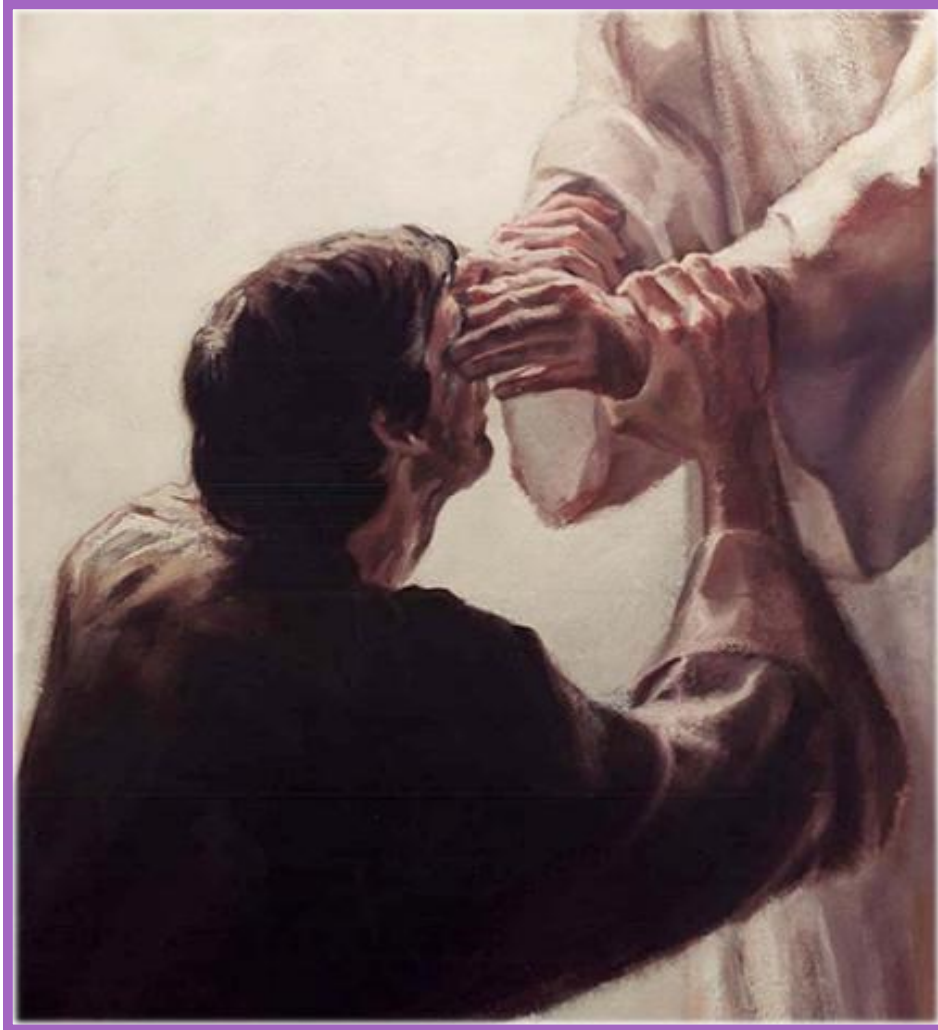


***St. John Lutheran Church^{of}
Cat Spring***
www.stjohncatspring.org



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

Pastor Stephanie Stark
pastor@stjohncatspring.org

**Youth Director
Christa Klar**
youth@stjohncatspring.org

**Business Manager
Jheri Sell**
finance@stjohncatspring.org

**Secretary
Sally Nergaard**
secretary@stjohncatspring.org

**Accompanist
Janet Allphin**

March 19, 2023

**480 Ross Street
Cat Spring, TX 78933
Office Phone & Fax
(979) 865-5444
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

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 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

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

ELW 779

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.**

Prayer of the Day

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Lesson:**1 Samuel 16:1-13**

The First Lesson is from the sixteenth chapter of 1 Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, ‘How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.’ Samuel said, ‘How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.’ And the Lord said, ‘Take a heifer with you, and say, “I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.” Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.’ Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, ‘Do you come peaceably?’ He said, ‘Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.’ And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.’ But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.’ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, ‘Neither has the Lord chosen this one.’ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, ‘Neither has the Lord chosen this one.’ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, ‘The Lord has not chosen any of these.’ Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Are all your sons here?’ And he said, ‘There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.’ And Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.’ He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, ‘Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.’ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

R: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Second Lesson:**Ephesians 5:8-14**

The Second Lesson is from the fifth chapter of Ephesians

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, ‘Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.’

