

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Meyersville, Texas
November 12, 2023**

**Watch
therefore,
for you know
neither the day
nor the hour.**

Matthew 25:13



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)

jboor1@juno.com

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 12, 2023

Greeter This Week: Trish Hood

Greeters Next Week: Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt

Reader This Week: Cathie Bettge

Reader Next Week: Dwight Jander

Acolyte This Week: Kinley Nessel

Acolyte Next Week: Shelby Newman

Altar Guild This Month: Cathie Bettge & Brenda Boor

Altar Guild Next Month: M'Liss Moore & Virginia Abrameit

Communion Assistant This Month: Glenn Ruschhaupt

Communion Assistant Next Month: Obert Sagebiel

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.

Worship Notes regarding Today's Service:

For those of you who would prefer to remain in your cars, we will continue to broadcast the service on FM 101.5. You can follow the service in the bulletin as the liturgy, the organ music, hymns with the lyrics by our song leaders, and Pastor John's message will be on the broadcast. Thank you!

*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:

“Bind Us Together”

WOV# 748

Refrain:

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord; bind us together in love.**

**¹There...is only one God. There...is only one King.
There...is only one Body; that...is why we can sing:**

Refrain

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord; bind us together in love.**

**²You are the family of God. You are the promise divine.
You are God’s chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine.**

Refrain

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord; bind us together in love.**

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, eternal God, show mercy to your children who humbly pray, that we who have no confidence in our worth may not be judged but tenderly received. 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

The question of how to be prepared for Jesus' return is answered four times in today's lessons. Being ready for Jesus' return is not passivity on our part; instead, it is an active preparing, an active waiting and serving and doing justice in the world in the name of Christ. There is no reason to fear anything. Christ promised he would return in due time. We await this moment with an active and vibrant faith.

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

¹⁸Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you have the day of the LORD? It is darkness, and not light, ¹⁹as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. ²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? ²¹"I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. ²³Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. ²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

Responsive Reading

Psalm 70

¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

**²Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**

³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, because they are ashamed.

**⁴Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"**

⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me speedily, O God.

⁶You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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 25:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

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

¹{Jesus said to the disciples,} “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated

MESSAGE

Johnna Picard

SERMON HYMN:

“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”

LBW#31

**¹Wake, awake, for night is flying,
The watch-men on the heights are crying:
Awake, Jerusalem, at last.
Midnight hears the welcome voices,
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:
“Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The bride-groom comes! Awake;
Your lamps with gladness take!”
Alleluia! Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord,
Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.**

²Zion hears the watch-men singing,
And in her heart new joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom,
For her Lord comes down all-glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious.
Her star is ris'n; her light is come.
O come, you Blessed One,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
Sing hosanna! We go until the halls we view
Where you have bid us dine with you.

³Now let all the heav'ns adore you,
And saints and angels sing before you.
The harps and cymbals all unite.
Of one pearl each shining portal,
Where, dwelling with the choir immortal,
We gather round your dazzling light.
No eye has seen, no ear
Has yet been trained to hear.
What joy is ours! Crescendos rise; your halls resound;
Hosannas blend in cosmic sound.

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.**

BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES

SHARING THE PEACE

L The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

L Let us share the peace.

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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:

“Soon and Very Soon”

WOV#744

**¹Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King,**

Refrain

Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!

**²No more cryin’ there we are goin’ to see the King,
no more cryin’ there we are goin’ to see the King,
no more cryin’ there we are goin’ to see the King,**

Refrain

Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!

**³No more dyin’ there we are goin’ to see the King!
no more dyin’ there we are goin’ to see the King!
no more dyin’ there we are goin’ to see the King!**

Refrain

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

**⁴Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King,**

Refrain

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

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



Psalms 84:11

For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Today 11/12 Twenty-Fourth 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
- **Christmas Child Shoeboxes DUE TODAY!!!****

Mon 11/13 Office Closed

Tues 11/14 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

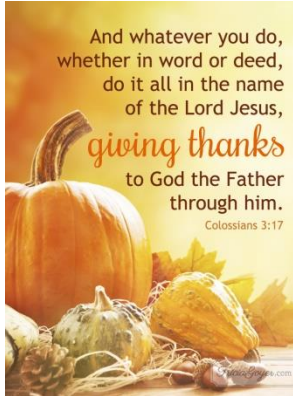
Wed 11/15 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours
 1:30 p.m. Quilters – parsonage
 6:00 p.m. Mission/Evangelism Team Mtg.
 7:00 p.m. Men’s Bible Study

Thurs 11/16 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours
 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. Pastor’s Office Hours

Fri 11/17 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

Next Sun. Twenty-Fifth 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
- **Poinsettia Orders Due Today!!!****



Have a Blessed Week!



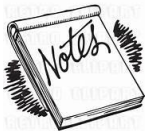
Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors. If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would consider St. John’s.

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.

