



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool

200 S Main St

641-228-3397

www.stjohncharlescity.org

Rev. Russ Leeper, Senior Pastor

Beth Hurt, Deacon Intern

Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

Sunday, February 25, 2024
Second Sunday in Lent



Mark 8:31-38

Key: L = Leader, C = Congregation

Prelude:

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

Lani Smith

Welcome

The radio broadcast is sponsored by John & Bev Selvig this week.

Service of Holy Baptism for Athena Riley Schneider

Insert

Gathering Hymn:

“How Firm a Foundation”

#796

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 “Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 “When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 “Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.”
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.”
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne.”

Apostolic Greeting:

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day:

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Music:

“All Night, All Day”

Kid’s Choir

Soloists:

Rhys Johnson

Emersyn Ungs

Callie Hammond

Halle Kubik

Scripture Reading:

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Read by Amy Kubik

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

¹⁵God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

“Jesus Loves Me”

Jesus loves me this I know,
For the Bible tells me so,
Little ones to Him belong,
They are weak but He is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me,
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me He who died
Heaven’s gate to open wide
He will wash away my sin
Let his little child come in. **Refrain:**

Children’s Sermon

Lenten Acclamation:

“Change My Heart, O God”

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.
You are the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

L: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 8:31-38

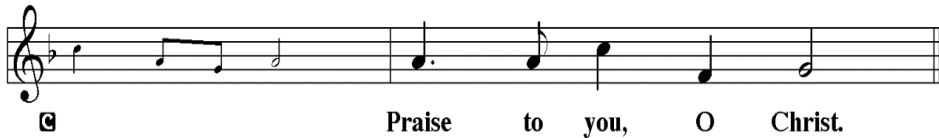


Gospel Reading: Mark 8:31-38

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord...



Sermon

Pastor, Russ Leeper

Song of the Day:

“Your Grace Is Enough”

Video

The Prayers (L): Lord in your mercy,
Response: **hear our prayer.**

Please keep the following in prayer:

Scott Aspholm	Don Knowlton	Noa Mulholland	Skip Ward	Maggie Schultz
Linda Girken	Sherman Loudermilk	Imani Sande	Deb Watkins	Dick Harrington
Axel Heller	Dave Litterer	Lorna Scrimger	Bill Wohlers Jr.	
Marilyn Isakson	Jason Mahan	Connie Swant	Mary Jean Zilm	

Prayers and condolences to the family and friends of Marilu Wohlers upon her passing.

Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families:

Kaleb Bilharz, Mackenzy Bilharz, Tanner Evans, Kaylie Fox, Hannah Fox,
Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs, Cameron Kakac, Drew Roethler, Robson Shankland,
Ben Hauser

We celebrate the baptism of...

Athena Riley Schneider

*Athena is the child of Jordan Schneider & Kyndra McDonald
Sponsor: Elise White*





1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



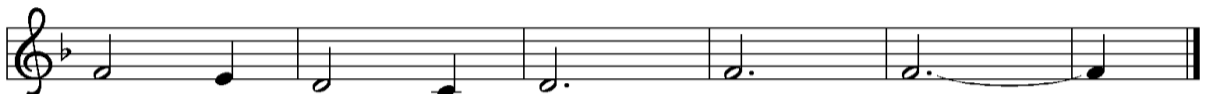
know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

**Response:*

“Take Our Lives”

Take our lives and let them be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take our moments and our days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take our love, oh Lord, we pour at your feet its treasure store;
Take our lives and we will be ever yours eternally.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Benediction

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead

through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
 Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,

On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be

full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.

Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

L: Go in peace. Share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude:

“The Call to Commitment”

Lani Smith



*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool
200 S. Main Street, Charles City, IA 50616; 641-228-3397*

February 25—March 3

2/25/2024	9:00 a.m.	Worship Kid's Choir
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday Morning Schedule</i> <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>
2/27/2024	6:30 p.m.	GriefShare
2/28/2024	3:30 p.m.	<i>Wednesday Night Lenten Schedule</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Lent Service</i>
3/1/2024	5:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts
	6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.	Game Night (3rd Floor)
3/3/2024	9:00 a.m.	Worship & Communion Trinity & Tone Chime Choirs
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday Morning Schedule</i>
	10:10 a.m.	Parish Ed

Save the date
Saturday, March 30th!!

