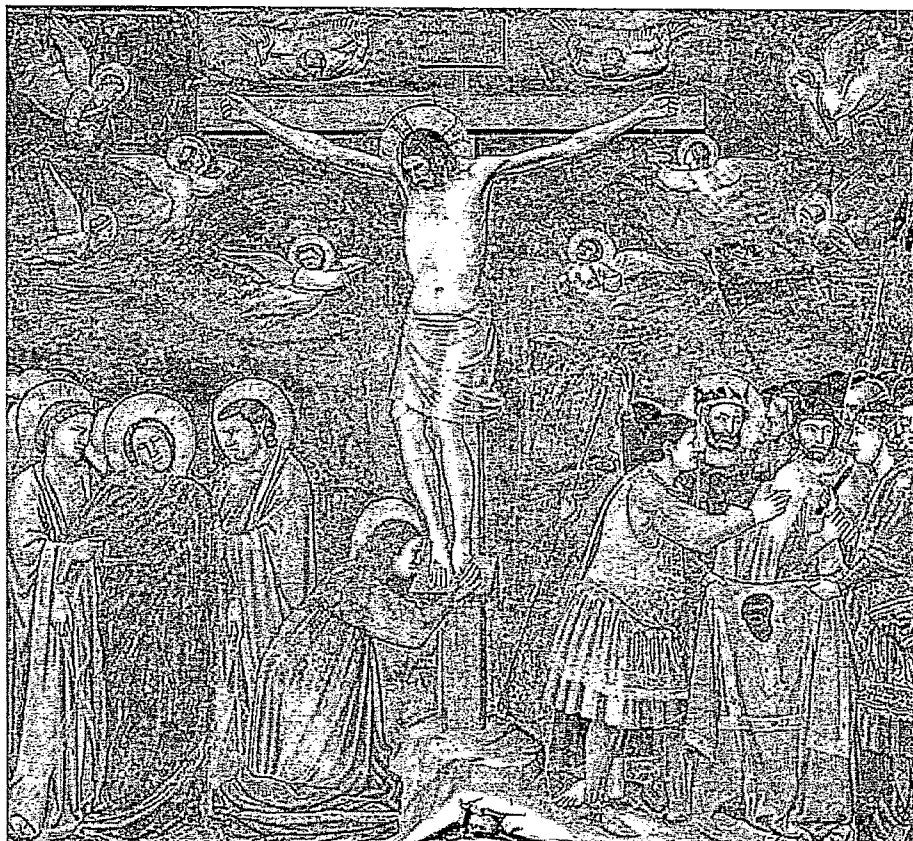


# St. John Lutheran Church and Preschool

## *The Holy Cross*

**Divine Service Setting Three**

September 14&15, 2024



**St. John Lutheran Church and Preschool**  
**520 Paddock Avenue**  
**Meriden, CT 06450**

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Facebook: St. John Lutheran Church & Preschool

**Holy Communion** *The Lord welcomes to his table all who repent of sin and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior. In this meal the Lord is present by a mystery in his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. As the Lord's Supper is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar and lest any eat and drink unworthily, those who are not yet instructed as members or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Lord's Supper, are asked to first speak to the pastor. Those who are not communing but wishing to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward. Simply bow your head to indicate that a blessing is desired.*

As we prepare for worship together please remember to set your phone to silent mode. Thank You!

**Mission Statement:** Growing a Christian Community rooted in Faith, Fellowship, and Service

Cover: *The Crucifixion*, Giotto, fresco from Scrovegni Chapel, 1300.



**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
 and to the Holy | Spirit;  
 as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Antiphon

**Kyrie - Lord Have Mercy** p. 186

**Hymn Of Praise: Gloria in Excelsis** p. 187

**Salutation and Collect of the Day (Sung)**

**First Reading:** *Numbers 21: 4-9*

In those days: The children of Israel journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread." So the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. Then the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle:** *Philippians 2: 5-11*

Brethren: Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual:** *Isaiah 49: 22a; John 3: 14b-15*

A: "Behold, I will lift up my hand to the | nations,\*

And raise my signal to the peoples," | [says the Lord.]

So must the Son of Man be | lifted up,\*

That whoever believes in him may have e-|ternal life.

**Alleluia**

**p. 190**

**Holy Gospel:** *John 12: 32-36a*

P: The Lord be with You.

**C: And with your Spirit.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

At that time Jesus said to the multitude of the Jews: “I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.” This He said, signifying by what death He would die. The people answered Him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains forever; and how can You say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this Son of Man?” Then Jesus said to them, “A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

**Nicene Creed**

**p. 191**

**Hymn of the Day** *Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*

**454 (1,4,5)**

**Sermon**

**Offertory Music** *Be Still, My Soul – C. Courtney (Sunday)*

**Offertory:** *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

**p. 192**

**Prayer of the Church**

**Preface**

**p. 194**

**Sanctus - Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 195

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** 1

**The Words of Our Lord** p. 197

**Lord's Prayer** p. 196

**Pax Domini – The Peace of the Lord** p. 197

**Angus Dei – Lamb of God** p. 198

**Distribution** p. 199

*The Lord welcomes to his table all who repent of sin and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior. In this meal the Lord is present by a mystery in his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. As the Lord's Supper is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar and lest any eat and drink unworthily, those who are not yet instructed as members or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Lord's Supper, are asked to first speak to the pastor. Those who are not communing but wishing to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward. Simply bow your head to indicate that a blessing is desired.*

*Communion Prayers* During the time before, during and after Communion you may wish to pray while kneeling or sitting in your pew. Prayers are provided for the time of Communion inside the front covers of the hymnals under "Prayers for Worship."

