

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

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

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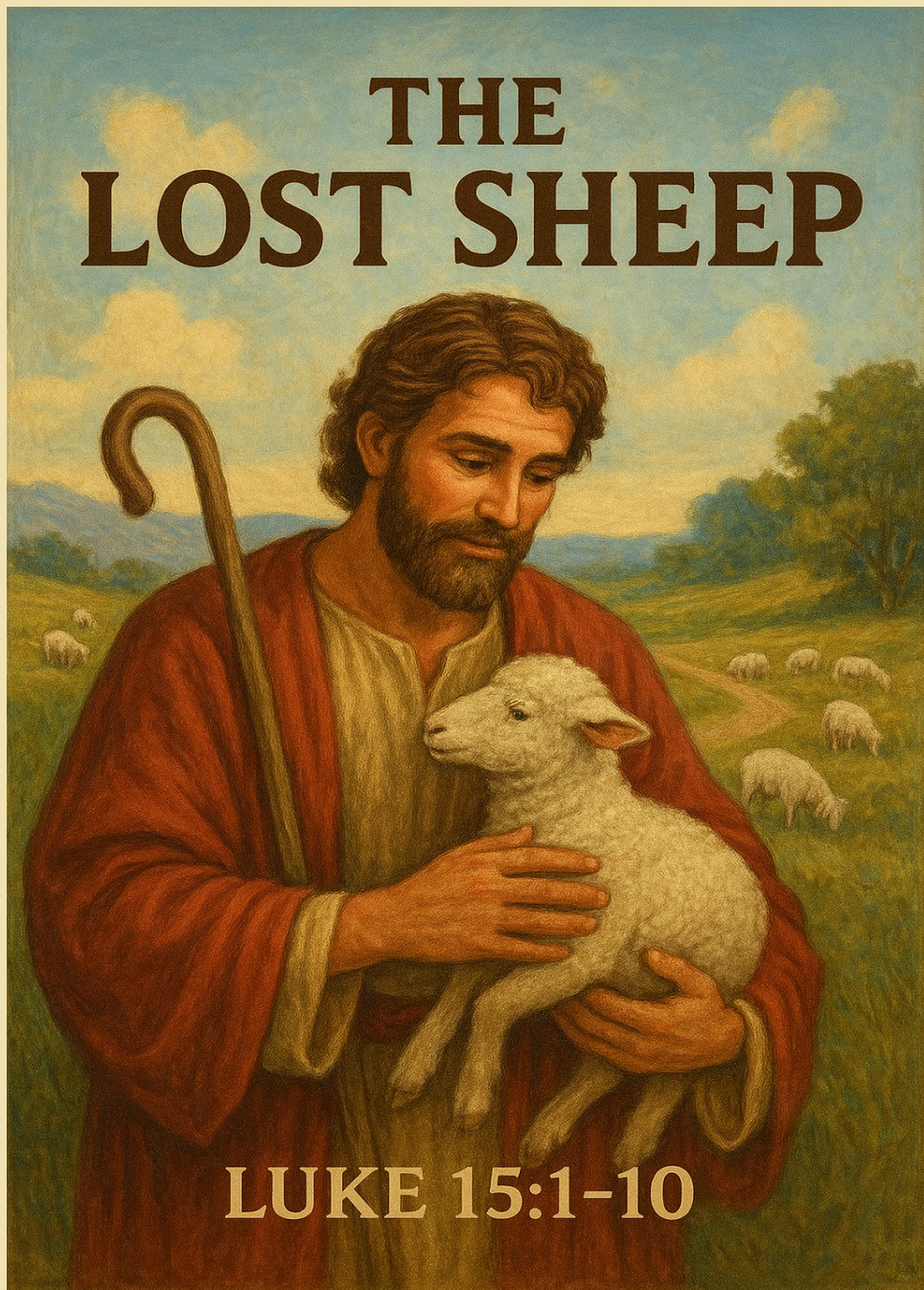
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Don Allphin Worship Leader
979 877-5642
September 14, 2025

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

We ask for forgiveness of our sins, especially the ones we may not be aware of. Help us in our day to day pilgrimage be every mindful of those who are in need. Give us special ways to minister to those who need our compassion.

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Come, Thou Fount 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.

Hymn of Praise (first verse only)

Page 204

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, 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 32:7-14

First Lesson is from the thirty second book of Exodus

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.

7 The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; 8 they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " 9 The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. 10 Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

11 But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? 12 Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. 13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " 14 And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

P: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Second Lesson:

1 Timothy 1:12-17

The Second Lesson is from the first chapter of 1 Timothy 1:12-17

At the heart of the Christian message is the word of the cross. This proclamation seems foolish to many because it reveals true divine power in the absolute weakness of Christ's crucifixion. True wisdom understands how ours is a God who suffers for and with humankind in the cross

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

12 I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, 13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15 The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. 16 But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. 17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. Evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

17 So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. 18 If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. 19 I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. 20 Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. 21 Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

P: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation

Page 205

Gospel:

Luke 15:1-10

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke 15, 1-10.

