

**St. John's Lutheran Church, Ruma**  
**Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**  
8446 1<sup>st</sup> Road Evansville, IL 62242  
[stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com)

**Rev. Randy Fischer, Pastor**

---

**First Sunday in Lent**

*8:30 a.m.*

*February 26, 2023*

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

*Confession and Absolution*

**Hymn of Invocation: 424 O Christ, You Walked the Road**

*Stand*

**Invocation and Exhortation**

*LSB 151*

**Confession of Sins and Absolution**

*LSB 151*

*Service of the Word*

**Introit**

*Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16*

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in  
trouble;

**I will rescue him and honor him.**

With long life I will satisfy him

**and show him my salvation.**

Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—

**the Most High, who is my refuge—**

no evil shall be allowed to befall you,

**no plague come near your tent.**

For he will command his angels concerning you  
**to guard you in all your ways.**

On their hands they will bear you up,  
**lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

You will tread on the lion and the adder;  
**the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.**

**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.**

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in  
trouble;

**I will rescue him and honor him.**

With long life I will satisfy him  
**and show him my salvation.**

**Kyrie**

*LSB 152*

**This Is the Feast (omitted during Lent)**

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

*LSB 156*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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 3:1–21*

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 3.

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup>And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup>For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

<sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup>And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup>He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup>The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,  
cursed are you above all livestock  
and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel.”

<sup>16</sup>To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;  
in pain you shall bring forth children.  
Your desire shall be for your husband,  
and he shall rule over you.”

<sup>17</sup>And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife  
and have eaten of the tree  
of which I commanded you,  
‘You shall not eat of it,’  
cursed is the ground because of you;  
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;  
<sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;  
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

<sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face  
you shall eat bread,  
till you return to the ground,  
for out of it you were taken;  
for you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.”

<sup>20</sup>The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the  
mother of all living. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD God made for Adam and for  
his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Romans 5:12–19*

**A** The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 5.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man,  
and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all  
sinned— <sup>13</sup>for sin indeed was in the world before the law was

given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.

<sup>19</sup>For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## **Alleluia and Verse (Omitted during Lent)**

### **Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 4:1-11*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup>and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“‘He will command his angels concerning you,’

and

“‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup>And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“‘You shall worship the Lord your God  
and him only shall you serve.’”

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sit*

## Hymn of the Day: 656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

**Sermon: “The Devil Cannot Really Feed Us!”**

*Matthew 4:1-11*

*Stand*

**Nicene Creed**

*LSB 158*

**Prayer of the Church**

**Offertory**

*LSB 159*

## *Service of the Sacrament*

<b>Preface</b>	<i>LSB 160</i>
<b>Sanctus</b>	<i>LSB 161</i>
<b>Prayer of Thanksgiving</b>	<i>LSB 161</i>
<b>The Words of Our Lord</b>	
<b>Proclamation of Christ</b>	<i>LSB 162</i>
<b>Lord's Prayer</b>	<i>LSB 162</i>
<b>Pax Domini</b>	<i>LSB 163</i>
<b>Agnus Dei</b>	<i>LSB 163</i>
<i>Sit</i>	
<b>Distribution</b>	
<b>Distribution Hymn: 623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray</b>	
<b>Distribution Hymn: 746 Through Jesus' Blood and Merit</b>	
<b>The Dismissal</b>	
<i>Stand</i>	
<b>Thank the Lord (Omitted during Lent)</b>	
<b>Post-Communion Collect</b>	
<b>Benediction</b>	<i>LSB 166</i>
<b>Hymn to Depart: 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On</b>	

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

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

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR...**

- ★ Dawn Ruez, Dorothy Zipfel, Jim Carroll, Becky Carroll, Sarah Kueker, Susan Sochowski, Paul Liefer, Pastor Jansen, Robert Veath, Jace Duncan, Mary Braun, Dorothy Krause
- ★ Jace Duncan (husband of Cassie (Liefer) Duncan), Ryan Nehrt, Ben Boeder (son of Pastor Royal Boeder), 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
- ★ If you'd like to send a card to **Pastor and Becky Jansen**, the address is 9422 Parklind Drive, St. Louis, MO 63126.
- ★ If you'd like to send a card to **Dorothy Krause**, her address is Room 102, Red Bud Regional Care, 350 West South 1st Street, Red Bud, IL 62278

