Stown Lutheran Church

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



Season of Creation: A "Prairie State" of Mind Before We Were Here

June 29th, 2024 @ 5:30 PM & June 30th, 2024 @ 9:30 AM 2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435 815-439-2320 | contact@stjohnjoliet.org | stjohnjoliet.org



MISSION TRIP SHARING EVENT JULY 7TH | 10:45 AM

Come see and hear about what our St. John College Age members experienced on their Mission trip to San Diego!



COLLEGE - AGE
MISSION TRIP 2024
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
SAN DIEGO

Sign up here or at

Stjohnjoliet.org



walk on the prairie. Enjoy beautiful blooming flowers

and possibly see some bison!

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 Cory Thayer in memory of Dan Thayer on his 65th birthday.

To sponsor altar flowers or coffee hour, sign up at stjohnjoliet.org or call the church office.

Worship Leaders - Saturday, June 29, 2024 (5:30 pm)

Deacon Glenn Faikus **Usher** Joan Fry

Piano Susan Yokubonis

Worship Leaders - Sunday, June 30, 2024 (9:30 am)

Deacon Sandy Smith **Communion Assistant** Kathy Moore

Greeter Heather, Bella, & Kelsey Aincham **Acolytes** Grace Aincham, Gavin Matkowich

Ushers Joe Aincham, Mike Smith

Organ & Piano Janet Blomquist
Music Director Tori Hicks
Audio Board Bill Bromer
Livestream Team Jenelle Lambert

CountersJanel Eaton, Nancy KautzAltar GuildJinny Buchholtz, Cheryl Lovell

Contact Information

Contact information		
Pastor Robin Caldwell	robincaldwell@stjohnjoliet.org	630-408-1402
Pastor Evan Mayhew	evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org	262-366-3132
Tori Hicks	torihicks@stjohnjoliet.org	815-355-3205
Judy Wierman	operations@stjohnjolilet.org	815-439-2320
Pam Kornaus	pamkornaus@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Jenelle Lambert	communications@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Jonathan Adams, President	council@stjohnjoliet.org	815-295-4092

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☑ YouTube St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet

*Indicates Congregation, Please Stand

Prelude

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" (9:30am)

Croly

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

- P Come, worship the God of all Creation.
- C We gather to praise the Creator, the continuous source of all living things.
- P Come, worship our God who breathes life into being.
- C We praise the Creator who fashions the plains, whose prairie cleanses the waters and enriches the soil.
- P Come, worship our God who forms life out of the ground.
- C We praise the Creator whose land brings nourishment.
- P Come, worship our God who receives our lament in the wilderness.
- C We praise the Creator whose Son brings healing to all Creation. Amen.

*Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who so loves the world and all who live in it.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, Creation, and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Reconciling God,
- C we expect nature to serve us, rather than acting as servants to our fellow living things. We pave over wild places and pollute your waters. We abuse your good Earth until it has nothing left to give. Forgive us. Remind us of the covenant of salvation you made with the world. Nourish us so we may restore your awe-inspiring Creation. Amen.
- P Jesus Christ, the one whose fingers brushed sheaves of grain, whose body hung upon a tree, and who breathed new life into a tomb of stone, forgives you all your sin. Freed from your burdens, be led by the Spirit to do God's healing work in the world.
- C Amen.

*Opening Hymn

#824, Vs. 1-3

"This Is My Father's World"

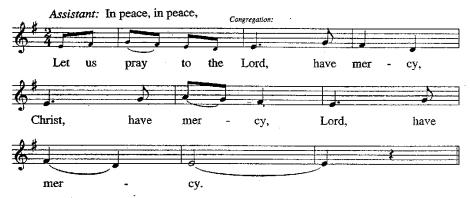
Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901; Music: Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930, adapt.; Public Domain Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

- This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears Verse 1 All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.
- Verse 2 This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise; The morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise. This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the rustling grass I hear him pass; He speaks to me ev'rywhere.
- Verse 3 This is my Father's world; oh, let me not forget That, though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad? The Lord is king, let heaven ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