November 5, 2023 General \$2,630.00, MOM – Christmas Families \$780.00, Cemetery \$10.00, Old Stone Church \$40.00, SS Mission-1st Sunday \$20.05, Building \$225.00, Organ \$20.00, **Total: \$3,725.05**

Attendance: Worship - 68, Sunday School - 9 Children, 4 Teachers; Adult Study - 11

***Sunday School continues throughout the school year.
We’d love to see all the children every Sunday at 9a.m.!***



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.



Portals of Prayers for October – December are available in the narthex.

Samaritans Purse Christmas Child Shoeboxes



Our Samaritans Purse Christmas Child shoeboxes are available in the narthex and the wings for pick-up. Get yours early so you can start filling it with love.

The Samaritans Purse Shoeboxes are due TODAY, November 12. Please include your \$10 check for shipping. ~ Cathie Bettge

Christmas Poinsettias



St. John will be selling poinsettias to decorate the Church for Christmas Eve Worship Services. You can take your poinsettias home after the December 24th, 10:00 pm service. Forms are available in the Narthex, and in the back of today's bulletin. **Deadline for submitting is Sunday, November 19, 2023, NEXT SUNDAY. The FINAL ORDER will be placed after church next Sunday.** Price per plant is \$15.00.

Cornucopia



Donations of freshly harvested fruits and vegetables can be brought to the church at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 22. Volunteers will assemble the cornucopia for the Thanksgiving Eve service.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

St. John will have a Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service on Wednesday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m.



Decorating of Church for Christmas

Plans are being made to decorate the church for Christmas on November 26th, 2023 at 3:00 p.m... Watch bulletins for further details. Thank you!



SAVE THE DATE

Our Christmas Program will be held December 17 at 6 p.m. During this program, our youth will retell the story of Christmas as the stars who were twinkling away the night Jesus was born. Reception to follow in the Parish Hall.



FYI: A set of keys was found outside the Parish Hall. Please contact the office if you've lost yours.



We need you to say YES! The Worship Team is "blowing the dust off" the reenactment of the "Living Last Supper." Please see the article in October's newsletter for more information and contact Johnny Jank and simply say, "How can I help?"

Mission of the Month for November

Christmas Families

We will be collecting items for our Christmas Families again this year. Please look/listen for additional information in the Sunday Bulletins and during announcements. Thank You!

For the month of November the collection is toothbrushes individually wrapped and travel size toothpaste.

CAMAL House is now set up to receive online donations via Tithe.ly. Just use this QR code below to make 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.

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?

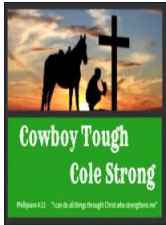
- Soap: 1 regular size bar or 2-3 travel size*
- Shampoo: 2 or 3 travel size* (or 1 small size)
- Lotion: 1 or 2 travel size*

*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 gently used Bibles as well as prayer books. If you have questions, please contact Cathie Bettge or Meliss Eckhardt. Thank you!



+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole ❤️

Cole is doing well and continues to work hard. 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)***



Thank you for all your prayers, thoughts, concerns, and cards.

Bobby is doing very well. Thank You!

~ Phillyce & Bobby ~

Our Military and their families:

Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves

Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Fort Hood

Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Florida

Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, 2-4 CaB, Charlie Company, Black Hawk Medevac Pilot, Fort Carson, Colorado

Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force

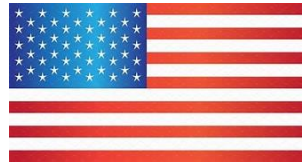
Michael Petrash II - 1st LT, United States Army

Andrew Washington, L CPL - USMC, Pensacola, FL

Jacob Redmond - USMC, San Diego, CA

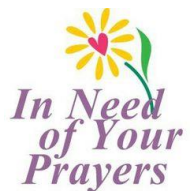
Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, North Carolina

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, Marlene Fromme, Debbie Glawson, Debbie Webb, Steve Cusack, Laura Whitson, Family of Kay Ohrt, Family of Wyatt Hassel, Pay Hays, Rachel Nessel, Beverly Bodden



Nursing Home:

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Marjorie Ideus

**Continue to Pray for Rain! Trust in the Lord and He will provide!
Be Positive and carry an umbrella with you! ☺
So Very Thankful for what we have already received.**



SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

We should learn to cling to the Word with patience and not let go of it even though the period of waiting for help last a hundred years. For God delays action out of grace, in our best interest, that our faith may become strong and great and He may give more abundantly what He has promised.

- Martin Luther

Comment on Genesis 31




A special place for you to write notes and reminders:

Name: _____ Date: _____


Fall Word Scramble

Unscramble the words and write the letters in the boxes. Use the letters in the shaded boxes to form a new word that answers the riddle.


ULQIT 

LAVEES


BEEESTRMP

SVRTAEH 

TECTHUNS

AUMUTN 

ATOLFLOB

 Q. What do you get when you drop a pumpkin?

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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.