

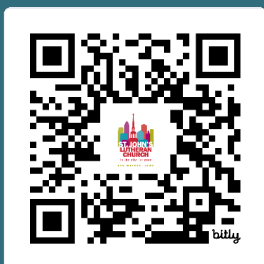


Fourth Week after Easter April 21st 2024

Preacher
Chris Cowan

Pastors
Stephanie Stark
Ryan Arnold

**Director of Worship, Music,
Adult Choirs and Organist**
Michael Elsbernd



Volunteer

Our church is the perfect place for you to utilize your unique talents for the greater good.

We focus on spreading God's love and assisting our global neighbors through the ELCA and St. John's Lutheran Church. Intrigued? We'll guide you towards volunteer opportunities that match your passion, gifts, and schedule. Discover these opportunities by scanning the QR code or visiting stjohnsdsm.org.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

As you exit the sanctuary, you will find Guides stationed at each exit with offering plates in case you would like to leave your weekly offering. Additionally, we kindly request you to complete a Worship Attendance Card that can be found in the racks in the pew and place it in the offering plate. If you happen to be a guest, filling out a card would help us know how to offer support as you learn more about the St. John's community.

READINGS: Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

ABOUT THE COVER ART: "The Good Shepherd" He Qi, 2019. He Qi is a modern Christian artist who paints with inspiration from Bible verses. This painting's inspiration comes from John 10:11-12, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away."

Prayer Requests -

The following people have requested prayers. If someone has passed away they are noted as "Friends/Family" of "name inserted". To add a prayer request, please notify Katie Pithan at 515-243-7691 or kpithan@stjohnsdsm.org by Tuesday at noon to be included in the following weekend's bulletin.

Immigrants and Refugees
Israel / Palestine
Jaime P
Alex N
Dennis
Nadine
Ben M

Ron H
Hope
Anne P
Melissa T
Jill D
Mary H

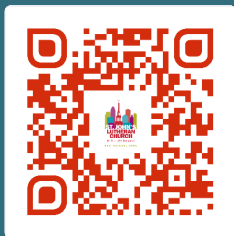
Lisa D
Alexandria K
Mika & Arija
Rosealie
Rollie King
Family & Friends of Robert I
Sheila

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers this week are from Steve & Else Hitt in loving memory of their parents.



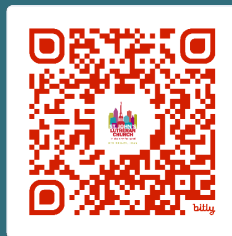
We affirm, love, embrace, and invite all people in celebration of race, color, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, age, marital status, mental and physical abilities, cultural background, immigration status, education, and varied faith journeys. We respect and are committed to racial equality, anti-racism, and the promotion of social and economic justice.



Give



Learn



Grow



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. We encourage everyone to participate in worship as fully as possible. "ELW" refers to the red hymnal found in the pew racks. Page numbers refer to the front of the hymnal; hymns are listed by ELW # and can be found toward the back of the hymnal.

"ACS" refers to the All Creation Sings, the Purple Hymnals in the pew racks.

Indicators for who's speaking - [P] Pastor [L] - Lector [A] - Assisting Minister

[C] - Congregation

Prelude "The Lord's My Shepherd" arr. Robert Hobby

Welcome

Please stand.

Thanksgiving For Baptism (ELW Red Hymnal in Pew)

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

The assembly turns to face the processional cross.

Gathering Song "*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!*" (ELW 369)

Apostolic Greeting

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.

Canticle of Praise "*This is the Feast*" (ELW p.140)

Prayer of the Day

P: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

Before the reading

L: People of God, listen for the Word of the Lord.

C: Our ears are open.

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12, Bible Page 887

After the reading

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

Sung responsively with the assembly and the choir; assembly responds with the bold text

¹The Lord^l is my shepherd;
I shall not^l be in want.

