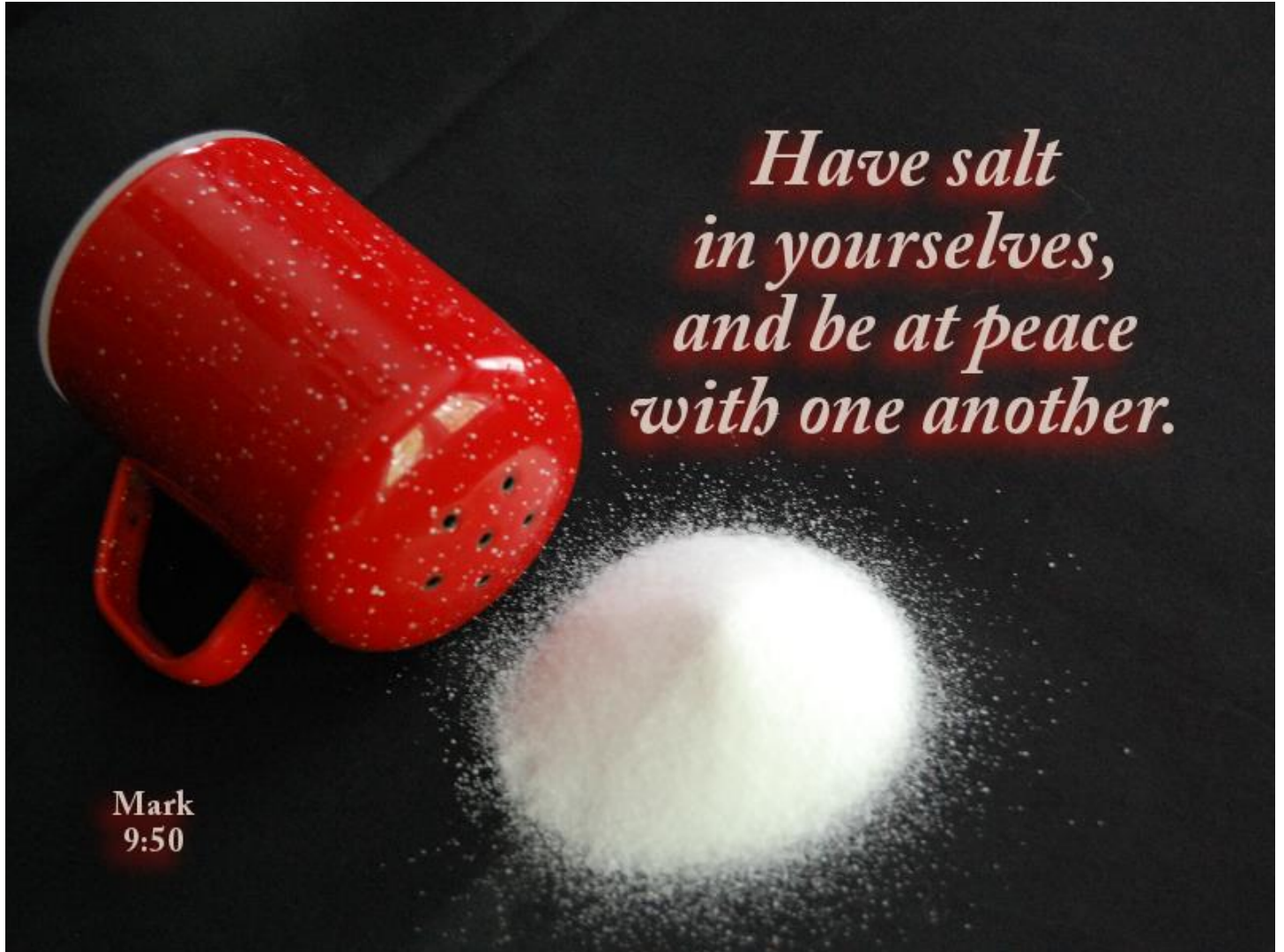


**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Meyersville, Texas  
September 29, 2024**



**Mark 9:50**

## 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](mailto:jboor25@yahoo.com)

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

### **Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, September 29, 2024**

**Greeters This Week:** Kay & Dennis Nagel

**Greeters Next Week:** Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt

**Reader This Week:** LaRae Kelley

**Reader Next Week:** Neal Moritz

**Acolyte This Week:** Shelby Newman

**Acolyte Next Week:** Kaleigh Newman

**Altar Guild This Month:** Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

**Altar Guild Next Month:** Cathie Bettge & Brenda Boor

**Communion Assistant This Month:** Jeff Zengerle

**Communion Assistant Next Month:** Pam Haun



**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 prepare for worship with silent meditation at this time.*

**PRELUDE: *Opening Voluntary***  
**RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS PRAISES AND CONCERNS**

*John Zundel*

*Stand as you are able*

**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,

**C 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:**

*“I Love Your Kingdom, Lord”*

**LBW #368**

**<sup>1</sup>I love your kingdom, Lord, The place of your abode;  
The Church our blest Redeemer saved With his own precious blood.**

**<sup>2</sup>I love your Church, O God! Its walls before you stand,  
Dear as the apple of your eye And graven on your hand.**

**<sup>3</sup>Beyond my highest joy I prize its heav’nly ways,  
Its sweet communion, solemn vows, Its hymns of love and praise.**

**<sup>4</sup>Sure as your truth shall last, To Zion shall be giv’n  
The brightest glories earth can yield, And brighter bliss of heav’n.**

**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**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

L Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**C 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,

**C O Almighty and most Merciful God, through your bountiful goodness, keep us from all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that you would have us do. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **AS WE GATHER**

The God who created everything out of nothing is the same God who continues to work through humanity. Moses begged God to take away the burden of his leadership responsibilities. Instead of removing Moses from his call, God provided further evidence of his providence and care. When the disciples saw a man not of their group cast out demons, Jesus assured them it was good and right.

## **FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29**

<sup>4</sup>The rabble that was among {the Israelites} had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, “Oh that we had meat to eat! <sup>5</sup>We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. <sup>6</sup>But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

