

***St. John Lutheran Church ^{of}
Cat Spring***
www.stjohncatspring.org



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Lutheran Church
of Cat Spring**

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Picture by LaNell Waldrop

November 12, 2023

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www.stjohncatspring.org**

We welcome all people from all walks of life to join us; whether you are seeking answers to questions about faith, or already have a strong relationship with Christ. We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. In keeping with the teachings of Jesus and the witness of Martin Luther, we acknowledge that we are both sinners and saints in need of the grace and love of God. Council members on duty will be glad to answer any of your questions.

WELCOME

Announcements

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“When Peace Like a River”

ELW 785

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

ELW 203

Hymn of Praise (first verse only)

ELW 204

Prayer of the Day

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Lesson:

Amos 5:18-24

The First Lesson is from the fifth chapter of Amos

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord!

Why do you want the day of the Lord?

It is darkness, not light;

as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

P:The word of the Lord

C:Thanks be to God

The Second Lesson is from the fourth chapter of 1 Thessalonians

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

R: The word of the Lord**C:** Thanks be to God**Gospel Acclamation****ELW 205****Gospel:****Matthew 25:1-13****P:**The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the twenty fifth chapter**C:** Glory to you, O Lord.**Matthew 25:1-13**

'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

‘

P:The Gospel of the Lord.**C:**Praise to you, O Christ

Hymn of the Day

“Blessed Assurance !”

E LW 638

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 Intercession

P: Hear us, O God

C: Your mercy is great.

The Sharing of the Peace

Offering Hymn

“Doxology”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below,

Praise Him above ye heav’nly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offering Prayer

God of all goodness,
generations have turned to you,
gathered around your table,
and shared your abundant blessings.
Number us among them
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,
and give thanks for your rich blessings,
we may feast upon your very self
and care for all that you have made,
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God,
Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Soon and Very Soon"

ELW 439

Dismissal

P: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!



The flowers on the altar today
are given by **Robin and Faith Haugen**
in gratitude and celebration for
Ellie Haugen's 21st Birthday , tomorrow, November 13th!



11-13 Ellie Haugen
Ken Wienken
11-17 Charlotte Reichert
Kaleigh George
11-18 Grant Blackmon
Riley Hewson



11-13 Wes and Audra
Blackmon
11-17 Marty and Karen
Reichert
Randy and Debbie
Reichardt

MEMBERS IN OUR CARE

Argent Court – Brenham

Carrie Froebel

Kruse Village-Brenham

Elaine Thielemann

Columbus Oaks

Marilyn Wendt

HOMEBOUND:

Katherine Ludwig
Katherine Washburn

UPCOMING EVENTS

11-12 Sunday School/St John Singers
9:00 am Worship 10 am
Austin County Chorale Concert 4:00 pm
St John Bellville

11-15 Confirmation Class 6:30 pm -Office

11-15 Senior Service 11:00 am

11-16 St John Handbell Practice 5:30 pm,
11-19

St. John Singers & Sunday school 9 am
Worship 10 am **Noisy Offering**

WELCA Meeting– After Worship

Thanksoffering Envelopes Due

Mystery Youth Event

for youth 5th grade and up

After Worship

11-20 St John Quilting Ministry

11 /23-24 Office Closed

Happy Thanksgiving !

11-26 Christmas Play Practice Begins 9A

Congregation to Decorate for Christmas

After Worship

12-2 Sealy Fantasy of Lights parade 7:00pm
Come out and watch the parade and look for our
Youth on the St John float!

Our weekly budgeted need: 3329.98

Offerings 11-5-23

General Fund 1511.00

Total: 1511.00

Attendance 60

Online 62

Prevailing Prayers

Gloria Tipp

Mike Mueller

Allan Boehm

Cindi Harrison

Fay Rice

Susan Boyett

Richie Butler

Colin Brock

Deana Keller

Paulette Miller

Deanna Ling

Sharon

Bubba Bencal

Darrell Grasb

James and Carol Wenzel

Dorothy Mersmann

Gloria Havemann

Hart Oshman

Johnny Griffin

Wes Redman

Melinda Brod

Betty Remmert

Jerry Ordner

Carrie and Vanna Froebel

Kelly Macha

Melinda Brock

Kendall Manna

Elaine Thielemann

JD Divin

Joe Brandt

Yanulis Family

Katie Johnston

Brian Carpenter

Micheal Pawelek

Maria Hahn

Zachary Schulke

Rita Jacobs

Colleen and Exi

Judy Johnson

Betty D.

Lynda Carson

Richard Kudlacek

Ervin Mieth

UPCOMING MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

SUNDAY

Nov 12, 2023

Nov 19, 2023

Flowers

Robin and Faith Haugen

Chad and Mandy Blezinger

Council Duty

Jennifer and Kyle

Mary and Robin

Reader

Ralph Grinde

Gwen Reichardt

Acolyte

Addilynn Divin

Marissa Divin

November Altar Guild- Chris Beckendorff, Sherry Barr, Addilynn and Marissa
Divin

Flower Guild—Ruth Walker

IMPORTANT NOTICE

A Note from the Cemetery Sexton

There has been a change in Cemetery Policy. Per discussion during the church service on August 13th, and with approval of the Church Council on August 14th, concrete curbing around gravesites will no longer be allowed after January 1, 2024. This is not really a change in policy, but more of a clarification, since the Church Bylaws currently state that ; (e. A newly plotted section of the cemetery as defined in the cemetery policy will have a restriction where no curbing is allowed around the grave site.)

The new Cemetery Policy wording is; (Curbing around gravesites in any area of the cemetery will not be allowed after January 1, 2024. This will include the placement of any items that would impede the mowing of the grass on the grave, such as footstones, park benches, trees, shrubs, flowers, etc. Headstones and concrete foundations for headstones will be allowed. Flowers placed next to headstones will also be allowed.)

This policy is being implemented to make it easier to care for the cemetery and to reduce the erosion currently taking place in the cemetery.

Regards

Ken Wienken



It is Poinsettia Order Time!

RED Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary for Christmas. If you would like to purchase one or more of these flowers, fill out the order form and place your order and donation of **\$10 each, per poinsettia** into the labeled envelope and place it in the box provided, in the Narthex.

Everything you need to order will be in the Narthex

Order deadline is Sunday, December 10th.

Please pick up
a Christmas
Season
Schedule to
hang on the
fridge !
In the Narthex

Senior Service

November 15th 11:00 am

Let's Celebrate and Give Thanks Together

Turkey (*meat market out of Turley*) and Dressing and
all the trimmings !

Singing, Games and Worship Service

Bring a Friend !

**THE AUSTIN COUNTY
CIVIC CHORALE**
IN THEIR 39TH SEASON
PRESENTS

**A Musical
Celebration
of Then & Now**

Bellville's 175th Birthday!

**NOVEMBER 12, 2023
4:00 PM**

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
FAITH CENTER
BELLVILLE**

**NO ADMISSION
DONATIONS ACCEPTED**

2023 Advent Souper Suppers



Sign Up to Host one of the ADVENT Souper Suppers!
Meal begins at 6:00 pm. A soup of your liking and maybe crackers or bread
Holden Evening Prayer Service will be begin at 6:30 pm .

Wednesday , December 6th _____

Wednesday, December 13th _____

Wednesday, December 20th _____

