

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

- ¹ "Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the Lord:
look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.
³ For the Lord comforts Zion;
he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
⁴ "Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.
⁵ My righteousness draws near,
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.
⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed."

Epistle: Romans 11:33-12:8

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

- ³⁴ "For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?"
³⁵ "Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?"

³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

^{12:1}I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

I APPEAL TO YOU
THEREFORE, BROTHERS,
BY THE MERCIES OF GOD,
TO PRESENT YOUR BODIES
AS A LIVING SACRIFICE,
HOLY AND ACCEPTABLE TO GOD,
WHICH IS YOUR SPIRITUAL WORSHIP

ROMANS 12:1



About the Cover: The word *therefore* always follows a reason. The first eleven chapters of Paul's letter to the Romans set the stage for Paul's exhortation to live the sanctified life God has set in place for us. We have all sinned and deserve condemnation, but salvation is the free gift accomplished by the atoning sacrifice of Christ's death on our behalf. We are justified by faith in Him. We have been united to Jesus by Baptism. We have died to sin and been raised to newness of life. It is all the gracious work of God, which is the foundation for *therefore*.

St. John's Lutheran Church (LCMS)

8948 N 1900 Ave Geneseo, IL 61254

815-989-2025

August 23, 2026 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

** Office of Matins (Lutheran Service Book, pg. 219)*

Hymn of Invocation 901 Open Now Thy Gates of

Beauty Opening Versicles (Common, p. 219)

***Venite* (p. 220)**

Psalm 141

¹O Lord, I call upon you; hasten to me!

Give ear to my voice when I call to you!

²**Let my prayer be counted as incense before you,**

and the lifting up of my hands as the evening

sacrifice! ³Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth;

keep watch over the door of my lips!

⁴**Do not let my heart incline to any evil, to busy myself with
wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity, and
let me not eat of their delicacies!**

⁵Let a righteous man strike me—it is a kindness;

let him rebuke me—it is oil for my head;

let my head not refuse it.

Yet my prayer is continually against their evil deeds.

⁶**When their judges are thrown over the cliff,**

then they shall hear my words, for they are

pleasant. ⁷As when one plows and breaks up the earth,

so shall our bones be scattered at the mouth of Sheol.

⁸**But my eyes are toward you, O God, my Lord;**

in you I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless!

⁹Keep me from the trap that they have laid for me

and from the snares of evildoers!

¹⁰**Let the wicked fall into their own nets,**

while I pass by safely.

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.

Office Hymn 783 Take My Life and Let It Be

Readings (on back of bulletin)

Responsory (Common, p. 221)

Sermon

***Te Deum* (p. 223)**

Presentation of the Offering

Kyrie (p. 227)

Collect of the Day (p. 228)

P Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

After each petition:

P let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

The prayer concludes:

P ...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for Grace

Benedicamus and Benediction

Closing Hymn 645 Built on the Rock

Silent Prayer

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 Bertso

Videographers: Joel Werling, Nicole Nerud, or Heidi Nerud

WE PRAY: Holy Spirit, Caller, Gatherer, Enlightener, Keeper, maintain the answer to the question of Christ in our hearts that we may know aright who we are in Him and be so motivated by such knowledge that our life and example may lead others to glorify our gracious Father; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Father 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/@StJohnsLutheranChurchGeneseo11>

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Sunday school—NA Adult Bible class— 10 Worship—39

OFFERING

Offering last Sunday \$2,980.00 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

Next Sunday 10:00 am Divine Worship/Holy Communion

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

CID SCHOLARSHIP FUND—As is our custom this time of year, we are invited to support Christian Education. Please use the available envelopes for your gifts of cash or check and place the envelope in the offering plate. ***Make checks to: CID Scholarship Fund.***

Building Healthy Families: "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit... therefore honor God with your body." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) This Biblical instruction isn't just for young people! No matter what your age, take time this week to do something that will make your body stronger or healthier. Fix a healthy snack, go for a walk, and invite a friend or neighbor to join you. Shared activity makes it more fun, and creates an open door for conversation about wellbeing, including the importance of faith and spiritual wellness. Thank God for and honor Him by taking care of your body, no matter how many years it's been around!



www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**

"Great Is the Lord!" is the theme for the LWML Fall Zone Rally to be held on Thursday, Sept. 10th at Zion Lutheran Church, Taylor Ridge. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Chris Hall, CID Lutheran Campus Minister at Western Illinois University in Macomb. Donations will be going to Rockridge Food Pantry and Rockridge High School's "Students in Need". *Items needed are: tooth paste, tooth brushes, small bottles of shampoo, deodorant, school supplies, non-perishable food items like fruit cups, fruit snacks, granola or cereal bars, Easy Mac, pasta, canned fruits and vegetables, boxed potatoes, peanut butter and monetary gifts. Make checks payable to St. John's LWML.* If interested in attending, please, contact Marilyn Woods **before Aug. 24** at 309-944-7569. Registration is \$15.00 and includes a very nice lunch.

COMING SOON!

2027 is the 120th Anniversary of CID and the first 5 Circuits (ours being the Peoria-Rock Island Circuit). It is also the 70th year since the Rock Island Circuit branched off its own. The Rock Island Circuit of



office administrators are currently working on creating a beautiful wall calendar that will highlight the 12 churches in our Rock Island Circuit. This October, each of the 12 sister congregations will have a copy to view and begin taking orders. We are aiming for a delivery date of December 1. All additional proceeds will be given to our very own Cristo Rey Lutheran Church.

ATTENTION CIRCUIT MEN The next “Brats, Bibles, & Beverages” will be held August 30 at 5:00pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, East Moline (1450 30th Avenue). Join other men from the Rock Island Circuit for an evening of food, fellowship, and a study of God's Word. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Weather permitting this will be an outdoor event, so bring a lawn chair. If it rains we will move in doors. Please call St. John's 309-792-0755 to RSVP by August 23rd so we can plan accordingly.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Remember God's work through the Synod's church workers as you pray:

MISSION—*Pray for Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.; and other institutions that prepare servants for the Church, that they would properly prepare men and women to serve God and His Church.*

ST JOHN'S—Mr. Alex Thompson—We offer before You our common request for the well-being of Your church throughout the world that it may be so guided and governed by Your good Spirit that all who profess themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit in the bond of peace, and the righteousness of life. Specifically, we pray for Alex asking Your blessings on him.

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 Larry Kane Linda Lundquist Mary Jayne Nash Aaron Raschke Drew Schillinger Carolyn Werner Carolyn Wildermuth 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)

MILITARY—Pray for our military and their families:

Karl & Hannah Flynn (son/daughter-in-law of Mr/Mrs Paul Flynn) **Rylie Hallendorff** (grand-daughter of Carolyn & Dan Werner) **Chase Werling** (nephew of Joel Werling)
Carter Martwig (nephew of Joel Werling)

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

“The One who bore our griefs and carried our sorrows is now seated in sovereign authority over all things. He is not pacing the floor of heaven, wringing His hands. He is reigning. And because He reigns, we can have courage and peace even when our world seems like it's unraveling before our very eyes.” *Rev. Brian W. Thomas – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*