



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., Tues., Wed. 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"



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Pastor Len Hoffmann presiding

Holy Communion—Memorial items dedication

May 25, 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 Hoffman **Acolytes:** Hudson Voss **Organist:** Kathy Hillmer **Lector:** Stacey Block **Assisting Minister:** Lincoln Voss **Greeter:** Jerilyn Strohecker **Ushers:** Jayson & Kim Williams 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

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

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 **“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”** **ELW 836**
(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 Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

MEMORIAL DEDICATIONS

P Siblings in Christ, today we give thanks to God and we seek God’s blessing as we gather with thankfulness to dedicate these Memorial and gifts to the glory of God.

C We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for you have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift; you have commanded us to show your splendor to each generation; and you have invited us to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy.

P Send your blessing on the **Shelving in the Luther Hall storage room** in memory of **Gordon Garnhart, Ron Helman, and Delores Randal**. May it serve as a reminder of all the ministries we do at St. John’s and the gatherings held in Luther Hall.

Send your blessing on the **30-quart mixer** in honor of **Carol Zier**. May it be used to create delicious meals that serve St. John’s and the Pearl City Community.

P Send your blessing on the **mixer cart** in memory of **Rodney Block**. May it assist in making it easier to transport the new mixer while it creates its meals for the Pearl City Community.

P Send your blessing on the **two long tables and twelve padded chairs in Luther Hall** in memory of **Keith Kness, Mary Smital, and Carol Zier**. May they create a relaxing and comforting atmosphere while people enjoy fellowship in Luther Hall.

P Send you blessing on the **new Maytag oven in the kitchen** in memory of **James Brinkmeier**. May it help to create and cook meals for the Pearl City community and the other ministries of St. John's.

C Amen

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING

Acts 16:9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

L A reading from Acts, the sixteenth chapter

L During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 67

- L** Let us say the Psalm responsively
- L** May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.
- C** Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.
- L** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
- C** Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.
- L** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
- C** The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.
- L** May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

- L** A reading from Revelation, the twenty-first chapter
- L** And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.
Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

- L** The word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Please stand as you are able)

ELW Page 142

GOSPEL

John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

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

P Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated.)

SERMON

REFLECTION SONG

“Let Us Break Bread”

ELW 471

(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 Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God.

G **Your mercy is great.**

A Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers, especially nurses, doctors, counselors, and social workers. Come alongside all who are ill or struggling (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn, and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, that war and conflict around the world might cease. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A 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 We give you thanks for all your saints raised to new life in Christ (*especially*). Gather us, with them, into the peace only you can give. 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.

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

“O Beautiful For Spacious Skies”

ELW 888

DISMISSAL

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tress Liturgies Annual License #28059

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!

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 summer bible study/breakfast is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15th at 9:30 Am at Karen Bremmer's house (313 W. Walgren in Pearl City). Karen will lead the bible study that day. There will be a sign up sheet in the lobby for those attending.

*The next Women's Gathering Board meeting will be Tuesday, June 17th at 9AM in Luther Hall.

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.

Sunday School 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

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St. John's Lutheran Church **News and Updates**

May 25, 2025

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, May 25, 2025

9a Worship

Tuesday, May 27, 2025

JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Sunday, June 1, 2025

Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97

Revelations 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26


Confirmation There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, September 14, 2025 right after the church service. We will meet on Sunday, June 22nd 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.

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.

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.

This year, we're excited to partner with Zion Community Church and invite your child or grandchild to participate in Zion's Vacation Bible School in the evenings from July 13-17. More details will be shared soon!

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lector
June 1	Bonnie Dittmar	Doris Kness	Andrew Gronewold
Acolytes		Tech Support	
Hudson Voss		Marlee McPeck Hudson Voss	

Happy Birthday!

*Heidi Erbsen-Poldre Coe Kempel Devin Schiess Ross Bremmer Fred Mather
Theresa Albers Jennifer Elliot Earlene Domberger Kay DePrisco*

Grace Meal News. . .

A special Thank You!! to everyone who helped with the May Grace Meal!! Bonnie Dittmar, Dennis Downs, Kris & Marion Eden, Randy & Sandy Faust, Lois Hunsaker, Judy & Rollin Nelson, Angie & Wayne Niehaus, DJ Scott, Theresa Snetcher, Kathy Williams, Marge Roiland, and Jim Heimerdinger.

We served a total of 240 meals, 34 deliveries, and 206 curbside pickups.

The June meal will be on June 15th. To reserve your meals for that day, contact St. John's Lutheran Church by Thursday June 12th (815-443-2215). Meals can be picked up between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the 15th. The menu for the June Grace Meal will be pork chop, baked potato, green beans, applesauce, and chocolate cake.

The Grace Meal Committee would like to thank the congregation for stepping up and making financial donations to help the great ministry continue serving meals each month.

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.