*Greeting

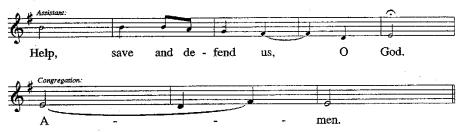
- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- And also with you. C

*Kyrie

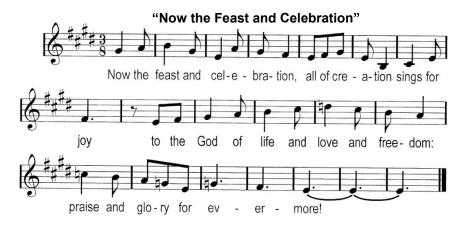


Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)



*Hymn of Praise



Leader Verse 1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,

Whose blood has freed and united us

To be one great people of God. Refrain (All)

Leader Verse 2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,

All honor and glory to Christ forever. Refrain (All)

Leader Verse 3 For God has come to dwell with us,

To make us people of God; to make all things new.

Refrain (AII)

*Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Spirit of All that Lives, your created world existed long before us and will exist long after we've gone, and yet short term concerns often drive our decision-making. As we turn to restore and consider what has been recklessly lost, the prairie, the bison, and all the indigenous people that once called these lands home, give us the wisdom to consider future generations in all that we choose to do today. We pray this in your holy name.

C Amen.

Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:9-11, 14-20

- D A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.
 - Listen for the Word of the Lord.
- C Our hearts are open.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it nor anything taken from it; God has done this so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is already has been, that which is to be already is, and God seeks out what has gone by.

Moreover, I saw under the sun that, in the place of justice, wickedness was there, and in the place of righteousness, wickedness was there as well. I said to myself, "God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for he has appointed a time for every matter and for every work." I said to myself with regard to humans that God is testing them to show that they are but animals. For the fate of humans and the fate of animals is the same; as one dies, so dies the other. They all have the same breath, and humans have no advantage over the animals, for all is vanity. All go to one place, all are from the dust, and all turn to dust again.

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

Responsive Reading

Psalm 90:1-6, 10, 12, 14

- D A responsive reading from the book of Psalms. Listen for the Word of the Lord.
- C Our hearts are open.

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

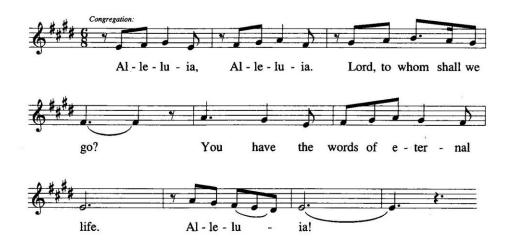
The days of our life are seventy years or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,

- Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- D Word of God, Word of Life!
- C Thanks be to God!

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel

Matthew 24: 9-13, 30-35

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus spoke to his disciples, saying,] "Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

"Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see 'the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven' with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Evan Mayhew

Hymn of the Day "O God Beyond All Praising" # 880, Vs. 1-3



*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

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In the hope of God's grace and salvation, the church prays for all the great needs of the world.

Your prayer requests may be spoken when invited during today's prayers, by filling out a green prayer request card in your pew or filling out the Prayer Request form at stjohnjoliet.org.

P Trusting in the Lord of all Creation, let us pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

Congregation sings this response:

Deep peace of the running waves, Deep peace of the flowing air, Deep peace of the shining stars to you, Deep peace of the quiet earth.

The prayers conclude:

P Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

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 with a handshake. Those who choose to stay in their pew may wave or give signs of peace.

Offertory

"Be Thou My Vision" (9:30)

Byrne

Commitment to Community

Your offering of any amount is generous and fosters God's grace for the world through the ministry of St. John, in service to God, to people in need in our neighborhood, across the country, and around the world.

Your offering and attendance sheets may be placed in the offering plate, or try our new online giving platform, Tithe.ly. Thank you!



