

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

- ⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.
⁷ Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.
⁸ Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any."

Epistle: Romans 8:18-27

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit,

because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

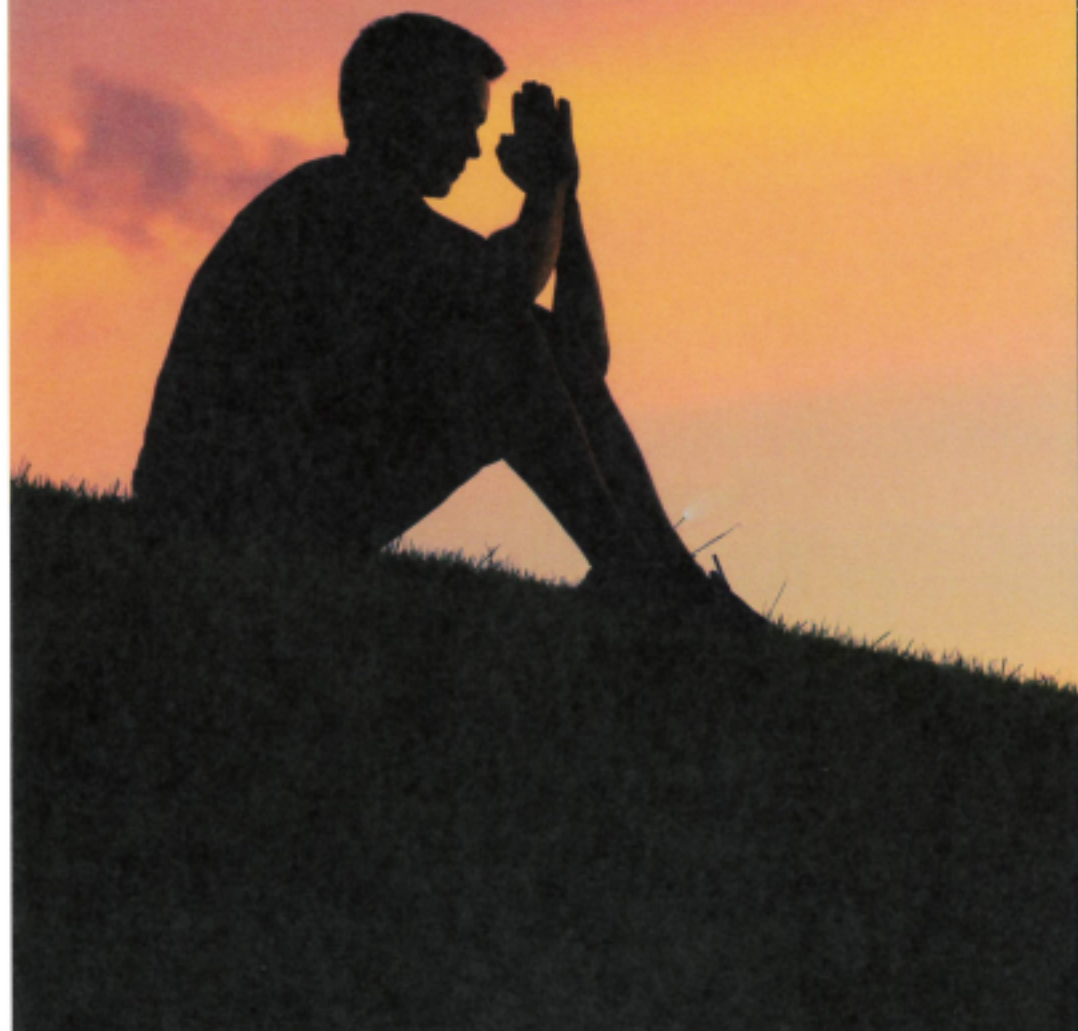
Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" . . .

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

The Spirit Himself intercedes for us

ROMANS 8:26



About the Cover: Sometimes the heartache of this world and our weakness can leave us speechless in our prayers. So we lean on the Word that God continues to speak into our lives, trusting that the "Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words." Jesus has already won for us redemption and eternal life through His cross and resurrection. We wait in eager expectation for His return and the restoration of all creation.