R: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel:

John 9:1-41

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the ninth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.' He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, 'Surely we are not blind, are we?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Noisy Offering

Sermon

Pastor Stephanie Stark

Hymn of the Day

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds" vs 1-4

ELW 656

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

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.

Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Page 152

Preface

Holy Holy Holy

Page 153

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”

Page 154

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

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.

With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **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

“Be Thou My Vision”

ELW 793

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve in love

C: Thanks be to God.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

23 Ryan Reibenstein

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

19 James and Jheri Sell

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 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
- 3-26 Handbell Choir Performs
- 3-29 Supper 6-6:30 pm
Lenten Service 6:30 pm
- 3-30 Handbells Choir 5:30 pm
- 3-30 WELCA 6:30 pm **Gardening with Sherry– Bring large Pot to plant in**

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
- 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
- Nic and Wes Redman
- Glenda Kloss
- Carolyn Rash
- Melinda Brod
- Betty Remmert
- Gwen , Kathy's sister
- The Klar family in their time of sorrow
- Jerry Ordner

Our weekly budgeted need: 3329.98

Offerings 3-12-23

General Fund 2258.00

Total: 2258.00

Online Views 105

Attendance 54

Ash Wednesday 3-8-23

General Fund 418.00

Attendance 25

Online 38

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

Wednesday, March 22nd

Soup 6:00 pm

Lenten Service 6:30 pm

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

Pastor Lamae Higgs

From Swiss Apls-United Evangelical Lutheran

WELCA Meeting

Thursday, March 30th 6:30pm

We will be "Gardening with Sherry", so bring your own large pot and Sherry will bring the plants !



We will meet under the carport if the weather is nice !

UPCOMING MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

SUNDAY	March 19, 2023	March 26, 2023
Flowers:	Open	Johnnie Klatt
Council Duty	Jennifer and Cheryl	Kyle and Ryan
Reader	Ralph Grinde	Gwen Reichardt
Acolyte	Addilyn Divin	Marissa 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.

**CAT SPRING
FIRE DEPARTMENT**
BAR-B-Q
AUCTION • AUCTION • AUCTION
Saturday, April 15th
Cat Spring - Agricultural Society Hall
Come On Over And Join Us For Food And Fellowship
Beef & Sausage
Serving from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Meal Tickets: All \$15.00
Children <10 yrs \$10.00
Auction at 6:30 P.M.
Gun Raffle
Kids Activities by Millheim 4H

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 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

Everything you need to order your Easter flowers can be found in the Narthex . Deadline to order is April 2nd.

St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring

Our Lenten Series
“Amen! Let it be so”.

Dinner at 6:00 pm and Worship at 6:30pm

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

Join us for Holy Week 2023

<u>Sunday</u>		
April 2	Palm Sunday Worship Service	10:00 am
April 6	Maundy Thursday Service	6:30 pm
April 7	Good Friday Service	6:30 pm
April 9	<u>Easter Sunday</u>	
	Men in Mission’s Easter Breakfast	9:00 am
	Easter Egg Hunt	9:30 am
	Worship Service	10:00 am

Bring a handful of flowers if you wish to help flower the cross on Easter !
480 Ross Street Cat Spring, Texas 78933 979-865-5444

save THE DATE

WHEN: Saturday, June 10, 2023 (Time will be announced soon.)

WHERE: Fellowship hall of St John Cat Spring

WHO: Women (and young ladies) of St John Cat Spring & their friends

WHAT:

In His Hands
Jeremiah 18:6



Rachel Norris is not surprised that she is a potter, but she is amazed at how God has used pottery in her life. She has been making pottery for over twenty years now. She and her husband own Joy Pottery in Bryan, Texas where they make and sell handmade, functional, stoneware. She loves to work with clay because it is an incredibly versatile material, so very individual and universal at the same time.

You are invited to come and learn more about the Heavenly Father by exploring a word picture He provides in His Word. Discover the richness of the layers of meaning in the portrayal of the potter and the clay by observing the work of a potter firsthand. You will be awed and amazed by the insights into the hand of God in your own life through this experience.

Questions: See Rachel Divin. Call or text at 281 750 1135.