

St. John Lutheran Church

Senior Pastor, Robin E. Caldwell
Associate Pastor, Evan Mayhew



EPIPHANY 6 : "MIRACLES AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS"

FEBRUARY 16, 2025 @ 8:30 AM

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

SPECIAL OFFERING:



Every \$1 donated to the food pantry provides \$8 worth of groceries for a neighbor in need

Looking for donations of:

- Diapers & Wipes
- Formula
- Kid Lunch Snacks
- Adult Depends
- Hygiene Products

Our pantry runs on the kindness of a dedicated network of volunteers and donors. No matter the amount of time or gifts they share, each of these actions ensures that the 450 families we serve weekly leave our pantry with hope and healthy food!



info@stjohnfood.org | 2650 Plainfield Road Joliet, IL 60435 815.439.2320



Join the 4:12 Ministry for Food, Fellowship, and Fun!

ST. JOHN NIGHT AT



**Monday,
February 17th, 2025
4:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Craft'd Plainfield

16031 S Lincoln Hwy,
Plainfield, IL 60586

St. John will earn back 20% of what is spent on food and beverages from 4:00 PM–8:00PM.

Make sure to show your waiter this flyer!



Register NOW

Deadline is THIS Sunday (2/16)



2025 HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

JULY 12 - 20, 2025

This summer, our destination is the Appalachian Mountains! Our youth will be engaging in much needed home repair through the long established mission trip organization, Appalachia Service Project, whose mission it is to provide poor residents with warmer, safer, and drier homes.

Cost: \$450

(includes \$100 non-refundable deposit, due by February 16th)

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 in loving memory of Bill Kerschbaum from Lorelei Kerschbaum, loving wife of 62 years, until we meet again; and in loving memory of our amazing Dad, Bill Kerschbaum from your daughters, Tori and Jodi, that miss you every day; and in loving memory of Grampa Bill from your grandchildren and great-grandchildren for always showing us the way.

To sponsor altar flowers or coffee hour, sign up at stjohnjoliet.org or call the church office.



Worship Leaders – Sunday, February 16, 2025 (8:30 am)

Deacon	Marsha Smith
Communion Assistant	Jill Doyle
Acolytes	Jaelyn Berger, Margot Shafer
Greeters	Hoffman Family
Ushers	Erik Hoffman, Marge West
Piano & Organ	Janet Blomquist
Music Director	Tori Hicks
Audio Board	Bill Jensen
Livestream	Rob Kornaus, Frank Norem
Counters	Frank Norem, Norm Roland
Altar Guild	Jinny Buchholz, Cheryl Lovell

Contact Information

Pastor Robin Caldwell	robin Caldwell@stjohnjoliet.org	630-408-1402
Pastor Evan Mayhew	evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org	262-366-3132
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 **St. John by the Mall – Joliet, IL**
 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

**Indicates Congregation, Please Stand*

Prelude

“No. 3 Canzona from Four Pieces”

Boellmann

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator,
our protector, our wellspring of life.

C Amen.

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our
hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful God,

**C you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.
Amen.**

P God proclaims these words of assurance:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.”
In † Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.

C Amen.

*Opening Hymn

“Let Streams of Living Justice”

710, Vs. 1-2

*Greeting

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.**

*Kyrie



Refrain S 184

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

*Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Great Upender of our Expectations, throughout history, from the time he walked the Earth, the crowds have always drawn different conclusions about who Jesus is and what he came to do. Guide us to reflect on your merciful actions, to imitate your powerful way of love, to ponder your words of challenge, to be bold in preparing your way like John. We pray this in your holy name.

C **Amen.**

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

C **Our hearts are open.**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
**who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;**

who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoners free;
**the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.**

The Lord watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
**The Lord will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the Lord!**

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Acclamation**

S 188

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

*Gospel

Luke 7:18-27, 33-35

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the seventh chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

The disciples of John reported [the healings of Jesus] to him. So John summoned two of his disciples and sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?" When the men had come to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?' " Jesus had just then cured many people of diseases, afflictions, and evil spirits and had given sight to many who were blind. And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight; the lame walk; those with a skin disease are cleansed; the deaf hear; the dead are raised; the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who put on fine clothing and live in luxury are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children."

P The gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Evan Mayhew

***Hymn of the Day**

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

843, Vs. 1-3

***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

Your prayer requests may be spoken when invited during today’s prayers, by filling out a green prayer request card in your pew or filling out the Prayer Request form at stjohnjoliet.org.

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Congregation sings this response:

“Though the Earth Shall Change”

Text: Rolf Vegdahl, b. 1955, and Tom Witt, b. 1957, based on Psalm 46. Music: Tom Witt.
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**Though the Earth shall change
Though the mountains tremble,
Though the waters rage,
You, God, are here.
Though the nations war,
Though the peoples battle,
Though the empire falters,
We will not fear.**

The prayers conclude:

P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope
that your promise is revealed among the people.

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

“Brethren, We Have Met for Worship”

Moore

Giving Out of Gratitude

*Your offering supports many ministries and outreach within the
congregation, across the nation, and around the world.*

*All our ministries are made possible
by Jesus and the General Fund,
supported by generous people like you. Thank you!*

*Financial gifts, attendance sheets, and prayer requests
may be placed in the offering plate.*



Now Accepting



Offertory Response

688, Vs. 1

“Lord of Light”

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Verse 1

Lord of light, your name outshining
All the stars and suns of space,
Use our talents in your kingdom
As the servants of your grace;
Use us to fulfill your purpose
In the gift of Christ your Son:

Refrain

Father, as in highest heaven,
So, on earth your will be done.

