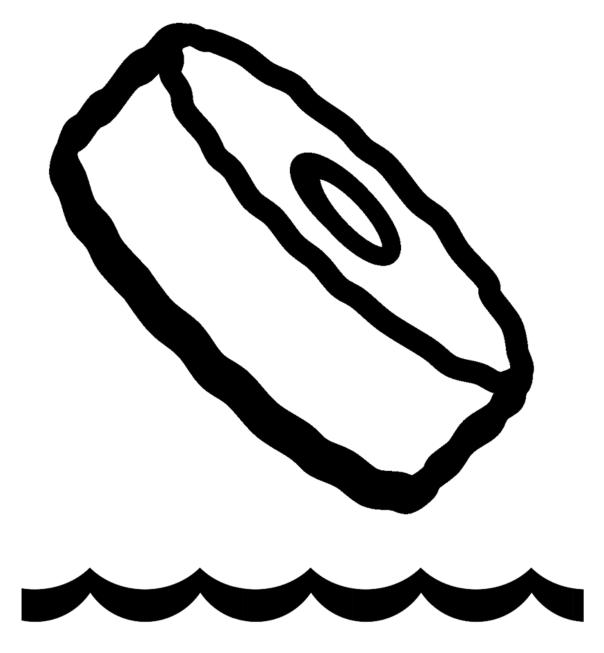
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Meyersville, Texas September 10, 2023



Their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 18:10

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A North American Lutheran Church 1764 Meyersville Road Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

stjohnevlutheran@juno.com (Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373) iboor1@juno.com

Ministers - The People of St. John Pastor - The Rev. John Boor Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 10, 2023

Greeter This Week: Cheryl Bramlette

Greeters Next Week: John & Margie Swannack

Reader This Week: Cathie Bettge
Reader Next Week: Dwight Jander
Acolyte This Week: Morgan Zengerle
Acolyte Next Week: Gracie Diebel

Altar Guild This Month: Carol Ann Sagebiel & LeAnn Jander

Altar Guild Next Month: Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

Communion Assistant This Month: Pam Haun **Communion Assistant Next Month**: Johnny Jank

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 \(\mathbb{H} \) 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 \(\mathbf{Y}\) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

OPENING HYMN:

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

WOV# 734

¹ Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, Calling for you and for me. See, on the portals he's waiting and watching, Watching for you and for me.

Refrain:

Come home, come home, Ye who are weary, come home; Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"

- 2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? [Refrain]
- 3 Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. [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.

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;

O Lord, always lead and follow us with your grace, that we may be still more intent on doing good. Grant this, we pray, through 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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Jesus warned his followers that anyone who caused a child (or one who is childlike in faith) to stumble in the faith would have a worse fate than having a millstone hung around his neck and being thrown into the sea. Followers of Christ are called to be humble and to receive the childlike with grace and mercy, even as they are called to be like children who are in awe of the kingdom of heaven.

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

⁷"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."

Responsive Reading Psalm 32:1-6

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

⁶I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Second Reading: Romans 13:1-10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

GOSPEL VERSE

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

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter. **C Glory to you, O Lord.** (sung)

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. 12What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

P The Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

Please be seated

MESSAGE

In Christ there is no east or west, In him no south or north; But one great fellowship of love, Throughout the whole wide earth.

In him shall true hearts everywhere, Their high communion find; His service is the golden cord, Close binding all mankind.

Join hands then, brothers of the faith, Whate'er your race may be. Who serves my Father as a son, Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west, In him meet south and north; All Christly souls are one in him, Throughout the whole wide earth.

Stand as you are able

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.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated

OFFERING (Please use the yellow envelopes for cash offerings & include your name.)