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

1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

3 So he told them this parable: 4 “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? 5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ 7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

8 “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? 9 And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ 10 Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

A Message from the Gospel

Don Allphin

Hymn of the Day – *“Take My Life, That I May Be”* –

ELW 685

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: **Receive our prayer**

The Sharing of the Peace

The Offering

Offering - Special Music

“Onward Christian Soldiers”

St. John Handbell Choir

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

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free,
+ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“On What Has Now Been Sown”

– ELW 550

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

The flowers on the altar today were given by Cheryl Mellenthin

To the Glory of God .





9-14 Linda Petras
9-15 Laurie Eckhardt
9-15 Sherry Barr
9-17 Rita Zaskoda
9-17 Ruth Walker
9-18 Molly Dittert
9-21 Jennifer Logan



9-15 *Heath and Paula
Wendt*

Our weekly budgeted need: 3329.98

Offerings 9-7-25

General Fund	3820.00
Total	3820.00
Attendance	48
Online	NA

Weekly News 9/14-20/2025

9/14/25

Sunday School /Choir Practice 9:00
Worship Service /Children's Church

**Second meeting with Bishop (Tracey
Breashears-Schultz) following our church
service (around 11:30 am)**

Brunch to follow.

10:00

Don Allphin

10/19

Second special meeting and vote regarding disaffiliation; if passes with 2/3 majority of voting members, then hand out second ballot to vote on which specific Lutheran synod we will affiliate.

For the Lutheran affiliation vote, the ballot will have all (3) synods listed (NALC, LCMC, Missouri Synod). If there is not a clear 2/3 majority, the synod with the least number of votes will be eliminated, and a second vote will be conducted with the remaining (2) synods.

9/20

Private Event –Fellowship Hall

Save the Date :

10- 19

Second vote for disaffiliation with ELCA and vote for affiliation with new Lutheran synod

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

William Hegemeyer

Sara Wit

MaryAnn English

Val Kite

Victor Smith

Charlotte Reichert

Hope Griffin

Brian Dahl

Bubba Bencal

Nathan Schulke

Kathy Weiss

Shirley Hering

Carol Smith

Rebecca Rabon

Steve Lackey

Neely Fay Grawunder

Please pick up an
ELCA Disaffiliation Timeline
In the narthex, if you do not have one.

Important steps and dates listed

MEMBERS IN OUR CARE

Sealy Avir
Delores Dittert

**Prayers for friends and family
of Katherine Ludwig ,in their time
of sorrow.**

Argent Court –Brenham
Carrie Froebel

HOMEBOUND:
Katherine Washburn



The St John Handbells

have resumed practice on
**Monday's at 4:00 pm starting
9-8-25**

So, now is the time to come
join the bell choir!

*Anyone is welcome,
please come join us !*

The schedule for September for the St. John Singers is as follows:

Practice , 9:00 am, is
September 7, 14 and we
will perform during wor-
ship on September 21..

Please come join us !

The St John Scholarship Committee is proud to announce that **Avery Dittert** and **Rylan Reichardt** met all the requirements to received scholarship funds for the Fall 2025 semester. They are both in their sophomore year at Texas A&M.



Gig 'Em!



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 rub-
ber 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 Fellow-
ship Hall** with a
"light dinner".

Our goal is to supply
24 kits this year and
we are asking that
whole kits be spon-
sored. 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 :)**

**Senior Service is returning
September 17th 11:00 am**



End of Summer Picnic!!!

Everything you dreamed of,
except the ants !



**Sandwiches and Salads
galore !**

Food and Fun

Save the Date !

September 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 cant make it on scheduled day, please check with other Council to trade Sundays.

Date	Worship Leader	Council on Duty	Acolyte	Reader	Flowers
9-7	Don Allphin	Doug Neva	Bexley Nelson	Jennifer Logan	Nancy Hartmann
9-14	Don Allphin	Mary O'Neal	Rhett Reichardt	Robin Haugen	Cheryl Mellenthin
9-21	Don Allphin	Tim Brune	Layla Ordner	Pauline Lapham	Cheryl Mellenthin
9-28	Don Allphin	Laurie Eckhardt	Riley Hewson	James Tiner	Open

In red indicates change from original calendar

<u>August 2025 Altar Guild</u>
Tamra Ordner Christa Klar Cristy Ordner
September 2025 Altar Guild
Jheri Sell Laurie Eckhardt
Flower Guild
<i>Ruth Walker Gwen Reichardt</i>