St. John's Lutheran Church (LCMS)
8948 N 1900 Ave Geneseo, IL 61254
815-989-2025

July 19, 2026 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Service Setting One (Lutheran Service Book, pg. 151) Hymn of
Invocation 913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

Invocation and Versicles (p. 151)

Psalm 119:57-64 (HETH)

⁵⁷The Lord is my portion; I promise to keep your
words. ⁵⁸I entreat your favor with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.

⁵⁹When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to your testimonies;
⁶⁰I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.

⁶¹Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me,
I do not forget your law.

⁶²At midnight I rise to praise you,
because of your just and righteous decrees.

⁶³I am a companion of all who fear you,
of those who keep your precepts.

⁶⁴The earth, O Lord, is full of your steadfast love;
teach me your statutes!

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.

The Kyrie (p. 152)

Hymn of Praise: *This Is the Feast* (p. 155)

Salutation and Collect (p. 156)

P O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy
Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be
stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in
perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our
Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever.

C Amen. (sung)

Readings (on back of bulletin)

Gradual *Romans 11:33, 36* Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and
knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how

inscrutable his ways!

For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.

Alleluia and Verse (Common, p. 156)

Hymn of the Day 772 In Holy Conversation

Sermon

Nicene Creed (p. 158)

Prayer of the Church

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P ...one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Presentation of the Offering

Offertory (p. 159)

Service of the Sacrament (p. 160)

(Please read the statement below before receiving Holy Communion.)

Distribution Hymns

754 Entrust Your Days and Burdens

663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

Post-Communion Canticle: *Thank the Lord* (p. 164)

Hymn to Depart 923 Almighty Father, Bless the Word

Receiving Holy Communion at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John's in the confession and confidence that,
as He says, our Lord Jesus gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but
His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins, to
strengthen our fight against sin and grow in His likeness, to assure us of our own
bodily resurrection on the Last Day, and to increase our unity of love with Him
and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words,
repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and
loves us, so that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to
their great harm and judgment, and because Holy Communion is a confession of
the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in
doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are asked to first speak with the pastor
before receiving the Sacrament.

For further study: Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor 10:16; 11:17-34; 27-30; Acts 2:42; 20:27.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

churchoffice@stjohnsgeneseo.org

pastor@stjohnsgeneseo.org

Website: www.stjohnsgeneseo.org

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AVAILABLE

Rev. Timothy Nerud, Pastor 815-989-2025 (Office) 612-940-8138
(Cell)

Elder: Mike Dahl

Hymn Leader: Larry Kane or Bobby Wolfe

Greeter: Janet Bertsons

Videographers: Joel Werling, Nicole Nerud, or Heidi Nerud

WE PRAY: Heavenly Father, who knows our weaknesses and failings, who searches our hearts, behold, now, the Holy Spirit in us who with constant pleading intercedes for us in all times and places when and where we cease our prayers and praying; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever. Amen

WELCOME TO ALL!

We are anxious to share with you the Christ-centered ministry at St. John's. Our Liturgy follows closely the pattern of Word and Lord's Supper handed down from the ancient Church. It is our hope that you will make the Church's life of prayer your own. If you have difficulty following our order of service, please ask someone sitting near you for assistance. We pray that you will receive rich spiritual blessings from your presence here. May the peace and power of our risen Christ be yours always.

OFFICE HOURS

Terri Monday—Friday, please call ahead Pastor Tuesday—Friday please call ahead

STREAM SERVICES <https://www.facebook.com/St.Johns.Geneseo/>

and on the website: www.stjohnsgeneseo.org or
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsLutheranChurchGeneseoIl>

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Sunday school—1/1 Adult Bible class—9 Worship—38

OFFERING

Offering last Sunday \$3,220.00 Weekly Budget for 2026 \$4,379.13

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT ST JOHN'S

Today 8:45 am SS/Adult & Youth Bible Study 10:00 am Divine
Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 am Youth Group
Tuesday 6:30 pm SS Meeting
Next Sunday 10:00 am Outdoors Divine Worship 11:00 am
Quarterly Voters' meeting

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." Psalms 122:1

THE PASTORAL CARE FUND needs replenishment. Help us out with a donation. Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

QUARTERLY VOTERS' ASSEMBLY will be after the worship service next week July 26th. This meeting will include our first discussion of updates the Constitution Committee are proposing. **Please bring your copy of the proposed Constitution and the latest change additions to this meeting.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR—St. John's will be hosting a district presentation '*Exploring God's Mission Here*', to our circuit congregations Saturday, August 8th from 9am—3:30 pm. All Pastors, congregational leaders **and laity** are encouraged to attend. Complete details are in the July Newsletter and coming bulletin announcements.

