

St. John
Lutheran Church

Senior Pastor, Robin E. Caldwell
Associate Pastor, Evan Mayhew



everything
[in] between

Meeting God in the midst of extremes

"FAITH AND WORKS"
MARCH 16TH, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435
815-439-2320 | contact@stjohnjoliet.org | stjohnjoliet.org

LENTEN DINNERS

Each Wednesday, dine in or take out from a different restaurant to help raise money for St. John!

You're encouraged to bring your meal from the restaurant OR one from home and eat at church before 7pm service, in the Narthex!

This Week

DONT FORGET!

You MUST mention St. John or show them the flyer from the weekly e-mail or bulletin!

3-05-25	Soup & Salad at St. John Karin John Hall - Donations Accepted	6pm- 7pm
3-12-25	Potbelly 2575 Plainfield Rd, Joliet, IL 60435	4-7pm-7pm
3-19-25	Panera 2360 Illinois Rte 59, Plainfield, IL 60586	ALL DAY
3-26-25	Station One BBQ 15025 Des Plaines, Plainfield, IL 60544	ALL DAY
4-2-25	Raising Cane's 3000 Plainfield Rd, Joliet, IL 60435	4pm-9pm
4-9-25	Wendy's 2900 Plainfield Rd, Joliet, IL 60435	ALL DAY

Wednesday Night 1-1 Conversations

Join us after Wednesday Worship!
This is a time for strengthening relationships within the church and learning more about ourselves at the same time.

All are encouraged to attend!



- 3/12 • Stranger & Neighbor
- 3/19 • Faith & Works
- 3/26 • Rest & Growth
- 4/2 • Lost & Found
- 4/9 • Righteousness & Mercy

Better Together

NEW MEMBER CLASS/LUNCH
MARCH 23RD, 12:15PM - 2:30PM

SIGN UP



SCAN HERE

Get to know St. John, meet new people, and consider joining us in serving our neighbors and one another.

New Member Blessing and Welcoming Coffee Hour will be held on March 30th

For more information
Call 815-439-2320
email info@stjohnjoliet.org



ST. JOHN MEN'S RETREAT Saturday, March 29th
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

St. John Men's Ministry will be hosting a retreat for any person who identifies as a man at Starved Rock Lodge in Utica, IL.

2025 Theme:
Stuff My Father Told Me:
Growing As Lutheran Men

Join us as we explore our theme with devotions, conversations, meditation, and worship. Bring your bible and your walking shoes!

Cost: \$65
Includes Lunch and Snacks

Make all checks payable to St. John Lutheran Church

RSVP by March 16th

Questions? Pastor Evan Mayhew (evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org) or Mark Frost (frost@julielcall.com)

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 on the altar today are given by Margaret Holzrichter in honor of would have been our 59th wedding anniversary.

Worship Leaders – Sunday, March 16, 2025 (11:00 am)

Deacon	David Luecht
Communion Assistant	Renee Lacivita
Acolytes	Issak Johnson, Delaney Linares
Greeter	Carol Wortel
Usher	Duane Johnson
Piano & Organ	Janet Blomquist
Music Director	Tori Hicks
Audio Board	Tim Caldwell
Counters	Frank Norem, Norm Roland
Altar Guild	Jinny Buchholz, Cheryl Lovell
Coffee Hour	Quilting Ministry

Contact Information

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St. John by the Mall – Joliet, IL

St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet

**Indicates Congregation, Please Stand*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

P If you have days when you feel a little bit lost and a little bit found,

C then you are in the right place.

P If you have days when you are desperate for rest and eager to grow,

C then you are in the right place.

P If you have days when your prayers could be both shouts and silence,

C then you are in the right place.

P God meets us here, in the messy middle of our lives.

C So may we bring our full selves into this service and into this season.

P With God's help, may it be so.

C Let us worship our all-loving God.

