



**Communion Notice** Today we celebrate Holy Communion in which we joyfully receive Christ's own body and blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. Because we believe that participation in this sacrament is also a public confession of unity in the faith we invite communicant members of congregations in fellowship with the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod to receive the sacrament.

We welcome our fellow Christians who wish to come forward but do not share all our beliefs to fold their arms in front of them and receive a blessing. We pray that our common baptism and the continued work of the Holy Spirit will draw us closer to one another and dispel the sad divisions that separate us. We pray that as we are led into all truth from God's Word such divisions will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). Let us all express in our hearts a prayerful desire for such unity of faith to be achieved.

#### GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome to our guests.** We are glad you have joined us in worshipping our Lord and Savior. We trust you will draw strength, peace, and hope as together we hear God's Word spoken here today. So that we may serve you better, we ask that you fill out a yellow attendance card located on the back of the pew, including your address and noting that you are a visitor.

**ETERNAL CANDLE** This warm, steady glow, encourages us to offer our thanks to our faithful Lord and God especially for those who come early and/or leave late as they prepare for and/or clean up to make our Sunday morning coffee and treats available

**ALTAR FLOWERS** The flower bouquet that adorns the Altar is from Flo Moore, in honor of she and Danny's anniversary.

**ALTAR FLOWERS AND ETERNAL CANDLES** The charts to sign up for flowers and candles are hanging in the Narthex. There are MANY open dates available for you to sign up for special occasions or memorials. There are envelopes located on the counter right below the charts. Flowers are \$25, candles are \$6; please make checks payable to Altar Guild.

**STEWARSHIP THOUGHTS 1** *Corinthians 1:20 – "Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?"* God's ways are certainly not the world's ways, including the way God tells us to manage the resources He's given to us. The world says, "hold on, hold back and gather up." Jesus says to store up treasure in heaven where moth and rust do not destroy and where no thief breaks in to steal. Whose way do you think is best? What is wiser: the wisdom of the financial gurus or the foolishness of God?

**SUPER CEREAL BOWL CHALLENGE** Bring in a box of cereal and place it on the table (in the concourse) of the team you think will win this year's Super Bowl. All donations will benefit the food pantry. Good luck!

**PRAYER CHAIN** We have had a member express interest in getting the prayer chain going again. If anyone would be interested in reviving this group, please let the office know. If there is sufficient interest, we can work on re-establishing this.

**SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS** Sign language classes are here again! Word of God Lutheran Church at St. Matthew Lutheran Church will offer free beginning sign language classes on Tuesday evenings, 7:30-8:30 pm, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 115 W. 12th Ave., Milan, Illinois. The emphasis will be on conversational sign language. Classes will run ten weeks, from Jan. 20 – March 24, and are open to the entire community. Pre-registration is not required. For more information, please call Rev. Tim Eckert, 563-359-7105, or e-mail him at [iowaeastdeaf@yahoo.com](mailto:iowaeastdeaf@yahoo.com).

**COMEDY SPORTS** The Board of Youth and Family invites you to a night of hilarious fun at Comedy Sports on Friday, February 6th at 7pm. What is Comedy Sports you ask? Located in the Spotlight Theatre in downtown Moline (The old Scottish Rite Cathedral), watch as 2 teams go head to head in improv comedy using audience suggested scenarios! Family friendly fun for all ages! Please sign-up at the sign-up station so we make sure to reserve enough tickets. The cost is \$10; you can pay cash at the event, or leave payment in the Youth and Family mailbox in the office.

**PUZZLE TOURNAMENT** Congratulations to the big winners of the 1st annual St. John's puzzle tournament! One team swept the entire competition, winning all three rounds. This mother/daughter team was Flo Moore and Dawn Antolik. They finished their 500 piece puzzle in 1 hour and 25 minutes. Four other teams were neck and neck all finishing around the 2 hour mark. Everyone had a fun time, and we are looking forward to next year's tournament already!

**SECURE SHRED** The confidential shred bins are located at the vestibule by the office doors. Bring your documents up anytime during office hours to safely dispose of your sensitive information.

**UPCOMING PAINT WORK** Beginning the week of Feb. 2nd, we will be having all of our interior doors painted. Please be aware of the wet paint as this project is in progress!

**BRIDAL SHOWER** Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 14th! The honor of your presence is requested at a Bridal Shower for Kimberly Bower, who is marrying Caleb Engebrecht this spring, in Colorado. All are welcome from 2-4pm in the gym/Janssen rooms as we celebrate this special union of two of our own! Please sign-up at the Sign-Up Station so we can plan accordingly.

