

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!

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 26, 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 3, pg. 184

Hymns: 728, 521, 544, 609, 688, 424

Organist: Ruth Fiscus

Acolyte: Logan Zoske

Ushers: Jon Petersen, Paul Zoske

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: 6:30p.m. Men's Club

Next Sunday: 9:00a.m. Christian Education Classes

10:00a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion

⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my in- | iquity;*
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

**⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;*
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not | reach him.**

⁷You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from | trouble;*
you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

**⁸I will instruct you and teach you in the way | you should
go;*
I will counsel you with my eye up- | on you.**

⁹Be not like a horse or a mule, without under- | standing,*
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay | near you.

**¹⁰Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the
LORD.**

¹¹Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O | righteous,*
and shout for joy, all you up- | right in heart!

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

GENESIS 3:1-21

¹Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

²And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;

³but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' "

⁴Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

⁵For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

⁸And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

⁹Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?"

¹⁰So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

¹¹And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"

¹²Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

¹³And the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴So the Lord God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

¹⁵And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

¹⁶To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you."

¹⁷Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.

¹⁸Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field.

¹⁹In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return."

²⁰And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

²¹Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

2 CORINTHIANS 6:1-10

¹We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain.

²For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

³We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed.

⁴But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses,

⁵in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;

⁶by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love,

⁷by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

⁸by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true;

⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed;

¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

MATTHEW 4:1-11

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

²And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.

³Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

⁴But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "

⁵Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple,

⁶and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' "

⁷Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.' "

⁸Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

⁹And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

¹¹Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

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/>