



John  
15:18

Abide  
in my love.

**ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 9, 2021**

**Greeter This Week:** Dickie & Cathie Bettge  
**Greeter Next Week:** Candy Cowley  
**Reader This Week:** Dwight Jander  
**Reader Next Week:** Neal Moritz  
**Acolytes This Week:** Volunteer Needed  
**Acolytes Next Week:** Volunteer Needed  
**Altar Guild This Month:** Carol Ann Sagebiel & LeAnn Jander  
**Altar Guild Next Month:** Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank  
**Communion Assistant This Month:** Wanda Hays  
**Communion Assistant Next Month:** Johnny Jank



**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: *Mom's Choice*

**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 mercy 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, all good things can come from you alone; generously consider then our humble prayers. Inspire us to consider what is true, and direct us to accomplish what is right; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## First Reading: Acts 10:34-48

<sup>34</sup>Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup>you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." <sup>44</sup>While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. <sup>46</sup>For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, <sup>47</sup>"Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" <sup>48</sup>And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

## PSALM READING

Psalm 98

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.

**<sup>2</sup>With his right hand and his holy arm  
has he won for himself the victory.**

<sup>3</sup>The Lord has made known his victory;  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

**<sup>4</sup>He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

<sup>5</sup>Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

**<sup>6</sup>Sing to the Lord with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.**

<sup>7</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the king, the Lord.

**<sup>8</sup>Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,  
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

<sup>9</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

**<sup>10</sup>In righteousness shall he judge the world  
and the peoples with equity.**

### **Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood — Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

GOSPEL VERSE

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

**GOSPEL READING: John 15:9-17**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>9</sup>{Jesus said,} “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. <sup>12</sup>This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. <sup>17</sup>These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: *Mom’s Choice*

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in one God, the Father, the 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 arose 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,  
for ever 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:** *Mom's Choice*

**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 5/9</b>  | <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b><br>8:00 a.m. Property Team Meeting<br>9:00 a.m. Sunday School<br>10:15 a.m. Worship ~ <i>Happy Mother's Day!</i> |
| <b>Mon 5/10</b>   | <i>~ Office Closed ~</i>   |
| <b>Tues 5/11</b>  | 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours<br>10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours   |
| <b>Wed 5/12</b>   | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours<br>7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study   |
| <b>Thurs 5/13</b> | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours<br>1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours   |
| <b>Fri 5/14</b>   | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours  |
| <b>Next Sun</b>   | <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b><br>8:00a.m. Parish Ed Meeting<br>9:00 a.m. Sunday School<br>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.*

**May 2, 2021** General \$2,753.00, MOM-NALC Seminary \$270.00, Sunday School \$72.50, Youth \$10.00, Building \$60.00, Reno. \$190.00 **Total: \$3,355.50**

**Attendance:** Worship - 89 Sunday School - 11 - Children, 4 - Adults Confirmation - 5

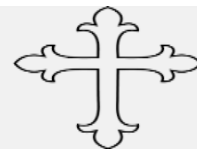


### **St. John Church 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The St. John church building will be 100 years old in July. Council has discussed celebrating this in some way. There has been discussion of a committee being formed for this occasion. Please contact the church office or any council member if you wish to be on this committee or help in any way. Thank you!

### **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 hairbrushes & combs for the month of May. Thank you!



### **NEW UPDATE: Worship Team Notes**

We will be having church in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. from now on, unless something changes. Communion will go back to the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month by stations. Any changes will be noted in this article. 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. Please Note: The service will NO longer be videoed & posted to the church website. Please continue to check the church website & FaceBook page for updates.





## Mission of the Month of May



# Our Church Mission

### NALC Seminary Mission Statement

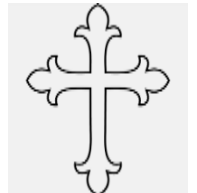
The NALC set a seminary goal in 2020 to be the denomination with the strongest and most highly respected Lutheran Seminary Training System in North America. Last year in October of 2020 Rev. Dr. Eric Riesen, President of NALC Seminary Board of Regents was our mission speaker on this topic. At that time he informed us of how this could be done. With our donations we can help the NALC attain its goal to upgrade the structure, the program, and recruitment of the seminary over the next 3 years.



*We keep the family of Meta Bennett in our thoughts & prayers. May God comfort her family at this time of loss.*

### 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 scrub hairbrushes & combs for the month of May. Thank you!



### Please Help

The Old Stone Church Historical Committee is in search of vintage photographs of both the Old Stone Church and of St. John church. The current church (gothic structure) will be 100 year old in July 2021. We would ask permission to scan the images for upcoming projects and preservation purposes. Please contact M'Liss Moore at 275-8069 if you have any pictures tucked away in your treasures.



### ~ UPDATE ~ Valerie, Jordan, Aiven & Emma

These 3 children ages 5, 7 & 8 along with their mother were in a terrible car wreck Monday, April 5th. They were all transferred to a San Antonio hospital. They are all home now. This family is our church cleaner, Maria Ricardo's daughter & grandchildren. Prayers are very much still needed, they have a long road to recovery! Any donation would be greatly appreciated as well if you are able. Please just put "Maria" on the envelope & make any checks payable to Maria Ricardo. Thank you for your help & prayers. God bless. + + +



## Vacation Bible School



Summer is near and St. John's is starting to work on Vacation Bible School! Here are the details so far:

When: August 2 - 6

Time: TBD

Ages: 6-12

For those with kids interested in attending, mark your calendars and we'll be mailing out sign up forms. We'll be taking all kids in this age range, including friends and family members of church members. For those with kids who are older, we need as much help as possible. We need help with class leaders, song leaders, and activity leaders. Please contact Laurie Pokluda, Trish Hood, or Johnna Picard if your child is interested in helping out during camp.

And for all adults who'd like to help, we need as many volunteers as possible. We are not enlisting the help of outside councilors; we are managing all work with church members. So if you can help out the whole week, a few days, or just one day, please reach out to Laurie, Trish, or Johnna because we need all available hands!

We're looking forward to an amazing Vacation Bible School and can't wait to rejuvenate our faith this summer!

### 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:**

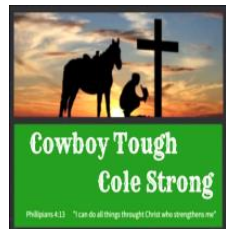
*Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual*

*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 May 2, 2021: \$575,928.30



**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 - 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  
Hunter Jacob  
Kenny Jacob  
Cole Ohrt  
Carly Waters  
Joy Hoy  
Marie Liner  
Bill Roeske  
Jimmy Caskey  
Britany Jank Tomas  
Dugan Chandler  
Samantha Hein  
Bea Fagg  
Bette Jo Haun  
David Diebel

**Nursing Home:**

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Alfred Rangnow, Marjorie Ideus  
Sodalis Senior Living ~ Bette Jo Haun



**Keep up with St. John online  
St. John Meyersville**

**<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>  
Or visit our website at: [stjohnmeyersville.org](http://stjohnmeyersville.org)**

## **Easter 6**

**May 9, 2021**

### **Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year B)**

Our world is filled with many who feel unloved and overlooked. To love one another is to abide in the love of Christ who first loved us. Without his love we are incapable of loving one another; but with his love we show the world what love really is: obedience to the Lord, a sacrificial existence, a sharing of all things good and right. The love of Christ overcomes the shallow, selfish, fleeting ways of the world.

