A close-up photograph of a pile of broken, weathered stones and bricks. The stones are in various shades of grey, brown, and red, with some showing signs of weathering and discoloration. A prominent reddish-brown brick is in the upper center. The scene is lit with a blue light, creating a dramatic effect. The text "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" is overlaid in the center in a dark, bold font.

**Destroy this temple,
and in three days
I will raise it up**

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday of Lent

March 7, 2021

Greeter This Week: Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt

Greeter Next Week: Beverly Bodden

Reader This Week: Trish Hood

Reader Next Week: Kathy Dunn

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.

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:

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, From thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.**

**Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill thy law’s demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to thee for dress; Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eye lids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee.**

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray;

Almighty God, consider the worthy desires of your humble servants. Reach out to defend us from evil by the word and work of your majestic right hand. Grant this, we pray, 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: 1 Peter 5:6-11

⁶Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that in due time he may exalt you. ⁷Cast all your anxieties on him, for he cares about you. ⁸Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking some one to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experience of suffering is required of your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, establish, and strengthen^[a] you. ¹¹To him be the dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Responsive Psalm Reading

Psalm 36

¹Transgression speaks to the wicked deep in his heart;
there is no fear of God before his eyes.

**²For he flatters himself in his own eyes
that his iniquity cannot be found out and hated.**

³The words of his mouth are trouble and deceit;
he has ceased to act wisely and do good.

**⁴He plots trouble while on his bed;
he sets himself in a way that is not good;
he does not reject evil.**

⁵Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
Your faithfulness to the clouds.

**⁶Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
Your judgments are like the great deep;
man and beast You save, O Lord.**

⁷How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!
The children of mankind take refuge
in the shadow of Your wings.

**⁸They feast on the abundance of Your house,
and You give them drink
from the river of Your delights.**

⁹For with You is the fountain of life;
in Your light do we see light.

**¹⁰Oh, continue Your steadfast love
to those who know You,
and Your righteousness to the upright of heart!**

**¹¹Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me,
nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.**

**¹²There the evildoers lie fallen;
they are thrust down, unable to rise.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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 22:47-53

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him; ⁴⁸ but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of man with a kiss?" ⁴⁹ And when those who were about him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰ And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. ⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? ⁵³ When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

"Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup"

Refrain:

**Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the goodness of God.
Bread of life, cup of love, we rejoice in your presence.**

**I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
in my God I glory forever: listen and rejoice!**

Refrain:

**Look upon the Lord, be radiant, never turn away.
God will save in ev'ry affliction, hear us when we pray.**

Refrain:

**Angels fold their wings around us, guard through good and ill.
Those who seek the Lord will lack nothing; taste, and have your fill.**

Refrain:

**Saints of God, bow down and worship, bless the holy name.
Rise to tell God's greatness forever, wondrous deeds proclaim!**

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

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:

A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

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.



~ Prayers to All ~

St. John extends our prayers & comfort to all of those affected by the recent winter storm. With most losing power, water & not having enough food. God Bless everyone in this time of need! What a gracious God we have to get us through good times & not so good times! Today, be encouraged. God is always with you and He is always working. Trust in His plans. If we can help in anyway, please let us know your needs or the needs of others you may know about. St. John church office phone number is: (361)277-8653, please leave a message if not during church office hours or email us at: stjohnvlutheran@juno.com.

The following is a prayer to pray in these times of need:

Jesus, when You walked on earth, You demonstrated Your power over nature. You are the One who walked on water and rebuked the fierce tempest, and at Your command, the wind stopped and a great calm prevailed. You are the same yesterday, today and forever. We put our faith and trust in You when we are assailed by the forces of nature. Thank You for Your protection and care. Amen.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 3/7	Third Sunday in Lent 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 3/8	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Tues 3/9	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. Bi-Annual Altar Guild Meeting
Wed 3/10	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
Thurs 3/11	~ <i>Office Closed</i> ~ 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
Fri 3/12	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Next Sun	Fourth Sunday in Lent 8:00 a.m. Property Team Meeting 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship <i>*Daylight Savings Time Begins ~ Spring Forward!</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, February 28, 2021

General \$2,160.00, MOM-Tunnel to Towers \$470.00, Sunday School \$110.00, Youth \$10.00, Cemetery \$30.00, Building \$90.00, Reno. \$190.00 **Total: \$3,060.00**

Attendance: Worship - 66 Sunday School - 4 - Children, 14 - Adults Confirmation - No Class

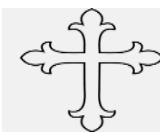


ATTENTION ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS

The Bi-Annual Meeting for St. John's Altar Guild will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please, at least one member from each team is asked to attend this meeting to find out about updates of changes and reminders of procedures. Thank you, Carol Ann

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.

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:

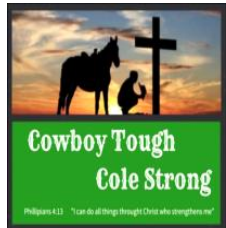
Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual

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 February 28, 2021: \$568,538.30



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 3

March 7, 2021

Third Sunday in Lent (Year B)

The Law of the Lord is perfect and provides a framework for God's people to live together with him and one another. At the heart of God's law are the care and protection of his beloved people. These rules for living faithfully were not meant to keep humanity in shackles — on the contrary! They were given to Israel and all people after them so that we would have true freedom, peace, and joy.



SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

“If we want to be wise, we must become fools and let God's Word be the eternal truth.” - Martin Luther - Sermon on New Year's, 1531