

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

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Church Website: www.saintjohnmeriden.org

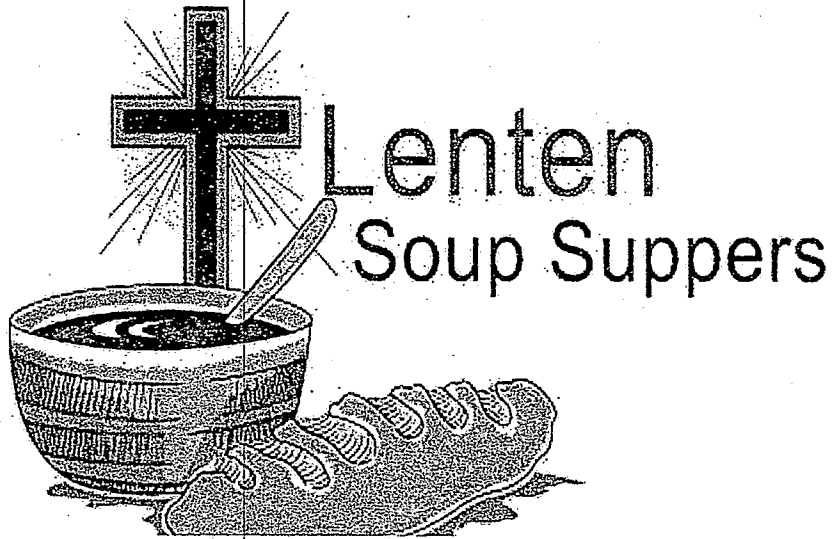
Facebook: St. John Lutheran Church & Preschool

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 Canaanite Woman, The Conde Museum.



Lenten Soup Suppers

*Join us for Wednesday Lenten Soup
Suppers and 7 pm Service.*

5:45 - 6:45 pm

Wednesday, March 12

March 19

March 26

April 2

April 9

April 16

Sign Up today to bring your favorite soup and dessert.
Lenten Service begins at 7 pm. All are Welcome.

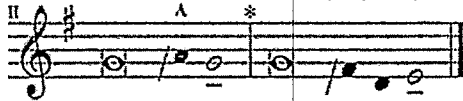
March 15&16, 2025 *As we gather for this service let us take time to lay aside our thoughts of other things as we prayerfully prepare for the worship of our Lord. Inside the front covers of your hymnal are Prayers For Worship. Additionally inside the back cover of your hymnal are the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds as well as the Lord's Prayer.*

Bell tones and Prelude – *Grosser Gott* – K. Hildebrand
(We reflect in silent prayer during the time of the prelude)

Hymn: *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* **940**
(As the music begins, please rise to sing)

Confession and Absolution **p. 184**

Introit: *Psalm 25: 1-2a, 6, 2b, 22 (Mode II)*



Antiphon: Unto Thee, O LORD, do I lift / up my soul.
O my God, I trust in Thee: let me / not be ashamed.

A: Remember, O LORD, Thy tender mercies and Thy lo-
/ving kindnesses;

for they have been / ever of old.

Let not mine enemies triumph / over me.

Redeem Israel, O God, out of / all his troubles.

C: Glory be to the Father and / to the Son*
and to the Ho-/ly Spirit;
as it was in the be-/ ginning,*
is now, and will be forev-/er. Amen.

Antiphon: Unto Thee, O LORD, do I lift / up my soul.
O my God, I trust in Thee: let me / not be ashamed.

Kyrie - Lord Have Mercy

p. 186

(During the Season of Lent, the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

p. 189

First Reading: *Genesis 32:22–30*

In those days: Jacob arose at night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. He took them, sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had. Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."

A: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Epistle: *1 Thessalonians 4:1–7*

Brethren: We urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: *Psalm 25: 18, 17 (Mode II)*

Look upon mine affliction / and my pain;
 and for-/give all my sins.
 The troubles of my heart / are enlarged:
 Oh, bring Thou me out of my distresses, O Lord.

Lenten Verse: *Matthew 15:26–28a*

The Lord said unto the woman / of Canaan,
 It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to / cast it
 to dogs.
 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs
 which fall from their mas-/ters' table.
 Jesus said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it
 unto thee ev-/en as thou wilt.

(Please rise for the Gospel after the Lenten Verse)

Holy Gospel: *Matthew 15:21–28*

P: The Lord be with You.