Stand as you are able

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew aright 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:

"Jesus Loves Me"

¹Jesus loves me! This I know For the bible tells me so; Little ones to him belong, They are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

²Jesus loves me! He who died, Heaven's gates to open wide; He will wash away my sin, Let his little child come in. [Refrain]

³Jesus loves me! He will stay Close beside me, all the way; If I love him when I die, He will take me home on high. [Refrain]

HYMNS AND SONGS FOR CHURCH SCHOOLS, Copyright 1962 Augsburg Publishing House

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



The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." Psalm 19:1



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 9/10	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	
	8:00 a.m.	Property Team
	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:00 a.m	Confirmation
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Study
	10:15 a.m.	Worship

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Mon 9/11 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

Tues 9/12 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

> 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours

Wed 9/13 Office Closed

> 12:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study – parsonage

1:30 p.m. Quilters – parsonage

Thurs 9/14 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m Office Hours

> 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours

Fri 9/15 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m Office Hours

Next Sun. **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

> 9:00 a.m. **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m. Confirmation $9:00 \ a.m.$ Adult Study

10:15 a.m. Worship – Holy Communion

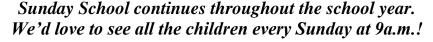


Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors. If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would consider St. John's.

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.

September 3, 2023 General \$3,227.00, MOM – Elam Ministries \$370.00, Mission-Samaritan's Purse \$50.00, Old Stone Church \$70.00, SS Mission \$6.00, Building \$325.00, Organ \$ 20.00 **Total: \$4,068.00**

Attendance: Worship -70, Sunday School - 2 Children, 2 Teachers; Adult Study - 10





Sunday School

Our Sunday school department is still in need of a teacher for grades 1 & 2. Please consider this position.

Contact Kathy Dunn or Rachel Nessel if you feel called to fill this position.

Office hours will be posted in the weekly bulletins. If you would need immediate assistance outside of office hours, text or call Meliss at 361-649-0413.

> If you'd like to receive your monthly church newsletter via email, call or text the church office at 361-277-8653.



SAVE THE DATE

On October 29th, 2023, we will celebrate Reformation Sunday with guest speaker, Pastor Amy Little of NALC. More information is to come in the upcoming bulletins and newsletter.

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church Fall Festival

On Sunday, September 24, 2023, Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic church will be holding their annual BBQ Meal, Raffle, & Country Store from 11 AM – 1 PM.

Dine-in or to-go plates will be available for \$12 each. Please come out and join us.



Martin Luther Lutheran Church

On Saturday, September 23, 2023 Martin Luther Lutheran Church will be holding their annual bazaar. They will be serving brisket & sausage Bar-B-Q plates for \$12 at the door from 11 AM – 1:30PM. Dine-In or To-Go. A live auction will be held at 12:30 PM. Come enjoy our good ole' country cookin' & lots more!

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

On Sunday, September 24, 2023, St. Mark's in Cuero will be holding their annual LutherFest. At 9 a.m. the day will begin with worship with Polka Spirit Band playing. The service will be followed by LutherFest Activities (cake walk, country store, silent auction, & kids' activities) and a meal. The meal consists of BBQ Brisket, Sausage, potatoes, green beans, & a dessert. It will be served at 11:20 a.m. Dine-In presale tickets are available for a \$10 donation at the Church Office (361-275-2845) until September 18. Tickets will only be available preevent. Proceeds benefit St. Mark's member scholarships and equipment for the new fenced area.

Mission of the Month for September

Elam Ministries

Today, Elam trains and mentors emerging leaders for effective ministry at a variety of levels and to serve in multiple contexts across the Persian-speaking world. We believe that Iran is at a turning point. By God's grace, despite increasing hostility to the church from Iran's government, we continue to see rapid church growth as the Gospel is proclaimed to Iranians. Therefore, we believe the future holds a significant expansion of ministry efforts in evangelism, discipleship, leadership development and church planting through direct ministry, TV and media.

For the month of September the collection is scrub brushes and small bottles of bleach.

Please note: We have received this notice from Michael Dittrich of the Rosenberg Disaster Warehouse: Dear Friends, The devastation in Maui from the fires is extensive. Many people lost everything they had. If you or your congregation wants to help our neighbors in Christ, here is what you can do. This information comes from Mary Bates, NALC Disaster Response Coordinator. All gift cards and donations of funds are to be sent to the national disaster response warehouse in Ohio. Please label everything for the Maui Fire. Mary is working with her contacts in Hawaii to get supplies & funds where it is needed most. Please keep these folks in your prayers. If you have any questions, please contact me. God Bless You! Michael Dittrich (cell: 281-381-5588)

Address for Warehouse: NALC Disaster Response 16500 Noble Ave. Caldwell, OH 43724

CAMAL House is now set up to receive online donations via Tithe.ly. Just use this QR code below to made secure cash donations with your cell phone.

