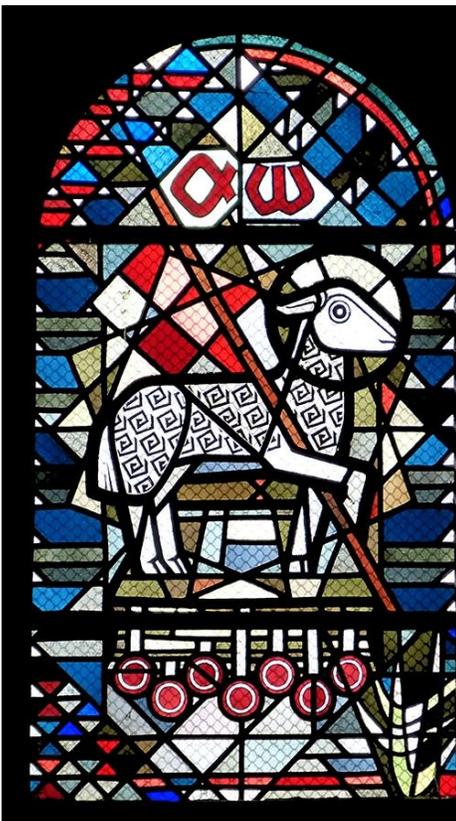


**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Meyersville, Texas
May 4, 2025**

**GRAVE DECORATION SUNDAY
Church Under the Trees**



**I saw a Lamb
standing,
as though
it had been
slain.**

REVELATION 5:6

Revelation 5:6

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)

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Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

GRAVE DECORATION SUNDAY

Church Under the Trees

Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 4, 2025

Greeters This Week: The Hays Family

Greeters Next Week: Marv & Norrean Sager

Reader This Week: Wanda Hays

Reader Next Week: Kathy Dunn

Acolyte This Week: Kinley Nessel

Acolyte Next Week: Shelby Newman

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



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.

HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to commune with us if, as a baptized Christian, you believe that you are a sinner and in need of God's forgiveness; that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the Sacrament; that this is more than a symbolic act, but a way God proclaims forgiveness to us who are repentant.

May your participation increase your faith and strengthen your love for God and one another.

(For those attending, please fill out a tan communion card.)

*The Service begins with the first notes of the prelude.
Please prepare for worship with silent meditation at this time.*

AS WE GATHER

Jesus appeared to his disciples after they had spent a long night fishing with no results. He urged them to cast their nets on the right side of the boat, and they were surprised with a tremendous catch of fish. God always provides for us; sometimes, though, it takes eyes of faith to see. As those who follow Jesus, we put our complete trust in his loving care, knowing that he sees our every need, physical and spiritual.

PRELUDE:

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

L Christ has risen from the dead.

C God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

WELCOME AND WORSHIP NOTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS PRAISES AND CONCERNS

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.

¹Beautiful Savior, King of Creation,
 Son of God and Son of Man!
 Truly I'd love thee, Truly I'd serve thee,
 Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

²Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,
 Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
 Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer,
 He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

³Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,
 Bright the sparkling stars on high;
 Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
 Than all the angels in the sky.

⁴Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
 Son of God and Son of Man!
 Glory and honor, Praise, adoration,
 Now and forevermore be thine!

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 (*Spoken*)

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their mercy and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE (*Sung*)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you. (*Spoken*)

L Let us pray

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you raised up this fallen world. Teach us whom you have rescued from endless death to have the fullness of eternal joy, through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-22

¹Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. ⁴And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" ⁵And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. ²⁰And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." ²¹And all who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" ²²But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 30

¹I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

²O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.

³You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴Sing to the LORD, you servants of his; give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

⁵For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, his favor for a lifetime.

⁶Weeping may spend the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁷While I felt secure, I said, “I shall never be disturbed.
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.”

⁸Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁹I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with the LORD, saying,

**¹⁰“What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?”**

¹¹Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper.”

**¹²You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.**

¹³Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:[1-7] 8-14

[¹Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ²And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” ³And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.” ⁶And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne.] ⁸And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.” ¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying

with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

GOSPEL VERSE (*Sung*)

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

GOSPEL READING: John 21:1-14 [15-19]

L The Holy Gospel according to John, the 21st chapter.