C: And with your Spirit. (*Spoken*)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 15th chapter.

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.” But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she cries out after us.” But He answered and said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, help me!” But He answered and said, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.” And she said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered and said to her, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

p. 191

Hymn of the Day: *God Moves in a Mysterious Way* **765**

Sermon

Offertory Music *Lamb of God – T. Paris (Sunday)*

Offertory *Create in Me A Clean Heart* p. 192

(As the music begins, please rise to sing)

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

Agnus 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 *Prayers are provided for before and after communing inside the front cover of the hymnal under "Prayers for Worship". Please make use of these prayers or your own prayers during the time before, during and after communion*

Post Communion Collect

p. 201

Salutation and Benedicamus

P. 201

Benediction

p. 202

Closing Hymn: *O Love, How Deep*

544 (1-5)

(We reflect in silent prayer following the closing hymn)

Postlude *Deo Gracias -K. Hildebrand*

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Offerings for God The offering box continues to be available in the narthex for our giving.

Church Attendance

Ash Wednesday.....	72
Saturday	21
Sunday	53

Assisting with our service: Assistant: Hector Rodriguez (Sat) Dan Cox (Sun), Lead Deacon: Wayne Sasso (Sat) Beth MacDonald (Sun), Reader: Hector Rodriguez (Sat) Dan Cox (Sun), Altar Guild: Donna Dlugos (Sat) Marcia Gregory (Sun)

Ladies Book Study: If you are interested in attending a ladies' Christian book study, please text or call Wendy at - 860-759-4039. Dates and times TBD.

Lunch Bunch: Join the St John Lunch Bunch on Tuesday April 15th at 12 noon in the church lounge. For more information contact Laurie at - snowjay456@yahoo.com.

Pancake Breakfast: is happening on March 29th from 8am - 10am in the Fellowship Hall! Apple Fritters will be for sale!

Easter Memorials: Easter Memorials are available in the narthex. The plant deadline is April 6th, and monetary memorials are due by April 13th.

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

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.



Online Giving: We recently set up a secure giving option through the Joyful Response program, already in use for our direct deposit for offerings. "You may set up a one-time donation or recurring offering to St. John through this link." Credit/Debit card payments and bank ACH are accepted through this program. Credit card fees are deducted from the amount unless otherwise selected.



News At St. John Church

The Season of Seeking: As we enter this season called Lent additional worship opportunities are offered. Each **Wednesday night at 7:00 PM** we will meet in the sanctuary for the Vespers evening service followed by a brief Divine Service with Communion. Toward the end of Lent **Compline devotional services** will also be offered in the Saint John Chapel on Sunday nights, **March 30th, April 6th and 13th at 7pm.**

The Season of Seeking – Absolution: This will be offered again this year. Personal confession to another can be comforting and necessary. A time will be set aside for private **Confession and Absolution** in the church sanctuary on **Saturdays, April 5th and 12th from 1-3 PM.** Members can also make an appointment to meet with Pastor anytime. **Anointing of the sick** will be offered **Saturday March 22nd and Sunday March 23rd** following each of the services.

The Season of Seeking: Finally during this season of seeking we would like to make available additional **opportunities for prayer at our facilities.** Members are invited to make use of our church sanctuary or the Saint John Chapel for prayer. The church office is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Please come anytime and you will be let through the office side of the building. Outside of these times please contact Pastor to make arrangements. The Lord bless this season of seeking!

We Welcome Our New Members!: *Lewis and Denise Balsizer, Donald Andersen, Mary Alling, Stephanie Twining, and Alexander Pelletier, Anne Levix*

Holding God to His Word

Jacob wrestled with God; he would not let Him go until he received a blessing from Him (Gen. 32:22–32). So it was with the Canaanite woman. Though Jesus seemed to ignore and reject her, she continued to call upon His name and look to Him for help (Mt. 15:21–28). Even when the Lord called her a little dog, she held on to Him in faith and would not let Him wriggle out of His words: “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” This Gentile woman shows herself to be a true Israelite, who struggles with God and man in Christ and prevails. “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire” (Mt. 15:27–28). This is the sanctifying will of God (1 Thess. 4:1–7)—to test your faith in order that it may be refined and strengthened. For tribulation produces perseverance; perseverance, character; character, hope. And hope in Christ does not disappoint (Rom. 5:1–5). Lcms.org/worship