

St. John Lutheran Church

Senior Pastor, Robin E. Caldwell

Associate Pastor, Evan Mayhew



Breaking The Chains

January 21, 2024 @ 11:00 am

2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435
815-439-2320 | contact@stjohnjoliet.org | stjohnjoliet.org

ST. JOHN CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET Q&A

In anticipation of our annual Congregational Meeting on January 28th, we will host two Q&A sessions for you to ask questions about the 2024 budget and church business. One in person and one on Zoom. We hope to see you there.

21 JANUARY, 2024 | 09:45 AM | TRINITY ROOM

23 JANUARY, 2024 | 07:00 PM | ZOOM

CONGREGATIONAL MTG.

28 JANUARY, 2024 | 09:45 AM | SANCTUARY



January Special Offering: Helping Hands



YOUR GENEROSITY HELPS KEEP PEOPLE



IN THEIR HOMES
UTILITY ASSISTANCE



AT WORK
TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE



HEALTHY
PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE



Commitment
to Community

Use a gold
envelope labeled
Helping Hands or
click "give" at
stjohnjoliet.org

St. John
Lutheran Church

We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church as we gather for this time of worship and reflection on God's love for the world.

The flowers on the altar today are given by the Altar Guild.

To sponsor altar flowers for our worship space, sign up at stjohnjoliet.org or call the church office.



Worship Leaders – Sunday, January 21, 2024 (11:00 am)

Deacon	Eddy Crews
Communion Assistant	Sophia Loch
Greeter	Carolyn Wyss
Acolytes	Emma Bloomquist, Rylie Stevens
Ushers	Renee Lacivita, Roger Wyss
Organ & Piano	Janet Blomquist
Music Director	Tori Hicks
Audio Board	Mike Pragit
Counters	Frank Norem, Norm Roland
Altar Guild	Jinny Buchholtz, Cheryl Lovell

Contact Information

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815-439-2320 contact@stjohnjoliet.org stjohnjoliet.org

 **St. John by the Mall – Joliet, IL**
 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

**Indicates Congregation, Please Stand*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering

P We are gathered today in the name of the Father, Son, and ✠ Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

*Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, creator of darkness and light,
word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.
C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God, our rock and refuge,
C **we pour out our hearts before you.**
We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another and sinned against you.
We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.
Remember your covenant.
Renew your creation.
Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

P The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.
God has spoken:
The time of grace is now.
In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.
By the authority of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
You are God's beloved.
C **Amen.**

***Opening Song**

King of Heaven

Jason Ingram | Paul Baloche Integrity Worship Music | Leadworship Songs |
Sony/ATV Timber Publishing | West Main Music | Windsor Hill Music © 2010 CCLI# 2793209
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Verse 1 Jesus, let Your kingdom come here;
Let Your will be done here in us.
Jesus, there is no one greater.
You alone are Savior.
Show the world Your love.

Chorus King of heaven, come down.
King of heaven, come now;
Let Your glory reign, shining like the day.
King of heaven, come.
King of heaven, rise up.
Who can stand against us?
You are strong to save; in Your mighty name,
King of heaven, come.

Verse 2 We are children of Your mercy,
Rescued for Your glory. We cry,
Jesus, set our hearts towards You,
That ev'ry eye would see You lifted high.

Repeat Chorus

Bridge King of heaven, come.
King of heaven, come.
King of heaven, come.
Oh, King of heaven, come.

Repeat Chorus

***Prayer of the Day**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Great Seeker of the Lost, your son sought out those scattered on the furthest edges of society, those feared and rejected by the world, and brought them back into community. Give us the compassion of Jesus, who valued the life of outcasts above riches or comfort, who declared, in his sacrifice, that all are worthy of love. We pray this in your holy name.

C **Amen.**

Psalm 89:1-8 (NRSVUE)

D A responsive reading from the book of Psalms.
Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our hearts are open.**

I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

**I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to my servant David:

**'I will establish your descendants forever
and build your throne for all generations.'** "

Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.

**For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?
Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,**

a God feared in the council of the holy ones,
great and awesome above all who are around him?

**O LORD God of hosts,
who is as mighty as you, O LORD?
Your faithfulness surrounds you.**

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Acclamation**

“Ancient Words”

By Lynn DeShazo; Copyright © 2001 Integrity's Hosanna! Music CCLI #2793209
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An-cient words, ev-er true, chang-ing me, chang-ing
you; We have come with o - pen
hearts, O let the an-cient words im - part.

***Gospel**

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the fifth chapter.

