



# 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](mailto:prlen.hoffmann@yahoo.com)

## **Church office hours:**

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

## **Parish Administrator**

DJ Scott

[prshadmin@gmail.com](mailto: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 Outdoor Worship Service**

The Risches band performing

August 3, 2025

**Large Print Bulletins** are available from the ushers.

## Serving Us Today

**Presiding Minister:** none **Acolyte:** none **Lector:** Kris Eden **Assisting Minister:** Kathy Hillmer **Greeters:** Janet Ferguson **Ushers:** Theresa Snetcher family **Counters:** Joan Klatt and Kathy Albrect **Sacristan:** Kathy Williams, Nancy Trampel, and Kris Liebenstein

**P** Pastor

**C** Congregation

**L** Lector

**A** Assisting Minister

## PRELUDE (performed by The Risches band)

## INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**C** Amen

**A** Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*(Silence is kept for reflection)*

**A** 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.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*“Just a Closer Walk With Thee”*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**A** Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

## THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:12

**L** A reading from Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter

**L** For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

**L** The word of the Lord

**C** Thanks be to God

## PSALM

Psalm 1

**L** Let us say the Psalm responsively

**L** Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of the scoffers;

**C** but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law they meditate day and night.

**L** They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

**“Wayfaring Stranger”**

## GOSPEL

Galatians 5:22-23

**A** The Holy Gospel according to Galatians, the fifth chapter

**C** Glory to you, O Lord

**A** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

**A** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## MESSAGE

### Important Spiritual Lessons for Trees in the bible by the Women's Gathering

**Reader 1—Karen Bremmer**

**Reader 2—Kathy Hillmer—Turn Toward the Light**

**Reader 3—Kris Eden—Put Down Roots**

**Reader 4—Janet Ferguson—Bring Forth the Fruit**

**Reader 5—Lynda Palmer—Think Long Term**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

**“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**A** God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

**C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

*(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** Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer

**A** Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**A** Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**A** Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear (*especially*). Give strength to those who give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**A** Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. 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, Donna Freedlund, and Ron & Connie Melville*. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**A** Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

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

**C** hear our prayer.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*“Little Mountain Church”*

## 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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, 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.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

**“Are You Washed in the Blood”**

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISMISSAL

**A** Go into God's world in peace to love and serve your neighbor.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

***“Will the Circle Be Unbroken”***

**assembly sings along using the words on the back page.**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Interim Pastor

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815-975-4740

prlen.hoffmann@yahoo.com

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DJ Scott

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### 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](http://www.stjohnspearlcity.org)

## This Week at St. John's

### Sunday, August 3, 2025

**10a** Outdoor Worship service

**11a** Property committee meeting

### Tuesday, August 5, 2025

**9a** Dominoes in Luther Hall


### Wednesday, August 5, 2025

**7:30a** Men's Breakfast at The Beltline Cafe

Sunday, August 10, 2025

Genesis 15:1-6 Psalm 33:12-22

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lector
August 10	Ken & Kathy Hillmer	Jim & Judy Robinson	Theresa Albers
Acolytes		Tech Support	
Kolton Kampmeier		Welden Snetcher	

### *Happy Birthday!*

*Arianna Schoenhard   Andrea Baumgartner   Crew Kempel*

*Iris Maria Poldre   MaryAnn Kliman*

### ***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, August 3<sup>rd</sup> because of the Outdoor Worship service. It will continue on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. Start a shawl/quilt or work on one already started. Someone will be available to help.

\*There will be Ladies Night Out and Annual Meeting entitled "Baskets of Sunshine" on Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> 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. Sign up deadline is August 3<sup>rd</sup>!!

**Pastor Len will be hosting a bible study on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 AM and the topic will be Living Faith in Daily Life. He will also be hosting another bible study on Wednesday, August 27<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 PM and the topic will be the Book of Revelation. Come either day or both and bring your bibles. Each bible study will last about an hour!**

Don't forget that the August Grace Meal will be on Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. The menu for the day is lasagna, cole slaw, Italian bread, and brownie. . Reservations need to be in the office by Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.

**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!**

## **Will the Circle be Unbroken (Dr. Ralph Stanley version)**

I was standing by my window  
On a cold and cloudy day  
When I saw the hearse come rolling  
For to carry my mother away  
**Will the circle be unbroken**  
**By and by Lord, by and by**  
**There's a better home awaiting**  
**In the sky Lord, in the sky**  
Lord, I told that undertaker  
Undertaker please drive slow  
For this body you're haulin'  
Lord, I hate to see her go  
**Will the circle be unbroken**  
**By and by Lord, by and by**  
**There's a better home awaiting**  
**In the sky Lord, in the sky**

Oh, I followed close behind her  
Tried to hold up and be brave  
But I could not hide my sorrow  
When they laid her in that grave  
**Will the circle be unbroken**  
**By and by Lord, by and by**  
**There's a better home awaiting**  
**In the sky Lord, in the sky**  
I went back home Lord, my home was lonesome  
Searched my mother, she was gone  
All of my brothers, sisters crying  
What a home, so sad and lone  
**Will the circle be unbroken**  
**By and by Lord, by and by**  
**There's a better home awaiting**  
**In the sky Lord, in the sky**  
**In the sky Lord, in the sky**

Thank you to the members of The Risches for performing our special music today. We are blessed to have them with us today even though Dan Brinkmeier couldn't join them today!

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Pastor Len will be on vacation from August 1<sup>st</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup>. The Women's group will be running worship on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and Pastor Jen Beamsley will lead worship on August 10<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:lordoflovegalenapastor@gmail.com) and her phone number is 509-768-6841.