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

GOSPEL: John 21:1-14[15-19]

¹After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, “Children, do you have any fish?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶He said to them, “Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off. ⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. [¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”]

L The Gospel of the Lord

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

Please be seated.

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

“In the Garden”

**¹I come to the garden alone, While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, Falling on my ear, The song of God discloses.**

Refrain:

*And He walks with me, and he talks with me,
And He tells me I am his own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there, None other has ever known.*

**²He speaks, and the sound of his voice Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody That he gave to me Within my heart is ringing. [Refrain]**

**³I'd stay in the garden with him Tho' the night around me be falling,
But he bids me go; Thro' the voice of woe,
His voice to me is calling. [Refrain]**

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 one God, the Father, the Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he arose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all the 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.**

Each petition ends with “...Lord, in your mercy.” The congregation responds with “Hear our prayer.”

L Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Please be seated

TEMPLE TALK - Old Stone Church Historical Committee President, Bruce Weise

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: *(All loose and non-designated offerings received today will go to the maintenance of the Old Stone Church. Thank you!)*

Stand as you are able

OFFERTORY *(Sung)*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

L Merciful Father,

C We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of our gracious love. Receive them for the same of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you. *(Spoken)*

L Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C *(Sung)* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

L Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,

That all those who believe in him should not perish,

But have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation

You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,

That we may receive our Lord

With a living faith as he comes to us

In his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

L In the night in which he was betrayed

Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying;

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people
For the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

L Come for the Lord's Table is ready. (*Sung*)

C **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

HOLY COMMUNION

L May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

POST COMMUNION (*Sung*)

C **Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Let us pray;

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN:

***"The Old Stone Church in the Vale"* (modified)**

¹**There's a church in the val-ley by the twelve mile, No love-li-er place in the dale;
No spot is so dear to my child-hood. As the old sto-ne church in the vale.**

*Chorus: O, come, come, come, come, come, To the church by the twelve mile,
O come to the church in the dale. No spot is so dear to my child-hood,
As the old sto-ne church in the vale.*

²**How sweet on a clear Sab-bath morn-ing, To list to the clear ringing bell;
It's tones so sweetly are call-ing, O come to the church in the vale. [*Chorus*]**

³**From the church in the valley by the twelve mile, When day fades away into night,
I would fain from this spot of my child-hood, Wing my way to the mansions of light. [*Chorus*]**

After the singing of the hymn, we gather around the cemetery for the Graveside Service Honoring the Deceased.

GRAVESIDE SERVICE HONORING THE DECEASED

L Let us pray. Almighty God, by the death and burial of Jesus, you have destroyed death and sanctified the graves of all saints. Keep our brothers and sisters, whose bodies are here laid to rest, in the company of all saints and, at the last day, raise them up to share with all faithful people the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord.

C Amen

PSALM 23 (read responsively)

L The LORD is my shepherd;

C I shall not want.

L He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

C he leadeth me beside the still waters.

L He restoreth my soul:

C he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

L Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

C for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

L Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

C thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

L Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

C and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

CLOSING 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.

Chorus:

**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. [*Chorus*]

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. [*Chorus*]

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

L Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Grave Decoration Sunday & Church Under the Trees



LOG CHURCH - 1851

All are invited to join us for a potluck lunch to be served immediately following the Worship service in the Parish Hall. All visitors are welcome to join us for the potluck even if you haven't brought a dish. We'll have plenty! Please stay awhile after lunch and take a stroll thru the cemetery and Old Stone Church!.



STONE CHURCH - 1866



James 1:17

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”

[As we appreciate the beauty of May, we are reminded of God's unchanging goodness and generosity. This verse calls us to recognize and give thanks for the blessings in our lives.]

www.prayerlit.com/bible-verses-for-may



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

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 5/4

GRAVE DECORATION SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
10:15 a.m.



