January 22, 2023



**Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,**

**on them has light shone.**

**Isaiah 9:2**

**ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A North American Lutheran Church

 1764 Meyersville Road

Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

**CHURCH OFFICE: 361-277-8653**

stjohnevlutheran@juno.com

 (Pr. John’s Cell: 361-243-0373)

jboor25@yahoo.com

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

**Third Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 22, 2023**

**Greeter This Week**: Marvin & Norrean Sager

**Greeter Next Week**: Youth Group

**Reader This Week**:Cathie Bettge

**Reader Next Week**:Dwight Jander

**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**: Pam Haun

**Communion Assistant Next Month**: Wanda Hays

**Busy Bags** are available in the Narthex for all children to enjoy.

**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.

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**

OPENING HYMN: ***“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”*** LBW #479

**My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away,
Oh, let me from this day Be wholly thine!**

**May thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire; As thou hast died for me,**

**Oh, may my love to thee Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be thou my guide;**

**Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray From thee aside.**

**When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll; Blest Savior, then, in love Fear and distrust remove;
Oh, bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!**

**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;

**Almighty and eternal God, graciously look down on our weakness. Reach out to us with your majestic right hand, and satisfy us with his glory. We ask 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.**

*Please be seated*

**First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4**

1 But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. 2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. 3 You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. 4 For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

 **Responsive Reading**

 **Psalm 27:1-9 [10-14]**

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

**2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,**

**it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.**

3 Though an army should encamp against me,

yet my heart shall not be afraid;

**4 And though war should rise up against me, yet will I put my trust in him.**

5 One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek;

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;

**6 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.**

7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter;

 he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

**8 Even now he lifts up my head above my enemies round about me.**

 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness;

 I will sing and make music to the Lord.

**[ 10Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.**

11You speak in my heart and say, “Seek my face.”

 Your face, Lord, will I seek.

**12Hide not your face from me, nor turn away your servant in displeasure.**

13You have been my helper; cast me not away; do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

**14Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will sustain me.]**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

10I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. 11For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. 12What I mean is that each one of you says, “I follow Paul,” or “I follow Apollos,” or “I follow Cephas,” or “I follow Christ.” 13Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. 16(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) 17For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. 18For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

*Stand as you are able*

GOSPEL VERSE

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

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:12-25

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter.

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

12When {Jesus} heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. 13And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, 14so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: 15“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles — 16the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.” 17From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” 18While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” 20Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. 22Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. 23And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. 24So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. 25And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated*

MESSAGE

**SERMON HYMN: *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”*** WOV # 731

 **Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I'm weak, I am worn.**

**Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light,
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows . . drear, precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is . . . almost . . . gone,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When the darkness appears and the night draws . . . near,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,
at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

*Stand as you are able*

P God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith together.

**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.**

*Please be seated*

Offering

*Stand as you are able*

OFFERTORY

**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**

*Please stand*

Father remember us always and teach us to pray;

**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: “*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*** WOV # 649

**I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**

**In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.**

**In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.**

**In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

THE DOXOLOGY: LBW #565

**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.**

POSTLUDE

**THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN**

 **Today 1/22 Third Sunday after Epiphany**

*9:00 a.m.* Sunday School

*9:00 a.m.* Confirmation Class*9:00 a.m.* Adult Study*10:15 a.m.* Worship followed by Annual Congregational Meeting

 **Tues 1/24** *9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m*. Office Hours

*9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.* Pastor’s Office Hours

*7:00 p.m.* Council Meeting

 **Wed 1/25** *9:00 a.m.*  Old Stone Church Meeting*10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.* Office Hours

*1:30 p.m.* Quilters – at the Parsonage

 **Thurs 1/26** *9:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m*. Office Hours

*1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.* Office Hours

*1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.* Pastor’s Office Hours

 **Next Sun.** *9:00 a.m.* Sunday School

*9:00 a.m.* Confirmation Class

 *9:00 a.m.* Adult Study

*10:15 a.m.* Worship

 *11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.* Youth Group in Parish Hall



***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.*

**January 15, 2023** General $1,660.00, Building $70.00, MOM-Boys & Girls Club of DeWitt County now known as Boys & Girls Club of Cuero $495.00, CAMAL House $100.00, Youth Group $40.00, Sunday School $21.00

**Total: $2,386.00**

**Attendance:** Worship - 65, Sunday School - 3 Children, 12 Adults

 **Acolytes**

Volunteer are needed! A sign-up sheet is hanging on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Thank you to those who have previously signed up. We still need a lot of dates to fill. Thank you.

**Annual Congregational Meeting**

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held ***today*** *Sunday, January 22, 2023* immediately following worship.

**Greeters and Readers - Signup for 2023**

Sign-up sheets are on the Narthex bulletin board for anyone who would like to be added to our volunteer lists.



The position for St. John church secretary is once again open. If anyone is interested in this position please contact Obert Sagebiel or Pastor John.

