

St. John
SHARING
the LOVE of Christ

Worship Series



Loved by God

CALLED TO SERVE

Salvation, Not Sacrifice

Sunday, September 19th

8:30am

St. John Next Weekend September 25-26



Young ADULT MINISTRY

TAILGATE PARTY

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH
NOON - 3PM**

Young Adult Ministry (YAM) is a welcoming new group for adults 23-40 who are looking for a supportive community. No matter where you are in life: parent or single, homeowner or living in the basement, active at church or leaning toward agnostic...all identities, backgrounds, beliefs and disbeliefs, there's a place for you here! Join us as we navigate life together, and rediscover who we are, what we want, and who we want to be in the world. *More tailgate & YAM details on our website.*

Blessing of the Quilts

**September 25 & 26
All 3 services**



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 are given to the glory of God by the Altar Guild. To sponsor altar flowers for our worship space, sign up at the Opportunity Wall in the Narthex or call the church office.

Additional seating is available in the Trinity Room.

Worship Leaders – Sunday 8:30 am

Deacon	Glenn Smith
Communion Assistant	Wendy Eklund
Greeter	Sam Riggi
Ushers	Judy Dachman, Joan Fry, Bob Makowka
Piano & Organ	Janet Blomquist
Audio Board	Nick Jakusz
Livestream Team	Elliott Liss, Dawn MacGregor
Counters	Frank Norem, Norm Roland
Altar Guild	Cheryl Lovell, Maricay Miller

Contact Information

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

 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

Prelude

“Elevazione per Organo”

Bernardo Sabadini

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

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

P Family of faith, we have all been in the place where we've hurt others and God's creation, sometimes without awareness, and sometimes with reactions that spring from pain or defensiveness. This is part of being human.

P God invites us to acknowledge our humanity and learn from our mistakes, letting forgiveness change our hearts. In this time of confession, we seek to learn God's gracious ways.

P Holy God,
C **We react because we see suffering we do not understand.**

P We are skeptical because we know heartbreak that does not seem fair.
C **We withhold attention because sacrifice only feels real when it's our own.**

P Forgive us when we forget that you created the heavens and earth.
C **Forgive us for withholding our pain from you.**

P Forgive us for failing to love the things you love.
C **Help us learn from our mistakes.**

P Help us to forgive others with the mercy you show us.
C **Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

P Family of faith, this is a new day. God is here. God is at work among us. We are † forgiven! Let us worship the God who calls us to love and serve one another.
C **Amen!**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Text by: Thomas O. Chisholm. Music by: William M. Runyan. © 1923. Ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company.
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Verse 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
 There is no shadow of turning with thee;
 Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
 As thou has been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
 Morning by morning new mercies I see;
 All I have needed thy hand hath provided;
 Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Verse 2 Summer and winter and spring-time and harvest,
 Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
 Join with all nature in manifold witness
 To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Repeat Refrain

***Prayer of the Day**

P 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.**

P Let us pray. God of life, you halted the hand of Abraham, fulfilling the
 promise of salvation you made to him and to the world. Give us ears to
 hear, eyes to see, and heart to follow you in faith, knowing your provision is
 all we need.

C **Amen.**

Psalm 54 (*read responsively*)

D A reading from Psalm 54. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open.**

Save me, O God, by your name,
 and vindicate me by your might.

Hear my prayer, O God;
give ear to the words of my mouth.

For the insolent have risen against me,
the ruthless seek my life;
they do not set God before them.

**But surely, God is my helper;
the Lord is the upholder of my life.**

He will repay my enemies for their evil.
In your faithfulness, put an end to them.

**With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good.**

For he has delivered me from every trouble,
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
Handbell Ensemble

Glaser, arr. King

Reading

Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

D A reading from the book of Genesis, the twenty-first and twenty-second chapters. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open.**

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him.

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.” Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, “Father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Acclamation**

Gospel Verse from *Now the Feast and Celebration*, by Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications. OneLicense A-712815

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

***Gospel**

John 1:29

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the first chapter.

