

St. John

Lutheran Church

Sunday, January 23, 2022

8:30am



Sudden Exposure



Commitment
to Community

STEWARDING GOD'S GIFTS

2022 Budget Forum

Trinity Room

10am

- Receive the Proposed Budget
- Q&A

New
Date

February 6

We
look
forward
to seeing
you!

2022 Winter Congregational Meeting

Sanctuary

10am

- Budget Vote
- Church Business
- Raffle

New
Date

February 13

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 altar flowers today are given by Pastor Jen Beamsley, and by the Sabatini family in memory of Scott Cicuto on his birthday.

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

Worship Leaders – Sunday, January 23, 2022 (8:30 am)

Deacon	Jill Doyle
Communion Assistant	Linda Koerner
Greeter	Sam Riggi
Ushers	Jon Blomquist, Mark Collins, Ron Crabb
Organ & Piano	Janet Blomquist
Audio Board	Nick Jakusz
Livestream Team	Dawn MacGregor
Counters	Jan Drish, Nancy Kautz
Altar Guild	Karen Becker, Carol Robinson

Contact Information

Pastor Jennifer Beamsley	jenbeamsley@stjohnjoliet.org	708-305-5561
Pastor Robin Caldwell	robincaldwell@stjohnjoliet.org	630-408-1402
Pastor Evan Mayhew	evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org	262-366-3132
Tori Hicks	torihicks@stjohnjoliet.org	815-355-3205
Dawn MacGregor	dawnmacgregor@stjohnjoliet.org	815-557-9702
Nicole Adams	nicoleadams@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Pam Kornaus	pamkornaus@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320

St. John Lutheran Church
2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435
815-439-2320 info@stjohnjoliet.org stjohnjoliet.org

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

 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

**Indicates Congregation, Please Stand*

Prelude

“Let Me Be Thine Forever”

Bach

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved people. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your Word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may trust in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

P Rejoice in this good news: In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven people of God.

C **Amen.**

“Blessed Assurance”

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Verse 1

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long:
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Verse 2

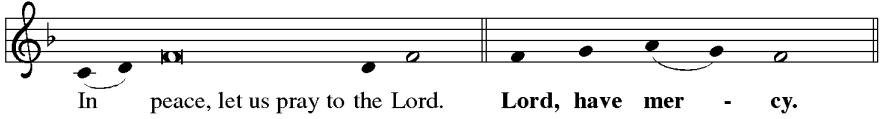
Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight:
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **Refrain**

Verse 3

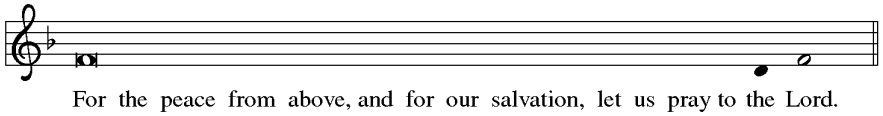
Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love. **Refrain**

*Kyrie

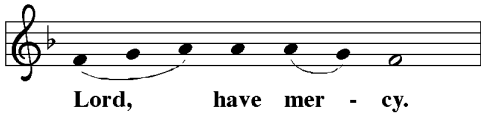
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
C communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.



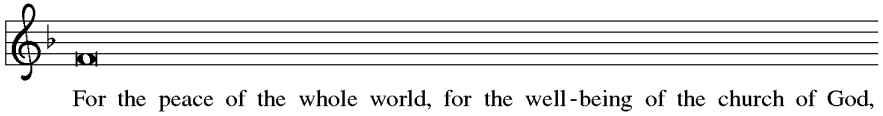
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



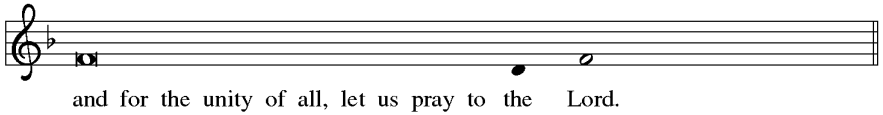
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



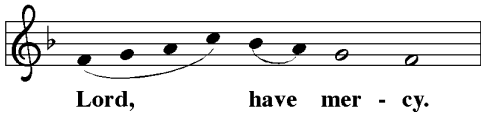
Lord, have mer - cy.