<b>Post-Communion Collect</b> <i>(Please Rise)</i>	<b>p. 201</b>
<b>Salutation and Benedicamus</b>	<b>p. 201</b>
<b>Benediction</b>	<b>p. 202</b>
<b>Closing Hymn</b> <i>Lift High the Cross</i>	<b>837 (1-4)</b>
<i>(silent prayer)</i>	
<b>Postlude</b> <i>Toccata – D. Buxtehude</i>	

<sup>1</sup> *The Prayer of Thanksgiving III – adapted from Apostolic Tradition, Worship Supplement, CPH 1969*



### **Church Attendance**

Wednesday.....	5
Saturday.....	14
Sunday.....	53

**Offerings for God** The offering box is available in the narthex for our giving.

**Welcome Guests!** Please take a moment to fill out the form in the red Record of Fellowship pads at the end of your pew. This will help us to get to know you as you share worship among us!

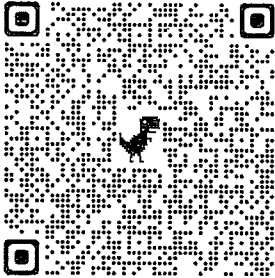
**Assisting with our services:** Assistant: Hector Rodriguez (Sat), Dan Cox (Sun); Lead Deacon: Diane Foell (Sat), Faith Twining (Sun); Readers: Joanne Outlaw (Sat), Lisa Barillaro (Sun); Altar Guild: Donna Dlugos (Sat), Faith Twining (Sun).

**Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist:** We will observe the day of *Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist* on the weekend of *September 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>*. With the celebration of this date, our congregation will be introduced to readings not normally seen in the course of the church year. May we be built up in our faith as we worship our Lord together!

**St. Michael, the Archangel:** We will observe the day of *Saint Michael, the Archangel* on the weekend of *September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>*. This historic commemoration with special readings and hymns has as its theme the spiritual battle of God's angelic messenger engage in and their mission to protect God's people!

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**Support Our Preschool:** The preschool has set up a wishlist for supplies and other teaching items on Amazon. Use your cell phone's app to scan this QR code to link directly to the wishlist. You can order and have items shipped directly to the preschool. Thank you for your support.



**Joyful Response:** Joyful Response is a program we offer here at Saint John Lutheran Church where you can make your contributions to the Lord through online banking if you wish. If you're interested, a form has been included on our website detailing all the information we need from you! When you've completed it, please leave it in the mailbox outside the office door.

## News at Saint John

**Wednesday Worship:** During this season we will explore mid-week Trinity themed readings. We will worship in the Saint John Chapel each Wednesday evening for the Divine Service at 7pm. Join us in God's presence!

**Divine Service Setting 3:** We celebrate the return to Divine Service Setting 3! With Divine Service Setting 3 St. John recovers its roots! This service is the old "Common Service" which was the prevailing English Liturgy in use since 1888 by Lutheran Congregations across America. It seems that St. John began to use this setting back in 1919 and continued its use with the Lutheran Hymnal (TLH) which was produced in 1941. St. John continued to worship with this setting for the majority of its history as did the majority of American Lutheran Churches over the years. May the Lord bless us as we regularly share the Divine Service among us!

**We Welcome Our New Members:** Chris Dougan, Carlene and Kyle Fox, *with Aidan and Olivia*, Crystal Walsh and Brennen Gurtowski, Ralph Mingoello, Nathan and Kimberly Moran

**Pancake Breakfast:** We will be having the Pancake Breakfast on October 12<sup>th</sup> from 8-10 am in our Fellowship Hall for a \$5 donation! Call the office for tickets, or they can also be purchased at the door! There will be pancakes, eggs, sausage, and coffee. Apple Fritters will also be available to purchase!

## THE HOLY CROSS

“Sir, we wish to see Jesus” (John 12:21). Then look to His holy cross. For just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the wilderness, so Jesus, when He is “lifted up from the earth, will draw all people” to Himself (John 12:32). “He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross” to save us (Phil. 2:8).

“Everyone who is bitten” by the ancient serpent’s venom of sin, “when he sees” Christ “shall live” (Num. 21:8). The true holy cross is lost to history, and we cannot return to Calvary to find our salvation. So, Christ brings the New Testament in His blood to us. “We preach Christ crucified .... the power of God and the wisdom of God,” though foolishness to the unbelieving world (1 Cor. 1:23–24). It pleases God, “through the folly” of the cross we preach, “to save those who believe” (1 Cor. 1:21). We find the fruit and benefit of this holy cross poured out in Holy Baptism, spoken in the preaching of Holy Absolution, and delivered in the body and blood given and shed there for us. Thus are we strengthened to take up our crosses, sanctified by His (John 12:25–26).

[www.lcms.org/worship](http://www.lcms.org/worship)