²**The Lord makes me lie down^l in green pastures
and leads me be-^l side still waters.**

³You restore my^l soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways^l for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | Lord forever.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24, Bible Page 990

After the reading

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation "Alleluia" (ELW p. 142)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The gospel is announced.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

Gospel: John 10:11-18, Bible Page 872

The gospel concludes.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The assembly is seated.

Children's Message

Sermon Rev. Chris Cowan

Hymn of the Day "Have No Fear, Little Flock" (ELW 764)

Apostles' Creed (ELW p.105)

A: Together, let us profess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C: 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

L: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer

Sharing of the Peace

The assembly is seated.

Musical Reflection "O Lord, I Trust Your Shepherd Care" By Heinrich Schutz – Cathedral Choir

MEAL

Offering Prayer

The assembly is invited to stand.

The Great Thanksgiving (ELW p.144)

Dialogue (ELW p.144)

Preface (ELW p.144)

Holy, Holy, Holy (ELW p.144)

Thanksgiving at the Table (ELW p.145)

Lord's Prayer (ELW p.145)

The assembly is seated.

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Agnus Dei "Lamb of God" (ELW p.146)

Musical Reflection "Gratitude" By Alex Guebert – Adult Handbell Choir

Hymns During Communion: "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart: Gift of Finest Wheat" (ELW 484)

Hymns During Communion: "Come to the Table" (ELW 481)

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer After Communion

Sending

Benediction

Sending Song "Build a Longer Table" (ACS 1062)

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude "Rondo in G" by Jon Bull

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Middle East War Adult Forum

After 6 months of war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, the cost in human lives and global impact are staggering. The International Court of Justice is referring to this crisis as a "plausible genocide" and has imposed measures to limit the impact on civilians - measures that Israel is ignoring. How did we get to this point, and how can we respond now as people of faith?

You are invited to join Rev. Chris Cowan and Rev. Russ Melby during service on **April 21st** and at our forum immediately after service in Neumann to learn more.

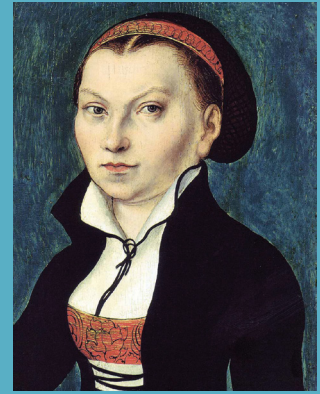
Celebrating Katy

May 6 - 6pm, Either/Or, 6222 Grand Ave, DSM

June 18 - 6pm, SingleSpeed Brewing, 303 Scott Ave, DSM

July 16 - 6:30pm, Reclaimed Rails Brewing Co., 101 Main St. SE, Bondurant

Celebrating Katy is open to anyone who would like to celebrate the life of Katarina Von Bora, the wife of Martin Luther. Katarina was known for her skills as a home brewer and we gather together to experience the skill of local breweries and fun conversation! If you have any questions contact Rob Snavelly at (celebratingkaty@gmail.com)



Midweek Music Series

April 24th, May 1st, & May 8th in the Sanctuary at 12:05 pm with a luncheon immediately following in Neumann for \$8

April 24 Joel Gettys and Grace Johnson, vocalists; Michael Elsbernd, piano, performing Broadway melodies

May 1 Rob Lumbard, guitarist, singer, songwriter; showcases jazz and blues standards, and his own tunes

May 8 Christina Deeds, French Horn; Michael Elsbernd, piano

St. John's Renaissance Faire

Sunday, April 21st 4-6pm

This event will showcase a program featuring festive song and dance, hearty food and drink and entertaining courtly activities! Enter through the courtyard where you will be greeted and guided to the main event! Costumes encouraged but not required.



Vacation Bible School

Join us for VBS with St. John's and Faith Lutheran Churches! This event will take place June 9-12 at Faith Lutheran in Clive and there is no cost to participate. The kids will engage in music, games, crafts, Bible stories, and more! Scan below to register.

