



St. John's Lutheran Church
Welcoming Everyone
Making Disciples
Trusting Jesus
Empowering Leaders



WELCOME VISITORS If you are new to St. John's, we would love to get to know you. Please use this QR Code to share your contact information.

BAPTISM Today we celebrate the baptism of Josie Rose Kroll and JaCoby Railynn Kroll, daughters of Jacob Kroll and Heather Kroll. Baptism sponsor is Michelle Lubben. May God's blessings shine on you as you grow in faith.

THANK YOU to Ellie Clark, for sharing her gift of music during the offering today.

FORTRESS OF FAITH and **RADIO ADS** are in honor and respect of our veterans and deployed military by Karol Holton. Please see Kim to sponsor a \$10 ad. Fortress of Faith spots are also available for \$25.

NOISY OFFERINGS will be collected TODAY. Please remember your loose change, or bills. Recipient of the donations will be determined at a later date. Funds that were collected for the Chicago mission trip came to \$1,784.49.

LIFEWISE is seeking some additional volunteers to work at their Fair Stand. Would you consider working a shift? Proceeds will support our local LifeWise program! Click on the QR Code to view available shifts and sign up. Thank you!



ALTAR GUILD HELPERS WANTED Join today or wait till 2027. The work is easy, scheduling time off is not a problem, snow birds can help during the Summer months. HS students are welcomed. Serve the Lord and your fellow St. John's members. Contact Sandy LaBahn, Brenda Haverhals, Lynn Breuer, or Sherri Harms for more information or get signed up.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WANTED

St. John's is looking for a new SS Superintendent. The SS Superintendent oversees all Sunday school activities and operations. A stipend is available. Please speak with Pastor Broers if interested. Thank you! And many thanks to Beth Larson who has passionately gone above and beyond to make sure that our kids know Jesus!

CATECHISM GUIDES NEEDED!

We are looking for adults, male or female, to commit to being Catechism Guides for our 6th grade classes starting this Fall. We meet each Wednesday evening from 6:30-8 pm. Please contact Pastor Broers with interest or questions. Thank you!

CATECHISM PRAYER PARTNERS WANTED!

If you would be interested in becoming a "Prayer Partner" for the incoming Catechism students, or have any questions about what is needed as a Prayer Partner, give Kim a call and she can fill you in! 712-546-8855.



Remember These People in Prayer: Scott, Tim Lohafer, Jae'cion, Nancy H., Bellamy, Hanna Francksen-Small, Sharen, Vicky Jurgenson, Nash, Diane K., Joyce Gronemeyer, Angie, Denise, Carolyn, and Kevin Durr; **Ongoing Prayers:** Mason Sitzmann, Missy Rarrat, Alex Hines, Taelynn Ortmann, Kendra, Sherry Jo Wittkop, Jen, and Diane Riediger; **Care Facility Residents:** Good Samaritan - Russ Martfeld, Lorraine Luksan, Dennis Asche; Accura Health - Patty Lubben, Bob & Nancy Potter; Stonebridge Suites - Joanne Klohs, Lynne Bogh, Roger Athens; Floyd Senior Living - Diane Utesch; Happy Siesta - Eleanor Westhoff, Wade Thompson

Sympathies to the friends and family of LeAnn Hurlbut, who passed away July 20th. Her funeral will be held at 11 am, July 27th, at Rexwinkel Funeral Home. Family includes Sheryl & Brad Brooks family.

July 26, 2026 9th 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:



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD DONATIONS

can be left in the marked box near the Resource Room. This month we are focusing on small water bottles, thin dark wash clothes and combs; however any of the other

requested items is appreciated. If you have any questions contact Jane Westphal or Pam Roling.

THRIVENT CHOICE UPDATE All Thrivent members will now receive Choice Dollars, that can be directed to thousands of non-profits. St. John's is one of them. Choice Dollars will be available at the beginning of the year and can be directed anytime through December 31. To see if you have Choice Dollars available, log in or register at thrivent.com/thriventchoice and please consider directing your funds to: **St John Lutheran Church**. Thanks.

COLLEGE STUDENT WRITING MINISTRY We are looking for St. John's members to join in a writing ministry for our college students for the upcoming school year. This ministry is designed to encourage and help our college students during the school year. Through this ministry we will connect each college student with adults from our church who will send them a note/card (once per month) to remind them that someone from home loves and cares about them! What does this require?

- College Students - need to provide contact information, likes, birthday, and parent information
- St. John's members - need to commit to sending a note/card once per month – September thru April. Each month you will receive (via email) a different student to write, so by the end of the school year you will have blessed eight students!

Let's show our students that they are in our thoughts and in our prayers even while they are away at school. Registration will be ready in mid-August. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Brennan via phone/text at 540-7315.

SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTIONS Women of St. John's are collecting school supplies for Lutheran World Relief. 4 - 70 sheet notebooks (no loose leaf), 1 wooden ruler, 1 pencil sharpener, 1 blunt scissors, 5 black or blue ball point pens (no gel ink), 1 24 count box of crayons. Items can be left in the basket by the North Entrance. Thank you.

Thank you Worship Assistants!

9:30 AM

Greeter Harold & Tammy Lee, Jeff & Mary Roder
Lector Iris Hemmingson
Comm Serv Mary Roder

Harold Lee

Tammy Lee

Crucifer Mia Petsch
Acolytes Kinley Tingwald

Luke Britt

Megan Brennan

Keith Westhoff

Krista Plueger & Rhonda Justice

Sandy LaBahn

Ken F. & Adam S., Capt.'s, Keith W.,

Brady W., Mike H., Glenn K., Simon K.,

Dan A., Doug C., Karen C.

Sun July 26	Mon July 27	Tues July 28	Wed July 29	Thurs July 30	Fri July 31	Sat Aug 1	Sun Aug 2
Noisy Offering 9:30 am Worship w/ Comm/Kroll Baptism 10:30 am Spiritual Growth/Discipleship Mtg. L/L	11 am Hurlbut Funeral @ Rexwinkel Funeral Home 2 pm Imagine Small Group	10 am Staff Mtg L/L 5:30 pm P.o.P.		9 am Prayer Time with Pastor			9:30 am Worship w/ Comm

July 26th, 2026
9th Sunday of Pentecost



First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24 ²² "This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it; I will break off a tender sprig from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³ On the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it; it will produce branches and bear fruit and become a splendid cedar. Birds of every kind will nest in it; they will find shelter in the shade of its branches. ²⁴ All the trees of the forest will know that I the Lord bring down the tall tree and make the low tree grow tall. I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

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

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39 ²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. ²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. ³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all - how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died - more than that, who was raised to life - is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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. Matthew the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 ³¹ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." ³³ He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough." ⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. ⁴⁷ "Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸ When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹ This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked. "Yes," they replied. ⁵² He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

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.