

St. John Lutheran Church ^{*of*}
Cat Spring
www.stjohncatspring.org



Ministers
**The People ^{of} St. John
Lutheran Church
of Cat Spring**

Youth Director
Christa Klar
(281) 413-0329
youth@stjohncatspring.org

Finance
Jheri Sell
finance@stjohncatspring.org

Secretary
Sally Nergaard
secretary@stjohncatspring.org

Accompanist
Janet Allphin

Council President
Ken Wienken
979-251-4763

Pastor Stephanie Stark

May 2, 2021

**480 Ross Street
Cat Spring, TX 78933
Office Phone & Fax
(979) 865-5444
www.stjohncatspring.org**

If this is your first time to worship with us, please sign our Guest Book in the entry hall of the church. If you have questions about our facilities, the order of service, or if you need help with anything at all, see our Greeters or Ushers of the day. You can also ask any member for assistance. We pray this service is a blessing for everyone in attendance and that you'll all worship again soon. All who believe are welcome to join us for Holy Communion. Please fill out an attendance card and indicate if you would like to partake and hand to the Usher during Communion. We ask that you social distance and wear a mask. Hand Sanitizer is located in the narthex if needed.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!”

WOV 674

P: 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, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST LESSON:

Acts 8:26-40

The First Lesson is from the eighth chapter of Acts

Then God spoke all these words:

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Here ends the reading.

SECOND LESSON:

1 John 4:7-21

The Second Lesson is from the fourth chapter of 1st John

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Here ends the reading.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Lord, to who shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia

GOSPEL:

John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to John , the fifth tenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Stephanie Stark

Hymn of the Day

“ Shall We Gather at the River”

WOV 690

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

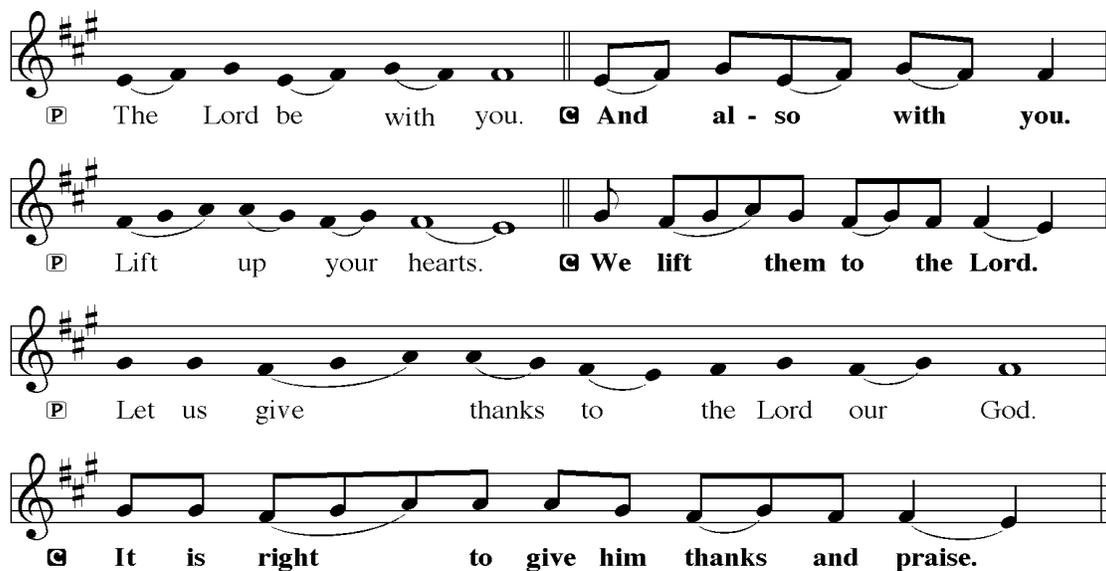
Prayers of Intercession

P: Hear us O God;

C: Your Mercy is Great

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving



Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

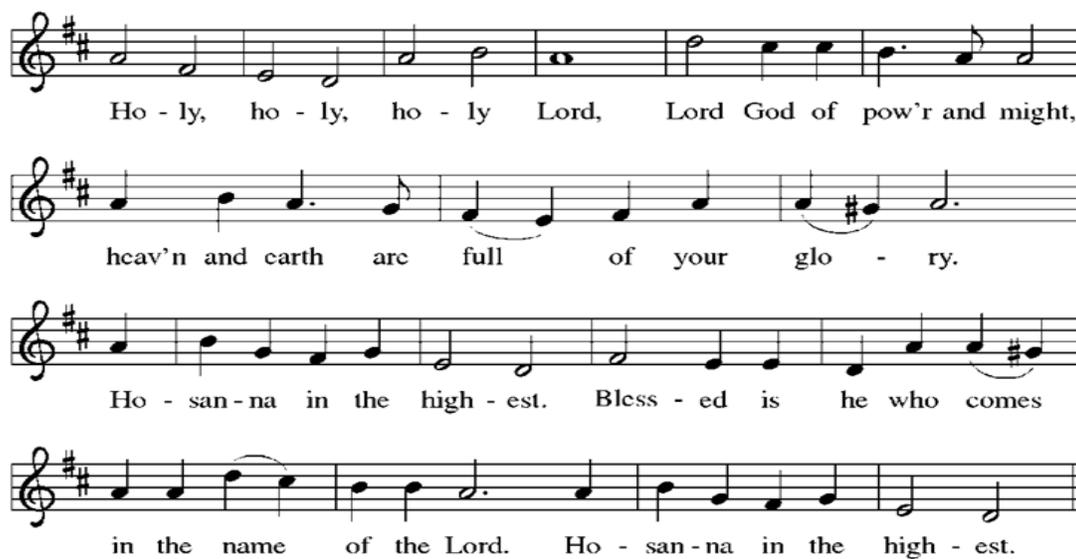
Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