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR CHURCH**

**Organist** Diann Scherle

### **Sunday School Teachers**

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



## **Officers**

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

**175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee** Nancy Kruse, Marlene Ling, Jill Phegley, Amanda Roedl, and Diann Scherle

**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 (618-363-006 06); Timothy Schrader, elder (618-363-1579).

**Church Bulletin:** By Wednesday afternoon, send email to [stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com) (preferred), text Deb (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](mailto: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 and sermon, a calendar of church activities, information on the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project, and links to all things LCMS. Look for us at [www.stjohnlutheranrumba.com](http://www.stjohnlutheranrumba.com).

**PLEASE CONSIDER SERVING OUR CHURCH FAMILY...**

**By donating toward our 2023 Lutheran Heritage Foundation Mission Project...** The new LHF mission project will focus on Central and South America. Every \$5.00 we collect provides a Child’s Garden of Bible Stories in Spanish. **Write Central/South America 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 2023. *Check out Diann’s bulletin board display just outside the Fellowship Hall for more information.*

**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 donating new or used sheets and pillowcases** to be used for backing on quilts that the Ladies Aid/LWML make and donate to the poor. Flat sheets are preferred.

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

**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.

## **THIS YEAR'S LENTEN SERIES: "The Lord Is My Shepherd"**

Perhaps there is no more beloved picture in Scripture than that of the Good Shepherd. In times when we feel alone, afraid, or sad, it is a great comfort to know that our Good Shepherd is near. His staff is in His hand, ever keeping us from straying, and ever protecting us from danger!

The Biblical shepherd spent his time in the worst elements of weather. The life of the shepherd was solitary. The life of the shepherd was also on the line! If a wolf came to make prey of the sheep, the shepherd would place himself between the flock and the possibility of death!

*"What punishment so strange is suffered yonder! The Shepherd dies for sheep that love to wander; The master pays the debt His servants owe Him, who would not know Him." [LSB 439 vs. 4]*

Come to our Lenten Midweek services this year and learn of the Shepherd who sacrificed Himself for His wayward sheep. Learn of His tender care for us here and in eternity!

### **St John's Ruma – 6:30 p.m.**

February 22 - Ash Wednesday with Communion and Imposition of Ashes – "The Lord is My Shepherd"

March 1 – "He Maketh Me to Lie Down"

March 8 – "He Leadeth Me in the Path's of Righteousness"

### **St. Peter's Evansville – 6:30 p.m.**

March 15 – "I Will Fear No Evil"

March 22 – "Thou Preparest a Table Before Me"

March 29 – "I Will Dwell in the House of the Lord Forever!"

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**TODAY:** Sunday School students will meet in their classroom after the service. Beth Fischer will be their teacher today.

**Wednesday, March 1:** Ladies Aid/LWML members will meet in Dorothy Zipfel's home at 1 p.m. Linda Schulz will serve the dessert luncheon. All women are welcome.

**Wednesday, March 1:** Midweek Lenten services continue here at 6:30 p.m. See p. 11 for insight into this year's Lenten theme and for the complete schedule.

**Friday, March 3:** This year's Fish & More at COSLHS will offer both dine-in and carry-out from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. The FFA also will be holding their "Helping Hands Auction" at 6:30 that evening. For more information on that and other activities at COS, check the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday, March 5:** Our special anniversary activities continue with a celebration of baptisms in our church. See p. 14 for more info.

**Sunday, March 12:** St. John's Lutheran, Baldwin, will host their annual fried chicken dinner from 10:30 am – 1:30 pm. Dine-in or carry out. Check the bulletin board for more information.

**Beginning in March or April:** If you've ever thought you'd like to learn to quilt, now is the time to start making plans! Several of our ladies will begin a quilt sometime in March or April, and they'd love to pass on the art of hand-quilting. All you need is a thimble, but if you don't have one, our quilters have extras.

Not sure you'll like it? There's no commitment. Quilt for an hour or once a month or an entire afternoon every week until a quilt is finished. Please contact Dorothy Ruez or Pearl May if you are interested.

