

St. John's Lutheran Church, Ruma
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
8446 1st Road Evansville, IL 62242
stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com

Rev. Randy Fischer, Pastor

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

8:30 a.m.

January 26, 2025

Divine Service, Setting One with Holy Communion *LSB* p. 151

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation: 584 Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing

Stand

Invocation and Exhortation

LSB 151

Confession of Sins and Absolution

LSB 151

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 102:18–22; antiphon: v. 13

You will arise and have pity on Zion;

it is the time to favor her; the appointed time has come.

Let this be recorded for a generation to come,

so that a people yet to be created may praise the LORD:
that he looked down from his holy height;

from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,
to hear the groans of the prisoners,
to set free those who were doomed to die,

that they may declare in Zion the name of the LORD,
and in Jerusalem his praise,
when peoples gather together,
and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.

**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.**

You will arise and have pity on Zion;
it is the time to favor her; the appointed time has come.

Kyrie *LSB 152*

This Is the Feast *LSB 155*

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 156*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10*

P The Old Testament Reading is from Nehemiah, chapter 8.

¹ All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. ²So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women

and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. . . .

⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood.

⁶And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

...
⁸They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

P The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 12.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense

of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:16–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁶[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was

given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

²¹And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²²And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself.’ What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.” ²⁴And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰But passing through their midst, he went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 658 Preserve Your Word, O Savior

Sermon: Strength!

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-100

Stand

Nicene Creed

LSB 158

Prayer of the Church

Offertory

LSB 159

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

Sanctus

LSB 161

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

The Words of Our Lord

Proclamation of Christ

LSB 162

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

Pax Domini

LSB 163

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn: 642 O Living Bread from Heaven

Distribution Hymn: 577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

The Dismissal

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

LSB 166

Hymn to Depart: 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Acknowledgments

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Please place your offerings in the plate at the back of church.

**Welcome to members of Lorna Becker's family
who join us today to honor Lorna's memory
on the 50th anniversary of her entry into heaven.
The altar flowers are a gift from the family
in Lorna's memory.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR...

- ★ Delbert Wittenauer (uncle of Amanda Roedl and Amy Rahn), Rory (granddaughter of close friend of Beth Fischer), Monica Hussey (daughter of Dorothy Zipfel), Art and Gladys Thies, Linda Schulz, Dianna Wegener, Delbert Kueker, Brian Ruez, Carolyn Fink, Dawn Ruez, Dorothy Zipfel, Sarah Kueker, Susan Sochowski, Paul Liefer, Robert Veath, Jace Duncan, Mary Braun, Dorothy Krause
- ★ Jace Duncan (husband of Cassie (Liefer) Duncan), Ryan Nehrt, Tanner Valleroy (nephew to Brian Liefer), and all others who are members of the Military, Police, and Firefighters

- ★ If you'd like to send a card to **Mark and Susan Sochowski** and family, the address is 104 Boulder Drive, Red Bud, IL
- ★ **Dorothy Krause** is living in Apartment 9 at Garden Place in Red Bud, but her family asks you to send cards to her in care of Dale Krause, 8311 St. Leo's Road, Evansville, IL 62242. Dale's family will take the cards to her.
- ★ **Dorothy Zipfel** is now living in Freeburg Care Center. The address is 746 Urbana Drive, Freeburg, IL 62243
- ★ **Delbert Kueker** is living at R&R Country Care Senior Living Center, 1026 Janet Drive, Ruma, IL 62278

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR CHURCH

Organist Diann Scherle

Sunday School Teachers

Amanda Roedl, Sunday School director and 5th through 8th grade;
Kaley Roedl, pre-school through 4th grade; Joy Meyer, handbells.

Officers

Dennis Phegley, chairman; Deb McCutcheon, secretary; Diann Scherle, treasurer; Jill Phegley, assistant treasurer; Brian Liefer, Jonathan Mehring, and Tim Schrader, elders; Matt Roedl, Jeff Schlueter, and Lloyd Schoenbeck, trustees.

Stewardship Committee (responsible for the Bible presentation series) Rachel Mehring and Jill Phegley from St. John's; Troy Birch and Nathan Koester from St. Peter's.

TO SHARE INFORMATION

Church Council: Dennis Phegley, chairman (282-2985); Brian Liefer, elder (618-570-4958); Jonathan Mehring, elder (618-363-0066); Timothy Schrader, elder (618-363-1579).

Church Bulletin: By Wednesday afternoon, send email to Deb at church address (stjohnlutheranruma@gmail.com), text her at 618.980.7033, or give her a written note at church.

Church Facebook Page: Directly message *StJohnEvLutheranChurchRumaIL*, send an email to the church email address (above), or text Deb (above) and ask to have your information posted.