Now Accepting





Offertory Response

"Give Thanks"

Words and Music by: Henry Smith. © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music.
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Verse Give thanks with a grateful heart,

Give thanks to the Holy One;

Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ His Son.

Repeat Verse

Chorus And now let the weak say, "I am strong!"

Let the poor say, "I am rich because of what The Lord has done for us!" **Repeat Chorus**

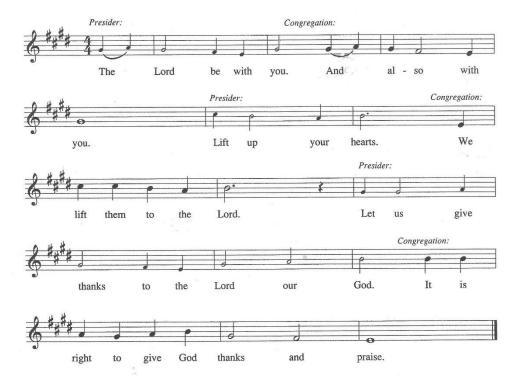
Give thanks, give thanks.

*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

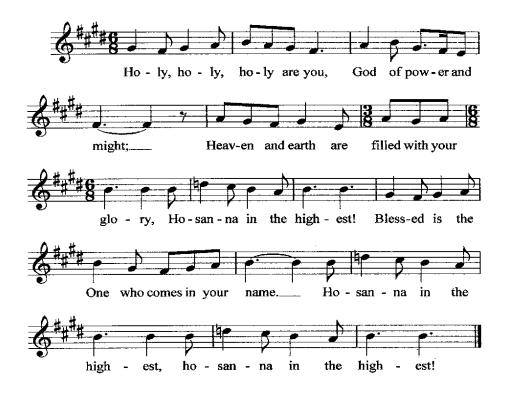
*Great Thanksgiving

Ρ



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 entered the heart of the Earth, and was born again in a garden, opening the way for humanity to be restored to your divine goodness with all of Creation. 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



*Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

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.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

*Invitation to Communion

- P Everyone is invited to taste the fruit of creation.
- C Thanks be to God!

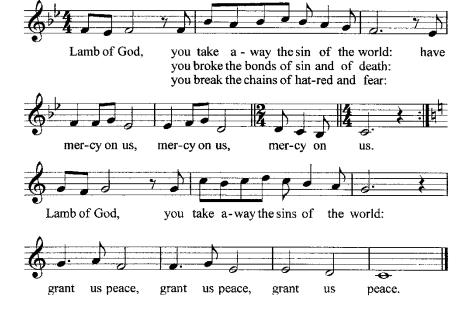
Distribution

We believe in the true presence of Jesus Christ in this meal and at this table. Everyone is welcome to receive communion, who have palms open, or receive a blessing by request.

Receiving Communion at the altar

- You will be invited forward by the usher.
- 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 used communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.

Lamb of God



Communion Music

779, Vs. 1-5

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5; Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Exell, 1851-1921, alt., Public Domain. Reprinted & Streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

Verse 1 Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found:

Was blind, but now I see.

Verse 2 Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

And grace my fears relieved:

How precious did that grace appear,

The hour I first believed!

Verse 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares

I have already come;,

'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,

And grace will lead me home.

Verse 4 The Lord has promised good to me:

> His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be,

As long as life endures.

Verse 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,

Bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise

Than when we'd first begun.

#838, Vs. 1-4

"Beautiful Savior" (9:30)
Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904, Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent. Reprinted & Streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

Verse 1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Verse 2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,

Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer;

He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Verse 3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,

Bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,

Than all the angels in the sky.

Verse 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor, praise, adoration,

Now and forevermore be thine!

*Blessing (9:30)

C Amen.

