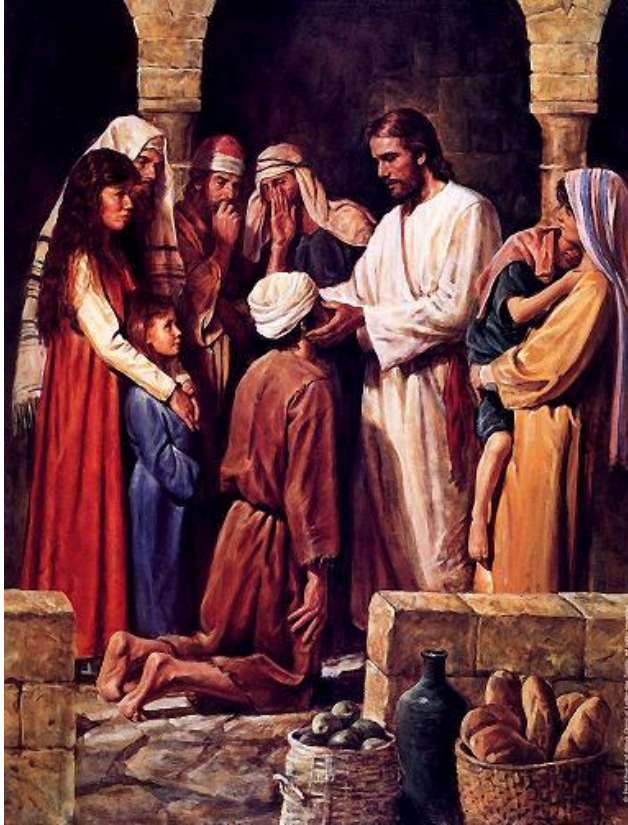


St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Rev. Dr. Matthew W. Rueger
Hubbard, IA



Church Office: 641-864-2672

Parsonage: 641-864-2766

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Adult Bible Class: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Church Website: www.stjohnhubbard.com

Email: stjohnhubbard@hotmail.com

To God Be the Glory!

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 12, 2023

HOLY COMMUNION Our congregation believes and confesses that in Holy Communion not only does Jesus give us forgiveness; He also miraculously gives us His actual body and blood.

We seek to receive our Lord's Supper according to the guidelines God has established in His Word. God's Word states that the Sacrament is to be an expression of like-mindedness in faith (same in doctrine) and that only those should commune who are worthy to receive it (who have been properly instructed and are truly repentant).

In keeping with God's instruction, and out of deep love for the souls of His people, we invite visiting members of other Missouri Synod Lutheran congregations, who are members in good standing, to receive Holy Communion with us after announcing their intent to the pastor. Visitors who are not members of a Missouri Synod Lutheran congregation are asked to please refrain from the Sacrament at this time. Thank you.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Liturgy: Divine Service 1, pg. 151

Hymns: 908, 421, 685, 440, 634, 849

Organist: Bart Spiehs

Acolyte: Aleighia Roberts

Ushers: Stan Penning, Al Doering

THIS WEEK AS GOD LEADS US TOGETHER

Wednesday: 6:00-7:15p.m. Midweek Classes

6:00-6:45p.m. Handbell Choir

6:45-7:15p.m. Senior Choir

7:30p.m. Lenten Vespers

Thursday: 1:30p.m. Mission Circle

Next Sunday: 9:00a.m. Christian Education Classes
10:00a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion

Acolyte: Ryan Zoske

Ushers: Stan Penning, Al Doering

LENTEN VESPERS: We will have Lenten vespers on Wednesday, March 15th at 7:30p.m.

MISSION CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, March 16th at 1:30p.m. The hostess is Barbara Winter. Roll call is to bring something for the food pantry.

EASTER FLOWERS: There is a sign-up sheet for Easter flowers on the bulletin board; Lilies-\$18; Mums-\$18; Azaleas-\$35. Deadline to sign up is March 26th.

LUTHERAN WITNESS: It is once again time to renew your subscription for the Lutheran Witness. The price is \$19.20 for the year. Please let the secretary (Shelly Petersen) know before May 1st if you want to subscribe. Thank you.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS: A reminder if you are a customer of Thrivent that there is still time to direct your choice dollars for 2022. The deadline for this is March 31st. You can go to the website, call 800-847-4836, or contact your Thrivent representative to direct your choice dollars. If you have any questions about it feel free to contact Scott Neubauer.

