

St. John
Lutheran Church

Worship Series



Loved by God

CALLED TO SERVE

Grounded and Surrounded



Sunday, October 3rd

8:30am

Commitment 
to Community

St. John

Visit stjohnjoliet.org for sign up & details

Blessing of
the Animals

October 10th
12:15pm



College-Age
Care
Package
Sign Up is
Open

If you have
college-age
people in your
family, sign them
up to receive a
care package
from St. John by
October 13th.

For HS Youth

FALL/WINTER RETREAT

November 12-14

Lutherdale Bible Camp - Elkhorn, WI

- Registration is open at stjohnjoliet.org
- High ropes, rock wall, zip-lining, archery, devos, bonfires, GaGa ball, board games, late night outdoor games, movie night, time to relax & hang out with friends & more!
- Cost is \$150. \$50 deposit due 10/24; balance due Nov. 7th
- Partial & full scholarships available by request, see Pastor Evan
- More details at stjohnjoliet.org

We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church as we gather for this time of worship and reflection on God's love for the world.

*The flowers are given to the glory of God by the Altar Guild.
To sponsor altar flowers for our worship space, sign up at the Opportunity Wall in the Narthex or call the church office.*

Additional seating is available in the Trinity Room.

Worship Leaders – Sunday 8:30 am

Deacon	Glenn Smith
Communion Assistant	Lynne Smith
Greeter	Sam Riggi
Ushers	Joe Aincham, Joan Fry, Bob Makowka
Piano & Organ	Janet Blomquist
Audio Board	Nick Jakusz
Livestream Team	Dawn MacGregor
Counters	Jan Drish, Nancy Kautz
Altar Guild	Shirley Masters, Sharon Sullivan

Contact Information

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 **St. John by the Mall – Joliet, IL**

 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

**Indicates Congregation, Please Stand*

Prelude

“Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten Sein”

Pachelbel

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

P We are gathered today in the name of the Father, Son, and † Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Family of faith, we have all been in the place where we've hurt others and God's creation, sometimes without awareness, and sometimes with reactions that spring from pain or defensiveness. This is part of being human.

P God invites us to acknowledge our humanity and learn from our mistakes, letting forgiveness change our hearts. In this time of confession, we seek to learn God's gracious ways.

P Holy God,

C **We react because we see suffering we do not understand.**

P We are skeptical because we know heartbreak that does not seem fair.

C **We withhold attention because sacrifice only feels real when it's our own.**

P Forgive us when we forget that you created the heavens and earth.

C **Forgive us for withholding our pain from you.**

P Forgive us for failing to love the things you love.

C **Help us learn from our mistakes.**

P Help us to forgive others with the mercy you show us.

C **Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

P Family of faith, this is a new day. God is here. God is at work among us. We are † forgiven! Let us worship the God who calls us to love and serve one another.

C **Amen!**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Text & Music by: Kathleen Thomerson. b. 1934, © 1970, 1975 Celebration.
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Verse 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Verse 2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on path,
And show me the way to the Father.

Repeat Refrain

***Prayer of the Day**

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.**

P Let us pray. Holy God, draw near to us today, as you did with Moses. Teach us how to speak, and how to listen. Teach us how to find you in our daily lives. Teach us how to trust you through hardship, and to respond with gratitude. Gratefully we pray.

C **Amen.**

Psalm 123:1, 3-4 *(read responsively)*

D A reading from Psalm 123. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open.**

To you I lift up my eyes,
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have had more than enough of contempt.

**Our soul has had more than its fill
of the scorn of those who are at ease,
of the contempt of the proud.**

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

“Do Lord”
Handbell Choir

arr. Stephenson

Reading

Exodus 2:23-25, 3:1-14

D A reading from the book of Exodus, the second and third chapters.
Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open.**

During that long period of time the king of Egypt died, and the Israelites groaned because of the slave labor. They cried out, and their desperate cry because of their slave labor went up to God. God heard their groaning; God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the Israelites, and God understood.

Now Moses was shepherding the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to the mountain of God, to Horeb. The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from within a bush. He looked, and the bush was ablaze with fire, but it was not being consumed! So, Moses thought, “I will turn aside to see this amazing sight. Why does the bush not burn up?” When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to look, God called to him from within the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.” God said, “Do not approach any closer! Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” He added, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” Then Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God. The Lord said, “I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt. I have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. I have come down to deliver them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up from that land to a land that is both good and spacious, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the region of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and

Jebusites. And now indeed the cry of the Israelites has come to me, and I have also seen how severely the Egyptians oppress them. So now go, and I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, or that I should bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He replied, "Surely I will be with you, and this will be the sign to you that I have sent you: When you bring the people out of Egypt, you and they will serve God at this mountain."