Sunday School
Adult Study
Worship – Communion
GRAVE DECORATION DAY
Church Under the Trees
Pot Luck Luncheon

Mon 5/5

Office Closed

Tues 5/6

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Pastor's Office Hours
Office Hours

Wed 5/7

9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.

Office Hours
Quilters

Thurs 5/8

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Office Hours
Pastor's Office Hours

Fri 5/9

Office Closed

Sat 5/10

1:30 p.m.

Parish Ed. Meeting

Next Sun.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Happy Mother's Day!!!

9:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
10:15 a.m.

Sunday School
Adult Study
Worship-Communion
Confirmation Sunday

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.

OFFERING & ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 27, 2025 General \$4,133.00, MOM- (April) – South TX Children's Ministries \$140.00, Sunday School \$34.01, Cemetery \$1,000.00, Old Stone Church \$1,020.00, Building \$100.00, Youth \$540.00, **Total: \$6,967.01**

Attendance: Worship – 93; Sunday School - 14 Children, 4 Teachers; Adult Study – 9

**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 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!!!

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, national warehouse or Texas warehouse. *Rosenberg Warehouse checks need to be written out to Peace Lutheran Church with Rosenberg Warehouse on the memo line.*

NALC Disaster Response

What's in a Flood Bucket?

- 1 five gallon bucket with lid
- 1 roll paper towels
- 1 powder scouring cleanser (like comet)
- 1 floor cleaner – small! (like Pine Sol, Fabuloso)
- 1 bottle bleach – small! (1/2 gal. or smaller)
- 1 scrub brush
- 1 pair rubber gloves (size L preferred, reusable)
- 1 pair leather gloves (size L preferred)
- 1 pair cotton gloves (size L preferred)
- 2 large contractor trash bags (3 mil)
- 2 rags

What's in a Health Care Kit?

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

We will also be collecting new and gently used Bibles of any language as well as prayer books for Disaster Relief. If you have questions, please contact Cathie Bettge. Thank you!

Rosenberg Disaster Warehouse Collection

We will be collecting bath towels & washcloths for the month of April for the Rosenberg warehouse.

Additional Donations: Used Portals of Prayers are also being collected and delivered to Victoria Christian Assistance Ministries in Victoria. If you have questions, please contact Margie Swannack. Thank you!

Mission of the Month for April

South Texas Children's Ministries

STCH Ministries is a faith-based, nonprofit organization that has been caring for children and families since 1952. Today we have nine distinct ministries that work to show the love of Christ to each and every child and family that God sends our way. Join us in healing hearts and sharing hope.

5th Annual Kickin It for Cole Ohrt Walk Strong 2025

- Thursday, May 8, 2025 -

Doors open at 5:00 PM. Bingo starts at 6:30 PM ~ Friar Ag Center, Cuero, TX

For tickets & more information call (361)648-8147 or (361)578-2257



Dear St. John's Lutheran Church family: Thank you for your prayers, cards, memorials, and your kindness during Jay's recent illness. God bless each of you.

The Jay Bramlette Family

UPCOMING EVENTS



Every Sunday - 9:00 A.M. - Sunday School -

Come deepen your faith, connect with friends, and grow closer to God!

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~

Each Sunday - Portals of Prayer –

April - June Portals of Prayer are available for pick-up in the narthex.

Sunday, May 4, 2025 – Grave Decoration Day (Church Under the Trees)

The Grave Decoration Service Under the Trees will be on Sunday, May 4, 2025. A Pot Luck Luncheon will be held in the parish hall following the service. Please bring one meat dish and one side dish or dessert. Hope to see you there!

Sunday, May 4, 2025 – Youth Group Silent Auction

Items are set up in the Parish Hall for the youth's silent auction. Last day to bid on items is May 4 up until 11:30 AM. Winners will be announced at the Pot Luck Luncheon. Proceeds are for the Youth Group's Summer Camp

Sunday, May 11, 2025 – Mother's Day

Saturday, May 17, 2025 – Youth Group Event

May 17th at 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. there will be a Youth Group Gathering. We will play games and volleyball. A devotional will be held at the campfire and a taco bar with chips and dips will be available for the youth to enjoy. ~ Sara Newman

Sunday, May 18, 2025 – Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for May 18th, 2025.