**January Mission of the Month**



***BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF DEWITT COUNTY now known as***

***BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF CUERO***

This club has a vision to provide positive life changing experiences to help empower the young.

Their mission is to enable all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

The club code is that of believing in God, the right to worship, and believing in the Constitution and Bill of Rights of America.

Thank you for donating toward the future citizens of DeWitt County.

**CAMAL House Food Drive and Blanket Drive**

It’s the season for giving & sharing. Please consider a donation of non-perishable goods, to our local food pantry! They are specifically in need of canned meats. Items are being collected in the narthex. CAMAL House is also collection new and gently used blankets, comforters, quilts or extra large throws. Items can be dropped off in the Parish Hall or Narthex now thru February 2023. Thank you!



The Meyersville ISD recycle trailer is back in business. This convenience is for everyone in the community to utilize with the school maintaining the project. Please remember, all recyclables must be loose (not bagged) when being placed in the proper bin.

Dear Friends!

Thank you so much for the quilts and supplies that Mike delivered to us! We also appreciate your donation of $200! Your support means a lot in helping us restock the warehouse. Many families will be touched by your kindness! Thanks again & God Bless You!

Michael & Pat Dittrich

 **Youth Group!**

St. John’s Youth Group, 5th grade through high school, will meet following church services next ***Sunday, Jan. 29, 2023 from 11:15-1:30*** for Christian Fellowship and a pizza lunch. Be sure to bring a friend!

CAMAL House is now setup to receive online donations via Tithe.ly. Just use this QR code to the left to made secure donations!

***+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole***

Hello everyone! Hope you are all enjoying this cooler weather! Cole not so much. He hates the winter time daily because he burns all over when he gets cold. He loves to be outside so this makes it miserable for him when it’s cooler. He pushes through it like he does everything else but maybe pray this burning will stay away. Cole has reached a cool milestone recently. He has officially walked over 100,000 steps on his Lokomat machine! He faithfully goes twice a week to work an hour on the Armeo are machined then walks on the Lokomat even though he really doesn’t feel like it some days. That on top of all the therapy he does at home. He’s hard-headed and sometimes that serves us well! Cole has been staying healthy otherwise so we are always Thankful for that. Thank you all for your continued prayers and support.

Also, please pray for another boy, Holden, who sustained some very serious injuries in an ATV accident recently. In addition, please pray for his parents and doctors as they move forward in the care and needs of Holden. 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)***

**Fill the Warehouse!**

***(The cheapest place to shop for supplies!)***

**NALC Disaster Response**

**What’s in a Flood Bucket?**

**1 bucket (5 gallon) with a lid – Firehouse Subs $3.00 ea.**

 ***(Check other restaurants, donut shops, school kitchens, etc.!)***

**1 roll paper towels – Walmart 44 cents a roll**

**1 powder cleanser – Walmart 88 cents ea.**

**1 floor cleaner – small! (like Pine Sol, Fabuloso) – Dollar Tree $1.25 ea.**

**1 bottle bleach – small! – Dollar Tree $1.25 ea.**

**1 pair rubber gloves – Dollar Tree $1.25 ea.**

**1 scrub brush – Dollar Tree $1.25 ea.**

**1 pair leather gloves – Home Depot 3 pk under $6.00**

**1 pair cotton gloves – Walmart 6 pk under $5.00/Home Depot or Lowe’s $1.00 ea.**

**2 contractor trash bags (3 mil) – shop around…….**

**2 rags – Don’t buy! Cut up old bath & beach towels, dish towels, wash cloths…….**

**What’s in a Health Kit?**

**Soap: 1 regular size bar or 2-3 travel size\***

**Shampoo: 2 or 3 travel size\* (or 1 small size)**

**Lotion: 1 or 2 travel size\***

 **\*Ask for donations from people you know that stay in hotels!**

**1 deoderant – Walmart 88 cents ea.**

**1 toothbrush – Dollar Tree 4 for $1.25**

**1 toothpaste (travel size) – Walmart (or for a bigger tube) 77-90 cents ea.**

**1 comb – Dollar Tree 12 pk for $1.25**

**1 bath towel – Walmart $1.97 ea.**

**1 drawstring bag – available to be filled in narthex or you may sew your own from an old pillow case.**



**Our Military and their families:**

Jeff Zengerle - U.S. Army, Louisiana

Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves

Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Fort Hood

Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Hawaii

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

Zach McBrayer - U.S. Air Force, San Antonio

**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.



**Please Pray for:** Hunter Jacob

 Cole Ohrt

 Marie Liner

 Bea Fagg

 Mrs. Stiles

 Ryon Preslar

 Lisa Phillips

 Joy Meadows

 Rylan Caskey

**Nursing Home:**

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Marjorie Ideus

**SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER**

We should never regard this call from God, which takes place through the preaching of the Word, as some kind of deception. Instead, we should know that God reveals his will through it, namely, that he wills to work through his Word in those whom he has called.

 - Formula of Concord-

**Keep up with St. John online**

**St. John Meyersville**

[**https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville**](https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville)

**Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org**