



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work.
Our hands.

Worship Services:

Sundays 9:00 am

Interim Pastor

Pastor Len Hoffmann

815-975-4740

prlen.hoffmann@yahoo.com

Church office hours:

Mon., Thur., Fri. 6-11 AM

Parish Administrator

DJ Scott

prshadmin@gmail.com

Church Address:

PO Box 234 229 S First St

Pearl City, IL 61062

Church Phone:

815-443-2215

Building Hours:

The building will only be open
when the office is open

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Ever Loving, Caring Always"



Fourth Sunday of Easter

Pastor Len Hoffmann presiding

Holy Communion

May 11, 2025

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

Please join us for a time of fellowship after the worship service in Luther Hall. Refreshments will be provided.

Serving Us Today

Presiding Minister: Pastor Len Hoffmann **Acolytes:** Kooper Kampmeier **Organist:** Kathy Hillmer **Lector:** Deb Bremmer **Assisting Minister:** Tracy Downs **Greeter:** Linda Brinkmeier **Ushers:** Jay & Brianne Freedlund family **Counters:** Cindy Heimerdinger & Mike Palmer **Sacristan:** Kathy Williams, Kris Liebenstein, and Nancy Trampel

P Pastor

C Congregation

L Lector

A Assisting Minister

Introduction to the Day

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PRESERVICE MUSIC & WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P In the name of ☩ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C Amen

P Baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C make us one as you are one.

P We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C make us one as you are one.

P We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit’s power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C make us one as you are one.

P Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN “Morning Has Broken” **W&P 98**
(During the hymn, please bring your Good Gifts donations to the containers in front)

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

THIS IS THE FEAST

ELW Page 149

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you

P O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING

Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

L A reading from Acts, the ninth chapter

L Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she

sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 23

L Let us say the Psalm responsively

L The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

C **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

L You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

C **Though 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.**

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

C **Surely 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

Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

L A reading from Revelations, the seventh chapter

L After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed

their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Page 142

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. The Father and I are one.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated.)

SERMON

REFLECTION SONG

“Borning Cry”

ELW 732

(Please stand as you are able.)

NICENE CREED

ELW PAGE 104

(Please be seated.)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

(A brief silence.)

A You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You remember your faithful. Remember all who are confined to their homes or health care centers from our community and congregation. Today we pray for *Shirley Goldsmith, Carol Garnhart, Richard Brinkmeier, Lori Miller, Janis Kampmeier, Mary Ellen Aurand, Verda Werkheiser, Carol Byers, Gina Boop, Ron Fluegel, Louise Cuccio and Ron & Connie Melville*. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints (*especially*), we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

P Let us share signs of peace with one another.

“LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL”

ELW #182

OFFERING

(Please stand as you are able.)

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

A Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

PREFACE

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:

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

ELW PAGE 153

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW PAGE 145

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Communion instruction – as we gather for Holy Communion, you will come down the center aisle, receive the bread and cup, and return by the side aisle. Wine is the dark liquid and grape juice is the light liquid in the center ring. If you wish to receive gluten free, it is available. Please ask. If you wish to only receive a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed. This is a time where all God's people find unity.

RECEIVING OF HOLY COMMUNION

P The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C **Amen**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“Shout To the Lord”

ELW 821

DISMISSAL

A Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

A Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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tress Liturgies Annual License #28059

St John's Church will be manning the Pearl City Food Pantry the month of July. If anyone could spend a couple of hours on a Saturday morning please contact Doris Kness or Janet Ferguson. July 12th and July 26th are the days that the patrons come to get their groceries. More help is needed on those two dates. Thank You.

Sunday School will continue through the month of May meeting the first and third Sunday as always. We will be on hiatus through the summer months but will meet up again on Sunday, September 14th which is Rally Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact Morgan Scharping or Theresa Snetcher.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Interim Pastor

Pastor Len Hoffmann

815-975-4740

prlen.hoffmann@yahoo.com

Parish Administrator:

DJ Scott

E-mail: prshadmin@gmail.com

Church Office

815-443-2215

Box 234

229 S First St

Pearl City, IL 61062

Mon., Thur., Fri. 6-11AM

St. John's Website

www.stjohnspearlcity.org

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, May 11, 2025

9a Worship

10:15a Stewardship/Outreach committee meeting

10:15a Memorial/Finance committee meeting

10:15a Christian Education committee meeting

6p 4-H meeting

Monday, May 12, 2025

6p American Legion Auxiliary meeting

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

10a Worship & Music committee meeting

Thursday, May 15, 2025

8a Grace Meal prep

3:15p Healthy Wolves backpack packing

Saturday, May 17, 2025

8a Grace Meal prep

Sunday, May 18, 2025

Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148

Revelations 21:1-6 John 13:31-35

PEARL CITY HEALTHY WOLVES FOOD PROGRAM

Provides backpacks filled with nutritious meals and snacks for school aged children K-12 for the weekend. **We are currently sending 20-25 backpacks each week.** The cost of supplies runs about \$7.50 per backpack, per week. **Donations of financial support are needed.** Please contact Theresa Albers if you have any questions.

