

Laetare
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 30, 2025 T 9:00 AM



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Missouri Synod T www.stjohns-mattoon.org

200 Charleston Avenue, Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Church (217) 234-4923 T School (217) 234-4911

St. John's Lutheran Church is a parish of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (lcms.org), where God's people gather to receive the gifts of Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament. Welcome in the name of the Lord!

We are blessed to have a vibrant and growing parochial school, St. John's Lutheran School (Preschool & K-10), serving the families of the church and the Mattoon community with a Christ-centered education. For more information, visit stjls-mattoon.com, or contact the school office at 217-234-4911.

The Rev. Andrew E. Herzberg, *Pastor*
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T T T

GUESTS, we pray you are comforted by the Gospel and feel welcome among us. We invite you to introduce yourselves.

CHILDREN OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME in the Divine Service. Restrooms and a cry room/nursery are located in the narthex.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE with all page numbers for the hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*, is found in this bulletin, as well as each week's Propers*. The end of the bulletin contains St. John's weekly news and announcements. The large-print bulletins also contain the hymns and liturgy for the convenience of those who may need it.

**The Propers are the Psalm verses (Introit and Gradual) and Readings that are appointed for (or "proper to") the particular Sunday in the Church Year.*

Divine Service, Setting Three,
Lutheran Service Book, page 184

<u>Hymns</u>	
684	743
737	625
566	942
636	709

T T T

Prelude

Opening Hymn: *Come unto Me, Ye Weary* 684
Stand for the final stanza.

Confession and Absolution.....page 184

Introit (sung by choir)

Isaiah 66:10; Psalm 122:1

*Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her,
all ye that love her;
Rejoice for joy with her:
all ye that mourn for her.*

*I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go into the house of the Lord!”*

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen. (Antiphon repeated)*

Kyrie pages 186
The Gloria in Excelsis is during Lent.

Salutation and Collect of the Day.....page 189

P The Lord be with you.

C ***And with thy spirit.***

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ***Amen.***

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 49:8–13

⁸Thus says the Lord:

“In a time of favor I have answered you;
in a day of salvation I have helped you;

I will keep you and give you
as a covenant to the people,

to establish the land,
to apportion the desolate heritages,

⁹saying to the prisoners, ‘Come out,’
to those who are in darkness, ‘Appear.’

They shall feed along the ways;
on all bare heights shall be their pasture;

¹⁰they shall not hunger or thirst,
neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them,

for he who has pity on them will lead them,
and by springs of water will guide them.

¹¹And I will make all my mountains a road,
and my highways shall be raised up.

¹²Behold, these shall come from afar,
and behold, these from the north and from the west,
and these from the land of Syene.”

¹³Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;
break forth, O mountains, into singing!

for the Lord has comforted his people
and will have compassion on his afflicted.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (sung by choir)

Psalm 122:1, 7

I was glad when they said unto me:

Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Peace be within thy walls

and prosperity within thy palaces.

Epistle

Galatians 4:21–31

²¹Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? ²²For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. ²³But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. ²⁴Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. ²⁵Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to

the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. ²⁶But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. ²⁷For it is written,

“Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear;
break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!
For the children of the desolate one will be more
than those of the one who has a husband.”

²⁸Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. ³⁰But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” ³¹So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Tract (sung by choir)

Psalm 125:1-2, 5b

*They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion,
which cannot be removed, but abideth forever.*

*As the mountains are round about Jerusalem:
so the Lord is round about His people henceforth
from this time forth and forevermore.*

Holy Gospel

John 6:1-15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. ²And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. ³Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. ⁵Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. ⁷Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?” ¹⁰Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. ¹¹Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were

seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, “Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost.” ¹³So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!”

¹⁵Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C *Praise be to Thee, O Christ.*

Apostles’ Creedpage 192

Sit

Hymn of the Day: Jesus, Priceless Treasure 743

Choir sings stanzas 2 and 4 (Setting by J.S. Bach)

Sermon

Stand

Offertory: Create in Me pages 192–193

Sit

Offering

Please take this time to fill out the red record of fellowship at the end of the pew.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

T SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT T

Our Teaching on the Sacrament of Holy Communion: Attending communion at our altar indicates agreement with the doctrine and teachings of Scripture that our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod confesses. Therefore, only confirmed members of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod should come forward without first speaking to the pastor and being instructed. Thank you.