Moses said to God, "If I go to the Israelites and tell them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?'—what should I say to them?"

God said to Moses, "I AM that I AM." And he said, "You must say this to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

- D Word of God, Word of Life!
- C **Thanks be to God!**

*Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Verse from *Now the Feast and Celebration*, by Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications. OneLicense A-712815

Congregation:

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

*Gospel

John 8:58

- P The Holy Gospel according to John, the eighth chapter.
- C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am."

- P The gospel of our Lord.
- C **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Jen Beamsley

“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

Text by: William Williams. Music by: John Hughes. Public Domain

Verse 1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your pow'ful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,
Feed me now and evermore.

Verse 2 Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, shield me with your mighty arm,
Shield me with your mighty arm.

***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.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and 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 is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

Joys and Concerns of our Faith Community

*Prayer request cards are available in your pews.
You may place the card in the offering plate or give to a pastor.*

Prayers of the Church

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P God welcomes our prayers. Today, we bring what is needed to God,
trusting we are heard.

Response (sing):

**Oh God, we call (repeat)
From deep inside we yearn (repeat)
From deep inside we yearn for you**

The prayers conclude:

P Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you.
C **Amen.**

*Sharing the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

You may share the peace of Christ with others. Those who choose to stay in their pew may wave or give signs of peace. Those who move to greet others may choose their greeting at the discretion of the person you are greeting.

Please be mindful of the non-verbal cue you are receiving, and ask what the person is comfortable with before greeting.

Offertory

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Curry

Every week, we hear how God works through people. The story of our faith is one that constantly reminds us that we cannot do this work alone. We need our faith community.

We give what we can from what we have, and trust God will continue moving us closer to mindful living, generosity, and gratitude.

Family of faith, you are invited to give your offerings, knowing we share a commitment to the mission and ministry of this place, and our giving is the work of faith.

Let us give with our grateful hearts.

*Offertory Response

465, Vs. 1

“As the Grains of Wheat”

Refrain As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
Were gathered into one to become our bread;
So may all your people from all the ends of earth
Be gathered into one in you.

Verse 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst
May we share the presence of your love.

Repeat Refrain

*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. God of abundance, **you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Great Thanksgiving *(spoken)*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

*Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

C 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.

***Invitation to Communion**

- P** Come, you who have much faith, and you who have little. Christ will meet us here!
- C** **Thanks be to God!**

Distribution

*We believe in the true presence of Jesus Christ in this meal and at this table.
All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.*

There are two ways to receive communion today:

Receiving Communion in your pew

You may receive communion in your pew with the elements contained in the communion pod. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion:

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Receiving Communion at the altar

- *You will be invited forward by the usher.*
- *You may bring your offering/attendance slip forward and place in the offering basket or place in the offering plates by the doors as you leave.*
- *Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when receiving communion.*
- *Wear your masks as you come forward; lift your mask when receiving the elements of bread and then again with the grape juice or the wine.*
- *The deep purple wine is on the outer rings of the tray; the golden grape juice is on the inner rings of the tray.*
- *After receiving communion, place the used communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.*

Communion Music

"As the Deer with Fairest Lord Jesus"

Nystrom, arr. Hayes

***Blessing**

*Prayer after Communion

- D Let us pray. Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

*Benediction

- C *Sing* **AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.**

*Sending Song

632, Vs. 1 & 6

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Text by: Isaac Watts. Music by: William Croft. Public Domain. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815.

- Verse 1** O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

- Verse 6** O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.

*Sending

- D Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
- C **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

“Fuga”

Pachelbel

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St. John

Watch this 1:22 min. trailer at
stjohnjoliet.org or in the Narthex!



Click



Watch the trailer today



with PASTOR JEN



PASTOR ROBIN



and (sometimes) PASTOR EVAN

TIPS FOR LIVING A MINDFUL LIFE

CONVERSATIONS WITH PASTORS
JEN, ROBIN & (SOMETIMES) EVAN

Sundays  **3rd, 10th, 17th** on  **5pm**

Stewardship **ON THE GO!**



Commitment
to Community

Congregation

tailgate

Party More details soon

save the date

Sun., Oct. 17

11am Outdoor Worship

& Lisa Marshall Farewell

Noon Tailgate Party

Half Time Mortgage Burning

**CHICAGO
BEARS**



VS.

**GREENBAY
PACKERS**



We kick off at 11am

Wear your football gear

Game will be on tv's



Commitment 
to Community

H I G H S C H O O L Y O U T H S E R V I C E T E A M



JOIN



TAKE SURVEY

Look for members outside the Sanctuary doors who have paper surveys.

Our newly formed Youth Service Group wants to serve you. They want to know, "What do you need help with right now?" Take their 2 question survey at stjohnjoliet.org