<sup>10</sup>Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the LORD blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased. <sup>11</sup>Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? <sup>12</sup>Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,’ to the land that you swore to give their fathers? <sup>13</sup>Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, ‘Give us meat, that we may eat.’ <sup>14</sup>I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup>If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness.” <sup>16</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you.”

<sup>24</sup>So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. <sup>25</sup>Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it. <sup>26</sup>Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. <sup>27</sup>And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” <sup>28</sup>And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, “My lord Moses, stop them.” <sup>29</sup>But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!”

### **Responsive Reading**

#### **Psalm 104**

**<sup>28</sup>All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.**

<sup>29</sup>You give it to them; they gather it;  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

**<sup>30</sup>You hide your face, and they are terrified;  
you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.**

<sup>31</sup>You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

**<sup>32</sup>May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in all his works.**

<sup>33</sup>He looks at the earth and it trembles; he touches the mountains and they smoke.

**<sup>34</sup>I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.**

<sup>35</sup>May these words of mine please him; I will rejoice in the LORD.

**<sup>36</sup>Let sinners be consumed out of the earth, and the wicked be no more.**

<sup>37</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!

## **SECOND READING: James 5:[1-12] 13-20**

[<sup>1</sup>Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. <sup>2</sup>Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. <sup>4</sup>Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. <sup>5</sup>You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup>You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you. <sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. <sup>12</sup>But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.] <sup>13</sup>Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. <sup>14</sup>Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. <sup>19</sup>My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, <sup>20</sup>let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

*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: Mark 9:38-50**

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>38</sup>John said to {Jesus}, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” <sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>For the one who is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward. <sup>42</sup>Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup>And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell,

to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>‘where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’ <sup>49</sup>For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## MESSAGE