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen

P Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection

P Compassionate One,
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not reflect your patience and forgiveness.**

**When we see the sacrifice to make,
we don't want to walk in the ways that Jesus did.**

**When we rush to our next appointment,
we do not slow down to help the neighbors who need us.**

**Too easily, we give up trying to reach the ones who have lost
their way.**

**Lead us in between the extremes, transform our lives, and
guide us with courage to hear our neighbor, listen to our heart,
and follow your way with grace and love. Amen.**

P Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.
In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.

C **Amen.**

***Opening Song**

"Blessed Be Your Name"

Text: Matt Redman and Beth Redman Arr. By Dan Galbraith ©2002 Thankyou Music CCLI# 2793209
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Verse 1 Blessed be Your Name in the land that is plentiful;
Where Your streams of abundance flow, blessed be Your
Name:

Verse 2 Blessed be Your Name when I'm found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be Your Name;

Pre-Chorus Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise;
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say.

Chorus Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your Name;
Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious Name.

Verse 3 Blessed be Your Name when the sun's shining down on me;
When the world's all as it should be, blessed be Your Name;

Verse 4 Blessed be Your Name on the road marked with suffering;
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your Name;

Pre-Chorus Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise;
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say.

Chorus Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your Name;
Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious Name.
Repeat

Bridge You give and take away, You give and take away;
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be Your Name.

Repeat

Chorus Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your Name;
Blessed be the Name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious Name.
Repeat

***Prayer for Illumination**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Loving God, when our stress rises and our busy-ness
distracts us - get our attention. Speak to us. Call us by name. See
us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the waiting room. Speak to us
in the quiet, in the crowd, in the dark of night until we hang on every
word. In the name of Jesus, whose Word we listen to and whose
work we do.

C **Amen.**

Special Music

"How Deep the Father's Love for Us"
St. John Handbell Ensemble

Townsend arr. Cota

Responsive Reading

Psalm 46:4-11

D A responsive reading from the book of Psalms.
Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C Our hearts are open.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

**God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.**

The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice; the earth melts.

**The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

**He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.**

“Be still and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations;
I am exalted in the earth.”

**The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C Thanks be to God!

*Gospel Acclamation

“Come Let Us Return”

Matt Redman © 2003 Thankyou Music

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Chorus

Come, come let us return to the Lord.
Come, come let us return to the Lord.
In brokenness of heart
We consecrate our lives, singing
Come, come let us return to the Lord.

*Gospel

Luke 10:38-42 *(Inclusive Version)*

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the tenth chapter.

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

As [Jesus and the Disciples] traveled, Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him to her home. She had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at Jesus' feet and listened to his words. Martha, who was busy with all the details of hospitality, came to Jesus and said, "Rabbi, don't you care that my sister has left me all alone to do the household tasks? Tell her to help me!" Jesus replied, "Martha, Martha! I know you're anxious and upset about many things, but only a few things are necessary—really only one. Mary has chosen the good portion, and I will not take it from her."

P The gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Evan Mayhew

*Hymn of the Day

"Jesus Messiah"

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Verse 1 He became sin, who knew no sin;
That we might become His righteousness;
He humbled Himself, and carried the cross.
Love so amazing, love so amazing.

Chorus Jesus, Messiah; name above all names;
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.
The Rescue for sinners,
The Ransom from heaven;
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.

Verse 2 His body the bread, His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love.
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn.
Love so amazing, love so amazing.

Repeat Chorus

Bridge All our hope is in You,
All our hope is in You;
All the glory to You, God,
The Light of the world.

Repeat Chorus

Jesus Messiah,
Lord of all.
The Lord of all!
The Lord of all.

***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.

Prayers of the Church

Grounded in the word and promise of God, the church prays, in the power of the Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ, for all the great needs of the world.

Your prayer requests may be shared with the pastors or the congregation, by filling out a green prayer request card in your pew and placing it in the offering plate, or through the Prayer Request form at stjohnjoliet.org.

P Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Congregation sings this response:

“Let Your Peace Rain Upon Us”

Text: Palestinian traditional; tr. Mark Swanson, b. 1955, and Mark Sedio, b. 1954. Music: YAABBA SSALAMI, Palestinian traditional. English text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

**Let Your Peace Rain Upon Us
O Living God of Peace
Let your Peace Rain Upon Us
Lord, fill our hearts with Your Peace**

The prayers conclude:

P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

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.

Ministry Highlight

Quilting Ministry

Offertory

Commitment to Community

Lent is a season of returning to God in response to the unearned grace we have received, renewing our commitment to generosity of heart by serving God and the world through prayers, offerings, and acts of kindness.

Let us give and live out of generosity, gratitude and grace!

Your offering supports many ministries and outreach within the congregation, in the community, and around the world.

The Quilting Ministry at St. John creates and shares quilts with people at local organizations like Morningstar Mission, Easter Seals, Joshua Arms and LSSI foster care. We send them to people displaced from their homes through Lutheran World Relief and hand them to people who live on the streets of Joliet. The Quilting Ministry also serves the people who do the cutting, stitching and knotting, finding Christ in their midst when they gather for the fellowship and support of dear friends.

Our Quilting Ministry and all our ministries are made possible by Jesus and the General Fund, supported by generous people like you. Thank you!

Financial gifts, attendance sheets, and prayer requests may be placed in the offering plate.



Now Accepting



Offertory Response

“I Offer My Life”

Words & Music by Claire Cloninger and Don Moen ©Juniper Landing Music, CCLI #2793209
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Lord, I offer my life to you, everything I've been through,
Use it for your glory; Lord, I offer my days to You,
Lifting my praise to You as a pleasing sacrifice,
Lord, I offer You my life.

*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. Gracious Provider,
C **you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to gather at your table of bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.**
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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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:

“You Are Holy”

Text & Music: Per Harling, b. 1948, © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress
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You are ho - ly, you are whole- ness,
you are pres- ent. Let the cos-mos praise you, Lord!
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

***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 The feast of grace is ready and the table is set for you.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Distribution

*We believe Jesus Christ is the host of this table,
his true presence is in this meal, and you are welcome here!*

St. John provides introduction to First Communion in the spring to third graders and anyone else who is interested. Younger children typically receive a blessing at the altar rail, but any people with open hands will be offered bread and wine/juice. If you or your child prefer a blessing instead, keep hands folded and head bowed.

Communion Instruction

- *You will be invited forward by the usher or pastor.*
- *Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when receiving communion.*
- *Red wine is on the outer rings of the tray; white grape juice is on the inner rings of the tray.*
- *After receiving communion, place the communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.*

If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, communion pods are available at the entrances to the sanctuary. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion.

Lamb of God

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“Lamb of God, Your Only Son”

Text by: Twila Paris. Music by: Twila Paris. © 1985 Straightway Music/Mountain Spring Music Publishing. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

Refrain

Oh Lamb of God, sweet lamb of God
I love the Holy Lamb of God.
Oh wash me in your precious blood,
my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Communion Music

“Holy Spirit, Rain Down”

Words and Music by Russell Fragar ©1997 Hillsong Publishing CCLI#2793209

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Chorus Holy Spirit rain down, rain down:
O Comforter and Friend, how we need Your touch again;
Holy Spirit rain down, rain down;
Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard;
Come and change our hearts as we stand on Your Word;
Holy Spirit, rain down. **Repeat Chorus**

Verse No eye has seen, no ear has heard;
No mind can know what God has in store,
So open up Heaven, open it wide,
Over Your Church and over our lives. **Repeat Chorus**

Rain down, rain down. (x2)

*Blessing

C Amen.

