

**St John's Lutheran Church - Bennington**  
**Church 291-6225**  
**Website: [www.stjohnsbennington.com](http://www.stjohnsbennington.com)**  
**Pastor Beth A. Olson 319-483-8135**

**THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN'S**

- Sunday: 5th - Worship w/ Communion - 10 AM  
Graduate Reception  
Welcome to Pastor Liz Retz!
- Monday: 6th - Quilting - 9 AM  
Office Closed
- Tuesday: 7th -
- Wednesday: 8th - Pastor in Office - 10 AM
- Thursday: 9th - Brenda in Office - 9 AM  
Pastor in Office - 10 AM
- Friday: 10th -
- Saturday: 11th -
- Sunday: 12th - Worship - 10 AM  
LYO Meeting  
Happy Mother's Day!

*About today: This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit. (Sundays and Seasons)*

**Today, welcome Pastor Liz Retz** as our guest pastor. Pr. Liz is a chaplain at Unity Point, Waterloo. Please make her feel welcomed as she covers for Pastor Beth.

**Congratulations to Corina Gray** as she graduates from Wapsie Valley High School. Corina plans to take her general education classes at Hawkeye and then continue her education at University of Iowa for physical therapy. God's richest blessings to you, Corina!

**Pastor Beth** is on vacation thru this Tuesday, as her daughter graduates from The Ohio State University today. Emergency pastoral coverage is lined up in the event of an emergency, please contact Brenda Clark, secretary, or Josh Mixdorf, council president, for the names and contact information of the pastors who will help.

**Prayer of the Day**      **Sixth Sunday of Easter**      **5/5/24**

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

**Ministers of Worship**

**TODAY:**

Ushers: Chris and Renee' Hesse  
Zoom Operator: Lukas Nelson  
Lector: Jerry Mixdorf  
Accompanist: Alex Speer  
Acolyte: Jackson Fuelling

**Fellowship**

**TODAY:**

WELCA  
Graduate Reception

**NEXT WEEK:**

Ushers: Joe and Teresa Stafford  
Zoom Operator: Kirby Marquart  
Lector: Bob Hansen  
Accompanist: Britain Atkins  
Acolyte: Alivia Stafford

**NEXT WEEK**

Aidan Hesse  
Family

**Attendance**

Last Sunday's Attendance: ??

**All are welcomed at God's table at St. John's, Bennington today!** Gluten-free communion kits are available as are those with grape juice. Simply indicate to the pastor that you need gluten-free and she will give you a gluten-free kit. Those not communing are invited forward for a blessing.

**A BIG thank you** to all who helped with St. Grubby's Day! We got so much done in an hour, thanks to all of you! Pew and windows, and kitchen and mats, oh my. And we're grateful for the lunch we were able to share, also. A good day to give the church some love!

**We're collecting birthday cake** kits for the C3 gathering in Waverly. Wanna know more about the kits or the C3 gathering? Check out your newsletter or go to the synod website for details or look at the display our WELCA women are assembling. The C3 gathering on June 1 has something for the various areas of congregational life. We'd love to have at least a handful of people go. Talk to PB to learn more!

**Shout with joy to the LORD,  
all you lands. —Psalm 98:4**

**Order of Service**

Prelude

**GATHER**

Welcome and Announcements  
Thanksgiving for Baptism  
(back of prayer list)  
**#Gathering Song**      **ELW # 367**  
#Greeting      p. 203  
#Glory be to God      p. 204  
#Prayer of the Day (see left)      p. 205  
Children's Message

**WORD**

Scripture Readings:      p. 205  
First Lesson: Acts 10:44-48  
Second Lesson: 1 John 5:1-6  
#Gospel Acclamation      p. 205  
#Holy Gospel: John 15:9-17  
Sermon  
**Hymn of the Day**      **ELW # 838**  
#Apostles' Creed      p. 105  
#Prayers of Intercession  
Offering  
#Offertory Song      **ELW # 182**  
#Offertory Prayer

**MEAL**

#The Great Thanksgiving      p. 206  
*and following pages.*  
The Lord's Prayer      p. 208  
Lamb of God      p. 208  
Distribution  
#Post Communion Prayer

**SEND**

#Blessing      p. 209  
**#Sending Song**      **ELW # 595**  
**Kids meet pastor in back during last verse of song to help; congregation response is "And have fun doing it!"**  
#Dismissal      p. 209  
#Postlude

# - Please stand as you are able

**ELW - Cranberry Book**