**SERMON HYMN:**

***“Everlasting God”***

**Chris Tomlin**

**Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord  
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord**

**Our God, You reign forever  
Our hope, our Strong Deliverer**

**You are the everlasting God  
The everlasting God  
You do not faint  
You won't grow weary**

**Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord  
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord**

**Our God, You reign forever  
Our hope, our Strong Deliverer**

**You are the everlasting God  
The everlasting God  
You do not faint  
You won't grow weary**

**You're the defender of the weak  
You comfort those in need  
You lift us up on the wings  
Like eagles**

Our God, You reign forever  
Our hope, our Strong Deliverer

'Cause You are, You are the everlasting God  
The everlasting God  
You do not faint  
You won't grow weary

You're the defender of the weak  
You comfort those in need  
You lift us up on the wings  
Like eagles

From everlasting to everlasting  
God, You are everlasting

Songwriters: Brenton Brown, Ken Riley. For non-commercial use only. Data From: [Musixmatch](https://www.musixmatch.com)

*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.**

### **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: Morning Prayer**

*Nolana Loop*

*(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:**

*“Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*

**LBW #259**

<sup>1</sup>Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, Fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
Let us each, your love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace.  
Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, Trav’ling through this wilderness

<sup>2</sup>Thanks we give and adoration For your Gospel’s joyful sound.  
May the fruits of your salvation In our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful, ever faithful To your truth may we be found.

<sup>3</sup>Savior, when your love shall call us From our struggling pilgrim way,  
Let no fear of death appall us, Glad your summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever Reign with you in endless day.

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 - *Sing Aloud to God, Our Strength***

*by Robert J. Hughes*

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

### **Today 9/29 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Confirmation  
9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
9:00 a.m. Adult Study  
10:15 a.m. Worship

**Mon 9/30** Office Closed

Pastor on Vacation – September 30 – October 5

**Tues 10/1** 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours

**Wed 10/2** 9:00 a.m.-2:00 pm. Office Hours  
1:30 p.m. Quilters

**Thurs 10/3** 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Office Hours

**Fri 10/4** Office Closed

**Sat 10/5** 1:30 p.m. Parish Ed Meeting

*Have a Blessed Week!*

### **Next Sun. Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Confirmation  
9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
9:00 a.m. Adult Study  
10:15 a.m. Worship – 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.*

*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*

## **OFFERING & ATTENDANCE**

**Sunday, September 22, 2024** General \$6,290.25, MOM – NAL Seminary \$970.00, Sunday School \$7.00, Cemetery \$20.00, Building \$310.00, Youth \$26.00 **Total: \$7,623.25**

**Attendance:** Worship – 64, Sunday School - 11 Children, 3 Teacher, Adult Study – 11

## **WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A COPY OF THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER BEFORE IT EVER GOES IN THE MAIL AND SAVE MONEY AS WELL?**

If so, contact the church office at [stjohnelutheran@juno.com](mailto:stjohnelutheran@juno.com) or by phone (361-277-8653) with your email address and we will be happy to send you The Church Bell via your email. This will save the church money spent on postage, paper, and copying. What a great stewardship idea!!!



**Romans 8:28**

**“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”**

## **Mission of the Month for September** **North American Lutheran Seminary**

Upheld by world-class faculty, students have time and opportunity to reflect on the depth and beauty of their faith and be properly formed. The NALS has a commitment to truly cultivate the foundation and the deep roots necessary for tomorrow's pastors and church leaders to be the stewards of classic, orthodox, biblical theology in preparation for Word and Sacrament ministry in the North American Lutheran Church (NALC).

### **NALC WAREHOUSE & NALC WAREHOUSE-ROSENBERG**

If you are giving a donation to one of these warehouses, please indicate which one. This designation must be made in order for the funds to be sent to your donation, Minnesota or Texas. *Rosenberg Warehouse checks need to be written out to Peace Lutheran Church with Rosenberg Warehouse on the memo line.*

**For the month of September, the collection for the Rosenberg Disaster Warehouse is ONLY THE ITEMS for flood buckets and health kits.**

