

***St. John Lutheran Church <sup>of</sup>  
Cat Spring***  
[www.stjohncatspring.org](http://www.stjohncatspring.org)



10th Sunday after Pentecost

**Don Allphin Worship Leader**  
979 877-5642  
**August 17, 2025**

**Ministers**  
**The People of St. John  
Lutheran Church  
of Cat Spring**

**Worship Leader**  
**Don Allphin**  
979-877-5642

**Accompanist**  
Janet Allphin

**Youth Director**  
Christa Klar  
[youth@stjohncatspring.org](mailto:youth@stjohncatspring.org)

**Business Manager**  
Jheri Sell  
[finance@stjohncatspring.org](mailto:finance@stjohncatspring.org)

**Secretary**  
Sally Nergaard  
[secretary@stjohncatspring.org](mailto:secretary@stjohncatspring.org)

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**Cat Spring, TX 78933**  
**Office Phone & Fax**  
**(979) 865-5444**  
**[www.stjohncatspring.org](http://www.stjohncatspring.org)**  
**CCLI #11080208**

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. 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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Confession and Forgiveness

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

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

**Silence is kept for reflection.**

Merciful God,  
**you free us to love others,**  
**but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.**  
**You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,**  
**but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.**  
**You surround us with patience, kindness,**  
**and generosity,**  
**but we grow weary in doing what is right.**  
**In your mercy, forgive us.**  
**Do not give up on us.**  
**Heal us, break our bonds,**  
**and show us the path of life.**

**Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of + Christ,  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

### Gathering Hymn

*"How Firm a Foundation"*

**ELW 796**

**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.**

**Hymn of Praise ( first verse only)**

Page 204

**Prayer of the Day**

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**First Lesson:****Jeremiah 23:23-29****First Lesson is from the twenty-third book of Jeremiah**

23 Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? 24 Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. 25 I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" 26 How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? 27 They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. 28 Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. 29 Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

**P:** The word of the Lord

**C:** Thanks be to God

**Second Lesson:****Hebrews 11:29—12:2****The Second Lesson is from the eleventh chapter of Hebrews**

29 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. 30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. 31 By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

32 And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, 33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. 35 Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. 36 Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented 38 of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

39 Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, 40 since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

**P:** The word of the Lord

**C:** Thanks be to God

**Gospel:****Luke 12:49-56****P:**The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said:] 49 “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! 50 I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! 51 Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! 52 From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; 53 they will be divided:

father against son  
and son against father,  
mother against daughter  
and daughter against mother,  
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

54 He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. 55 And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. 56 You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?” .

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.**C:**Praise to you, O Christ.**A Message from the Gospel****Don Allphin****Noisy Offering****Hymn of the Day***“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”***ELW 634****Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 he is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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:** God of grace**C:** Hear our prayer**The Sharing of the Peace****Special Offering Music***“You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”***St John Singers****The Offering**

## Offering Response

### “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 grace, 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**

## 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

The love of God abound in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit  
+ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

## Sending Hymn

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

**ELW 547**

## Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

I will exalt you, my God the King;  
I will praise your name for ever and ever.  
**Psalms 145:1**

The flowers on the altar  
today are given by  
**The Youth of St John**





## August 2025 Ministry Duties

### St. John Lutheran Church Cat Spring

Flowers: Unless there is an \* asterisk by your name, the altar guild understands that you will supply the flowers or plant for that Sunday. If problem arises please call office at 979-865-5444 or Ruth Walker, Flower Guild, at 713-816-0629. If you cannot fulfil one of these duties, just call office! Council on Duty- If you can't make it on scheduled day, please check with other Council to trade Sundays.

Date	Worship Leader	Council on Duty	Acolyte	Reader	Flowers
August 17	Don Allphin	Tim	Riley	Janet Allphin	Youth of St John Back to School Bless
August 24	Don Allphin	Robin	Rhett	Dan Howell	Skylar Ordner
August 31	Don Allphin	Doug	Hunter	Reese Reichardt	Open

In red indicates change from original calendar



8-19 Ryan Reichardt

8-21 Bonnie Hegemeyer  
Greg Lapham



8-22 William and Tamara  
Ordner

Our weekly budgeted need: 3329.98

Offerings 8-10-25

General Fund 7469.00

Total 7469.00

Attendance 66

Online 319

## Weekly News 8/17-23/25

8-17

Adult Sunday School /Choir Practice resumes !

