

St. John's Lutheran Church, Ruma

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

8446 1st Road Evansville, IL 62242

stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com

Rev. Randy Fischer, Pastor

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

8:30 a.m.

February 23, 2025

Divine Service, Setting One with Holy Communion *LSB* p. 151

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation: 409 Hail, O Source of Every Blessing

Stand

Invocation and Exhortation

LSB 151

Confession of Sins and Absolution

LSB 151

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 37:1–5; antiphon: vv. 7a, b

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;

fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way.

Fret not yourself because of evildoers;

be not envious of wrongdoers!

For they will soon fade like the grass

and wither like the green herb.

Trust in the LORD, and do good;

dwelt in the land and befriend faithfulness.

Delight yourself in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.
Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.

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

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way.

Kyrie *LSB 152*

This Is the Feast *LSB 155*

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 156*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Genesis 45:3–15*

P The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 45.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

⁴So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. ¹⁰You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.’ ¹²And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42

P The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 15.

²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. . . .

³⁰Why am I in danger every hour? ³¹I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! ³²What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” ³³Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.” ³⁴Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

³⁵But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ³⁹For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. ⁴⁰There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. ⁴¹There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

⁴²So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Holy Gospel

Luke 6:27–38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁷[Jesus said:] “But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you,

and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back.

³¹And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

³²“If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. ³⁵But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. ³⁶Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 844 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

Sermon: "Be Merciful...!"

Luke 6:27-38

Stand

Nicene Creed

LSB 158

Prayer of the Church

Offertory

LSB 159

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

Sanctus	<i>LSB 161</i>
Prayer of Thanksgiving	<i>LSB 161</i>
The Words of Our Lord	
Proclamation of Christ	<i>LSB 162</i>
Lord's Prayer	<i>LSB 162</i>
Pax Domini	<i>LSB 163</i>
Agnus Dei	<i>LSB 163</i>
<i>Sit</i>	
Distribution	
Distribution Hymn: 618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table	
Distribution Hymn: 692 Praise to You and Adoration	
The Dismissal	
<i>Stand</i>	
Thank the Lord	<i>LSB 164</i>
Post-Communion Collect	
Benediction	<i>LSB 166</i>
Hymn to Depart: 697 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death	

Acknowledgments

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Please place your offerings in the plate at the back of church.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR...

- ★ Marlene Ling, Delbert Wittenauer (uncle of Amanda Roedl and Amy Rahn), Rory (granddaughter of close friend of Beth Fischer), Monica Hussey (daughter of Dorothy Zipfel), Art and Gladys Thies, Linda Schulz, Dianna Wegener, Delbert Kueker, Brian Ruez, Carolyn Fink, Dawn Ruez, Dorothy Zipfel, Sarah Kueker, Susan Sochowski, Paul Liefer, Robert Veath, Jace Duncan, Mary Braun, Dorothy Krause
- ★ Jace Duncan (husband of Cassie (Liefer) Duncan), Ryan Nehrt, Tanner Valleroy (nephew to Brian Liefer), and all others who are members of the Military, Police, and Firefighters
- ★ If you'd like to send a card to **Mark and Susan Sochowski** and family, the address is 104 Boulder Drive, Red Bud, IL
- ★ **Dorothy Krause** is living in Apartment 9 at Garden Place in Red Bud, but her family asks you to send cards to her in care of Dale Krause, 8311 St. Leo's Road, Evansville, IL 62242. Dale's family will take the cards to her.
- ★ **Dorothy Zipfel** is now living in Freeburg Care Center. The address is 746 Urbana Drive, Freeburg, IL 62243
- ★ **Delbert Kueker** is living at R&R Country Care Senior Living Center, 1026 Janet Drive, Ruma, IL 62278
- ★ **Art and Gladys Thies** are now living in Apt. 10 at Garden Place in Waterloo, 735 Columbia Ave., Waterloo, IL 62298.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR CHURCH

Organist Diann Scherle

Sunday School Teachers

Amanda Roedl, Sunday School director and 5th through 8th grade;
Kaley Roedl, pre-school through 4th grade; Joy Meyer, handbells.

Officers

Dennis Phegley, chairman; Deb McCutcheon, secretary; Jill Phegley, treasurer; Diann Scherle, assistant treasurer; Brian Liefer, Jonathan Mehring, and Tim Schrader, elders; Matt Roedl, Jeff Schlueter, and Lloyd Schoenbeck, trustees.

Stewardship Committee (responsible for the Bible presentation series)

Rachel Mehring and Jill Phegley from St. John's; Troy Birch and Nathan Koester from St. Peter's.

TO SHARE INFORMATION

Church Council: Dennis Phegley, chairman (282-2985); Brian Liefer, elder (618-570-4958); Jonathan Mehring, elder (618-363-0066); Timothy Schrader, elder (618-363-1579).

Church Bulletin: By Wednesday afternoon, send email to Deb at church address (stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com), text her at 618.980.7033, or give her a written note at church.

Church Facebook Page: Directly message *StJohnEvLutheranChurchRumaIL*, send an email to the church email address (above), or text Deb (above) and ask to have your information posted.

TO CONTACT PASTOR FISCHER

Call him at 618.670.7736 or email him at rjfischer92@yahoo.com. Pastor is, in most cases, in the Ruma area at least one day a week besides Sunday and is happy to make an appointment to speak with you in person.

FOR MORE ONLINE INFORMATION

Church Facebook Page: *StJohnEvLutheranRumaIL* for Sunday School activities and church news updates.

Church Website: Check the website for the week's bulletin, a calendar of church activities, and links to all things LCMS. Look for us at www.stjohnlutheranruma.com.

PLEASE CONSIDER SERVING OUR CHURCH FAMILY...