Preface through Agnus Deipages 194–198

Sit

Distribution Hymns (as needed)

<i>Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing</i>	737
<i>Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread</i>	625
<i>By Grace I'm Saved</i>	566

MARCH HYMN OF THE MONTH	
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<i>Kyrie! God Father</i>	942
<i>Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness</i>	636

Stand

Nunc Dimittis through Benediction.....pages 199–202

Closing Hymn: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* 709

The Postlude is omitted during Lent.

T T T

Laetare, The Fourth Sunday in Lent ~ The Lord Feeds His People
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<p>The Lord provided bread from heaven for His people in the wilderness (Ex. 16:2–21). Now He who is Himself the living bread from heaven miraculously provides bread for the five thousand (John 6:1–15). This takes place near the time of the Passover, after a great multitude had followed Jesus across the sea, and when He went up on a mountain. Seen in this way, Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mount Sinai and makes us free children of the promise (Gal. 4:21–31). Five loaves become twelve baskets—that is, the five books of Moses find their goal and fulfillment in Christ, whose people continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship of the twelve apostles, and in the breaking and receiving of the bread of life, which is the body of Christ together with His precious blood, and in the prayers (Acts 2:41–47). So it is that God’s people “shall not hunger or thirst” (Is. 49:8–13). For He abundantly provides for us in both body and soul.</p>
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~ LCMS Lectionary Notes

<p>The name for this Sunday, <i>Laetare</i>, means “Rejoice” and comes from the beginning of the Introit in Latin.</p>
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3/30 (Lent 4) 4/02 (Evening Prayer) 4/06 (Lent 5)

Celebrant	Rev. Andrew Herzberg	Rev. Andrew Herzberg	Rev. Andrew Herzberg
Organist	Cantor Eckardt	Cantor Eckardt	Cantor Eckardt
Head Elder	Kevin McReynolds	Kevin Lange	Michael Colvis
Asst. Elder	Kurt Rankin	Scott Harris	Scott Harris
Altar Guild	Jennifer Warfel & Stacy Pierce	Cynthia Phipps & Connie Elder	Stacy Pierce & Connie Elder
Acolytes	Christian Bowen & Bella Bowen	Olivia Rieck & Grant Jackson	Jordyn Cole & Ellie Herzberg
Ushers	Bryce Becker & Harli Warfel	Tab Snyder & Jack Bowen	Tab Snyder & Jack Bowen

Giving Numbers: Budgeted: \$339,807 Received: \$355,219

Missions: \$4,425 collected of \$10,400 pledged

Last Sunday Attendance: 195 Evening Prayer: 117

Sunday School: Adults: 38 Children: 10

Those in Need of Comfort, Health, & Recovery

Our Members: Marge Anderson, Kay Pointon, Shirley & Bill Donnell, Bob Koelling, Helen Smock, & Laura Zuhone

Those Shut In: Norma Schussler, Art Zuhone, Rich & Clara Woelber, Bob Zschau, Shirley Kolbus, Lorene Reinhart, Alvin & Judy Schagemann, Dorothy Roling, Marlene Zuhone, Sara Doehring, Doris Dallas, Martha Spencer, & Karen Johnson

Friends of Our Congregation: Douglas Blume, Jeff Ferree, Charles Stodden, Bianca Stodden, Susan Sochowski, Derick Shy, Linda Scheer, Addison Orris, Raelle Jackson, Karen Phillips, Bill Crane, Mike Sullivan, Renee Dosien, Connie McNeilus, Tammy Weber, Jerry Rardin, Amy Lawrence, Rick Ivester, Alan Phelps, Neil Miller, & Jerry Buesking

Church Announcements

Easter Breakfast needs are on the board outside the Fellowship Hall. Please help the FIRE Youth Group out and grab a slip or two.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 19th. We are looking for candy and small prize donations to fill the eggs. Please bring all donations to the church office.

Lenten Meal: The Altar Guild needs your help with food for Wednesdays meal. If you are able, please bring a dish to our Lenten Meal to share. The plan is to have soups, sandwiches, and dessert but you are welcome to bring anything. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School- June 9th-13th Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School will be June 9th-13th! Children 4 years old through 5th grade are encouraged to join us for an "Epic Australian Adventure"! Middle school to adult volunteers are greatly needed! Please contact Kallie Harris if you are interested in helping. Thank you!