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

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

P The gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Robin Caldwell

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

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Refrain Lead me, guide me, along the way;
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Verse 1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow’r
To help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

Verse 3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without thy light to see.
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

***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.**

A Ritual for Receiving Our New Members

Dede Brenczewski
Roger & Joyce Eklove
Ron & Susan Kosciulek
Paul & Kathy Thomason
Jim Yokubonis

Joys and Concerns of our Faith Community

*Prayer request cards are available in your pews.
You may place the card in the offering plate or give to a pastor.*

Prayers of the Church

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P God welcomes our prayers. Today, we bring what is needed to God,
trusting we are heard.

Response (sing):

**Oh God, we call (repeat)
From deep inside we yearn (repeat)
From deep inside we yearn for you**

The prayers conclude:

P Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you.
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. Those who move to greet others may choose their greeting at the discretion of the person you are greeting.
Please be mindful of the non-verbal cue you are receiving,
and ask what the person is comfortable with before greeting.*

Offertory

“This is My Father’s World”

Babcock, arr. Sheppard

When we love someone in need, it is easy to give. We show up with meals and prayer blankets, we send cards and make phone calls, we babysit children and drop off flowers. We don't think twice about it, because when we love someone in need, it is easy to give.

When we give to the offering or make time to participate in the events and groups of our faith community, we are declaring that all creation deserves love and care, even if we do not know who might receive it. This is a radical notion in our hurting world.

Today, as a way to practice being in relationships and drawing closer to one another, we invite you to support the mission and ministry of this church. For when we love, it is a joy to give our time and our resources.

Let us give with our grateful hearts.

*Offertory Response

465, Vs. 1

“As the Grains of Wheat”

Refrain As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
Were gathered into one to become our bread;
So may all your people from all the ends of earth
Be gathered into one in you.

Verse 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst
May we share the presence of your love.

Repeat Refrain

*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. God of abundance, **you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

*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 Come, you who have much faith, and you who have little. Christ will meet us here!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Distribution

*We believe in the true presence of Jesus Christ in this meal and at this table.
All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.*

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 altar

- *You will be invited forward by the usher.*
- *You may bring your offering/attendance slip forward and place in the offering basket or place in the offering plates by the doors as you leave.*
- *Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when receiving communion.*
- *Wear your masks as you come forward; lift your mask when receiving the elements of bread and then again with the grape juice or the wine.*
- *The deep purple wine is on the outer rings of the tray; the golden grape juice is on 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.*

Communion Music

“Ancient Words”

DeShazo

***Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

D Let us pray. Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

*Benediction

C *Sing* AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

*Sending Song

881, Vs. 1

“Let All Things Now Living”

Text by: Katherine K. Davis. Music by: Welsh Folk tune. Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.
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Verse 1

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us, God’s light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

*Sending

D Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
C **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

“Voluntary in A”

Heron

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St. John This Week

September 20 - 24



Chimers

Rehearsal
5:45 - 6:15



YOUTH Choir

K - 6th Kickoff & Parent Orientation
6 - 6:45pm

Confirmation

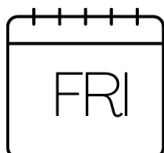
7th-9th Students & Leaders
7 - 8:15pm

FIRE2

9th-12th Parking Lot
8:15 - 9:15pm

WED. NIGHT SMALL GROUP

Adult Book Study
7pm



Mothers of Preschoolers

Adult MOPS Group
9:30 - 11:30am

We
can't wait
to see
you!

sign up & details at stjohnjoliet.org

St. John
Sunday
September 19th



8:30am

*Welcome
New Members!*



9:45 - 10:45am

Sunday
SCHOOL

3 year old - HS



12:15 - 2:30pm

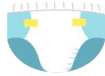


4th, 5th, 6th Graders



September is Hunger Action Month and our food pantry team invites you to participate by bringing in food donations. Here are items we're collecting:

for Babies



Diapers & Wipes



Formula



Baby Food

for Toddlers



Toddler Food

for Kids



Kid's favorite foods & snacks

Your support is deeply appreciated. Please place your donation on the shelves located in the Narthex. Thank you.



Canoe Outing Oct 2



Enjoy the colors of the season on the Fox River. Located about 1 hour southwest of Joliet, C&M Canoe & Kayak Rental is in Ottawa, IL. Cost is \$60 p/canoe or \$30 p/person, cash only. More details on our website.

sign up deadline

Sept 26

stjohnjoliet.org