CANADA FISHING TRIP: There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for anyone wishing to go on the Canada fishing trip scheduled for July 22-29, 2023.

BIRTHDAYS: Today-Judy Dubberke, Isaac Zoske; Mon.-Isaac Ziebell; Tues.-Mason Hanson; Wed.-Gabriel Rueger; Thurs.-Robert Mennenga; Fri.-Rhonda Smith; Sat.-Michael Dubberke.

JEREMIAH 26:1-15

1In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came from the Lord, saying,

2"Thus says the Lord: 'Stand in the court of the Lord's house, and speak to all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the Lord's house, all the words that I command you to speak to them. Do not diminish a word.

3Perhaps everyone will listen and turn from his evil way, that I may relent concerning the calamity which I purpose to bring on them because of the evil of their doings.'

4And you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord: "If you will not listen to Me, to walk in My law which I have set before you,

5to heed the words of My servants the prophets whom I sent to you, both rising up early and sending them (but you have not heeded),

6then I will make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth." ' ' "

7So the priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the Lord.

8Now it happened, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the Lord had commanded him to speak to all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people seized him, saying, "You will surely die!

9Why have you prophesied in the name of the Lord, saying, 'This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without an inhabitant'?" And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the Lord.

10When the princes of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house to the house of the Lord and sat down in the entry of the New Gate of the Lord's house.

11And the priests and the prophets spoke to the princes and all the people, saying, "This man deserves to die! For he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your ears."

12Then Jeremiah spoke to all the princes and all the people, saying: "The Lord sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city with all the words that you have heard.

¹³Now therefore, amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the Lord your God; then the Lord will relent concerning the doom that He has pronounced against you.

¹⁴As for me, here I am, in your hand; do with me as seems good and proper to you.

¹⁵But know for certain that if you put me to death, you will surely bring innocent blood on yourselves, on this city, and on its inhabitants; for truly the Lord has sent me to you to speak all these words in your hearing."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPHESIANS 5:1-9

¹Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.

²And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

³But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints;

⁴neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

⁵For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

⁷Therefore do not be partakers with them.

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

⁹(for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LUKE 11:14-28

14 And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute. So it was, when the demon had gone out, that the mute spoke; and the multitudes marveled.

15 But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons."

16 Others, testing Him, sought from Him a sign from heaven.

17 But He, knowing their thoughts, said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls.

18 If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? Because you say I cast out demons by Beelzebub.

19 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.

20 But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

21 When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace.

22 But when a stronger than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils.

23 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.

24 "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.'

25 And when he comes, he finds it swept and put in order.

26 Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first."

27 And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!"

28 But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Vestments for Ukraine

This summer the LCMS will establish full fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine (ELCU). There is not a church body in the world right now facing greater trials. Our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Ukraine are facing the loss of every material possession they have, and worse; they face the very real possibility of death. Their Bishop was recently hospitalized after visiting a Lutheran congregation in Kherson. He was wounded by shrapnel from Russian artillery.

Besides these terrible hardships, the ELCU was recently removed from their Cathedral Church in Odesa. The Church was built by the liberal EKD (Evangelische Kirche Deutschland) for the Ukrainian Lutherans. However, they demanded that the Ukrainians adopt their liberal European theology, which included ordaining women into the pastoral office and accepting the LGBTQ agenda. The Ukrainians refused to compromise their theology and for that, they were barred by the EKD from the Church in Odesa built for them.

Through this the Ukrainian bishop, Rev. Serge Maschewski, lost all his liturgical vestments. They were confiscated by the EKD when they took the Cathedral Church away from the Ukrainians.

The congregations of the Eldora Circuit would like to help. Galatians tells us to “*bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*” To help with their burden, we are gathering funds to buy new vestments for Bishop Maschewski. We will gather funds until the end of March. The Bishop will be coming to the U.S. in July to establish formal fellowship with the LCMS at our Synod Convention. Our plan is to have his new vestments by then, and present them to him at the convention.

Considering all they are facing, it is our hope that this small gesture can bring them some joy and let them know they are loved by their brothers and sisters here in Iowa.

See:

<https://reporter.lcms.org/2022/amid-war-in-ukraine-the-churchs-mission-remains/>