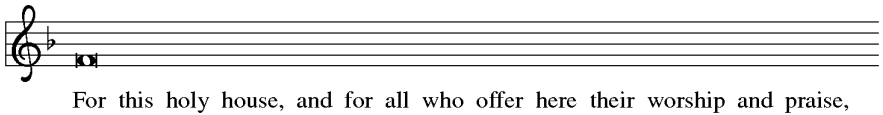
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

*Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

Refrain 5 11

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Holy God, empower your church throughout the world to be a voice of hope for those who fear judgment or condemnation. Assure us of your faithfulness and give us confidence to proclaim your salvation for all.

C **Amen.**

Psalm 139:1-12

D A responsive reading from Psalm 139. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open.**

**You have searched me, Lord,
and you know me.**

You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.

**You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.**

Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.

**You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit?

Where can I flee from your presence?

**If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.**

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,

**even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.**

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"

**even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Reading

Romans 8:18-25

D A reading from the book of Romans, the eighth chapter.
Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open**

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor

pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

*Gospel Acclamation

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.

*Gospel

John 3:1-21

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

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

Now a certain man, a Pharisee named Nicodemus, who was a member of the Jewish ruling council, came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus replied, "I tell you the solemn truth, unless a person is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter his mother's womb and be born a second time, can he?"

Jesus answered, “I tell you the solemn truth, unless a person is born of water and spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must all be born from above.’ The wind blows wherever it will, and you hear the sound it makes, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus replied, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you don’t understand these things? I tell you the solemn truth, we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you people do not accept our testimony. If I have told you people about earthly things and you don’t believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world should be saved through him. The one who believes in him is not condemned. The one who does not believe has been condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God. Now this is the basis for judging: that the light has come into the world and people loved the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil deeds hates the light and does not come to the light, so that their deeds will not be exposed. But the one who practices the truth comes to the light, so that it may be plainly evident that his deeds have been done in God.

P The gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Jen Beamsley

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

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Verse 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear--
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Verse 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged--
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Verse 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
You will find a solace there.

***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.**

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 The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

Response (sing):

**What we need is here.
What we need is here.**

The prayers conclude:

P Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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.*

Commitment to Community

Jesus told the disciples, “Come and see,” so they could experience healing and hope for themselves and others. We are also being invited to come and see a deeper life of faith. One of the ways we can say yes is by giving what we are able to give of our time, money, and/or talents. We say “yes” to this invitation, together.

Let us give with grateful hearts.

***Offertory Response**

184

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

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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 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.

***Offertory Prayer**

D Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God. **You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. 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

S 144b

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 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 to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

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:

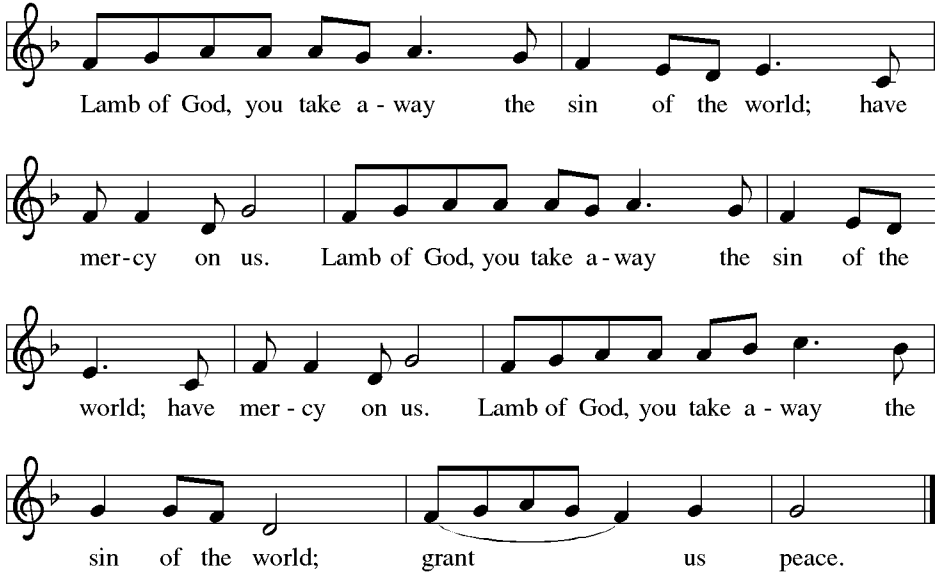
The body of Christ, given for you.