**Now through Mar. 31:** Direct your 2022 Thrivent Choice Dollars to your choice of over 45,000 organizations. You can direct online (you should get an email from Thrivent with directions) or by calling your representative. If you direct dollars to St. John's, let Jill know the dollar amount and in which fund to put the money.

**Wednesday and Thursday, April 26-27:** Save the date for Lutheran Older Adult Retreat at Pere Marquette Lodge. More info to come.

## Countdown to November 4, 2023

**175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project:** Pastor and Becky Jansen worked with Jill Phegley to gather and organize historical information for *The 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project*, a **history/memory book** telling the story of our first 175 years as a congregation. Jill is now working with Diann Scherle to edit, proof, and prepare information for the book before our birthday on Nov. 4.

Stop by the **mini-museum** room just inside the front entrance to church to check out congregational memorabilia and artifacts.

Each week we are highlighting, in chronological order, a **tidbit from the minutes of one voters' meeting** from one or more years of our congregation's history, 1848-2023. You can find all of the tidbits in Tidbit Archives at [www.stjohnlutheranruma.com](http://www.stjohnlutheranruma.com).

**This week's tidbit comes from 1941:** Sigmund Thies and Fred Schoenbeck were accepted as new members. Members voted to keep the old hymn book instead of getting new ones and to give \$15 to school to buy things needed for one year.

Members of the Anniversary Committee are also working on **special activities for each month** throughout the year.

\* The 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary **banners in church** are a monthly series of banners being designed and made by Amanda Roedl and her daughter, Kaley.

\***February's banner:** 175 Years of Faith, Hope, Love

\***In March**, we will celebrate 175 years of baptisms. All who were baptized in our church are invited to attend the service on **March 5**. The 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee will host a coffee and sweet treats reception for everyone to celebrate afterwards. Please RSVP on our [Facebook event page](#) or email us at [stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com)

## February: Fried Chicken Dinners

On Feb. 7, 1971, we sold our first fried chicken dinners. We served our last dinners on Feb. 4, 2018. But, we have statistics for only the last ten years.

**2008:** 325 dinners served, 140 carry-outs. Profit: \$2421.42. We served more dinners that year than any year on record.

**2009:** 240 dined in, 135 carry-outs. Profit: \$1774.13

**2010:** Numbers not recorded. Profit: \$1931.91

**2011:** 220 dined in, 90 carry-outs. Profit: \$1813.97

**2012:** 248 dined in, 80 carry-outs. Profit: \$1776.38. We sold boxes of fried chicken for the first time this year with either a half or whole chicken. Ninety pieces of chicken were boxed and sold.

**2013:** 170 dined in, 116 carry-outs, 160 pieces boxed. Profit: \$2229.25 with donations of food and paper products.

**2014:** 160 dined in, 92 carry-outs. 155 pieces boxed. Profit: \$1852.68 with donations of cabbage, oil, chicken batter, mashed potatoes, and newspaper ads.

**2015:** 180 dined in, 120 carry-outs, 165 pieces boxed. Profit \$3275.40 with donations for oil, chicken batter, and mashed potatoes.

**2016:** 220 dined in, 144 carry-outs, 380 pieces boxed. Profit \$3422 with donations for oil, chicken batter, and two \$500 Thrivent Action Team cards for supplies.

**2017:** 250 dined in, 154 carry-outs, 255 pieces of boxed chicken. Profit \$2487.89 with donations for oil, chicken batter, propane, and one Thrivent card for \$250.

**2018:** 179 dined in, 161 carry-outs, 96 pieces for boxed chicken. Profit \$3483.33 with donations for oil, chicken batter, propane, and two Thrivent cards for \$500.

With donations, our profit went up each year except 2014. We are very thankful for Thrivent, for Gilster Mary Lee in Chester who donated oil and chicken batter, and for both Select and Midwestern who donated propane. Weather information was not recorded, but it surely played a part in how many we (or didn't) serve each year. Selling boxed chicken was a big hit.

Church members did the meal prep, worked the dining room, organized for carry-outs, fried chicken, and provided desserts, mostly pies. Each dinner required a lot of people and was the perfect place for good fellowship!

