach us to pray;

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed by 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**

Come for the Lord's Table is ready.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

**Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with
Shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Let us pray;

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Go in peace; serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE DOXOLOGY:

**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.**

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 2/7	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 8:00 a.m. Parish Ed Meeting 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship
Mon 2/8	Office Closed
Tues 2/9	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Wed 2/10	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
Thurs 2/11	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
Fri 2/12	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Next Sun	Transfiguration Our Lord 8:00 a.m. Property Team Meeting 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 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, January 31, 2021

General \$2,988.00, MOM- Boys & Girls Club \$370.00, Cemetery \$20.00, NALC \$10.00
Sunday School \$75.00, Building \$130.00, Reno. \$30.00 **Total: \$3,623.00**

Attendance: Worship - 77 Sunday School - 12 - Children, 12 - Adults Confirmation - 5

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 1st 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.



Mission of the Month of February



Tunnel to Towers Mission Statement

The mission of Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation is to honor the sacrifice of firefighter Stephen Siller, who laid down his life to save others on September 11, 2001. We also honor our military and first responders who continue to make the supreme sacrifice of life and limb for our country.

Since the time the organization began, it has kept overhead expenses low so that the maximum percentage of donor's contributions are used to help our American heroes. For the last few years over 93% of fundraising dollars went toward Foundation programs. Frank Siller, CEO and Chairman, offers his uncompensated time.

Fifty four mortgage free homes were provided through 3 major programs in 2019: the Gold Star Home Program, Fallen First Responder Home Program, and Smart Home Program.

Through the *Fallen First Responder Home Program*, Tunnel to Towers aims to pay off the mortgages of fallen law enforcement officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty that leave behind young children. The Foundation's goal is to ensure stability and security to these families facing sudden, tragic loss.

The *Gold Star Family Home Program*, launched in September 2018, honors the legacy of those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country. The Foundation will provide a mortgage-free home to surviving spouses with young children.

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation builds mortgage-free *smart homes* for our most catastrophically injured veterans and first responders. Each home is designed to address the unique needs of each individual. *Smart homes* host a myriad of features such as automated doors and lighting, wider halls and doorways, special showers to accommodate wheelchairs, automatic door openers, cabinets, counters, and stove tops that can be raised and lowered, back-up generators, and central heating and air conditioning systems that can be controlled by tablets. These homes help our most severely injured veterans and first responders to reclaim their day-to-day independence.

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

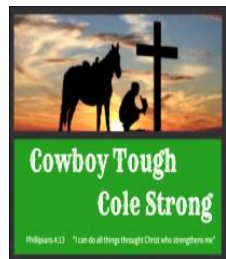
Patience

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 31, 2021: \$565,888.30



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, Hawaii
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Virginia
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 - 1st 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

Nursing Home:

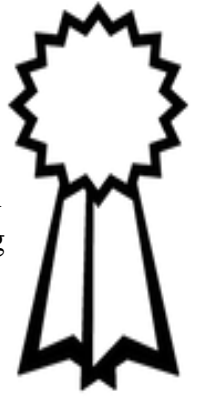
Stevens Healthcare of Yoakum ~ Marjorie Ideus
Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Alfred Rangnow
Twin Pines Nursing Facility-Victoria ~ Bette Jo Haun, Meta Bennett



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

Epiphany 5
February 7, 2021
Epiphany 5 (Year B)

God's true nature is revealed in his tenacity and tirelessness on behalf of the sick and brokenhearted. As Jesus began his public ministry, he traveled throughout Galilee healing the ill and casting out demons. Paul declared that Christ had placed him in a race of faith. His task was to preach the Good News, but it was not his will for his life, rather it was the Lord's will. To run with Christ is to win the race.



SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

Lord Jesus, You are my righteousness, I am your sin. You took on you what was mine; yet set on me what was yours. You became what you were not, that I might become what I was not. - Martin Luther -