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.

Canticle “*Lamb of God*”



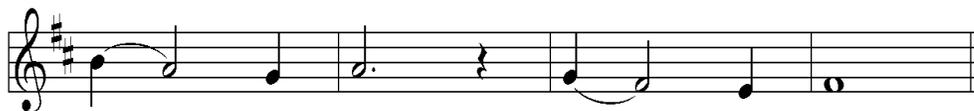
☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

The Distribution

All who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to partake. Please fill out an attendance card to indicate your intention to participate and hand it to the usher.



The flowers on the altar today are given
by **Daryl and Nancy Hartmann**
To The Glory of God
and in Honor of Our Family

The Post Communion Canticle “Thank the Lord”



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Blessing

The world now is too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love. May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone. Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor. May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament. Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love. May your feet be so blessed you run to those who need you. And may your heart be so opened, so set on fire, that your love, your love, changes everything. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Soon and Very Soon”

WOV 744

Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

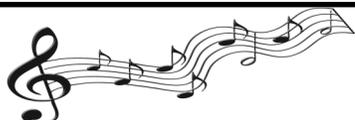
Weekly News 5/2– 5/8 2021

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2 LaNell Waldrop
 3 Blake Biehunko
 5 Jack Brandes
 Sharla Bell
 6 Carrie Froebel
 8 Johnny Class

Happy Anniversary

5-7 James and Carol Wenzel



MUSIC IS HAPPENING !

If you are interested in joining a Singing Group or a Handbell Choir please see the sign up sheets in the Narthex and sign up !

You will be contacted by Janet or Don Allphin via phone and/or email.

UPCOMING EVENTS

5-4 St John Quilting Ministry 8:30 am
 St John Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:30 am
 5-5 Women's Bible Study at 9:00 am
 5-9 Confirmation Class with Pastor
 5-10 Council 6:15 pm
 5-12 Women's Bible Study at 9:00 am
 5-16 SS Teacher Appreciation Day 9:00
 5-23 Confirmation
 5-25 WELCA 6:30 Chef Stephanie'
 5-30 5th Sun. Wear your St John T –Shirt
Flags on Veterans Graves after Service

Our weekly budgeted need: \$3698.37

Offerings	4-25-21
General Fund	3370.00
Memorial	25.00
Total:	3395.00
Online Views	52
Attendance	55

Senior Service is Coming Back !

Save the Date ! **June 16th– 11:00 am**
 Senior Service will be every
 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11:00 am
Tell your friends !

Confirmation Class of 2020/2021

Carter Findeisen Baylee Brandes
 Cade Thielmann Skylar Ordner Rylan Reichardt
 Ray Livingston Reese Reichardt

THOSE IN OUR PRAYERS

Melvin and Johnnie Klatt

Denise Lange

James Wenzel

Joyce Amother

Easton Tomlinson

Jennifer Barnes

Pat Neff

Jerry Richardson

Blake Biehunko

Shirley's sister, Jackie

Eric asks we keep Gloria Tipp
 in our prayers.

Ryan Kudlacek

Florine and Clifton Struessel in
 Nursing Home New Braunfel

Pastor Katrina Walther

Billy Findeisen

MEMBERS IN OUR CARE

Colonial Belle, Sealy:

Wilfred Eckardt

Arbors of Briarwood– Bellville

Carrie Froebel

Kruse Village-Brenham

Elaine Thielmann

HOMEBOUND:

Marjorie Criswell

Sharla Bell

Katherine Ludwig

UPCOMING APRIL MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

SUNDAY

May 2

Flowers: Daryl and Nancy Hartmann
 Accompanist Janet Allphin
 Council Duty Ruth and Melissa
 Reader ` Ralph Grinde
 Acolyte Skylar Ordner
 Altar Guild Shirley Hering Nancy Hartmann

May 9

May 9 and 23 Open for Altar Flowers !
 Janet Allphin
 Karen and Ken
 Dan Howell;
 `Rylan Reichardt
 Shirley Hering Nancy Hartmann
 Pauline :Lapham

