



August 24, 2025 11th Sunday of Pentecost

St. John’s Office Hours: 8-5 Tues.-Fri. Building Hours: 8-5 Mon.-Fri.

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St. John’s Lutheran Church of Le Mars, IA.

Senior Pastor: Steven Broers

Minister of Music: Mike Rathke

Office Manager: Kim Lang

Part-time Office Assistant: Connie Kellen

Facilities Manager: Todd Oetken

Sunday School Superintendent: Beth Larson

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Cooper Alan Royalty, who will be baptized this morning. Cooper is the son of Chris & Devin Royalty. Welcome to the family of God, Cooper!

**FORTRESS OF FAITH** is in memory of Marilyn Cook by Dale Cook and **RADIO ADS** are sponsored by a friend of St. John’s.

**TRAINING TODAY AT 10:30 AM** There will be a training session for those involved with GROW, Catechism, and Sunday School. This includes teachers, guides and helpers.

**ELDERBERRIES** Our Senior group will be meeting at 2pm this Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. We will be watching a short film called, “In Light of Eternity” about the plight of young women in East Africa and how God is at work there. The film lasts 45 minutes and then we will have a group discussion. We would love to have you come and friends are always welcome!

**WE WANT YOUR SILLY DRESS UP CLOTHES!** Donate your silly dress up clothes and accessories to St. John’s for use in our Confirmation classes. Talk to Pastor Broers if you have any questions. Thanks!

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH,** is the **IOWA MISSION DISTRICT CONVOCATION** at St. John's. Each congregation is allowed two lay delegates and also its pastor. Visitors are also welcomed to attend. NALC Bishop, Dan Selbo will be the keynote speaker. There is no cost for registration and forms can be found on the bulletin board. Please return the forms to the office by Wednesday, August 27th at noon. A freewill luncheon will be served.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!**

JOIN US THIS FALL TO



We're looking for people that love God, love kids and are willing to spend their Wednesday nights growing the kingdom of God. Positions needed include readers/guides, helpers, kitchen helpers, and greeters. Contact Kristy or Pastor Broers. Thanks!

**PRAYER PARTNERS NEEDED!** We are looking for Prayer Partners for the incoming 6th graders, who will be starting Catechism this fall. Call the office to sign up or for more information. Thanks! 546-8855

**CATECHISM GUIDE NEEDED!** We are looking for ONE person to commit to being a Confirmation Guide for our 9th grade boys starting this Fall. We meet each Wednesday evening from 6:30-8 pm. Please contact Pastor Broers with interest or questions. Thank you!

**TIME CHANGES FOR FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULES!!!**

**BEGINNING SEPT. 3RD**

**Sunday's**

**8:00 am & 10:30 am Worship**

**9:15 am Study Hour**

**Wednesday's**

**6:00 pm Worship ~~~ Communion Served 1st Weds. of the Month.**

**Excel in The Grace of Giving!** “You’ll never see a hearse pulling a U-Haul. You can’t take your money with you when you die, but you can take your money and make an impact in this life!”

**NOISY OFFERING** will be collected next weekend. Don’t forget your loose change or spare bills!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**SEPTEMBER 3**

- ⇒ 5:00 pm Bells
- ⇒ 6 pm Worship/Communion
- ⇒ 6:30 pm Catechism Student/Parent Orientation and Acolyte Training
- ⇒ 8:15 pm HS Student/Parent Youth Group Meeting

**SEPTEMBER 10**

- ⇒ 5 pm Bells
- ⇒ 5 pm - 5:45 pm Wednesday Meal & Catechism Pizza and Game Night
- ⇒ 6 pm Worship
- ⇒ 6:30 pm Catechism
- ⇒ 6:30 pm GROW Stories, Activities, and Games (pre-k - 5th gr)
- ⇒ 8:15 - 9:30 pm HS Youth Group

**YOU GOT MAIL! COLLEGE WRITING MINISTRY** Paper forms can be found in the lobby by the bulletin board. Questions, please contact Elizabeth Brennan via phone/text at 540-7315.

**College Student address form:** provide contact information, likes, birthday, and parent information. **Adult/Writer Form:** commit to writing notes once a month, September - April. Each month you will receive, through email, a different student to write.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** Inreach Team is making plans for a new Church Directory. Universal Church Directory will be at church on October 15-18 to photograph St. John’s families. Families that participate will receive a free 8X10 and a hard copy of the directory. The directory will also be available as an app on our phones. Be watching for more information and **save the dates.**

**Thank you to our worship assistants!**

**9:30 AM**

**Greeter** Iris Hemmingson  
**Lector** Janet Wiener  
**Comm Serv** Rex & Chris Knapp  
**Crucifer** Carter Westphal  
**Acolytes** Aleigha Bohlken, Kenna Grage  
**ProPresenter** Megan Jeneary  
**Video/Sound** Jacob Jeneary  
**Altar Guild** Jane Arnold, Ashley Bennett  
**Coffee Bar** Lynn Breuer

**Ushers** Ken Freyermuth, Capt. Adam Schmidt, Capt.  
Keith Westhoff Simon Kern  
Brady Westhoff Dan Albert  
Mike Haverhals Doug & Karen Carlsen  
Glenn Kellen Graham Forbes

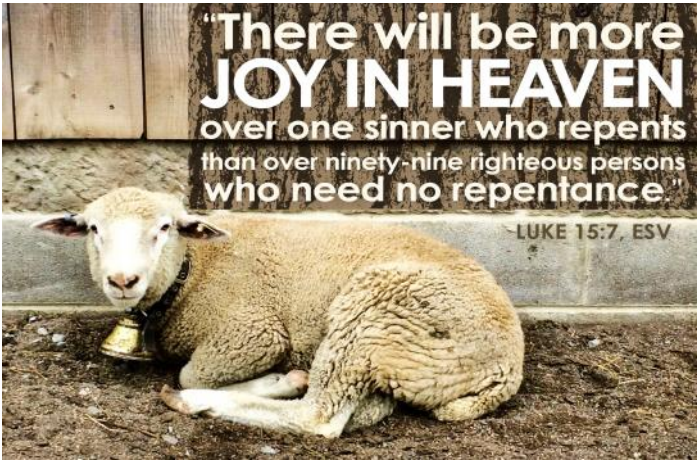
**Remember These People in Prayer:** Alex Hines, Richard Miller, Mason Sitzmann, Taelynn Ortmann, Michael, Kendra, Terri Clinton, James, Scott, Logan, Norm Nielsen, Jen, Kathy, Bob Pick, Kay Allen, Shirley, Karla Hansen, and Kathryn  
**Ongoing Prayers:** Roma Lancaster, Louis Westhoff, Sherry Jo Wittkop, Robert, Ali, Paula Parkin, Brady Plucker, Diane Riediger, and Missy Rarrat

**Sympathies** to the family and friends of LaDonna Stangby, who passed away on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Her funeral was held Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Care Facility Residents:** Good Samaritan - Ron Smith, Russ Martfeld, Lorraine Luksan, Dennis Asche, Warren Oetken; Accura Health - Patty Lubben, Marge Adler; Stonebridge Suites - Ellen Utesch, Joanne Klohs, Lynne Bogh, Roger Athens, Dorothy Luschen; Floyd Senior Living - Diane Utesch, Judy Schmidt; Heartland Care Center - Le Ann Hurlbut; Holy Spirit Retirement Home - Alma Willer; Prime Living - Wade & Betty Thompson; Vintage Hills of Indianola - Jane Schultz

Sun Aug 24	Mon Aug 25	Tues Aug 26	Wed Aug 27	Thurs Aug 28	Fri Aug 29	Sat Aug 30	Sun Aug 31
9:30 am Worship w/ Comm/Cooper Royalty Baptism 10:30 am Fellowship Time/Grow, Sunday School, Catechism Guide Training F/H		10 am Staff Mtg. 11 am Imagine Heaven Study Grp L/L 5:30 pm P.o.P.	2 pm Elderberries F/H	9 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary			Noisy Offering 9:30 am Worship w/ Comm/Guest Lindy Dohman LifeWise 10:30 am Fellowship Time

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**First Reading: 2 Samuel 11:1-17, 26-27** <sup>1</sup> In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, <sup>3</sup> and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." <sup>4</sup> Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. <sup>5</sup> The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." <sup>6</sup> So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. <sup>7</sup> When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. <sup>8</sup> Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. <sup>9</sup> But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house. <sup>10</sup> David was told, "Uriah did not go home." So he asked Uriah, "Haven't you just come from a military campaign? Why didn't you go home?" <sup>11</sup> Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and make love to my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!" <sup>12</sup> Then David said to him, "Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. <sup>13</sup> At David's invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master's servants; he did not go home. <sup>14</sup> In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. <sup>15</sup> In it he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die." <sup>16</sup> So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. <sup>17</sup> When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died. <sup>26</sup> When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. <sup>27</sup> After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Please join in a responsive reading of Psalm 51:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

<sup>2</sup> **Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

<sup>4</sup> **Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.**

<sup>5</sup> Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

<sup>6</sup> **Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.**

<sup>7</sup> Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

<sup>8</sup> **Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

<sup>10</sup> **Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup> Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup> **Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me**

**Second Reading: 1 John 1:5-10; 2:1-2**

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. <sup>2:1</sup> My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father - Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. <sup>2</sup> He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please rise for the reading of the holy Gospel.

The holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 15th chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**

**Gospel: Luke 15:1-7** <sup>1</sup> Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup> But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." <sup>3</sup> Then Jesus told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders <sup>6</sup> and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup> I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Apostles' Creed**

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.

**The Lord's Prayer**

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.