

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



March 12, 2023

Ministers

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

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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

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

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.
Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
**we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life.
Amen.**

Hear the good news:
God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.
This promise is for you!
God embraces you with divine mercy,
+ forgives you in Christ's name,
and revives you in the Spirit's power.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing"

ELW 807

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 147

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth 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:

Exodus 17:1-7

The First Lesson is from the seventeenth chapter of Exodus

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

R: Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

Second Lesson:

Romans 5:1-11

The Second Lesson is from the fifth chapter of Romans

Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Gospel:

John 4:1-42

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the fourth chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, 'Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John'— although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized— he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Stephanie Stark

Hymn of the Day

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

ELW 332

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:Merciful God,

C:Receive our prayer.

The Sharing of the Peace

Special Music

"Theme from The Ninth Symphony"

St John Handbell Choir

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 good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
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

God, the giver of love,

+ Christ, the resurrection and the life,

and the Holy Spirit of rebirth

bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

Announcements

Sending Hymn

“The Church’s One Foundation “ vs 1-4

ELW 654

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.



The flowers on the altar today are given by

Tamra Ordner in honor of her parents,

Dessie Steinhauser and the late Ellis Steinhauser.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 13 Ashley Hewson
Herbert
Kollatschny
- 15 Paislee Schmidt
- 16 Carol Kudlacek
- 17 Faith Haugen'
- 18 Milton Dittert

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 14 Ralph Grinde and
Elaine Thielemann
- 15 Randy and Denise
Lange

Wednesday, March 15th
 Soup 6:00 pm
 Lenten Service 6:30 pm

*March 15th: Let it be so for direction:
 Jeremiah 29:1-13*

Pastor Jen Kindsvatter
 From Luther Hill

- ### UPCOMING EVENTS
- 3-15 **Senior Service 1100 am**
Supper 6-6:30 pm
Lenten Service 6:30 pm
 - 3-16 Handbell Choir 5:30 PM
 - 3-19 Noisy Offering
 - 3-20 St John Quilting Ministry 8:30 am
 - 3-21 Council 6:15 pm
 - 3-22 Supper 6-6:30 pm
Lenten Service 6:30 pm
 - 3-23 Handbell Choir 5:30 pm

- ### MEMBERS IN OUR CARE
- Argent Court –Brenham**
Cecil and Carrie Froebel
 - Kruse Village-Brenham**
Elaine Thielemann
 - Columbus Oaks**
Marilyn Wendt
 - HOMEBOUND:**
Katherine Ludwig
Katherine Washburn



- ### THOSE IN OUR PRAYERS
- Gloria Tipp
 - Tomas Divin
 - Mike Mueller
 - Allan Boehm
 - Cindi Harrison
 - Elrose Kollatschny
 - David Wilkenson
 - Fay Rice
 - Susan Boyett
 - Richie Butler
 - Colin Brock
 - Deana Keller
 - Paulette Miller
 - Deanna Ling
 - Sharon
 - Bubba Bencal
 - Darrell Grasb
 - James and Carol Wenzel
 - Kermit Dittert
 - Florine Stuessel
 - Mike Klar
 - Katherine Ludwig
 - Dorothy Mersmann
 - Gloria Havemann
 - Claire Venghaus
 - Hart Oshman
 - Sharon Koehne
 - Treva Forrester
 - Johnny Griffin
 - Don and Janet Allphin
 - Nancy Hartmann
 - Gwen Reichardt
 - Mary Ann English
 - Melinda Rodiek
 - Chris Redman's Sons
 - Rose
 - Glenda Kloss
 - Carolyn Rash

UPCOMING MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS		
SUNDAY	March 12, 2023	March 19, 2023
Flowers:	Tamra Ordner	Open
Council Duty	Kyle and Ryan	Jennifer and Cheryl
Reader	Confirmands	Ralph Grinde
Acolyte	Bexley Nelson	Addilyn Divin
Altar Guild	Marsha/and Robin	

St John WELCA of Cat Spring

Calling all Cooks!



**We need your recipes.
We want your best recipes for the
next St John cookbook.**

Send 1 or send 10!

**Please email your typed recipes to
finance@stjohncatspring.org**

Questions? Talk to Jheri or Rachel.



Senior Service

March 15th 11:00 am

St Paddy Day Party

Wear Something Green !

**Fried Chicken, Chicken Fried Steak,
Potato Salad, Baked Beans Provided,**

**If you wish, bring a side or dessert to
compliment the meal !**

Hope to see YOU there



Lenten Soup Suppers and Service

Join us on Wednesday nights from March 1-29 at 6:00pm for Soup. We need two soups/main dishes per week and drinks; **a sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.**

At 6:30pm move on over to the Sanctuary for our Lenten Series: "Amen! Let it be so".

March 1st: Let it be so forever: The Lord's Prayer; Luke 11:1-13

March 8th: Let it be so for me: Love is... 1 Corinthians 13:1-12

March 15th: Let it be so for direction: Jeremiah 29:1-13

March 22nd: Let it be so for enough: Manna, Quail, Water; Exodus 16:1-18, 17:1-7

March 29th: Let it be so for mercy: Jonah 2:1-10



Easter Lily Order

We will place Easter Lilies /Boston Ferns in the Sanctuary again this year. To purchase one or more, complete this form and place it, along with your payment of \$10 per flower, in the box provided on the table in the Narthex. Thank You!

The deadline to order is Sunday , April 2.

In MEMORY of

In HONOR of

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

You can also order plants To the Glory of God, in addition to those ordered above. Please list the number To the Glory of God here _____.

Purchased by: _____

TOTAL FLOWERS ORDERED: _____ **TOTAL PAID: \$** _____
Total Flowers Ordered includes In Memory/In Honor/To the Glory of God.

Extra forms will always be available on the table in the Narthex, if you need more room to order. Be sure to include the order form with your payment.

Make checks payable to St. John Lutheran WELCA.

Please pick up your flowers on April 9th after the 10:00 am Easter Service.

Everything you need to order your Easter flowers is in the Narthex !