



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., Thurs., 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 Jen Beamsley presiding

August 10, 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 Jen Beamsley **Acolytes:** Kolton Kampmeier **Organist:** Karen Bremmer **Lector:** Theresa Albers **Assisting Minister:** Theresa Albers **Greeter:** Ken & Kathy Hillmer **Ushers:** Jim & Judy Robinson **Counters:** Kathy Albrecht & Karen Bremmer **Sacristan:** Kathy Williams, Kris Liebenstein, and Nancy Trampel

P Pastor

C Congregation

L Lector

A Assisting Minister

Introduction to the Day

Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

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

GATHERING HYMN

“You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

ELW 817

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. Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING **Genesis 15:1-6**

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

L A reading from Genesis, the fifteenth chapter

L After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 33:12-22

L Let us say the Psalm responsively

L Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

C The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.

L God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.

C God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.

- L** A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- C** **The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.**
- L** Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
- C** **to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**
- L** Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.
- C** **Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**
- L** Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

- L** A reading from Hebrews, the eleventh chapter

L Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

- L** The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

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

P [Jesus said:] “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

REFLECTION SONG

“O Christ the Same”

WOV 778

(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 Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A Let your lovingkindness be on those in need (*especially*). Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A Comforting God, remember all who are confined to their homes and 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, Donna Freedlund, and Ron & Connie Melville*. God of grace,

C **Hear our prayer**

A We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. 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 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

“Blessed Assurance”

WOV 699

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C Thanks be to God.

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tress Liturgies Annual License #28059



Be with us next Sunday when we bless the Healthy Wolves backpacks and student/teacher backpacks and have a blessing for the upcoming school year. Students and teachers are asked to bring their backpacks/bags to be blessed during the service as well!

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

St. John's Website

www.stjohnspearlcity.org

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, August 10, 2025

9a Worship

10a Stewardship/Outreach committee meeting

10a Memorial & Finance committee meeting

6p 4-H meeting

Monday, August 11, 2025

6p American Legion Auxiliary meeting

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

6p Women's Gathering Ladies Night Our & meeting

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

10a Worship & Music committee meeting

Thursday, August 14, 2025

1p Cards & Dominoes in Luther Hall

Friday, August 15, 2025

8a Grace Meal prep

Saturday, August 16, 2025

8a Grace Meal prep

Sunday, August 17, 2025

Jeremiah 23:23-29 Psalm 82

Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56

Pastor Len will be on vacation from August 1st through 15th. Pastor Jen Beamsley will lead worship on August 10th. She is the Assistant to the Bishop for Transitional Ministry. If you are in need of Pastoral Care while Pastor Len is on vacation, Pastor Robin Luckey will be available. Her email address is lordoflovegalenapastor@gmail.com and her phone number is 509-768-6841.

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.

Pastor Len will be hosting another bible study on Sunday, August 24th at 10:15 AM and the topic will be Living Faith in Daily Life. There will also be another bible study on Wednesday, August 27th at 6:30 PM. The topic on the 27th will be the book of Revelation. Even if you haven't been to the previous bible studies, come to these and bring your bibles. Each bible study will last about an hour!

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 will not meet on Sunday, September 7th. Start a shawl/quilt or work on one already started. Someone will be available to help.

*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. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, August 3rd.

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.

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 Sharping or Theresa Snetcher.

The social ministry committee will continue their school supply collection through August 10th. The items being collected 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 is 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.

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lector
August 17	Joel & Lori Kempel	Chad & Jordy McPeck family	Morgan Scharping
Acolytes		Tech Support	
Jonah Schubert		Welden Snetcher Lucy Voss	



Happy Birthday!

*Joel Kempel Karen Bremmer Jessica Ferguson
Karen Henze Wade Sheffey*

Grace Meal News. . .

A special thank you to everyone who helped with the July Grace Meal: Bonnie Dittmar, Dennis Downs, Kris & Marion Eden, Randy & Sandy Faust, Gertrude Heimerdinger, Jim Heimerdinger, Grace Heimerdinger and Kids, Cathy Hoffmann, Lois Hunsaker, Judy & Rollin Nelson, Angie & Wayne Niehaus, and DJ Scott. We served a total of 252 meals, 37 deliveries, and 215 curbside pickups.

The August Grace Meal will be on August 17th. To reserve your meals for that day, contact St. John's Lutheran Church by Thursday August 14th (815-443-2215). Meals can be picked up between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the 17th. The Menu for the August Grace Meal will be lasagna, cole slaw, Italian bread, and brownie.

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!

Beginning on Rally Day (September 14th) Pastor Len and the Christian Education committee would like to offer Sunday School every Sunday instead of just the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. In order to make that happen, we will need more volunteers to help teach Sunday School. The hope is to get a total of four or five interested volunteers so that each could commit to one Sunday per month. Those volunteers will be given materials to teach and could ask questions before teaching. If this is something you would like to do to help out, please reach out to the office or talk to Shawn Kuhlemeier.