TO CONTACT PASTOR FISCHER

Call him at 618.670.7736 or email him at rjfischer92@yahoo.com. Pastor is, in most cases, in the Ruma area at least one day a week besides Sunday and is happy to make an appointment to speak with you in person.

FOR MORE ONLINE INFORMATION

Church Facebook Page: *StJohnEvLutheranRumaIL* for Sunday School activities and church news updates.

Church Website: Check the website for the week's bulletin, a calendar of church activities, and links to all things LCMS. Look for us at www.stjohnlutheranruma.com.

PLEASE CONSIDER SERVING OUR CHURCH FAMILY...

By purchasing our Ladies Aid Apple Butter for only \$5 a pint or \$8 a quart: The Ladies Aid uses the money to buy items for our church and for area food pantries. They also donate to COSHLS and LWML. See Pearl May or Marlene Ling to buy a jar.

By working with the Sochowski family as Susan recovers from a stroke. At our request, Mark has provided a list of concrete ways we can help. A copy of the list is available on the pew in back of church.

By leaving non-perishable food items in the back of church. The Ladies Aid/LWML members are collecting for area food pantries.

By donating toward our NEW Lutheran Heritage Foundation Mission Project FOR 2025... The new LHF mission project will focus on children in Ghana. Every \$5.00 donation provides a beautiful hardcover Bible storybook for children in the Kusaal language. **Write Ghana in the memo line of your check or on an envelope with cash.** We will send collected money to LHF at the end of each quarter in 2024. *Check out Diann's bulletin board display just outside the Fellowship Hall for more information.*

By bringing altar flowers: We have purchased live Peace Lilies for the altar, but you are still welcome to provide fresh flowers for a special occasion or just because. Check the sign-up list in the Fellowship Hall to see what months are available. Please let Deb know by Wednesday afternoon so she can acknowledge the gift and occasion in the bulletin.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TODAY: Voters' meeting immediately after the service.

TODAY: Bible Presentation by Rev. Tony Troup, retired, begins at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. See p. 11 for more information.

Sunday, Feb. 9: Installation of officers and council members during the service.

Mondays, Feb. 10 and 17: The final two Bible Studies covering the Book of Jonah, including the Sight and Sound videos, will begin at 6 p.m. both evenings at St. Peter's, Evansville.

CPR and AED classes: Joy Meyer is willing to lead classes sometime in March. The cost is \$15 for the CPR certification card and booklet. See Joy or Jill for more information. A sign-up sheet is available on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board for those who are interested.

Bible Presentations for 2025

We are once again joining St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Evansville to host a series of six presentations on the Bible. This year's Bible Presentations will give us a picture of Jesus Christ who is active with His Father and the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament. The sessions will draw upon different passages in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, primarily in the four Servant Songs of Isaiah which foretell the Ministry of Jesus in the Gospel accounts. Come join us to learn more about the eternal Son of God, sent to earth for our salvation! Light refreshments will be served after each presentation.

Sunday, January 26: join us here at 1:30 pm. The topic will be "The Servant of the Lord, Song 2," presented by Rev. Tony Troup, Retired.

Tuesday, January 28: join us at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Evansville at 6 pm. The topic will be "The Servant of the Lord, Song 3," presented by Rev. Rodney Benkendorf, Hanover Lutheran, Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Sunday, February 2: join us here in Ruma at 1:30 pm. The topic will be "The Servant of the Lord, Song 4," presented by Rev. Stephen Krenz, St. Paul's Lutheran, Columbia.

Tuesday, February 4: join us at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Evansville at 6 pm. The topic will be "Jesus Reveals Himself as the Servant of the Lord," presented by Rev. John Lukomski, Retired.



Christ Our Savior

LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Community Blood Drive: The American Red Cross will hold a community blood drive Tuesday, January 28 from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the gymnasium at Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School in Evansville. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter EvansvilleCommunity (zip code 62242) to schedule an appointment.

Smoked Ribs Fundraiser for Shooting Sports: Support the trap and archery teams at *COS* by purchasing smoked ribs. Each side is \$25. Orders are due Feb. 3 and will be available for pick up Feb. 8 from 10-noon. Call to order.

NASP Archery: Our archery team will be playing in tournaments at Herrin on January 25 and February 8. Our next home tournament is February 15.

***COS* Basketball:** Our basketball season is coming to a close with two away games. On January 30, we will be playing at First Baptist O'Fallon, at 6:00 p.m.

Registration for 2025-2026 is open! If you know a high school student, encourage them to consider Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School. Call 853-7300 to schedule a shadow day or a meeting with our administrator, Mrs. Sherry Prange. Learn more about *COS* and download a registration form from our website, www.coslhs.org.

School Hours: Office hours are Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The mission of Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School is to provide a Christ-centered and academically excellent education.