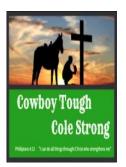


The Quilters are now meeting in the parsonage each Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. Come and join the bee! Donations of clean used sheets & pillowcases can be used. Please leave on the table on the stage.



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.

+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole



Hello everyone! Happy Mother's Day to all you beautiful mothers out there! Hope you all had a blessed day with your families. I'm always behind but want to send out a huge heartfelt thank you to everyone who came out to support the Cole Ohrt Walk Strong Bingo benefit on May 4th. It was an amazing event with around 600 people attending! God was all over this event blessing us in so many ways. I don't have a final count on how much we raised for the foundation but it was a lot! This community is the most supportive and loving of any I've ever known. We are truly grateful. I also want to thank all of those that helped organize, set up, work, or donate toward this event. Without all of you this would not be possible. Cole had such an amazing time and looks forward to this event every year. So if you didn't get to join us this year we'll be doing it again next May!

Hope to see you then. And as always thank you all for your continued prayers for Cole-keep praying!

+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?

Buckets as well as the supplies to fill the buckets are still needed. If you want to just provide the materials for the bucket, they do have some buckets already donated. See the list below (store prices may vary):

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 - 12" X 12" 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 \$1.18 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 \$2.97 ea.

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

Additional Donations

We will also be collecting new and used Bibles as well as prayer books (such as your old portals of prayers). So, if you would like to recycle/reuse these items, you now have a place to bring them for others who have none. If you have questions, please contact Cathie Bettge or Meliss Eckhardt. Thank you!

Our Military and their families:

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, Mrs. Stiles, Ryon Preslar, Joy Meadows, Rylan Caskey, Evelyn Diebel, Dorothy Fay Diebel, Glenn Ruschhaupt, Kay Ohrt, Marlene Fromme, Bobby Zengerle, Debbie Glawson, Steve Cusak

Nursing Home:

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Marjorie Ideus





SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

"Owe no man anything, but to love one another." To me, clearly and simply it means: Not as men, but as Christians, are we under obligations. Our indebtedness should be the free obligation of love. It should not be compulsory and law-prescribed... Love's obligation enables a man to do more than is actually required of him..

— Martin Luther

Sermon on Romans 13, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

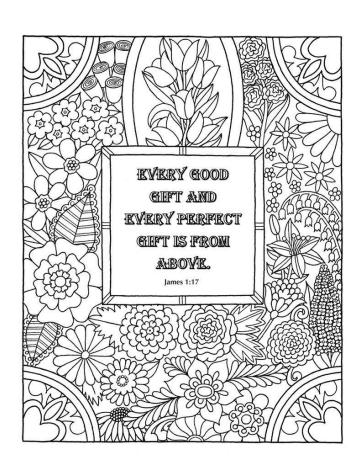


Keep up with St. John online St. John Meyersville

https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville

Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org to view weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters. For those on church premises wishing to worship in their vehicles, tune in to FM 101.5 at 10:15 a.m. Sunday mornings.

If you'd like to receive your monthly church newsletter via email, call or text the church office at 361-277-8653.



A Prayer for Rain

I come before you Father with humble, bended knee; With thankful heart and praises for Thy blessings on me.

Forgive me now; all sin erase; As I seek Thy throne of grace. I come now interceding; For Thy blessing, I am pleading.

Our land is dry; no rain to see.
The birds, the bees, the flowers and the tree;
As man and animals alike,
They all face a terrible plight.

For Thy blessings now I plead;
An abundance of rain we need.
Bless your people now I pray;
And thank you for all that comes our way

In Jesus' name, Amen

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

II Chronicles 7:14

A PLACE TO PUT YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK!