

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



January 2, 2022

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The People of St. John
Lutheran Church
of Cat Spring

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If this is your first time to worship with us, please sign our Guest Book in the entry hall of the church. If you have questions about our facilities, the order of service, or if you need help with anything at all, see our Greeters or Ushers of the day. You can also ask any member for assistance. We pray this service is a blessing for everyone in attendance and that you'll all worship again soon. All who believe are welcome to join us for Holy Communion. Please fill out an attendance card and indicate if you would like to partake and hand to the Usher during Communion.

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who sends the word with angels,
who is made flesh among all peoples,
and who breathes peace on all the earth.

Amen.

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess our sin before you.
We replace compassion with competition.
We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.
We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.
We have not put on love in harmony with you.
Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.
Swaddle our hearts with your peace,
that all we do, in word or deed,
may reflect your love born among us.
Amen.

I bring you good news of great joy for all people:
God has come among us
in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.
+ In Christ your sins are forgiven
and you are clothed in peace.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Once in Royal David's City

ELW 269

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

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Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST LESSON:**Jeremiah 31:7-14**

The First Lesson is from the thirty-first chapter of Jeremiah

Then God spoke all these words:

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say,
'Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.'
See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labour, together;
a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far
away; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.'
For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of
the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.
Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

SECOND LESSON:**Ephesians 1:3-14**

The second Lesson is from the first chapter of Ephesians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Here ends the reading.

GOSPEL:**Luke 2: 41-52**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

P: This is the gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Stephanie Stark

Sermon

Pastor Stephanie Stark

Hymn of the Day

Infant Holy. Infant Lowly

ELW 276

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

P: Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer

The Sharing of the Peace (Please give your neighbor a verbal acknowledgement or the peace sign. Please lets wait on hugs and handshakes for a bit longer)

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

Gracious God,
your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.
As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,
prepare us to receive the grace and truth
you offer at this table
and renew in us the song of your salvation,
in Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

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Preface

Holy Holy Holy

Page 207

Words of Institution

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.

Canticle “ Lamb of God”

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The Distribution

All who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to partake. Please fill out an attendance card to indicate your intention to participate and hand it to the usher.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Blessing

The God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

Announcements

Sending Hymn

Angels We Have Heard on High

ELW 289

Dismissal

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

Thanks be to God.

The flowers on the altar today are given
by **Rebecca Marek**, in dedication
To the Glory of God



Weekly News 1/2-8/2022

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1-1 Dan Howell
- 1-4 Marilyn Findeisen
- 1-5 Gwen Reichardt
- 1-7 Susan Severin
- 1-8 Dorothy Mersmann
Makenzie Menke

Our weekly budgeted need:

\$3698.37

Offerings **12/24/21**

General Fund 4260.00

Total: 4260.00

Attendance 94

Online Views 64

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1-3 Staff Meeting 10:00 am
- 1-4 St John Quilting Ministry
8:30 am
St John Prayer Shawl Ministry
9:30 am
- 1-12-22 Confirmation Class 6:30 pm
- 1-13-22 St John Blood Drive 4-8 pm
- 1-19 Senior Service 11:00 am
- 1-17 Council Meeting 6:15 pm

Save the Date

- 2-17-22 Annual Congregational Budget Meeting—Immediately after Worship Service

THOSE IN OUR PRAYERS

- Nikki Griffin
- Melvin and Johnnie Klatt
- Denise Lange
- Carol and James Wenzel
- Joyce Amother
- Ember and Easton Tomlinson
- Shirley's sister, Jackie Gloria Tipp
- Ryan Kudlacek
- Charlene Bolton
- William Ordner
- Tomas Divin
- Mike Mueller
- Billy Schaffner
- Allan Boehm
- Cindi Harrison
- Beverly White
- Faye Johnson
- David Wilkenson
- Anita Zaskoda.
- Debbie Haidusek
- Fay Rice
- Shirley Hering
- Callen Rabius
- Susan Boyett
- Emmy Herzog
- Robert Klar
- Jheri Sell



Dear Ms. Barry
Thank you for buying our
pretty poinsettias. You help
give US purpose!
Loves
Samantha—Brookwood citizen

MEMBERS IN OUR CARE

- Arbors of Briarwood— Bellville**
Carrie Froebel
- Kruse Village-Brenham**
Elaine Thielmann
- HOMEBOUND:**
Katherine Ludwig
Katherine Washburn

UPCOMING MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

SUNDAY

- Flowers:
- Accompanist
- Council Duty
- Reader
- Acolyte
- Refreshments
- Altar Guild

1-2-22

- Rebecca Marek
- Janet Allphin
- Melissa and Ruth
- Dan Howell
- Volunteer
- Open

January 2022

1-9-22

- Tamra Ordner
- Janet Allphin
- Melissa and Ruth
- Chad Divin
- Baylee Brandes
- Open

Elrose Kollatschny Rachel Divin



GIVE BLOOD .ORG

St John Lutheran Church-Cat Spring

Thursday, January 13
4:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

FREE HOODIES AS A GIFT FOR YOUR LIFESAVING DONATION!

Questions? Contact:
Chris Beckendorff
(979) 885-5444
(chrisbeckendorff@gmail.com)
Sponsor Code: 2782



January's WELCA Meeting will be on
Thursday, January 27, 2021
@ 6:30 p.m.

Bill Barr will be presenting about plants
(and there might be plants to take home!)

*Spring on Over and
Get a Jump on Spring Gardening with Bill
Right here in Cat Spring !*



Save the Date !

*WELCA Valentine's
Cookie Exchange*

Sunday, February 13, 2022

Free-will donations

Senior Service

Wednesday, January 19th

11:00 am

In with New

Out with the Old!

The hostesses will be serving
homemade soup flown in from the
famous Cross Roads Tavern!

*Made , with love,
by Bonnie Hegemeyer!*

If you'd like to bring something, a
dessert will be great.



EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.



THE BEST WAY
TO FIND A
BLOOD DRIVE
AND SCHEDULE
YOUR
DONATION!



Please check in the narthex for your **2022 Offering Envelopes** .There will be a label with your name and box number on **YOUR** box ! If you don't see a box for you or you have never had one and would like one just let any council know or give Sally a call at 979-865—5444.

The new **2022 Altar Flower Calendar** ,to sign up to place flowers on the altar, is in the narthex ! Get your special dates reserved now !

I must say 2021 was a stellar year for altar flower sign up !

Thank you so much and lets do it again in 2022.