9:00 am

Worship Service /Children's Church

10:00 am

Don Allphin

8/24

Adult Sunday School /Choir Practice 9:00

Worship Service /Children's Church 10:00

Don Allphin

NALC

NALC - presentation on following church service with Pastor Jared Stillions (St. Peter Lutheran Church - Hallettsville); will resent during congregational lunch

8/26

St John Quilting Ministry 9:00 am



Rally Day September 7th !  
9:00 am

Dear St. John Scholarship Committee,  
I wanted to express my appreciation again for awarding me the church scholarship. This scholarship has not only helped relieve financial pressure, but it has also reminded me of God's provision and love. I am currently a sophomore at Texas A&M University. Thank you again for your continued prayers, encouragement, and investment in my future.  
Love,  
Avery Dittert

## Prevailing Prayer List

James and Carol Wenzel  
Ronnie and Bonnie Smith

Deana Keller

Roy Dierschke

Carolyn Rash

Mike Rankin

Carol Smith

Nic Norboge

Emily Drymala

Kendall Manna

Alfred Tomasek

Tristan

Jerry Henneke

Theresa Luetge

Zachary Schulke

Kathy Painchaud

Delores Dittert

William Hegemeyer

Sara Wit

MaryAnn English

Val Kite

Victor Smith

Charlotte Reichert

Brad Wood

Hope Griffin

Brian Dahl

Bubba Bencal

Kristen Jones

Nathan Schulke

Kathy Weiss

Shirley Hering

Carol Smith

Rebecca Rabon

Steve Lackey

Neely Faye Grawunder

The family of Marilyn Wendt , in  
their time of sorrow.

## MEMBERS IN OUR CARE

Colonial Bell- Sealy  
Katherine Ludwig

Argent Court -Brenham

Carrie Froebel

HOMEBOUND:

Katherine Washburn

The St John Singers have resumed practice on Sunday's at 9:00 am . So, now is the time to come join the choir!

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**Upcoming Informational Meetings  
with Lutheran synods:**

*All congregational members are encouraged to attend.*

**08/24/2025 Sunday**

**NALC**

NALC - presentation on 8/24 following church service with Pastor Jared Stillions (St. Peter Lutheran Church - Hallettsville); will present during congregational lunch

***BBQ Ribs provided for 8/24/25 Meal***

**Presented by Pit Master Extraordinaire**

**James Sell ( aka Peanut )**

*Sign up Sheet in the Narthex for sides and desserts  
8/24/25 Meeting*

**School Kit List**

**FOUR** 70-sheet note-books of wide or college-ruled paper, 8"x 10 ½" ; no loose leaf paper

**ONE** 30 centimeter ruler or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

**ONE** pencil sharpener

**ONE** pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)

**FIVE** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with rubber band

**FIVE** black or blue ball-point pens (no gel ink); secure together with rubber band

**ONE** box of 16 or 24 crayons

**ONE** 2 ½ " eraser

**Hello -**

The next **WELCA** meeting will be the **25th of September at 6p in the Fellowship Hall** with a "light dinner".

Our goal is to supply 24 kits this year and we are asking that whole kits be sponsored. The list is to the left. . Or if you prefer to give cash and someone else do the shopping please give your cash or check (made out to WELCA) to Gwen Reichardt.

We will assemble the school kits then for LWR.

**Any questions, please feel free to talk with Jheri or Pauline :)**

**Onion Soufflé Dip**

**Ingredients:**

- 1 10oz. package of frozen chopped onions
- 3 8oz. blocks of cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup of mayo
- 2 cups shredded (or grated) Parmesan cheese

**Directions:**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Mix together all ingredients in a medium-sized bowl.

Pour mixture into an 8x8 (or similar size) baking dish.

