

**Old Testament Reading:**  
**Isaiah 55:10–13**

- <sup>10</sup> "For as the rain and the snow come  
down from heaven  
and do not return there but water  
the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread  
to the eater,  
<sup>11</sup> so shall my word be that goes out  
from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I  
purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for  
which I sent it.
- <sup>12</sup> "For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall  
clap their hands.
- <sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up  
the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up  
the myrtle;  
and it shall make a name for the Lord,  
an everlasting sign that shall not be  
cut off."

**Epistle: Romans 8:12–17**

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not  
to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.  
<sup>13</sup>For if you live according to the flesh you  
will die, but if by the Spirit you put to  
death the deeds of the body, you will live.  
<sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God  
are sons of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive  
the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,  
but you have received the Spirit of adop-  
tion as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba!  
Father!" <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself bears wit-  
ness with our spirit that we are children  
of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs—  
heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ,

provided we suffer with him in order that  
we may also be glorified with him.

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23**

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the  
house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>And great  
crowds gathered about him, so that he  
got into a boat and sat down. And the  
whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he  
told them many things in parables, say-  
ing: "A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as  
he sowed, some seeds fell along the path,  
and the birds came and devoured them.  
<sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where  
they did not have much soil, and imme-  
diately they sprang up, since they had  
no depth of soil, <sup>6</sup>but when the sun rose  
they were scorched. And since they had  
no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds  
fell among thorns, and the thorns grew  
up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell  
on good soil and produced grain, some a  
hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>He  
who has ears, let him hear. . . .

<sup>18</sup>Hear then the parable of the sower:  
<sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the  
kingdom and does not understand it,  
the evil one comes and snatches away  
what has been sown in his heart. This is  
what was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>As  
for what was sown on rocky ground,  
this is the one who hears the word and  
immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>yet he  
has no root in himself, but endures for a  
while, and when tribulation or persecu-  
tion arises on account of the word, imme-  
diately he falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was  
sown among thorns, this is the one who  
hears the word, but the cares of the world  
and the deceitfulness of riches choke the  
word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>As for  
what was sown on good soil, this is the  
one who hears the word and understands  
it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in  
one case a hundredfold, in another sixty,  
and in another thirty."

We cry,  
"Abba!  
Father!"

Romans 8:15



**About the Cover:** Our upward cries of "Abba, Father" stem not from fear but from the faith created in us by the Holy Spirit through the Word. We have been made the very children of God because Christ, the Son of God, who became our Brother by taking on human flesh, died on our behalf! Since we are the children of God, we are also heirs with Christ and receive what He has already accomplished: forgiveness of sins and resurrection from the dead. Our Father in heaven wants to hear all our prayers.

**St. John's Lutheran Church (LCMS)**

**8948 N 1900 Ave Geneseo, IL 61254**

**815-989-2025**

**July 12, 2026 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

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

**Hymn of Invocation 909 Christ Is Made the Sure**

**Foundation Opening Versicles (Common, p. 219)**

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

**Psalm 65:9-13**

<sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it;

you greatly enrich it;

**the river of God is full of water;**

**you provide their grain,**

**for so you have prepared it.**

<sup>10</sup>You water its furrows abundantly,

settling its ridges,

**softening it with showers,**

**and blessing its growth.**

<sup>11</sup>You crown the year with your bounty;

your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

<sup>12</sup>**The pastures of the wilderness overflow,**

**the hills gird themselves with joy,**

<sup>13</sup>the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,

the valleys deck themselves with grain,

they shout and sing together for joy.

**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 577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast**

**Readings (on back of bulletin)**

**Responsory (Common, p. 221)**

**Sermon** (*"When The Seed Is Sown"*)

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

**Presentation of the Offering**

**Kyrie (p. 227)**

**Collect of the Day (p. 228)**

P Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**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 921 On What Has Now Been**

**Sown** *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 Bertsons

Videographers: Joel Werling, Nicole Nerud, or Heidi Nerud

**WE PRAY:** Lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, glorious object of our end-time hope and expectation, grant us patience to wait for Your appearing, using our talents and our time in obedience to Your will and purpose until You come; who with the Father 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 all ways.

### 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](http://www.stjohnsgeneseo.org) or YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@StJohnsLutheranChurchGeneseo11>

### WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Sunday school—1/1 Adult Bible class—6 Worship —35

### OFFERING

Offering last Sunday \$4,065.00 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

Thursday 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study Next Sunday 10:00 am Divine Worship/Holy Communion 11:30 am Youth meeting

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

**PRAISING GOD FOR REV. KENT UMBARGER**—Thank you for your willingness to lead our Adult Bible Study and Worship this morning. We are blessed with your faithfulness to serve God's people.

**THE PASTORAL CARE FUND** needs replenishment. Help us out

with a donation. Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

**PASTOR ON VACATION**—Pastor Nerud will return from vacation this Tuesday, July 14. If you are in need of Pastoral Care before this date, please call Rev. Stephen Mueller Concordia, Geneseo @ 989-928-6603.

**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.

**QUARTERLY VOTERS' ASSEMBLY** will be after the worship service July 26th. This meeting will include our first discussion of updates the Constitution Committee are proposing. These changes have been sent out through email. Please contact Terri Hock if you need it sent again or desire a paper copy. Plan to attend this important meeting.

**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. Scrip-



ture 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](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org)  
**Lutheran Family Service**

**VBS**—Are your children, grandchildren, or young neighbors and friends looking for a fun, faith-filled experience this summer? Check out the several incredible Vacation Bible School options available throughout our circuit! See the 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 QR code to register.**

**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 first-year teachers, that they may apply their gifts to demonstrate grace and mercy.* Pray that God would give them strength and patience.

**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 Flynn** (son of Mr/Mrs Paul Flynn)

**Casey Powers Jr.** (step son of Lisa Powers)

**Brittany Lenni** (daughter of Gabe Loenser)

**Rylie Hallendorff** (grand-daughter of Carolyn & Dan Werner) **Chase Werling** (nephew of Joel Werling)

**Carter Martwig** (nephew of Joel Werling)

### **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE**

“Realistically, most of us will never be more than ordinary, but that doesn't mean we're useless. God works through the ordinary, the mundane, and the commonplace. He worked through Esther, and He works through you to bless others in ways you may never know.” *Grace Mac Pherson – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*