

**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**

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**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

***10:00 a.m.***

***September 17, 2023***

**Matins, LSB p.219**

**Hymn: 760 What God Ordains Is Always Good**

*Stand*

**Common Versicles**

***LSB 219***

***Psalmody***

**Antiphon (Common)**

***LSB 220***

**Venite**

***LSB 220***

**Antiphon (Common)**

***LSB 221***

*Sit*

## *Readings*

### **Reading**

*Genesis 50:15–21*

**L** A reading from Genesis, chapter 50.

<sup>15</sup>When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." <sup>16</sup>So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. <sup>21</sup>So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### **Reading**

*Romans 14:1–12*

**L** A reading from Romans, chapter 14.

<sup>1</sup>As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. <sup>2</sup>One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

<sup>5</sup>One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup>The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord,

since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup>For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <sup>11</sup>for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

<sup>12</sup>So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Reading

*Matthew 18:21–35*

**L** A reading from Matthew, chapter 18.

<sup>21</sup>Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

<sup>23</sup>“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow servants saw

what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup>So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Responsory**

*LSB 221*

*Sit*

**Sermon Hymn: 754 Entrust Your Days and Burdens**

**Sermon: "Am I IN the Place of God?"**

*Genesis 50:15-21*

## *Canticle*

*Stand*

**Te Deum**

*LSB 223*

## *Prayer*

**Kyrie**

*LSB 227*

**Lord's Prayer**

*LSB 227*

**Collects**

## Collect of the Day

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving

### Collect for Grace

*Stand*

### Benedicamus and Benediction

*LSB 228*

### Hymn to Depart: 814 O Bless the Lord, My Soul

### Acknowledgments

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

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

- ★ Isaac Luebke, Eric Braun, Dawn Ruez, Dorothy Zipfel, 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.
- ★ **Dorothy Krause** is now 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.

## **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 (618-363-0066); 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](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, a calendar of church activities, information on our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities, and links to all things LCMS. Look for us at [www.stjohnlutheranruma.com](http://www.stjohnlutheranruma.com).

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

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

**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**

**TODAY:** Our September voters meeting will begin immediately after the worship service.

**Monday, Sept. 18:** Our Bible study on the Gospel of Matthew will begin at 6 p.m. at St. Peter's.

**Sunday, Sept. 24** is the last day to let Jill know that you'd like to purchase one or more **copies of the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary book** documenting highlights of our congregation's history from 1848 to 2023. The cost will be approximately \$12 per book payable after the books are printed. If you do want copies of the book, add your name (and number of copies) to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board over the table at the entrance to the Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday, Sept. 24:** *Proclaiming the Present: A Mission Festival* at Holy Cross Lutheran, Renault. SID President Rev. Timothy Scharr and Caleb Wehling will be guest speakers. For more information, see the flyer on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.



**Monday, Sept. 25:** Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew, 6 p.m. at St. Peter's.

**Sunday, Oct. 1:** Trinity Lutheran School, Prairie, is having a Spaghetti Dinner at the school from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, see the flyer on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

**Monday, Oct. 2:** Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew, 6 p.m. at St. Peter's

**Tuesday, Oct. 3:** A Southern Illinois District Older Adult Lutheran Heritage Day Trip is being planned to the Lutheran Heritage Center and Museum in Altenburg, MO and to the Saxon Lutheran Memorial in Frohna, MO. Details and registration forms are located in the pew at the back of church. Cost is \$70.00 by September 18<sup>th</sup>. Space is limited. Registration fee covers Comfort Coach Bus fare, snack on bus, full Country Meal at Saxon Memorial, and museum donation.

**Mondays, Oct. 9 - 23:** Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew, 6 p.m. here.

**Saturday, Nov. 4:** Annual COSLHS dinner auction. If you are interested in helping with the planning process or making a donation, please contact the school. Reservations are \$35 and due October 16. For more COS news, see the bulletin board at the entrance to the Fellowship Hall or go to [www.facebook.com/COSLHS](http://www.facebook.com/COSLHS)

## 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 our 175 years as a congregation. Jill is now working with Diann Scherle to edit, proof, and prepare information for the book before our anniversary on November 4.

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

Each week we highlight, 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 tidbits come from 2004-2006:** In 2004, Randolph Monument Works began repairing stones in our cemetery. Joy and Terry Meyer rented the parsonage in 2005. The "Move the Kitchen Upstairs" project was completed in 2006.

Members of the Anniversary Committee are 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.

**The September banner:** 175 years of Sunday School: All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children. Isaiah 54:13

**On September 3,** we celebrated 175 years of Sunday School at St. John's by honoring Sunday School teachers and students of the past and the present! Before the worship service, we enjoyed refreshments and Bible Bingo with lots of wonderful prizes for all ages in the Fellowship Hall.