*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. God of grace,
C **your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

*Great Thanksgiving *(sung)*

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, 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 All are welcome at this table of gladness!

C Thanks be to God!

Distribution

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

St. John provides 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 or your child prefer a blessing instead, keep hands folded and head bowed.


Communion Instruction

- You will be invited forward by the usher or pastor.
- Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when receiving communion.
- Red wine is on the outer rings of the tray; white grape juice is on the inner rings of the tray.
- After receiving communion, place the communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.

If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, communion pods are available at the entrances to the sanctuary. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion.

Lamb of God

S 191



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Music

“Thine the Amen”

826, Vs. 1-3

“I Love to Tell the Story”

661, Vs. 1-3

*Blessing

C Amen.

*Prayer after Communion

D Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

C Amen.

*Benediction

C Sing AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

*Sending Hymn

715, Vs. 5

“Christ, Be Our Light”

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Verse 5

Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Signs of your kingdom come.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

*Sending

D Go in peace. Live in hope.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

“Christ Be Our Light ” (*reprise*)

TASTE OF St. John

A Benefit Dinner for Our Youth

**MARCH 8TH, 2025
6:30PM - 8:30PM**

Dinner Tickets

\$10 Adults

\$5 Ages 4 - 10

FREE Ages 3 & under

Quilt Raffle
Tickets \$5!

SIGN UP!

JOIN A TEAM

- Set Up - Friday
- Set Up - Saturday
- Servers
- Clean Up

DONATE

- Main Dishes
- Vegetable Side Dishes
- Fruit Side Dishes
- Potato/Pasta Side Dishes
- GF Side Dishes
- Desserts
- Drinks

Sign up
in between
worship services

or contact

Nicole Adams

Nicole.14Adams@gmail.com
815-603-5620

Sign Up Now! Donate! Join a Team!

ST. JOHN MEN'S RETREAT

Saturday, March 29th

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

St. John Men's Ministry will be hosting a retreat for any person who identifies as a man at Starved Rock Lodge in Utica, IL.

Theme to be announced soon!



Join us as we explore our theme with devotions, conversations, meditation, and worship. Bring your bible and your walking shoes!

Cost: \$65

Includes
Lunch and
Snacks

Make checks payable to St. John Lutheran Church

RSVP by March 16th



Questions? Pastor Evan Mayhew (evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org) or Mark Frost (frost@julielcall.com)

Place your palms in Narthex basket

PALMS INTO ASH

Burning
of the
Palms



**SUNDAY MARCH 2ND AT 10:00AM
IN THE MEMORIAL GARDEN**

February

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 *(Monthly Offering: Food Pantry)*

- 8:30am - 9:30am Worship: Sanctuary
- 9:45am - 10:45am Sunday School: Sanctuary, Karin Johnson Hall, West Wing
- 1:00am - 12:00pm Worship: Sanctuary
- 12:30pm - 2:30pm Men's Ministry Meeting: Trinity Room
- 4:00pm - 7:00pm Bishop Baby Shower: Karin Johnson Hall

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- 9:30am - 11:30am Parent's Day Out (Closed)
- 1:00pm - 3:00pm Staff Meeting: Trinity Room
- 4:00pm - 8:30pm St. John Craft'd Night: Off Site
- 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, FEBRUARY 18

- 9:30am - 11:30am Parent's Day Out (PDO)
- 1:00pm - 3:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry: Youth Room
- 7:00pm - 9:00pm Council Meeting: Trinity Rooms: A & B

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- 8:30am - 12:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
- 9:30am - 11:30am Parent's Day Out (PDO)
- 7:00pm - 8:00pm Sunday School/Team Meeting: Trinity Room
- 7:00pm - 8:15pm Confirmation: Sanctuary/Building
- 8:15pm - 9:15pm High School FIRE: Youth Room

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- 9:00am - 11:30am Coffee with Friends (Women): Youth Room
- 9:00am - 1:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
- 9:30am - 11:30am Parent's Day Out (PDO)
- 10:00am - 11:00am Altar Guild Meeting: Trinity Room
- 2:00pm - 7:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
- 3:00pm - 4:00pm Green Team: Narthex
- 4:30pm - 5:30pm Property Committee: Trinity Room
- 7:00pm - 8:00pm A.A. Men's Group: Zoom
- 7:00pm - 8:00pm St. John Chorale: Choir Room (Cancelled)
- 8:00pm - 9:00pm Praise Team: Sanctuary (Cancelled)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 8:30am - 12:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
- 9:00am - 11:00am Quilters: West Wing 5
- 9:00am - 10:30am Meals on Wheels: Senior Services of Will County, Mark Frost

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 7:00am - 11:00am Food Pantry Volunteer Shifts: Narthex/Karin Johnson Hall
- 8:00am - 10:00am Food Pantry Distribution Drive-Thru: Parking Lot
- 9:00am - 10:00pm HS/Confirmation Winter Jamboree: Off-Site at Dixon Valley
- 5:30pm - 6:30pm Worship: Sanctuary

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 8:30am - 9:30am Worship: Sanctuary
- 9:45am - 10:45am Sunday School: Sanctuary, Karin Johnson Hall, West Wing
- 11:00am - 12:00pm Worship: Sanctuary
- 12:15pm - 2:30pm Tween GO!: Karin Johnson Hall

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