



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., Wed., Fri 6:30-11:30 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"



Time After Pentecost

Pastor Len Hoffmann presiding

Special Music by Kayla Morgan

July 13, 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:** Welden Snetcher **Organist:** Kathy Hillmer **Lector:** Joan Stewart **Assisting Minister:** Karen Bremmer **Greeter:** Randy & Sandy Faust **Ushers:** Marion & Kris Eden **Counters:** Joan Klatt & Kathy Albrecht **Sacristan:** Kathy Williams, Kris Liebenstein, and Nancy Trampel

P Pastor

C Congregation

L Lector

A Assisting Minister

Introduction to the Day

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

PRESERVICE MUSIC & WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

P Merciful God,

C you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C Amen

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Moses calls the people who are about to enter the promised land to renew the covenant God made with their ancestors. Through this covenant God gives life and asks for obedience. God's commandment is neither burdensome nor too far off, but dwells in the people's hearts.

L A reading from Deuteronomy, the thirtieth chapter

L The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 25:1-10

- L** Let us say the Psalm responsively
- L** To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- C** **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- L** Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
- C** **Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**
- L** Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- C** **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**
- L** Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- C** **You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
- L** You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.
- C** **All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

SECOND READING

Colossians 1:1-14

The letter to the Colossians was written to warn its readers of various false teachings. The first part of the letter is an expression of thanks for the faith, hope, and love that mark this community, including a prayer for strength and courage.

- L** A reading from Colossians, the first chapter
- L** Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.
- In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.
- For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and

asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL

Luke 10:25-37

Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON
REFLECTION SONG

“How Great Thou Art”

Kayla Morgan

(Please stand as you are able.)

APOSTLES’ CREED

ELW PAGE 105

(Please be seated.)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

(A brief silence.)

A Saving God, awaken your church to your truth as it follows your path of love. Encourage pastors, deacons, teachers, and seminarians, and lead them as they seek to learn your ways. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A Prosper the harvests of fruit-bearing bushes, trees, and plants. Uphold farmers and farm workers as they labor through summer days, and bring relief to lands that are parched with heat. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A Instill in leaders of the world a strong love for their neighbors. Compel them to govern with equity and to give aid and protection to people who are vulnerable, especially strangers, migrants, and asylum seekers. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A Draw near to people in need of help, comfort, and healing (*especially*). Provide protection and aid to children who are unsafe and undernourished while on summer break. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A Go with all who travel, and protect them from harm. Put in their paths people who offer aid. We pray especially for the safety of first responders. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

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, Jerry Harnish, Ron Fluegel, Louise Cuccio and Ron & Connie Melville*. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A We give you thanks for all who have gone before us and have made your love known. Help us to follow their witness as we await our share in the inheritance of the saints. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

P Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

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 Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW PAGE 145

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

*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 MUSIC

“Beautiful Savior”

Kayla Morgan

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 Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name.

C **Amen**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“Shall We Gather At the River”

WOV 690

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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tress Liturgies Annual License #28059

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.

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., Wed., Fri. 6:30-11:30 AM

St. John's Website

www.stjohnspearlcity.org

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, July 13, 2025

9a Worship

10a Stewardship/Outreach & Christian Ed. meeting

10a Memorial/ Finance committee meeting

5:30p VBS at Zion Community Church

6p 4-H meeting

Monday, July 14, 2025

5:30p VBS at Zion Community Church

6p American Legion Auxiliary meeting

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

5:30p VBS at Zion Community Church

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

9a Women's Gathering summer gathering

5:30p VBS at Zion Community Church

7p Church Council meeting

Thursday, July 17, 2025

5:30p VBS at Zion Community Church

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Genesis 18:1-10a Psalm 15

Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42

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.

Confirmation There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, September 14, 2025 right after the church service. This is Rally Sunday and we would like to see everyone at worship that day! As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Shawn Kuhlemeier.