C **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

Mark 5:1-20 (NRSVUE)

They came to the other side of the sea, to the region of the Gerasenes. And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. He lived among the tombs, and no one could restrain him anymore, even with a chain, for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces, and no one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him, and he shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.” For he had said to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!” Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion, for we are many.” He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the region. Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding, and the unclean spirits begged him, “Send us into the swine; let us enter them.” So, he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine, and the herd, numbering about two thousand, stampeded down the steep bank into the sea and were drowned in the sea.

The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the man possessed by demons sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion, and they became frightened. Those who had seen what had happened to the man possessed by demons and to the swine reported it. Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. But Jesus refused and said to him, “Go home to your own people, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and what mercy he has shown you.” And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone was amazed.

P The gospel of our Lord.
C Praise to you O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon Pastor Evan Mayhew

Hymn of the Day

“Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”

Words and music by John Newton, John P. Rees, Edwin Othello Excell, Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio ©2006 worshiptogether.com songs/sixsteps Music
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Verse 1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I’m found,
Was blind but now I see.

Verse 2 ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed.

Chorus My chains are gone. I’ve been set free,
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy reigns.
Unending love, amazing grace.

Verse 3 The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

Repeat Chorus twice

Verse 4 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine.
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine;
Will be forever mine;
You are forever mine.

***Apostles' Creed**

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

Prayers of the Church

814

Music: John L. Bell, b. 1949. Music: John L. Bell. Text and music © 1995 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.
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P As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

Congregation sings this response:

**Take, oh, take me as I am;
Summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart
And live in me.**

The prayers conclude:

P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

*Sharing the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

You may share the peace of Christ with others.

Those who choose to stay in their pew may wave or give signs of peace.

Offertory

Today we celebrate the gift of God's love for the world. In turn, we share that love by giving what we can. We pray that whatever we offer of our time, money, and talents will be used by the Holy Spirit to create a more purposeful world of love and belonging for one another.

*Please place any financial gifts, attendance sheets, and prayer requests in the offering plate when it comes to you and pass it on to the person next to you or behind you.
May God bless your generous heart!*

Try our new giving platform, *Tithe.ly*



Now Accepting



More information coming in 2024 on Tithe.ly for recurring givers.

*Offertory Response

"Gift to the World"

Words & Music by Robin Mann, ©1993 Robin Mann, CCLI #2793209

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We bring the gifts that You have brought us,



we sing the songs that You are teach - ing to us.



Take our lives, take our time, take our pos - ses - sions.



Make us Your gift to the world, _____



make us Your gift to the world. _____

Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. **Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

*Great Thanksgiving *(spoken)*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

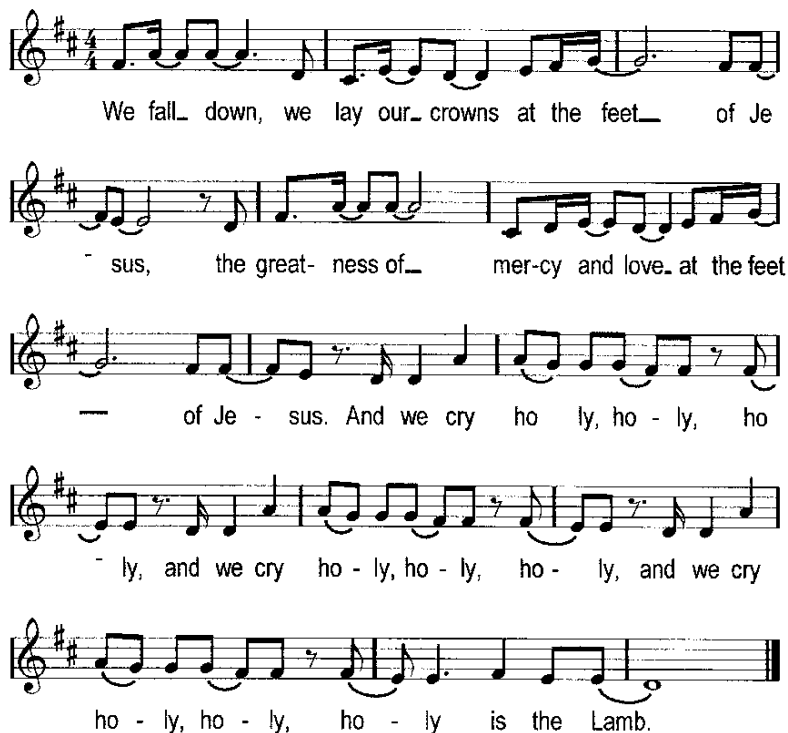
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star, he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water, turned to wine, he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy

"We Fall Down"

By Chris Tomlin, Copyright © 1998 worshiptogether.com songs



We fall down, we lay our crowns at the feet of Je

- sus, the great- ness of mer- cy and love at the feet

— of Je - sus. And we cry ho ly, ho - ly, ho

- ly, and we cry ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, and we cry

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lamb.

*Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

C 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.

***Invitation to Communion**

P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.
C **Thanks be to God!**

Distribution

*We believe Jesus Christ is the host of this table, his true presence is in this meal,
and that you are welcome here!*

St. John provides an introduction to First Communion in the spring to third graders and anyone else who is interested. Younger children typically receive a blessing at the altar rail, but any people with open hands will be offered bread and wine/juice. If you are a parent and prefer your child receive a blessing, place your hand on their head. If you are older and prefer a blessing, please request it of the pastor at the rail.

There are two ways to receive communion today:

Receiving Communion in your pew

You may receive communion in your pew with the elements contained in the communion pod. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion:

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Receiving Communion at the communion rail

- *You will be invited forward by the usher to receive bread from the pastor. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the pastor.*
- *Communion assistants hold trays with red wine in the outer rings of the tray and white grape juice in the inner rings of the tray.*
- *After receiving communion, place the used communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.*
- *At the 5:30pm service, the pastor will offer a blessing before you leave the communion rail.*

Lamb of God

Words and Music by: Ellen Goodwin. Reprinted and streamed with permission.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world.

Lamb of God, have mer - cy, mer - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a-way our sins. Grant us peace,

grant us peace. Grant us peace.

Communion Music

"The Potter's Hand"

By Darlene Zschech © 1997 Hillsong Publishing CCLI#2793209
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- Verse 1** Beautiful Lord, wonderful Saviour,
I know for sure, all of my days are held in Your hand;
Crafted into Your perfect plan.
- Verse 2** You gently call me into Your presence,
Guiding me by Your Holy Spirit;
Teach me, dear Lord, to live all of my life through Your eyes.
- Bridge** I'm captured by Your holy calling,
Set me apart, I know You're drawing me to Yourself;
Lead me, Lord, I pray.
- Chorus** Take me, mold me, use me, fill me;
I give my life to the Potter's hand.
Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me;
I give my life to the Potter's hand.
- Repeat All**
I give my life to the Potter's hand.

***Blessing**

C **Amen.**

***Prayer after Communion**

D Let us pray. Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are
Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to
your glory, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***Benediction**

C **Amen.** (*spoken*)

***Sending Song**

"Christ Be All Around Me"

David Leonard, Jack Mooring, Leeland Mooring, Leslie Jordan © 2014 Jack Mooring Music,
Meaux Jeux Music, Meaux Mercy, The Devil Is A Liar! Publishing, Integrity's Alleluia! Music; CCLI #2793209
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Chorus Above and below me,
Before and behind me;
In every eye that sees me,
Christ be all around me;
Above and below me,
Before and behind me;
In every eye that sees me,
Christ be all around me.

***Sending**

D Go in peace! You are God's beloved.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

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FAITH FIELD TRIPS

St. John
Lutheran Church

WORSHIP

Visit to Joliet Jewish Congregation
01/27 9:30 - 11:30am

Join us!

SHOW

36th Annual Gospel Extravaganza
Off-Site: Naperville
02/10 3:00-5:00pm

Let us know you're interested on
StJohnJoliet.org or scan the QR code to go
directly to the rsvp form



Questions? Contact Janel Eaton, Coordinator - 815-341-7365

Interested in sponsoring Altar Flowers?

Beautiful arrangements can be
bought to honor your loved ones
any time of the year!

01 Anniversaries

02 Birthdays

03 Baptisms

04 Special Occasions and more!

Signup in the church office
or online at stjohnjoliet.org



St. John
Lutheran Church

Coffee Hour

Hosts Needed for 2024

Sundays from 9:45AM - 10:45AM

signup at
stjohnjoliet.org
or at the coffee
hour table

WE PROVIDE THE COFFEE AND
YOU BRING THE TREATS!

SANDY SMITH WILL CONTACT YOU WITH DETAILS



SAVE THE DATES!

**FAITH MILESTONES
BEGIN IN JANUARY 2024**

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!
AGE 3 THROUGH 9TH GRADE

Weekly
SUNDAY
SCHOOL

**9:45AM-
10:45AM**

2024

JANUARY 7TH - MARCH 24TH
1st Grade, Ten Commandments
Classes held during Sunday School

FEBRUARY 4TH-25TH
5th Grade, Apostles Creed
Classes held during Sunday School

APRIL 7TH-28TH & MAY 12TH
4th grade, Lord's Prayer
Classes held during Sunday School

APRIL 21ST & 28TH
2nd Grade, First Bibles
Classes held during Sunday School

MAY 5TH, 2:00PM-5:00PM
3rd Grade, First Communion

MAY 19TH, 11:00AM
Faith Milestone Sunday
All Milestones are Celebrated

An illustration on a teal background with brown polka dots. It features a checkers board with red and purple pieces, two dice (one white with black pips, one red with white pips), a domino, and several playing cards (5 of hearts, 2 of hearts, 8 of hearts, 3 of hearts, and a card with an arrow).