*Prayer after Communion

- D Let us pray. In this meal of bread and wine, we are reminded of the fields of grain and vineyards of grapes that sustain our body and soul. Send us now, filled with your grace, to strive for the better world you envision, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

*Benediction



*Sending Song

836, Vs. 1 & 3

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.; Public Domain Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

- Verse 1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
 Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.
 Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
- Verse 3 Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
 Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!
 Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
 Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

*Sending

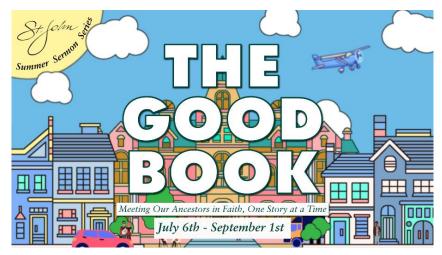
- D Go in peace! Care for creation.
- C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Joyful, Joyful" Reprise (9:30am)

van Dyke

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Congregational Forum Meeting Forum: Sunday, July 21st Meeting: Sunday, July 28th 10:45 AM in the Sanctuary A Collaboration by Finance Committee, Green Team, & Property Committee Voting on the Solar Panel Installation

Watch your email for more information!

FAITH FIELD TRIPS

<u>Saturday, July 27th 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM</u> Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie, IL.

We will be taking a tour of the Museum led by a Docent to include The Zev & Shifra Karkomi Holocaust Exhibition, which explores pre-war European life, the rise of Nazism, the Holocaust, and the post-war experiences of Survivors as they resettled in Skokie, Illinois. More than 500 artifacts, documents, photographs, and a German rail car of the type used in Nazi deportations are on display.

We will also see the Interactive Holograms Survivors Stories Experience.

Youth (Under 22) - \$8.00 Adults (23-64) - \$18.00 Seniors (65+) - \$12.00

RSVP by July 17th, 2024

Transportation is individual, but we can coordinate car pooling.

Contact Janel Eaton, Coordinator - 815-341-7365

Summer Worship Hours

Saturday 5:30 PM

Sunday 9:30 AM: Worship 8:30 AM: Coffee Hour

Summer Potluck Coffee Hours

8:30 AM : July 7th 8:30 AM : August 4th

Outdoor Worship Dates

June 30th , July 28th, September 1st Please bring your own chair & meet by the firepit

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

9:30am - 10:30am Worship: Outdoors/Fire Pit Area

3:00pm - 4:00pm David Bishop Gathering: Narthex/Trinity Room

4:00pm - 5:00pm David Bishop Memorial: Sanctuary

5:00pm - 6:30pm David Bishop Fellowship & Refreshments: Karin Johnson Hall



MONDAY, JULY 1 (Special Offering: Helping Hands)

3:00pm - 5:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry: Youth Room 5:30pm - 7:00pm Scouts Committee Meeting: Narthex 7:00pm - 8:30pm Boy Scouts: Karin Johnson Hall

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

8:30am - 12:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall

8:15pm - 9:15pm HS FIRE: Youth Room

THURSDAY, JULY 4 (Church Office Closed)

9:00am - 11:30am Coffee with Friends (Women): Trinity Room

9:00am - 1:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall 2:00pm - 6:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall (Closed)

3:00pm - 5:00pm Daybreak Cooking: SJ Kitchen

4:00pm - 7:00pm Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall (Closed)

4:00pm - 6:00pm Food Pantry Distribution Online Orders: West Wing (Closed)

5:15pm - 6:00pm Daybreak Transportation: Personal Car

6:00pm - 7:30pm Daybreak Serving: Daybreak Shelter 7:00pm - 8:00pm A.A. Men's Group: Zoom

FRIDAY, JULY 5 (Church Office Closed)

9:00am - 11:00am Quilters: West Wing 5

9:00am - 10:30am Meals on Wheels: Senior Services of Will County, Mark Frost

SATURDAY, JULY 6

7:00am - 11:00am Food Pantry Volunteer Shifts: Narthex & Karin Johnson Hall

8:00am - 10:00am Food Pantry Distribution Drive-Thru: Parking Lot

5:30pm - 6:30pm Worship: Sanctuary (Bartleman Baptisms)

SUNDAY, JULY 7

8:30am -9:30am Coffee Hour Potluck

9:30am - 10:30am Worship: Sanctuary

10:45am - 12:00pm College Mission Trip Presentation: Sanctuary

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