VBS—Are your children, grandchildren, or young neighbors and friends looking for a fun, faith-filled experience this summer? Check the several incredible Vacation Bible School options available throughout our circuit! See list on the Office window. **St. John's VBS is August 2 -6 from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm.**

Light

suppers will be served. ALL ages are encouraged to attend, even youth and adults. Use the



out
the

QR code to register.

Building Healthy Families: Many of us were raised on a familiar script: be tough, don't ask for help, and "pull yourself up by your bootstraps." It sounds admirable—but it's not a recipe for a healthy life, and it's not what God calls us to. Scripture points us in a different direction. Paul writes in Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." We were never meant to carry everything alone. God places us in community—where we can be supported, and where we can support others in return. So challenge those old messages, even the deeply ingrained ones about self reliance. Replace them with truth. Let someone in. Share what you're carrying with a trusted brother or sister in Christ. Reach out to family, friends, your pastor, or a LFS counselor who shares your faith and values. Strength isn't found in isolation—it's often revealed in the courage to seek and receive help. Learn more at www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**



ATTENTION CIRCUIT MEN The next "Brats, Bibles, & Beverages" will be held on Sunday, July 26 at 5:00pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, East Moline (1450 30th Avenue). The first BBB had members from 4 circuit churches present; let's double that in July! Each time we meet, the Bible Study will be a different topic, so come when you can. Brats, hot dogs, buns, unsweetened iced tea, and water will be provided (feel free to bring your own beverage). Bring something to share such as chips, salads, casseroles, desserts. Weather permitting this will be an outdoor event, so bring a lawn chair. If it rains we will move indoors. Please call Rod Hopkins, 920-217-1484 to RSVP by July 19th so we know how much food to purchase. This will be a great opportunity for fellowship with others in the Circuit.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Remember God's work in Lutheran schools as you pray:

MISSION—*Pray for all the dedicated staff and volunteers involved in campus ministry, that God would energize them for their work and use them to plant seeds of faith that will continue to grow.*

ST. JOHN'S FAMILY—O Lord, You are the great Physician of soul and body. We pray that You would show mercy to Your servants: **Linda Aper Paula Chapa Joyce DeFauw John Erdman Betty Firch Marcia Helke Jessica Johnson Rosalie Jorgensen Linda Lundquist Mary Jayne Nash Aaron Raschke Drew Schillinger Dave Schmidt Carolyn Werner Denice Winchell Carolyn Wildermuth Larry Kane Marilyn Woods**

Jon/Anita Clausing (missionaries in Kenya)

Jodi Martins (daughter of Gary & Darla Johns)

Justin Rittenhouse (grandson of John/Nancy Wickwire)

Marty Cavato (cousin of Mary Jo Gehn)

Ellen Bauer (grandmother of Joel Werling)

Joline Parrish (sister of Gayla Kroll)

Ann Behrendt (daughter of Carolyn Wildermuth)

Lyall Talarico (niece of Mary Jo Gehn)

Cindy Davenport (cousin of Terri Hock)

Chad Gehn (nephew of Brad Gehn)

Jeff Schreck (cousin of Terri Hock)

Ralph Boney (uncle of Larry Hock)

Ken Mirocha (brother-in-law of Terri Hock)

MILITARY—Pray for our military and their families:

Luke Thompson (son of John/Kindra Thompson)

Karl & Hannah Flynn (son/daughter-in-law of Mr/Mrs Paul Flynn)

Casey Powers Jr. (step son of Lisa Powers)

Rylie Hallendorff (grand-daughter of Carolyn & Dan Werner)

Chase Werling (nephew of Joel Werling)

Carter Martwig (nephew of Joel Werling)

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

"Each of us amounts to more than assorted cells, isolated fluids, and random spasms. Human means—in every case—a character, with an emerging identity, disclosing a history, developing toward an intended destiny. Every life is a story." *Rev. Michael Salemink, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*