Easter Egg Hunt. Details to come!

We'll need at least 2 more people to help run the event. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Wednesday Night Lenten Schedule

Please Note Schedule Changes

February 14th through March 20th

3:15 to 5:00	After School Program
4:30 to 4:50	Kids Choir-K through 6 th grade
4:30 to 5:30	Supper in the Parish Hall (Kids eat free—Adults \$5 *All Welcome*)
5:30	Lenten Worship Service
6:15	Trinity Choir

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m.	Service
10:05 a.m.	Youth Hour
10:05 a.m.	Spark Sunday School
10:05 a.m.	After Worship Social Time

**** (Tone Chime Choir will resume after Easter) ****

Offering from the week of:

February 18, 2024

General Receipts: **\$10,740.24**

Designated: **\$320.00**

Total \$11,060.24

General Receipts of \$10,902.91 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget.

Sunday Attendance: 200

Wednesday Night Supper

****February 28****

Vegetable Soup, Pulled Roast Beef Sandwiches & Applesauce

Supper is from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00 for adults & Children through 12th grade are free thanks to Kans for Kids

(Menu subject to change)

Mid-Week Lenten Services 2024

“Wandering Heart”

Wednesday worship services are at 5:30 p.m.

We will explore the life and faith of Jesus’ disciple, Peter. In him, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter’s journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

**Call the office to donate towards
the Easter Lilies by March 25th
At 641-228-3397**



Easter Sunday, March 31st
Worship/Comm
Will be at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

As precautionary steps for safety and security, we would like to ask all attendees and visitors of St John, to make sure you are locking your vehicles anytime you are inside the church or away from your vehicle.

Sunday, March 3rd, 2024

10:15am in sanctuary

There will be a special meeting for the congregation to vote on the approval of the revised Constitution and by-laws.

There are printed copies available in the office and online link.

In answer to some questions, the St. John Constitution has changes primarily mandated by the ELCA and required to be in local church constitutions. Many changes are to do with how Pastors and Deacons are designated now, Minister of Word and Service (deacon) and Minister of Word and Sacrament (pastor). This affects many paragraphs. There are also clarifications in Church affiliation with the ELCA, property, membership, rostered ministers, disability of a minister, issuing a call or termination of the same and a new Indemnification section. We deleted some sections that were not required and moved them (Congregational meetings, Officers, Council, Committees and Organizations) to our Bylaws to better reflect how our church functions.

The Bylaws have been updated to express how things are actually done at St. John today such as electronic meetings and email voting, if necessary, by a board in lieu of meeting in person. Covid necessitated some changes. We deleted, combined and created some boards. There is also clarification of board and officer duties. After the new Constitution and Bylaws are ratified they will be sent to the synod for review and approval.

Council President Kim Watkins

1. ALL BOARD MEETING WILL BE MARCH 21 AT 6PM IN PARISH HALL. Please let Kim or office know by email if you will be attending or not.

2. Mission trip to Kansas City will be June 16-22. This is open to 7th thru 12 grade students. There is a sign up sheet by the youth office along with information sheet. Deadline to sign up will be April 1st.

Any questions contact Kim at 330-5441.



Scholarship Applications:

Those students attending a Lutheran college who would like to receive an EPIC grant must notify the church by **May 1st**.

St. John scholarship applications for non-Lutheran colleges can be emailed to you and should be emailed to the office by **May 1st**.

GriefShare is a 13-week grief support group that is beginning again at St. John. Join us to find help and encouragement after the death of a loved one.

Tuesdays at 6:30***January 23 through April 16
Register at GriefShare.org or call the church office at 228-3397.