**Let's
Laugh &
Play with
Friends**

**ST. JOHN
GAME
NIGHT**

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 10th**

**EVENT STARTS AT: 06:30 PM
IN THE NARTHEX/TRINITY ROOM**

**GAMES PROVIDED OR
BRING YOUR FAVORITE GAME FROM HOME**

**For more information contact
Penny Collins: 815-342-5339**

An illustration on a purple background with white smoke or mist. A black silhouette of a person is shown from the waist up, with their arms outstretched in a cross shape. A palm frond is visible on the left side.

Place your palm
branches in the basket
in the narthex for the

**Burning
of the
Palms**

**ASH
WEDNESDAY**

**FEB. 14TH
7:00 PM**

**Sunday, February 11th
9:45AM**

St. John
Lutheran Church

January

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

8:30am - 9:30am Worship: Sanctuary
 9:45am - 10:45am Sunday School: Karin Johnson Hall & West Wing
 9:45am - 10:45am Congregational Budget Q&A: Trinity Room
 11:00am - 12:00pm Worship: Sanctuary
 12:15pm - 2:30pm Tween Go!: Karin Johnson Hall
 5:30pm - 7:00pm Girl Scout: Karin Johnson Hall & Narthex

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

9:30am - 11:30am Parent's Day Out (PDO)
 12:00pm - 3:00pm Staff Meeting: Trinity Room
 4:45pm - 7:00pm 4:12 The Next Chapter: Church Office
 5:30pm - 8:00pm A.A. Woman's Group: Karin Johnson Hall
 6:30pm - 8:30pm Monday Night Small Group: Trinity Room
 7:00pm - 8:00pm Al-Anon: West Wing 3 & 4

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

9:30am - 11:30am Parent's Day Out (PDO)
 12:00pm - 4:00pm Staff Calendar Meeting: Trinity Room
 7:00pm - 8:00pm Congregation/Budget Q & A: Zoom
 7:00pm - 8:30pm Boy Scouts: Karin Johnson Hall

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

8:30am - 12:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
 9:30am - 11:30am Parent's Day Out (PDO)
 6:00pm - 7:00pm Youth Choir: Choir Room
 7:00pm - 8:15pm Confirmation: Building
 7:00pm - 9:00pm St. John Chorale: Choir Room
 8:15pm - 9:15pm High School FIRE: Youth Room

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

9:00am - 11:30am Coffee with Friends (Women): West Wing 3 & 4
 9:00am - 1:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
 9:00am - 11:00am East Conference Meeting: Trinity Room/Sanctuary
 9:30am - 11:30am Parent's Day Out (PDO)
 2:00pm - 6:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
 4:00pm - 7:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
 4:00pm - 6:00pm Food Pantry Distribution Online Orders: West Wing
 6:30pm - 7:30pm Friends of the Youth: Trinity Room
 7:00pm - 8:30pm MOPS Setup: Narthex
 7:00pm - 8:00pm A.A. Men's Group: Zoom
 7:00pm - 8:30pm Praise Team: Sanctuary

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26 (Church Office Closed)

9:00am - 11:00am Quilters: West Wing 5
 9:00am - 10:30am Meals on Wheels: Senior Services of Will County, Mark Frost
 9:30am - 11:30am MOPS: Narthex

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

7:00am - 11:00am Food Pantry Volunteer Shifts: Narthex & Karin Johnson Hall
 8:00am - 10:00am Food Pantry Distribution Drive-Thru: Parking Lot
 9:30am - 11:30am Faith Field Trip: Joliet Jewish Congregation Worship: Off-Site
 5:30pm - 6:30pm Worship: Sanctuary

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

8:30am - 9:30am Worship: Sanctuary
 9:45am - 10:45am Sunday School: Karin Johnson Hall & West Wing
 9:45am - 10:15am Congregational Meeting: Sanctuary
 11:00 am - 12:00pm Worship: Sanctuary
 5:30pm - 7:00pm Girl Scout: Karin Johnson Hall & Narthex

***Check "stjohnfood.org" for Food Pantry distribution times and volunteer opportunities.**