#### **NALC Disaster Response**

##### **What's in a Flood Bucket?**

- 1 roll paper towels**
- 1 powder cleanser (like comet)**
- 1 floor cleaner – small! (like Pine Sol, Fabuloso)**
- 1 bottle bleach – small! (1/2 gal. or smaller)**
- 1 pair rubber gloves**
- 1 scrub brush**
- 1 pair leather gloves**
- 1 pair cotton gloves**
- 2 contractor trash bags (3 mil)**
- 2 rags**

##### **What's in a Health Care Kit?**

- 1 bath towel**
- 1 wash cloth**
- 1 shampoo (2 if travel size)**
- 1 bar of soap (2 if travel size)**
- 1 toothbrush (individually sealed)**
- 1 pack of floss**
- 1 toothpaste (2 if travel size)**
- 1 comb**
- 1 deodorant**
- 1 nail clippers**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Sunday School**

*Come deepen your faith, connect with friends, and grow closer to God every Sunday at 9 a.m.! All youth are welcome— we'd love to see you there!*

***"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." ~Proverbs 22:6~***

### **Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church Fall Festival**

**TODAY**, Sunday, September 29, 2024, Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic church will be holding their annual BBQ Meal, Raffle, & Country Store, & Live Auction from 11 AM – 1 PM.

Dine-in or to-go plates will be available for \$15 each. Please come out and join us.

### **ATTENTION: ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS**

The biannual meeting for St. John's Altar Guild will be Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. PLEASE, at least one member from each team is asked to attend for changes in procedures, reminders, discussion. Thank you!

~ Carol Ann ~





## TEAM LEADERS

Planning for the 2025 Budget starts now! Team Leaders please have your budget requests in to the Finance Team/Office no later than Friday, November 1, 2024. Year-to-date figures will be available for pick up from the church office the first week in October.

All requests will be considered. Thank you!

~ St. John Finance Team ~

## 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. More information to come at a later time.



## 26<sup>TH</sup> Alton C. Allen Historical Conference

### Preservation of Historic Texas Cemeteries: A Shared Responsibility

This conference will be held October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Hallettsville, Texas. Pre-registration by October 12, 2024 guarantees you a ticket. For more information, please pick up a pamphlet from the table in the Narthex. Thank you!

## REFORMATION SUNDAY

### SAVE THE DATE



On October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, we will celebrate Reformation Sunday with guest speaker, the Rev. Dr. Mark Braaten of NALC. The Rev. Dr. Mark Braaten is the proud grandfather of three girls – Skylar and Scarlett who recently turned one and Sophia who is 8 months. He has been married to Karen for 37 years and has three children – Amber (married to Luke), Christopher (married to Rachel), and Cassandra. Pastor Mark takes great pride in being a native Minnesotan, now he and Karen reside just outside of Tyler, Texas. Pastor Mark earned a Bachelor's degree in Religion from Augsburg College in Minneapolis in 1977. He graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul in 1981 with a Master of Divinity degree and again in 2003 with a Doctor of Ministry degree. He was ordained as a pastor in 1981. He has served as a congregational pastor for 40 years, with congregations in Kentucky, Colorado, New Mexico, Minnesota, and Texas. He has been active in the North American Lutheran Church since its beginning. He presently serves as the Southern Area Assistant to the Bishop of the North American Lutheran Church. Pastor Mark is the author of a number of books, including *Come Lord Jesus A Study of Revelation*, *Prayer as Joy*, *Prayer as Struggle*, *Ruth – The Adult Version*, and a new book on Revelation entitled *Engaging Revelation* which should be published this spring. His passions are studying the Bible, particularly the book of Revelation, spending time with family, swimming, and fishing.



Mark Braaten and best friend Bethge

Rev. Dr. Braaten has two missions that are his favorite. The first is Cristo Rey Lutheran Church in Joliet, IL. They are a new Spanish Speaking mission started in a suburb of Chicago. Pastor Keith Forni is the mission developer. They just began about 6 months ago and have about 30 in worship. They have great potential in a predominately Spanish speaking area. The second is Hillside Lutheran Church in Spring Hill, Kansas. They are a small congregation that was ELCA. They decided to leave the ELCA and the ELCA gave them all sort of grief. The ELCA threatened law suits and their pastor left. It was difficult. The congregation did successfully leave the ELCA and join the NALC. They have some grant money that they need to refund of the ELCA so they have financial challenges, but they are a great group of people and determined to do ministry.