The social ministry committee will be starting their school supply collection on July 13th, and it will continue through August 10th. The items we will be collecting are: Markers, glue, pencils, crayons, erasers, rulers, Clorox wipes, wireless computer mice, earbuds, 2 -pocket folders, notebooks, highlighters, index cards, sticky notes, scissors, pencil cases, etc. There will be a collection bin in the narthex. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Please make your check out to St. John's and indicate on your check or envelope that it is for the school supply collection.

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, August 3rd 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 Wednesday, July 16th at 9:00 AM at Karen Bremmer's house (313 W. Walgren in Pearl City). Karen will lead the bible study that day. There is a sign up sheet in the lobby for those attending.

*Thank you to Kathy Hillmer and Kris & Marion Eden for the beautiful Pentecost decorations and to DJ for taking down the butterflies and the cross.

*Thank you to the following women for their work in the WELCA room in the lower level on Tuesday, June 17th: Maryann Buettner, Marilyn Smital, Kris Eden, Jeri Strohecker, Janet Ferguson, Lynda Palmer and Karen Bremmer. A lot was completed organizing the room, but more has to be done. Another date this fall will be announced.

*I would like to thank our Women's Gathering Board (Kathy Hillmer, Doris Kness, Lynda Palmer, Janet Ferguson, Kris Eden and guest, Marilyn Smital) for having a good meeting on Tuesday, June 17th. A lot of decisions were made. They are willing to stay as officers, but if someone would like to be on the board, please let me know before August 12th. We would love to add more board members. ——Karen Bremmer, President

*There will be Ladies Night Out and Annual Meeting entitled "Baskets of Sunshine" on Tuesday, August 12th at 6PM at St. John's. The program will include Deb Mather sharing her basket weaving talents. Dinner will include chicken or ham salad croissants, chips, fruit, strawberry, Key Lime, or Lemon Meringue pie, and coffee and water. The cost is \$10—please give to Lynda Palmer or put in the security box outside the office. Be sure to sign up on the sheet in the lobby as well.

Pastor Len will be hosting a bible study on Wednesday, July 23rd at 6:30 PM and the topic will be the Book of Revelation. He will also be hosting another bible study on Sunday, July 27th at 10:15 AM and the topic will be Living Faith in Daily Life. Come either day or both and bring your bibles. Each bible study will last about an hour!

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.

Make plans to join us at the Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, August 3rd at the Park District shelter near the tennis courts. Refreshments will be served at 9:30 AM and the service will begin at 10:00. Dan Brinkmeier's band "The Risches" will provide special music. Bring your lawn chairs!

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lector
July 20	Chad & Deb Bremmer	Dennis Downs	Kathy Hillmer
Acolytes		Tech Support	
Kolton Kampmeier		Jonah Schubert	



Happy Birthday!

*Kolby Kempel Lynda Palmer Brayden Heimerdinger
Brock Kloften Amy Roling Marwin Klatt*

Grace Meal News. . .

A special thank you to everyone who helped with the June Grace Meal: Larry & MaryAnn Buettner, Kris & Marion Eden, Randy & Sandy Faust, Janet Ferguson, Lois Hunsaker, Joan & Marwin Klatt, Angie & Wayne Niehaus, David Williams, Kathy Williams, DJ Scott, and Cathy Hoffmann. We served a total of 254 meals, 39 deliveries, and 215 curbside pickups.

A big thank you to David Williams for supplying the grills and charcoal and to David, Randy Faust and Larry Buettner for cooking and helping with the pork chops . A Great Job!!

The July meal will be on July 20th. To reserve your meals for that day, contact St. John's Lutheran Church by Thursday July 17th (815-443-2215). Meals can be picked up between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the 20th. The menu for the July Grace Meal will be a brat with bun, chips, baked beans, fruit cup and a chocolate chip cookie.

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. If you think you can help prepare or serve a meal talk to Kris Eden, Marge Roiland, or Lois Hunsaker!

Check out the two White Pines shows available this fall. "Getting Better With Age" on October 8th and "Scrooge the Comedy" on December 10th. **Both shows have limited tickets available** and a deadline about a week before each show. Get signed up in the lobby and turn your money in at the office or in the security box by the office door.