*Prayer after Communion

D Let us pray. Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us out with renewed righteousness and abundant mercy, that your liberating love might nourish the world, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

*Benediction

P As you leave this place,
May you trust that you are made in the image of God.
May you live with an open heart, a curious mind,
and with the faith that you do not go alone.
In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. *(spoken)*

*Sending Song

“All The People Said Amen”

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Chorus And all the people said, Amen.
Wo-oh-oh, and all the people said, Amen.
Give thanks to the Lord, for His love never ends.
And all the people said, Amen.
And all the people said, Amen.

*Sending

D Go in peace. Serve in love.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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March

SUNDAY, MARCH 16	<i>(Monthly Offering: Lent)</i>
8:30am - 9:30am	Worship: Sanctuary
9:45am - 10:45am	Sunday School: Sanctuary, Karin Johnson Hall, West Wing
9:45am - 10:45am	Parent Care Group Meeting: Trinity Room
9:45am - 10:45am	Fair Trade Coffee Liquidation Sale: Narthex Hallway
11:00am - 12:00pm	Worship: Sanctuary
12:15pm - 2:30pm	Tween GO!: Karin Johnson Hall
12:30pm - 2:30pm	Men's Ministry Meeting: Trinity Room
MONDAY, MARCH 17	
9:30am - 11:30am	Parent's Day Out
1:00pm - 3:00pm	Staff Meeting: Trinity Room
5:30pm - 8:00pm	A.A. Woman's Group: Karin Johnson Hall
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Monday Night Small Group: Trinity Room
7:00pm - 8:00pm	Al-Anon: West Wing 3 & 4
7:00pm - 8:00pm	Handbell Choir: Sanctuary
8:00pm - 8:30pm	Handbell Ensemble: Sanctuary
TUESDAY, MARCH 18	
9:30am - 11:30am	Parent's Day Out (PDO)
1:00pm - 3:00pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry: Youth Room
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Council Meeting: Trinity Rooms A & B
6:30pm - 8:00pm	Martha Circle: Trinity Room
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19	
8:30am - 12:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
9:30am - 11:30am	Parent's Day Out (PDO)
6:00pm - 7:00pm	Lenten Dinners (Bring Your Own Dinner): Narthex
7:00pm - 8:00pm	Lenten Worship Service: Sanctuary
7:00pm - 8:15pm	Confirmation (Recess)
8:00pm - 8:30pm	1-to-1 Conversations: Sanctuary
8:15pm - 9:15pm	High School FIRE
THURSDAY, MARCH 20	
9:00am - 11:30am	Coffee with Friends (Women): Youth Room
9:00am - 1:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
9:30am - 11:30am	Parent's Day Out (PDO)
10:00am - 11:00am	Altar Guild Meeting: Trinity Room
2:00pm - 7:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Green Team Meeting: Narthex
6:30pm - 7:30pm	Friends of the Youth: Trinity Room
7:00pm - 8:00pm	A.A. Men's Group: Zoom
7:00pm - 8:00pm	St. John Chorale: Choir Room
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Praise Team: Sanctuary
FRIDAY, MARCH 21	
8:30am - 12:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
9:00am - 11:00am	Quilters: West Wing 5
9:00am - 10:30am	Meals on Wheels: Senior Services of Will County, Mark Frost
SATURDAY, MARCH 22	
7:00am - 11:00am	Food Pantry Volunteer Shifts: Narthex/Karin Johnson Hall
8:00am - 10:00am	Food Pantry Distribution Drive-Thru: Parking Lot
10:30am - 12:00pm	Property Committee Working Meeting
5:30pm - 6:30pm	Worship: Sanctuary
SUNDAY, MARCH 23	
8:30am - 9:30am	Worship: Sanctuary
9:45am - 10:45am	Sunday School: Sanctuary, Karin Johnson Hall, West Wing
11:00am - 12:00pm	Worship: Sanctuary
12:15pm - 2:30pm	New Member Class & Lunch: Trinity Room/Narthex

*Check "stjohnfood.org" for Food Pantry distribution times and volunteer opportunities.