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 wafer 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.*

Lamb of God



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.

Communion Music

595 Vs. 1 & 2

“Jesus Loves Me!”

Text: Anna B. Warner. Music: William B. Bradbury. Public Domain.
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Verse 1 Jesus loves me! This I know for the Bible tells me so,
Little ones to Him belong. They are weak but He is strong.

Refrain Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Verse 2 Jesus loves me! He who died heaven’s gates to open wide;
He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. **Refrain**

*Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

- D Let us pray. Holy God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your joy, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.
- C Amen.

*Benediction

- C Sing AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

*Sending Hymn

886, Vs. 1, 3

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Text: Charles Wesley. Music: Carl G. Glaser; arr. Lowell Mason. Public Domain.
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Verse 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of his grace!

Verse 3 The name of Jesus charms our fears
And bids our sorrows cease,
Sings music in the sinner's ears,
Brings life and health and peace.

*Sending

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

Postlude

"Come Thou Almighty King"

Stellhorn

St. John
Epiphany
Worship & Events

Sunday
SCHOOL

RESUMES FEBRUARY 6

Sunday School friends, we cannot wait to see you on Sunday, February 6th at 9:45am in the Sanctuary!



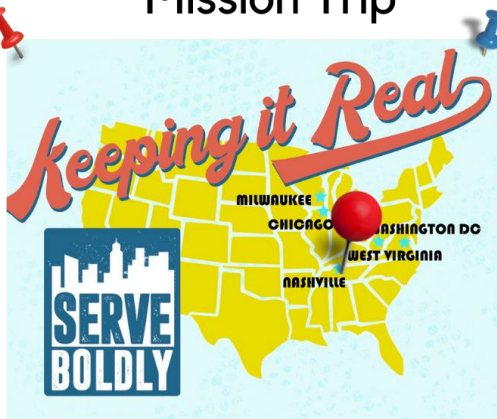
If you are new to St. John, you can still sign up children for Sunday School at stjohnjoliet.org!

> REGISTER NOW



Save the Date
July 9-16

**2022 H.S. Youth
Mission Trip**



St. John Epiphany Worship & Events

**JAN
26**

Everyday Spirituality: The Gospel of John

Take the winter months to connect your weekend worship with your everyday spirituality. Join Pastor Jen for a Zoom Bible Study on the Gospel of John, Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm. Each session is "stand alone", so don't worry if you miss any. Email Pastor Jen at jenbeamsley@stjohnjoliet.org to sign up. *(If you don't know how to use Zoom, let her know, and Pastor Jen will provide you with tech support).*

**JAN
27
&
29**

Thursday, 1/27: 11:30am-2:30pm & 5-7pm
Saturday, 1/29: 7-11am

Sign up at stjohnfood.org

Thursdays & Saturdays: Do you have experience grocery shopping? If so you are qualified to help us pack boxes, sort donations, bag groceries, and prepare for our Saturday morning distribution. Super easy sign up. Families, groups, and individuals welcome!

Saturdays Only: Get some sunshine and Vitamin D volunteering in the parking lot loading groceries into cars, directing cars, or registering clients.

Let's Stay in Touch!

St. John sends ministry updates, announcements, giving statements, and all kinds of information to you in several different ways. Please call the church office at 815-439-2320 or email contact@stjohnjoliet.org and share you updated mailing address, home phone/cell phone number, or email address. Thank you!



Share Our Worship Link



Commitment
to Community

stjohnjoliet.org