See Susan Leeper for more information.



Please help support...

St. John Christian Preschool

Purchase Kwik Star gift cards and the preschool receives 5% of the face value!!

Please contact Whitney or Toni if you are interested.

Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcast **2024**

The sign-up sheets for Altar Flowers & the Radio Broadcast **are now in the Secretary's Office.**

The radio broadcast is enjoyed by many of our St. John members who cannot watch it on YouTube or attend in person.

After Worship Social Time

Coffee & a treat are served in the Parish Hall each Sunday!!

Please join us

*****Special Note*****

We do need volunteers to sign up for bringing treats. There is a sign-up sheet by the Narthex doors. (Approximately 3 dozen)

This year commemorates 100 years since our church building was built to serve our congregation.

Because this is a historic year, it seems appropriate that we mark it with something that we haven't done for a while. A Harvest Dinner like we used to have would be a nice celebration and to make it different than the 150th celebration, I think we need to cater the main course, but bring back the pies and salads. I would like a craft, garden, and bake sale, too. I remember the jams and jellies and other harvest goodies that were also sold at this.

It all takes planning and work, so I am asking that if you have an interest in any part of this to contact me about what interests you and to attend a short planning meeting, to be announced. Since the dinner would mainly be catered, it will be a lot simpler than the huge cooking endeavor we used to have (although delicious) so time that you have to put in would be minimal. If you have ideas for this, I would love your input, like should we have some entertainment? I will also check with our various Boards to enlist some help.

Janet Petefish petefishj@mchsi.com

The Do Day Quilters and Prayer Shawl Ministry are going to combine forces

on March 6 to have a time of "Doing", conversation, coffee and a treat. The quilters start at 9 a.m. and the knitters/crocheters at 9:30 a.m. in the basement area near the kitchen. We would like to introduce you to the quilter's mission and to show the knitters/crocheters where to get the free yarn, where the prayer shawls are stored and how to check a new one in or a finished one out to take to someone in need. The lift makes it so much easier to get to the basement and it will be a good time for some conversation with someone new or someone you maybe haven't seen for a while. The quilters work until around 11:15 and stop for coffee and catching up. Come join us and see if the quilting or knitting is something you would like to do.

The quilters meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 9:00 a.m.-noon. The knitters will start at 9:30-11:30 a.m. but you can come and go as you wish. Prayer shawls can be knit, crocheted or quilted. Patterns are available. If you need a prayer shawl, lap robe or blanket for someone, they are in the chapel in a closet and can be checked out in a binder so we know who will receive it.

Contact Janet Petefish at petefishj@mchsi.com for questions.

FROM ST. JOHN'S KITCHEN...

As you know, the St. John kitchen has been busy in recent months. It has become very apparent that our list of contact names for assistance in providing and preparing food and working in the kitchen is very outdated. We would like to update our information.

In the coming weeks/months, it is our hope that all congregational households will be contacted. This is the information we will be seeking:

1. Would you be willing to contribute food for an event scheduled at the church, i.e. funerals or a special event planned at the church?
2. Would you be willing to help in the kitchen with these events?
3. Is there a time of the year that works better for you, i.e. not available in the winter months, or would prefer a specific month or time of the year to be contacted.

We will also be requesting information specific to your mailing address(es), telephone, and e-mail addresses. This information will be shared with the church office to update those records as well.

Three things to remember:

1. If you are more than a 1-member household, this is an opportunity for everyone to offer their help. The kitchen appreciates the gentlemen who have come in to offer help. We would also like to encourage the young adults in your homes to join us if they would like. The kitchen is not just for women!!
2. It is OK to say "no".
3. *Be patient with us!* We will do our best to contact every household. We will do our best to get your name on only one volunteer's list! We will do our best to get your name on a list! Again, information has not been updated in a long time – we hope to remedy that.

Our kitchen is where I see "God's love in action" all the time. Please consider joining us. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. My telephone number is 641 228-6927 and my email address is ctrygma@gmail.com.

Kathy Crooks