TO DONATE ONLINE: <http://www.stjohnspearlcity.org/giving> Scroll down to these instructions: **On-line Giving:** Click [here](#) to give now in the form of a credit or debit card to St. John's. This is a safe, secure and quick method to give to our ministries from anywhere at any time. On-line giving offers you the ability to do a onetime transaction or set-up a recurring transaction. This option allows members and non-members alike to give to the ministries of St. John's. You will be able to select "Healthy Wolves" for your gift designation.

Women's Gathering News ...

- *Women's Gathering has dish cloths for sale. They are \$1.50 each. Contact the church office or Lynda Palmer if you are interested.
- *Prayer Shawl Outreach on Sunday, June 1st at 10 AM in Luther Hall. Start a shawl/quilt or work on one already started. Someone will be available to help.
- *The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20th at Route 20 Bar & Grill. Fellowship will begin at 9:45. The bible study will begin at 10 AM. Jerilyn Strohecker will be leading the bible study. Lunch will be ordered from the menu following the meeting.
- *Quilts for the 2025 graduates will be given on Sunday, May 18th. A reception will follow worship in Luther Hall.
- *We are taking reservations for White Pines on Wednesday, May 14th at 11:30 a.m. with a tribute to Johnny Cash. Tickets are \$65 that includes a buffet lunch, gratuity and show. Please call or text Karen Bremmer 815-821-4698.

During the monthly zoom meeting with the synod and other call committee chairs, it was made known there are 17 fulltime positions open in the synod and 5 part time positions. Several pastors will be retiring in the next few months so expect more congregations joining the call process. On the bright side, more pastors throughout the country have shown interest in moving to a new call. The synod is working very hard to bring these pastors to our synod. Several churches in our synod have had interviews with candidates so please do not give up hope. Please keep all candidates, churches going through the call process, and seminarians in our prayers.

We are looking for one male, one female, and one youth member of the church to attend the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly scheduled for June 13th and 14th at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. Lodging, meals, and registration is paid for by the congregation. If you are interested in this opportunity to represent St. John's at this meeting or have questions about this, please contact the church office.

Confirmation will meet only once this month as graduation is on the third Sunday of the month. This will also be our last meeting until our informational meeting on Sunday, September 14, 2025 right after the church service. We will meet on Sunday, June 22 to clean, dry, weigh and package the cap project so that we can finally get our bench. We will begin our quest right after the church service and hopefully get it all done and ready to be transported to Indiana. I will be serving pizza for lunch and we will have a snack for the afternoon. I encourage anyone to join us as the more the merrier. You will begin to see signs at church and announcements throughout the next six weeks so that we can get the job done. Many hands make light work!!!! As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Shawn Kuhlemeier.

Since Federal HIPAA Laws require hospitals to keep patient information private, pastors no longer have access to patient information. So if you would like a pastoral visit while hospitalized, please contact Pastor Len directly at 815-975-4740 by phone or text, or email at prlen.hoffmann@yahoo.com.

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lector
May 18	Josh & Alison Hille family	Larry & Kathy Albrecht	Lynda Palmer
Acolytes		Tech Support	
Lucy Voss Diem Gronewold		Kolton Kampmeier Welden Snetcher	



Happy Birthday!

*Marge Roiland Alison Hille Jim Robinson
Ashley Gronewold Khristine Block*

Grace Meal News. . .

Thank You to everyone who helped with the Community Easter Meal!! Linda Albright, Grace and Kamryn Heimerdinger-Baake, Deb Bremmer, Pastor Roger Bronkema, Bonnie Dittmar, Tracy Downs, Kris & Marion Eden, Randy & Sandy Faust, Janet Ferguson, Pastor Wayne & Melissa Fischer, Lois Hunsaker, Joan & Marvin Klatt, Doris Kness, Joshua, Katrina & Kassidy Linnemann, Judy & Rollin Nelson, Angie & Wayne Niehaus, DJ Scott, Marilyn Smital, and Marge Roiland.

We served a total of 264 meals, 27 deliveries, 11 dine-ins and 226 curbside pickups. The meal was prepared and served as a joint effort of the area churches like the Community Christmas Meal. It was funded by local businesses and donations.

The May meal will be a St. John's Grace Meal on May 18th. To reserve your meals for that day, contact St. John's Lutheran Church by Thursday May 15th (815-443-2215). Meals can be picked up between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the 18th. The Menu for the May Grace Meal will be BBQ sandwich, 3 bean salad, potato chips and a Rice Krispy bar.

The social ministry committee will be having a collection for the ELCA Good Gifts project from April 27th through June 1st. Their goals for this project are 1 herd of goats, 2 groups of 10 chicks, 1 rooster for chicks, 7 honeybee hives, 4 food packages for vulnerable & orphaned children for one month, 10 vaccinations for a child, 10 water filters, 2 piglets, and 1 mosquito net.

Total goals for the ELCA Good Gifts Project: \$1245.

We will have collection bins at the front of the church for all the items that are listed. Please consider giving to this important ministry to improve lives throughout the world.