**Bake** (uncovered) for 45-50 min until top is golden brown.

Serve warm with Fritos Scoops or crackers.

*I made this dip tonight for the LCMS presentation and multiple ladies asked me for the recipe...*  
**Lacy Dittert**



**Pit Master  
Extraordinaire**

**James Sell  
( aka Peanut )**



WELCA will be gathering school supplies for Lutheran World Relief.

Be on the lookout for the school bus in the fellowship hall.

Potluck Correspondent, Lyle "Lefty" Bratwurst, New Ulm Enterprise, was unable to attend our potluck, on the 10th of August. Overconfident Cooking "He attempted to make a seven-layer Jell-O salad... but physics only allows five."

July 9, 2025

Re: Certificate of Resolution – July 6, 2025

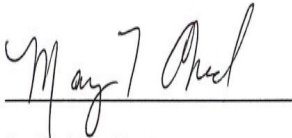
Dear Member of St. John Cat Spring,

Please find enclosed a copy of our Certificate of Resolution for the special congregational meeting and vote held on July 6, 2025.

We are forwarding you this copy in accordance with Section C6.05(b) of our Constitution.

Please give me a call if you have any questions at 979-877-8344.

Sincerely,



Mary O'Neal, Council Secretary

Enclosures

**Certificate of Resolution**

Date of Adoption: July 6, 2025

I, Mary O'Neal, the Council Secretary of St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring, certify that I have custody of the records of St. John – Cat Spring and that I am authorized to execute and deliver this certificate of resolution on behalf of St. John - Cat Spring. I further certify as follows:

1. The resolution below was duly adopted on the Date of Adoption. The resolution has not been amended, modified, or rescinded and is now in full force and effect.
2. I further certify that there is no provision in the governing documents of St. John – Cat Spring limiting the powers of the members of St. John – Cat Spring to adopt the resolution referred to below and that the resolution are in conformity with the requirements of the governing documents; that the undersigned is the keeper of the records and minutes of the proceedings of St. John – Cat Spring, and that the following accurately reflects the outcome of the meeting held on July 6, 2025:

**WHEREAS**, on Sunday, July 6, 2025, St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring held a legally called and conducted special meeting to determine whether to terminate its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA).

**WHEREAS**, the meeting was held more than 30 days after written notice of the meeting was received by the bishop of the synod, and prior to such meeting, the congregation consulted with the bishop and/or the bishop's designees.

**WHEREAS**, notice of the meeting was posted and letters mailed to all eligible voting members of the congregation more than 10 days prior to the meeting.

**WHEREAS**, a resolution approved by the council was voted upon.

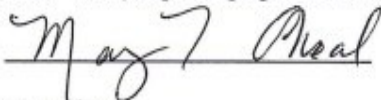
**WHEREAS**, discussion concerning the resolution was then held by the congregation.

**WHEREAS**, following the discussion, a vote was conducted by written ballot with the result being (59) members to terminate the relationship with the ELCA and (2) to not terminate the relationship with the ELCA.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the vote to terminate the relationship with the ELCA passed by the required 2/3 majority of the voting members present at the meeting.

Of the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America 2019 ("the Constitution") which was previously adopted and approved by St. John – Cat Spring and is currently in effect as the operating Constitution of St. John – Cat Spring.

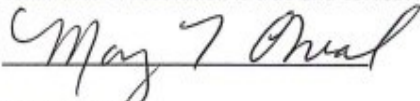
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution is made and sent in accordance with the Section C6.05(b) and is approved by the current Council Secretary of St. John – Cat Spring, Mary O'Neal, who certifies that the above facts are true and correct, that the special meeting was legally called and conducted and the outcome of the vote to terminate St. John – Cat Spring's relationship with the ELCA is hereby certified and copies of the resolution and certification shall be sent to all voting members of New St. John – Cat Spring's congregation and the bishop.



Mary O'Neal

Council Secretary, St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring

The undersigned hereby certifies that she is the duly elected and qualified Council Secretary of St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring; that the signature above is her genuine signature; and that the foregoing certificate of resolution is true and correct.



Mary O'Neal

Council Secretary, St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring