

# The Third Sunday after the Epiphany



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**Saint John Lutheran Church**  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi  
**January 21, 2024**

# Welcome!

*"How great is the Love the Father has lavished on us!" (1 John 3:1).*

We are thankful that you are joining in the worship with the people of God this day. We are glad to assist you at any time.

To better your experience while at St. John:

- Please check that cell phones are silenced.
- Restrooms are located on the right in the lobby and down the bell tower hallway to the right towards the fellowship hall.
- Prayer requests may be written on the white cards in the pew rack and given to an usher or the Pastor before worship begins, or as you leave.
- A self-staffed nursery is available to parents as needed, past the double wooden doors on the left.
- Activity bags to help keep young children occupied during the message are provided in the back right corner of the sanctuary.
- If this is your first visit, please sign our Guest Book located in the lobby near the Sanctuary.

**Notice to Worshipers:** Today's service is livestreamed and recorded. It is available for public viewing and playback at [www.SaintJohnHattiesburg.com](http://www.SaintJohnHattiesburg.com) by clicking on the 'Watch Live' button.

## About the Offering

An offering is gathered at the entrance of the Sanctuary. Here the people of God bring their tithes and sacrificial offerings as an expression of their discipleship, and for the continuation of Jesus' mission work, both in this community and to the ends of the earth. Guests are not expected to bring financial gifts but are welcome to join the congregation in offering their prayers and praises.

## About Holy Communion

Today we celebrate Holy Communion. In this, we remember that the Divine is united with the created as one in the person of Jesus.

This altar is the Lord's table. Here all are welcome who acknowledge their need for a Savior and look to Jesus. We believe what he simply says about the bread – "This is my body, given for you." – and about the wine – "This is my blood, shed for you." Thus, the Lord Jesus is truly present for his redeemed people in this holy meal. In this we retain the divine mystery in the midst of his ordinary creation. From the many seeds of wheat come one loaf. From the many grapes are pressed one cup. His many diverse people constitute one body and community of faith.

Young children are welcome to this altar to receive a blessing, as are those who have not been instructed in the Christian faith. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest or by simply asking for a blessing.

The individual communion cups in the center of the tray have white grape juice for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.

*We are imperfect people, and we live in an imperfect world. We are all in this together. So when we believe or act wrongly towards someone, or when we feel that another has wronged us, we commit ourselves to the humble teaching and forgiving pattern of Jesus in Matthew 18.*

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# The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

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## + GATHERING +

**Prayer As We Begin** — *Please stand.*

**C** Heavenly Father, as we come before you this morning in Jesus' name, we pray all that we say and do in our worship will give you glory. Help us, Lord, to focus our thoughts on you, so your Word will find fertile ground in our minds and hearts. May the worship service today accomplish in us the purpose you desire. Amen.

### The Invocation, Confession, and Absolution

**P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on God's word and for self-examination. Then the confession.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

*The minister pronounces the Absolution.*

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of Christ and by his authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

# Gloria in Excelsis

*LSB 170*

**A** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.

**C** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we

praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You

take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the

Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-

lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

## Peace and Collect Prayer

**P** The LORD be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** We pray together...

**C** Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## + WORD +

### Old Testament Reading

*Jonah 3:1-5, 10*

**L** *The Old Testament Reading for the Third Sunday after the Epiphany comes from Jonah, Chapter Three, Verses 1-5, 10. A second time the Lord calls Jonah to declare judgment upon Nineveh in the hope of repentance. This time Jonah obeys God's commission. The Lord's will is done; the people repent; God relents.*

<sup>1</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup>So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. ...

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

**L** This is the Word of the LORD.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Choir Anthem** ~ *Grant Peace, We Pray in Mercy, Lord*

### Epistle Reading

*1 Corinthians 7:29-31*

**L** *The Epistle is from First Corinthians, Chapter Seven, Verses 29-31. We misunderstand God's timing when we believe and act as if Jesus is not returning. Let us repent of our false belief and self-centered actions. Let us live out the faith and mission entrusted to us by the Lord Jesus, who comes "to judge the living and the dead."*

<sup>29</sup>This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and

those who buy as though they had no goods,<sup>31</sup> and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

**L** This is the Word of the LORD.

**G** Thanks be to God.

**Alleluia Verse-** *Please stand.*

LSB 173



**G** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Holy Gospel**

Mark 1:14-20

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter.



**G** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

<sup>16</sup>Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

**P** This is the Word of the LORD.



**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Children's Message**

## O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en  
 2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now  
 3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may  
 4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the  
 5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now  
 lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose  
 find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science  
 wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who  
 won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - joice.  
 in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.  
 sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.  
 walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,  
 You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

**The Message** — Rev. Chet Scherbarth ~ on *Jonah 3:1-5, 10*

**The Prayers of the Church** — *Please stand.*

### Apostles' Creed

☒ Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

☒ **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

## **+ MEAL +**

*This is Christ's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast which he has prepared. In this meal we truly receive the body and blood of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. This is a great and divine mystery! Here we are joined with God and all the saints, and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Young children and those who would prefer to receive a blessing are welcome to come forward.*

*The individual communion cups in the center of the tray have white grape juice for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.*

### **The Preface and Hymn of Praise**

**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 Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

### **Sanctus**

LSB 178



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.




Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Our Father

**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.

The Words of Institution and Agnus Dei

LSB 180



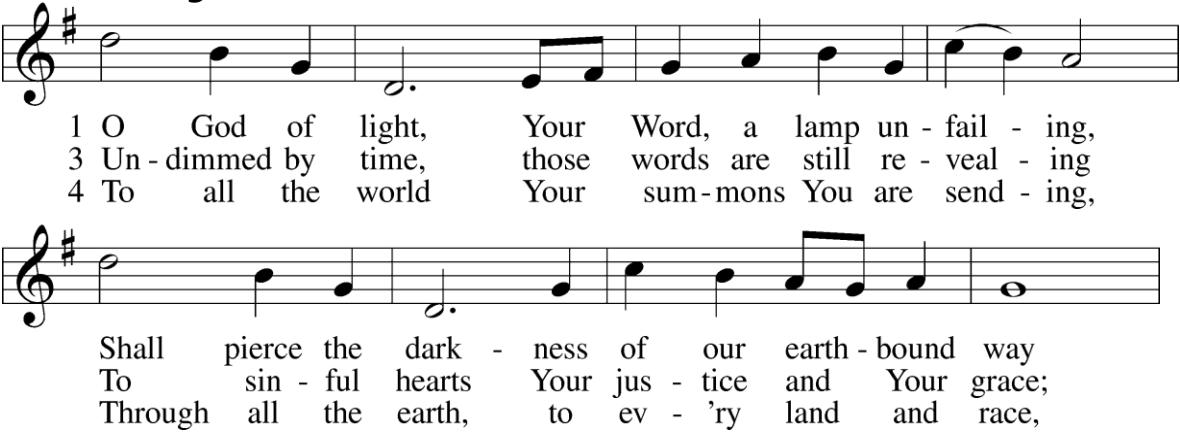
**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of  
God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Please be seated.*

Distribution Hymns

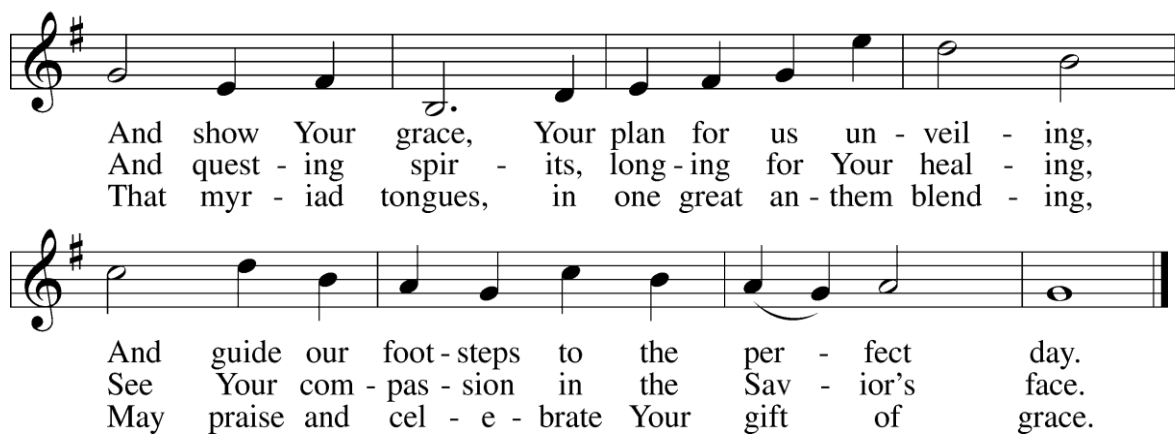
O God of Light

LSB 836



1 O God of light, Your Word, a lamp un - fail - ing,  
3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing  
4 To all the world Your sum - mons You are send - ing,  
Shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way  
To sin - ful hearts Your jus - tice and Your grace;  
Through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race,

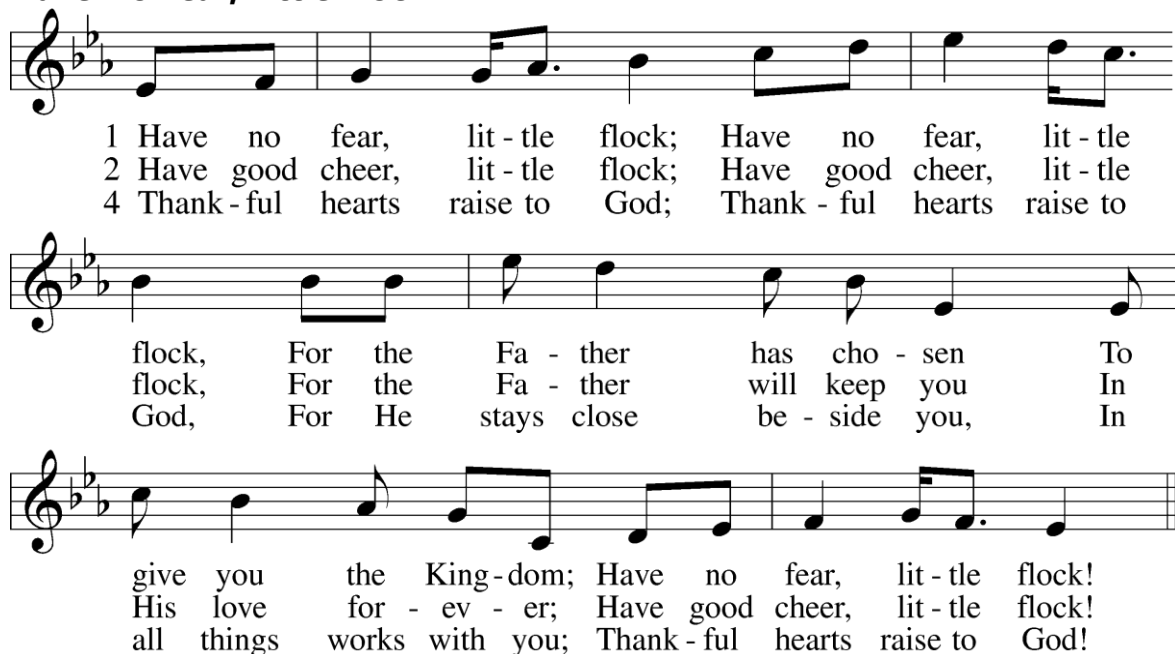




And show Your grace, Your plan for us un - veil - ing,  
And quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for Your heal - ing,  
That myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,  
And guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.  
See Your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.  
May praise and cel - e - brate Your gift of grace.

## Have No Fear, Little Flock

LSB 735



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle  
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle  
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to  
flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To  
flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In  
God, For He stays close be - side you, In  
give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

## + SENDING +

### Dismissal, Concluding Prayer, Benedicamus and Blessing

**P** Let us bless the LORD.

**G** Thanks be to God.

**P** We speak the Romans 15 blessing to one another:

**May the God of HOPE  
fill you with all JOY and PEACE  
as you TRUST in him,  
so that YOU may overflow with HOPE  
by the POWER of the Holy Spirit.**

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**G** Amen

# Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

LSB 685

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -  
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en  
am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to  
from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,  
sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,  
You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;  
Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and  
Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence  
hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,  
Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.  
let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

## THIS WEEK

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
10:30am Worship			5:45pm Adult Confirmation class			

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## Take Home Announcements — Sunday, January 21, 2024

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### Serving the Lord Today

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Chet Scherbarth 619.385.2094 pastorscherbarth@gmail.com
<b>Pastor's Office hours:</b>	Tue-Thu 9-1, Fri-Sun, by appt; Mon-off
<b>Pianist</b>	Lewei He
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Christina Keiper and Debbie Frederick
<b>Lector</b>	Patrice Lovdahl
<b>Usher</b>	Terry Lovdahl

### Today's Theme

*Repent and believe. This is today's refrain.  
The people of Nineveh, in sackcloth  
garments, turn away from evil. In response,  
God turns aside and does not pass  
judgement. Jesus preaches the same thing:  
repent and believe! Turning away from all  
sin, worldly distraction, and even daily  
labor is difficult. And yet, we ought to be  
aware of the urgency to leave all things  
behind and follow Jesus, for the kingdom  
of God is near!*

### **Altar Flowers:**

**Eternal Candle:** Patricia Davenport -  
celebrating the birth of Great-  
granddaughter, Emersyn Rae

### Birthdays

Mark Cubley	January 21
Regina Johnson	January 27
Susan Perkins	January 30
Trenia Thiel	January 30

### Wedding Anniversaries

Bob & Mary Cubley, (45)	January 27
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### Scriptures for Next Sunday

Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

**Live Streaming of Worship Services** — [www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com](http://www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com).

**Portals of Prayer for January-February-March** are available at the lobby mailboxes.

**Kaffee Klatsch** - Meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month at 1:30pm.

**Avenues Bible Study** – Meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month at 10:00am

**Online Giving** — Online giving is available to members and friends of Saint John via the  
'Give' tab on our webpage. Thank you for supporting our work together in Jesus' name.

**Brats** – We still have Bratwursts for sale! 12oz pkg for \$6; 5lb carton for \$25; 10lb for \$50.

**A New Thing** – Campus ministry meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 6:30pm at Mo'Bay Beignet  
Company.



<b>Prayers Needed</b>			
Chris Thiel	Serving Stateside (FL)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	10/1/16
Kelly Thiel	Serving Stateside (NC)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	11/20/16
Cory Thiel	Serving Overseas (Germany)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	11/20/22
Matt Geroux	Serving Stateside (TX)	Son of Kerry and Debbie Geroux	04.09.2022
Scott Chaney	Serving Stateside	Member	5/6/18
Bill Lowry	Serving Overseas	Member	4/15/19
John Krahling	Recurring Cancer	Son of Joyce Coll	7/15/18
Eric Martin	Health & Strength	Member	9/17/23
Kenneth Johnson	Prostate Cancer	Brother of Wayland Johnson	10/18/20
Lisa Case	Health & strength	Member	3/22/23
DuWayne Lemke	Lung Cancer	Brother of Shirley Thone	3/24/21
Doug Taylor, Bo Cleveland, Judy Lacey	Seriously ill	Friends of Don Shields	1/26/22
Yvonne Lee	Health and Strength	Mother of Patrice Lovdahl	6/29/22
Josephine Nwachuku	Prayers for Health and Strength	Member	9/11/22
Ian VanWinkle	Started infusions/Crohn's Disease	Nephew of Terry & Patrice Lovdahl	10/9/22
Geraldine Wheeler	Health and strength	Member	2/12/23
Doris Schneider	Prayers for Health & Strength	Member	2/22/23
Cheyenne Thiel	Prayers for Health & Strength	Member	3/3/23
Cindy Landry	Health & Strength	Member	4/23/23
Shelly Pardue	Strength & Healing	Doris Schneider's son	6/11/23
Ricky Myers	Now at home recovering from liver transplant	Friend of Jane & Wayland Johnson	9/10/23
Vanessa Ajayi	Breast cancer	Friend of Lillian Smith	9/10/23
Lisa Boswell	Colon cancer	Friend of Lillian Smith	9/10/23
Vic Miller	Cancer	Friend of the Lovdahl's	9/17/23
Joye McNelis	Cancer	Cousin of Patrice Lovdahl	9/17/23
Sandy Barnett	Heart concerns	Member	10/18/23
Trenia Thiel	Health & strength during recovery	Member	11/19.23
Family of Robert Schmalz	Died in the Lord	Brother of Elaine Kersh	11/19/23
Trace Fisher	Health, Strength & Recovery/ Prayers for Tom & Erica Fisher as they care for Trace	Nephew of Pastor Scherbarth	11/21/23
Family of Demsey Lee	Died in the Lord 11/24	Cousin of Patrice & Terry Lovdahl	11/25/23
Family of Laura Kick	Died in the Lord	Friend of Lisa Case	1/14/2024
Warner Boortz	Had surgery 1/4- prayers for successful recovery	Member	12/30/23
Grace & Ivy	Grace-health & strength Ivy-Born 12/30/23; 2lbs, 5oz-many needs for this newborn.	Granddaughter & Great Granddaughter of Susan & W.F. Perkins	12/30/23
Kaitlyn Radavich	Post COVID problems since 2021	Granddaughter of Julie Radavich	1/17/24



### **Saint John Lutheran Church**

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**Church Office Hours:** 8:00am – 12:00pm, Monday – Thursday

**Pastor's Office Hours:** Tue-Thu: 9:00am – 1:00pm; Fri – Sun: by appt;  
Mon: off