Save the Date for an upcoming ladies event on May 3rd from 1:00 - 3:00pm. More information to follow!

Thank you to everyone who supported and donated to the school auction. We raised \$200,000 that night!

Don't forget to donate to our "tuition grant" (fka scholarship) offering. The church committee will award student tuition grants in April. Envelopes are located outside of the church office.

NO RaiseRight orders the week of March 31. Orders will resume April 7.

School of Bach

The first session of this year's School of Bach was well-attended and much enjoyed by those who came! There are two sessions left, where we will continue our hearing, viewing, and studying of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*! Bring an appetizer dish to share!

Cantor will lead the group through the *Passion* from top-notch live-recorded performances available on YouTube, pausing to reflect and discuss. We'll look at the text in side-by-side German and English and even examine some of the score.

If you enjoy any of the following – music, theology, Scripture, German, good food & drink, fellowship, conversation, learning, prayer – then this is for you!

Join us Sunday March 30 & April 13 @ 5:30 PM!

5:30–7:00 PM Study and Fellowship (*Fellowship Hall*)

7:00–7:15 PM Compline (*Sanctuary*)

Schedule for March 30 – April 6

Sun 9:00 am Divine Service (Lent 4)

10:20–11:20 am Bible Class/Sunday School

5:30 – 7:00 pm School of Bach – Fellowship Hall

7:00 – 7:15 pm Compline

6:00 – 8:00 pm Gass – Church Gym

8:00 – 9:00 pm Veach – New Gym

Mon 8:00 am Laborers of Love

8:30 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary

5:30 pm New Member Class – Family Room

5:30 pm Soccer Match – *Home Field (located at MHS)*

Tue 6:30 am Men’s Bible Study – Honey Bee Café

3:30 – 4:15 pm Youth Choir Rehearsal

Wed 9:43 am Chapel (Grades 1-10)

5:30 pm Lenten Meal – *hosted by Altar Guild*

6:30 pm Evening Prayer

7:15 – 8:00 pm Confirmation Class

7:20 – 8:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thurs *La Luna Fundraiser*

11:00 am Bible Class (notice the time change)

5:30 pm Soccer Match – *Home Field (located at MHS)*

Sun 9:00 am Divine Service (Lent 5)

10:20–11:20 am Bible Class/Sunday School

1:30 – 3:30 pm Farmer – Church Gym

6:00 – 8:00 pm Gass – Church Gym

8:00 – 9:00 pm Veach – New Gym

Stewardship Thought: Luke 15:12 – “And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them.” This prodigal son only sees the father as a source of wealth. “Give me my inheritance now!” he says, which is really to say, “You are better off dead in my eyes.” This is the sin at the heart of all greed: valuing things over people. This parable calls us to come to our senses as well, and to see God as the loving Giver of all good, the true Father to be valued above and beyond all the things of this world.

Lent Midweek Services

Wednesday, April 2

5:30 pm – 6:15 pm Meal (*Altar Guild*)

6:30 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday, April 9

5:30 pm – 6:15 pm Meal (*St. John's School Service Team*)

6:30 pm Evening Prayer

Maundy Thursday, April 17

5:30 pm – 6:15 pm Meal (*Congregational Potluck*)

6:30 pm Divine Service

Good Friday, April 18

12:00 pm Tenebrae Service

6:30 pm Divine Service




Easter Sunday Services Schedule

Sunday, April 20

6:30 am Easter Sunrise Divine Service

7:45 am – 8:45 am Easter Breakfast

9:00 am Easter Day Divine Service



LA LUNA
MEXICAN RESTAURANT

Join us at La Luna for
a fundraiser on
Thursday, April 3!

Eat at La Luna (from 10:30 am -
8:30 pm) and 10% of your
total bill will be donated back
to St. John's!

1412 Broadway Ave.,
Mattoon

The poster features a colorful geometric border in shades of green, yellow, and red. It includes illustrations of a sombrero, a cactus, a sombrero, a mariachi musician, a woman in a colorful dress, and a plate of food.