**January 31st and February 1st, 2026**  
**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**  
Divine Service Setting IV

Prelude—Cherub Chimers "A Time For Joy" Arr. by: Cynthia Dobrinski	
<b>Preparation</b>	
"Hail to the Lord's..."	<b>398</b>
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Introit (See <i>Cream Insert</i> )	
Kyrie — Gloria	204
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Preface — Agnus Dei	208-210
Distribution	
"Blest are They..." (See <i>grey insert</i> )	
"Lord of Glory..."	<b>851</b>
Nunc Dimittis	211
Collect — Benediction	212
<b>"Preserve Your Word..."</b>	<b>658</b>
Postlude	

## The Lord's Week

### Sunday, February 1st

9:00am– Worship w/Communion  
(Pastor Hagen)  
10:30am– Bible Study/Sunday school  
10:30am– Confirmation Instruction

### Monday, February 2nd

1:30pm– Activities Room– dominoes  
6:00pm– Cherub Chimers rehearsal  
6:30pm– Heavenly Ringers rehearsal

### Tuesday, February 3rd

10:00am- Food Pantry  
6:30pm– Guitar Jam

### Wednesday, February 4th

9:00am– TOPS  
10:00am– Women's Bible study  
1:30pm– Activities room-dominoes

### Thursday, February 5th

6:30pm– Board Meetings

### Friday, February 6th

7:00pm– Comedy Sportz @ The Spotlight Theater

### Saturday, February 7th

8:00am– Men's Bible study  
9:30am– Choir rehearsal  
5:00pm– Worship  
(Pastor Astrowski)

### Sunday, February 8th

9:00am– Worship  
10:30am– Bible Study/Sunday school  
10:30am– Confirmation Instruction

## Bible Study Opportunities

### Sundays, 10:15am

Join Pastor Anderson in the Janssen rooms following worship- we are studying the Acts of the Apostles, looking at the beginnings of the Christian Church, and how the Church two millennia later still bears the imprint of that first Church.

### Holy Land Geography, Customs & History

Join Clark Stojan in the Keyl room, as he leads us to explore the world of the Bible along with select events recorded in Scripture.

### Coffee with Christ– Myth or Faith?

### Wednesdays, 10am

#### Great Women of the Bible

In this Bible study series, we will look at the lives of only the most familiar women in God's Word. From Eve, the first woman, to those women who helped Jesus' apostles, participants will see God's grace in action as He calls and leads these women in their daily lives. Through their God-given faith and their faith-filled deeds, you will be inspired by these great women of the Bible.

### Saturdays, 8am

#### Men's Bible study

We are doing a chronological study of the Gospel.

### Weekly Memory Verse

2 Timothy 2:13

*If we are faithless, He remains faithful —  
for He cannot deny Himself.*

### Serving the Lord this Week:

**Organist:** Christine Engebrecht

**Greeters:** (Sat.)

(Sun.)

**Ushers:** (Sat.) Greg Burke, Todd Miller, & Larry Ripka  
(Sun.) Evan Antolik and family

**Communion Assistants:** Glen McMillin & Jonathan Schmidt

**Acolyte:** Briella Churchill



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### Vacancy Pastor

Rev. Steven Anderson

**Music Director** Christine Engebrecht

**Secretary** Annie Churchill

[rev@focusonthegospel.com](mailto:rev@focusonthegospel.com)

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## **Introit**

**P** For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

**C** **Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;**

but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

**He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.**

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

## **Readings**

**P** The Old Testament reading is from Micah, the sixth chapter.

Hear what the LORD says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel. “O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.” “With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (*Micah 6:1-8*)

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Epistle reading is from 1 Corinthians, the first chapter.

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.<sup>19</sup> For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” (*1 Cor. 1:18-31*)

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” (*Matt. 5:1-12*)

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## ST. JOHN'S PRAYER CARD

January 31st and February 1st, 2026

*Please remember the following in your prayers this week...*

### Anniversaries

Scott & Margery Park (30)  
Danny & Flo Moore (44)

### Sister Congregation

Rev. Brian Lesemann  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Bath, IL

### Members

Gunter & Carol Terronez  
Terry Tipsword  
Wendy & Katherine Trujillo  
Kristian Umberger



### Missionaries Serving

Rev. Roberto & Katie Weber-  
Dominican Republic

### Military Chaplains

LCDR Charles Mallie  
CAPT Keith White

### III & Hospitalized

Hoa Cooper (Lucille's daughter  
- cancer)  
Larry Dodge- upcoming  
doctor's appointments

### Deepest Sympathies

To the family of Betty Bell at  
her passing

### Prolonged Illness & Special Needs:

Joan Britton  
Bev Brokaw  
Chuck Brokaw  
Steve Fors  
Duane Gosa  
Nancy Gosa  
Kevin Green- cancer diagnosis  
Kathy Herron  
Jerry Hill  
Kay Iwen (broken neck)  
Dale Johnson  
Merle Loete  
Reid McDonald  
Jean Morrical  
RaeJean Murphy  
Tom Nielsen  
Robin Passman  
Brenda Roggendorf  
Earl Schaefer  
Karen Schmidt  
Kathleen Schmidt  
David Sountris  
Ken Weidenbach  
Cora Whipple

### Homebound:

Nancy Bonow  
Ann Bowman  
Don, Wanda, and Jason Cass  
Darlene Dopson  
Mary Ann Eckert  
Rick & Sylvia Fauser

### Angie Fischer Peg Heitzman Christopher Higgins Ingrid Hodshire Lori Hopkins Judy Kirklin Mary McGee Nancy Smart Terry Tipsword Barbara Veskauf