Confirmands are: Kaleigh Newman, Shelby Newman, & Kinley Nessel



Wednesday, May 21, 2025 – Mission Evangelism Meeting

Friday, May 23, 2025 – High School Graduations

Sunday, May 25, 2025 – St. John ~ Memorial Day Service

We will have a Memorial Day service on Sunday, May 25, 2025 to honor & remember all Military Men & Women. We have a running list for the bulletin that we have used the last several years. If someone has passed away in the past year, or you know of any new military personnel, please let the office know by calling or texting 361-277-8653 or by emailing us at stjohnvlutheran@juno.com. Thank you!



Monday, May 26, 2025 – Memorial Day

Thursday, May 29, 2025 – Ascension of the Lord

Saturday, May 31, 2025 – Evening Worship Service in Parish Hall

This will be an alternate service to the traditional Sunday morning service.

Sunday, June 1, 2025 – Graduation Sunday

Graduation Sunday at St. John is on the horizon. We will be recognizing all 2025 Kinder, 8th grade, High School & College Graduates during this upcoming service.

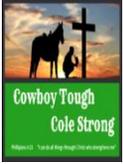
There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board or email: stjohnvlutheran@juno.com with your graduate's information for the bulletin or drop it by the church office.



Altar Flowers in Old Stone Church

Flowers on the Old Stone Church altar are placed to the Glory of God and in memory of those laid to rest in St. John Ev. Lutheran Church Cemetery.

PRAYER REQUESTS

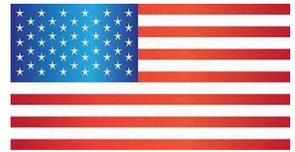


+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole: Taken from Facebook Cowboy Tough Cole Strong (April 3, 2025): Hello everyone! Figured it was time for an update on Cole. He is doing well. He is in his second semester of college and no he still doesn't like it. Of course he never has liked school. He is still dedicated to working hard at therapy even on the days he really doesn't want to go. He is a very determined young man. We were recently talking about how tough life can be not just for him but others we know and Cole said "you just have to keep living and keep believing". I couldn't have said it any better. Coming from someone who has lived through what he has the past seven years I think that's pretty amazing advice for anyone going through tough times. Sometimes we are in Gods waiting room and we just have to trust His timing no matter how frustrating it can be at times. I also wanted to post pictures (see FB) of the Cole Ohrt Walk Strong Foundation fundraiser coming up. Once again we raise money each year to help pay for people with disabilities like Cole's and other serious neurological issues to receive the therapy they need regardless of their insurance coverage or lack of. It is a wonderful event and we invite to come join us. If you're unable to come but would still like to donate I'm also posting multiple underwriting/donating opportunities for anyone who is interested. Well that's all for now. Keep those prayers coming and if there's anything or anyone you would like us to pray for just message us here and we'll be happy to pray for you!♥
+ 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 Cavazos
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Florida
Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, Fort Riley, Kansas
Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force

Michael Petrash II - 1st LT,
United States Army
Andrew Washington, L CPL –
USMC, Pensacola, FL
Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, North Carolina
Zach McBrayer – 1st LT, U.S. Air Force, Germany



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, Glenn Ruschhaupt, Christy Johns, Beatrice Fagg, David Diebel, Obert Sagebiel, Elizabeth Beard, Ray Butler, MayDell Jacob, Mary Wagner, Carol Ann Sagebiel, Cathie Bettge, Deb Wagner, Wanda Hays, Nick Picard; 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

You know the real basis and foundation of your salvation, on which you must rest your confidence in this and all troubles, namely Jesus Christ. .
. If he has overcome the world, surely he has overcome the prince of this world with all his power. And what is his power but death? He is the Conqueror, the true Hero, who in these words, 'Be of good cheer,' gives me the benefit of his victory. I shall cling to him. To these words and comfort I shall hold fast.

~ Martin Luther ~

Letter to his Mother at the Death of his Father, 1531



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.