## Seeking Donations for the Basement

We are so grateful for the donations we've already received for the newly renovated church basement! With a TV, game tables, and a rug in place, the space is coming together. However, we still need a few more items to complete the room. We're looking for: couches, armchairs, or bean bags; coffee bar setup (Keurig, mugs, etc.), fridge, bookshelves. If you're able to help, please contact Rachel Nessel at (361) 571-9228.

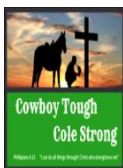
Thank you for your continued generosity and support for our youth! ~ Rachel Nessel

# **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

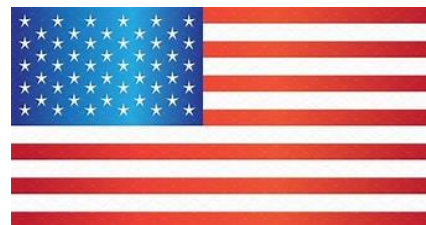


**+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole:** Taken from Facebook **Cowboy Tough Cole Strong:** Hello everyone! Updating some after the amazing fundraiser for the Cole Ohrt Walk Strong Foundation. It was another sold out event with the building packed with wonderful supporters of this cause. As always, it was humbling to see that many people come out and support something so special to mine and Cole's hearts. I am so thankful to everyone who sponsored our event this year and to all who donated prizes, money, or just their time to help make this night such a huge success. We appreciate each and every one of you. Also a big thank you to all who came that night- we hope to see you again next year! If you truly want to see God's love and generosity first hand you need to come to this event. For me it is the most humbling and awesome experience I've ever been blessed to be a part of! 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)***



### **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, stationed overseas (location unknown)  
Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force  
Michael Petrash II - 1<sup>st</sup> LT, United States Army  
Andrew Washington, L CPL - USMC, Pensacola, FL  
Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, North Carolina  
Zach McBrayer – 1<sup>st</sup> LT, U.S. Air Force, Germany



### **For Those Serving in the Armed Forces**

Shepherd and defender of our souls, we pray you would protect and bless those who serve in places of conflict, and for the sake of others, must stand in harm's way. Keep those who serve in armed forces around the world safe in your keeping [especially ...]. Bring them home in safety to their loved ones. Grant healing, courage, and peace of heart to those who return from deployment with wounds both visible and invisible. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

### **PHONE PRAYER CHAIN (immediate or long term needs):**

If you have a prayer request or wish to be on the prayer chain, please contact Mary Wagner (361)275-9500. We ask that when placing a name on the prayer chain, you would please call back weekly with an update on the person's condition. In case of long term prayer needs, please give monthly updates. 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.

### **CHURCH PRAYER LIST:**

**Please remember these individuals in your prayers:** Hunter Jacob, Cole Ohrt, Ryon Preslar, Evelyn Diebel, Dorothy Fay Diebel, Fred "Sandy" Sanders, Ryler James Jacob, Billy Guenther, Pamela Allen, Glenn Ruschhaupt, Dennis Harvey, Mike Rangnow, James Turner, Pat Hays, Dot Ball, Tristan Benignus, the Family of Wilburn Oehlke; also, remember to pray for our members who have fallen away from St. John.

### **Nursing Home:**

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Marjorie Ideus



## SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

Moses was a mediator for the Jewish people alone; it was to them that he gave the law. Therefore one must shut the yaps of the factious spirits who say, "Thus says Moses," etc. Here you simply reply: "Moses does not pertain to us." If I were to accept Moses in one commandment, I would have to accept the entire Moses.

- Martin Luther -

"How Christians Should Regard Moses"



Keep up with St. John online  
St. John Meyersville

<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>

Or visit our website at: [stjohnmeyersville.org](http://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.*