By purchasing our Ladies Aid Apple Butter for only \$5 a pint or \$8 a quart: The Ladies Aid uses the money to buy items for our church and for area food pantries. They also donate to COSHLS and LWML. See Pearl May or Marlene Ling to buy a jar.

By working with the Sochowski family as Susan recovers from a stroke. At our request, Mark has provided a list of concrete ways we can help. A copy of the list is available on the pew in back of church.

By leaving non-perishable food items in the back of church. The Ladies Aid/LWML members are collecting for area food pantries.

By donating toward our NEW Lutheran Heritage Foundation Mission Project FOR 2025... The new LHF mission project will focus on children in Ghana. Every \$5.00 donation provides a beautiful hardcover Bible storybook for children in the Kusaal language. **Write Ghana in the memo line of your check or on an envelope with cash.** We will send collected money to LHF at the end of each quarter in 2024. *Check out Diann's bulletin board display just outside the Fellowship Hall for more information.*

By bringing altar flowers: We have purchased live Peace Lilies for the altar, but you are still welcome to provide fresh flowers for a special occasion or just because. Check the sign-up list in the Fellowship Hall to see what months are available. Please let Deb know by Wednesday afternoon so she can acknowledge the gift and occasion in the bulletin.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Pastor Out of Town – Pastor and Beth will be out of town from this afternoon, February 23, through Friday, February 28. There will be a pastor on call for emergencies while pastor is away. Please contact one of the Elders: Brian Liefer (618-570-4958), Jonathan Mehring (618-363-0066), or Timothy Schrader (618-363-1579) to get in touch with the pastor on call.

CPR and AED classes: Joy Meyer is willing to lead classes sometime in March. The cost is \$15 for the CPR certification card and booklet. See Joy or Jill for more information. A sign-up sheet is available on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board for those who are interested.

Friday, Feb. 28: Trinity Lutheran School invites you to a night of live music and dancing with the ShinSings Orchestra. They cover classics from the 40's through the 70's. Doors open at 6 p.m. Music begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased in advance from Dr. Robin Booth at the school (618-792-0647) or at the door the night of the dance. Light snacks and soft drinks will be provided; bring your own food and beverages if you wish.

Sunday, Mar. 2: As part of their 175th Anniversary celebration, **St. John's Lutheran Church, Chester**, will host the Perry County (MO) Lutheran Chorale for a concert at 2 p.m. The choir will also share their themed hymn, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," during the 10 a.m. service. Tyson Wunderlich, chorale director and accomplished organist, will play for the 10 a.m. service. We are invited to join them for an afternoon filled with beautiful music in a beautiful space.

Friday, Mar. 7: COS Annual Fish & More Dinner from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. Adults \$15, children 5-12 are \$6, under 5 free. Eat-in or carry out, the gym is handicap accessible.

Sunday, Mar. 9: "All You Can Eat" (dine in only) Chicken Dinner at St. John's Lutheran, Baldwin. Serving from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Half-chicken dinners with sides available as carry-out. See flyer on bulletin board for more info.

Through Mar. 31: Now is the time to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars. See your Thrivent representative for more information. If you choose to direct dollars to St. John's, let Jill know which of our funds you'd like to support.

Bible Presentations: If you missed any of the six Bible Presentations on the Servant Songs in the Book of Isaiah, you can watch them on our church Facebook page. Also, Jill has placed the handouts each pastor prepared for his presentation on a table in the Fellowship Hall.

Special Birthdays: We think living NINE decades is kind of a big deal, so we are going to share the birthdays of our members who are celebrating 90+ years.

Dorothy Zipfel turned **93** on February 13. You can find her address on p. 7 if you'd like to send her a belated birthday card ☺

Ash Wednesday and Holy Week Services

This year's Midweek Lenten Series theme is *The Empty Cross*

All evening services begin at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar 5 at St. John's - Ash Wednesday service with Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. Sermon: "The Evolving Cross" based on Deuteronomy 21:22-23

Wednesday, Mar. 12 at St. John's – Service of Prayer and Preaching
Sermon: "The Waiting Cross" based on Luke 12:49-53

Wednesday, Mar. 19 at St. John's – Service of Prayer and Preaching
Sermon: "The Occupied Cross" based on Luke 23:26-34

Wednesday, Mar. 26 at St. Peter's – Service of Prayer and Preaching
Sermon: "The Scorned Cross" based on 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Wednesday, April 2 at St. Peter's – Service of Prayer and Preaching
Sermon: "The Empty Cross" based on Acts 2:22-24

Wednesday, April 9 at St. Peter's – Service of Prayer and Preaching
Sermon: "The Glorified Cross" based on Acts 2:29-41

Thursday, April 17 at St. Peter's – Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion. Sermon: "Who Will Be at the Table?" based on Luke 22:7-20

Friday, April 18 at St. John's – Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 20 at St. John's – 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service with Holy Communion. Light breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt after service.

Sunday, April 20 at St. Peter's – 10 a.m. Easter Sunday Service with Holy Communion



COS Annual Fish & More Dinner is Friday, March 7 from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. Adults \$15, children 5-12 are \$6, under 5 free. Eat-in or carry out, our gym is handicap accessible.

FFA Helping Hands Auction on Friday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. Eat supper to support COS and stay for the auction to support our FFA!

Registration for 2025-2026 is open! If you know a high school student, encourage them to consider Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School. Call 853-7300 to schedule a shadow day or a meeting with our administrator, Mrs. Sherry Prange. Learn more about COS and download a registration form from our website, www.coslhs.org.

High School Administrator needed to begin July 1. Administrative certification not required. Call 618-853-7300.

School Hours: Office hours are Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The mission of Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School is to provide a Christ-centered and academically excellent education.