



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 2021

Greeter This Week: John & Margie Swannack

Greeter Next Week: Dickie & Cathie Bettge

Reader This Week: Neal Moritz

Reader Next Week: Cathie Bettge

Acolytes This Week: Volunteer Needed

Acolytes Next Week: Volunteer Needed

Altar Guild This Month: Dawn Otto & Kaley Coker

Altar Guild Next Month: Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

Communion Assistant This Month: Dickie Bettge

Communion Assistant Next Month: Pam Haun



**Please note: There will be NO Mid-Week Lenten Services this year.*

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:

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

**Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe:
Through your suffering, death, and merit Life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, Dearest Jesus, unto you.**

**You have suffered great affliction And have borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me;
For you chose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, Dearest Jesus, unto you.**

**Then, for all that bought my pardon, For the sorrows deep and sore,
For the anguish in the garden, I will thank you evermore;
Thank you for the groaning, sighing, For the bleeding and the dying,
For that last triumphant cry, Praise you evermore on high.**

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Let us pray . . . Almighty God, You seek not our death or destruction but our life and salvation. Speak Your Word of rescue to our sin-sick hearts and fearful souls. Call us forth from the darkness of our guilt and shame. Bring us into the light of Your presence where Your forgiveness dwells. Restore us to Your people that our wandering ways may end. Direct us to the path Your Son has made that we may walk in it by faith and never depart from its hope. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Romans 7:14-25

¹⁴For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Responsive Psalm Reading

Psalm 119:89-96

⁸⁹Forever, O Lord,
Your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

⁹⁰**Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
You have established the earth, and it stands fast.**

⁹¹By Your appointment they stand this day,
for all things are Your servants.

⁹²**If Your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.**

⁹³I will never forget Your precepts,
for by them You have given me life.

⁹⁴**I am Yours; save me,
for I have sought Your precepts.**

⁹⁵The wicked lie in wait to destroy me,
but I consider Your testimonies.

⁹⁶**I have seen a limit to all perfection,
but Your commandment is exceedingly broad.**

GOSPEL VERSE

C Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 22:63-23:25

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 22nd chapter.

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

^{22:63}Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking Him as they beat Him. ⁶⁴They also blindfolded Him and kept asking Him, “Prophesy! Who is it that struck You?” ⁶⁵And they said many other things against Him, blaspheming Him. ⁶⁶When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led Him away to their council, and they said, ⁶⁷“If You are the Christ, tell us.” But He said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe, ⁶⁸and if I ask you, you will not answer. ⁶⁹But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.” ⁷⁰So they all said, “Are You the Son of God, then?” And He said to them, “You say that I am.” ⁷¹Then they said, “What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from His own lips.”

^{23:1}Then the whole company of them arose and brought Him before Pilate. ²And they began to accuse Him, saying, “We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that He Himself is Christ, a king.” ³And Pilate asked Him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And He answered him, “You have said so.” ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no guilt in this man.” ⁵But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.”

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that He belonged to Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent Him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see Him, because he had heard about Him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by Him. ⁹So he questioned Him at some length, but He made no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing Him. ¹¹And Herod with his soldiers treated Him with contempt and mocked Him. Then, arraying Him in splendid clothing, he sent Him back to Pilate. ¹²And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other. ¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining Him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against Him. ¹⁵Neither did Herod, for he sent Him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by Him. ¹⁶I will therefore punish and release Him.”

¹⁸But they all cried out together, “Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas”—^{19a} man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. ²⁰Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, ²¹but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify Him!” ²²A third time he said to them, “Why, what evil has He done? I have found in Him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release Him.” ²³But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that He should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

*“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

**What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

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:

"The Old Rugged Cross"

**On a hill far away, stood an old rugged Cross
The emblem of suff'ring and shame
And I love that old Cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain**

**So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown**

**Oh, that old rugged Cross so despised by the world
Has a wondrous attraction for me
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary**

**So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown**

**In the old rugged Cross, stain'd with blood so divine
A wondrous beauty I see
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above
To pardon and sanctify me**

**So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown**

**To the old rugged Cross, I will ever be true
Its shame and reproach gladly bear
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away
Where his glory forever I'll share**

**So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown**

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

Today 3/21	Fifth Sunday in Lent 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship
Mon 3/22	~ <i>Office Closed</i> ~
Tues 3/23	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. Council Meeting
Wed 3/24	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 9:00 a.m. Old Stone Church Meeting
Thurs 3/25	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
Fri 3/26	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Sat 3/27	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Church Workday
Next Sun	Palm Sunday 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, March 14, 2021

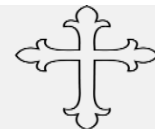
General \$1,253.00, MOM-CAMAL House Cuero \$100.00, Sunday School \$322.00, Building \$290.00, Reno. \$200.00

Total: \$2,165.00

Attendance: Worship - 66 Sunday School - 7 - Children, 11 - Adults Confirmation - 4

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 bar soap for the month of March. Please bring only soap that each bar is wrapped.



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.



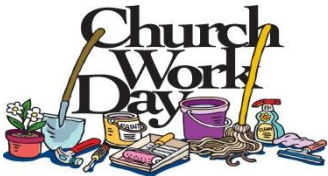
Mission of the Month of March



CAMAL House of Cuero

Mission Statement

The March Mission of the Month will be CAMAL HOUSE of Cuero which is the local food bank. It is run by volunteers. Funds can be used to help the pantry assist those affected by the prolonged hard subfreezing temperatures experienced Feb. 14-19. The funds can also help the food bank be prepared for any disaster in the upcoming months.



Church Workday

Property Team has voted to hold a congregation workday this Saturday, March 27th, from 9:00 AM until noon. Please plan to attend.



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:

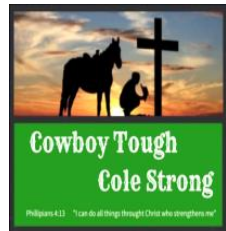
Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual

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 March 14, 2021: \$569,633.30



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
Samantha Hein
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

Lent 5

March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Lent (Year B)

A new covenant between God and his people came through Jesus Christ, who will reign as king and high priest forever. Jesus reminded his followers that to be a part of this new covenant is to be slave of all and servant of all, for the Son of Man came not to be served, but to be the one to serve others. His life, death, and resurrection are his “ransom” in exchange for the lives of his beloved children who believe.



SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

“One Christian who has been tried is worth a hundred who have not been tried, for the blessing of God grows in trials. He who has experienced them can teach, comfort, and advise many in bodily and spiritual matters.”

- Martin Luther - Exposition on Genesis 27, WA 43