



**June 11, 2023**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Second Sunday after Pentecost, Year A**

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***St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA***

**Reverend Maggie Westaby**

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**Wausau, Wisconsin 54401**

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**Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> 2023**  
Second Sunday after Pentecost, Year A  
Reverend Maggie Westaby

**WELCOME**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † One God, who greets us in every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

**Amen.**

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Let us turn and return to the One who desires to hear our confession and waits to grant us grace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,

**Your word and your promises come to us when our hearts are full with rejoicing and when our hearts fall with sorrow for our failings. We deceive ourselves about our true nature, and we do not love our neighbors and all of creation as we are called. Forgive us. Help us amend our lives in accordance with you. Show us the pathway toward healing and give us peace. Amen.**

The God of mercy desires the well-being of all people and creatures. In the name of Jesus † Christ, your sins are forgiven. Walk in the way of faith, that you may have abundance and joy.

**Amen.**

# Morning Has Broken

1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has  
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first  
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet  
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965  
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version  
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 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Holy God,

May your word fall into our hearts this day. As breath comes into dust, as water feeds rivers and fields, rich with healing, abundant, alive, and true.

**Amen.**

## **READING: Genesis 12:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **READING: Romans 4:13-25**

<sup>13</sup>The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup>Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our

Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>12</sup>But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”

<sup>18</sup>While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” <sup>19</sup>And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. <sup>20</sup>Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, <sup>21</sup>for she said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” <sup>22</sup>Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well. <sup>23</sup>When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, <sup>24</sup>he said, “Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. <sup>25</sup>But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. <sup>26</sup>And the report of this spread throughout that district.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
saturated with God's grace and forgiveness,  
let us give thanks.

Creator God, fountain of living water,  
your love flows through water,  
sustaining life in all communities,  
nourishing and delighting all creatures of the earth.

We give thanks for your gift of water.  
Water that has been around since life began,  
when the Spirit hovered over the face of the deep.  
Water that Christ was baptized into,  
reconciling all of creation into you—Holy God Triune.

For water and Word at our baptisms,  
and for water and Word at Sam and Ty's baptism.

We give thanks for water that floats in the sky,  
where clouds embrace wind, sunlight, and the pull of gravity.  
We give thanks for water that saturates all the earth,  
down to intricate places like the midnight zone of the ocean,  
where bioluminescent life thrives in the darkness.

For your promises show up in the most intricate of places,  
in water that forms rainbows and carves rocks.  
For you, O Creator are in the midst of all things.

As we confirm and affirm faith bound to our baptismal water and Word,  
we ask that you continue to guide us,  
and nourish us with your life-giving water that gushes up to eternal life.

Shower us with your Holy Spirit,  
drench us in your love, and immerse us with your grace.  
Amen.

## **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Sam and Ty, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these siblings in Christ, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your children in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

## **SAM'S FAITH STATEMENT**

### **Bible Verse Matthew 11:28**

*“Come to me all that are weary and carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest.”*

This verse relates to me because during my rough times I remember to take a deep breath and pray. This verse reminds me to relax by having faith, hearing his word, and knowing that he is with me every step of the way through my journey of life. I advise everyone to turn to God in times of trouble. If you put your faith in him, he will comfort you when you are under distress.

This verse helps me better understand God by helping me remember even during your darkest days you are never alone and you are always loved. This verse reminds me to put my faith in God. He loves everyone, even when we fall short of his glory and sin. This verse helps me understand that I can always talk to God and he will always listen. His arms are open to everyone and if you believe in him, he will give you the greatest gift of all, eternal life.

## **TY'S FAITH STATEMENT**

### **Bible Verse James 4:10**

*"Humble yourself before the lord and he will exalt you."*

This verse helps me better understand God because if you put him before yourself, he will lift you up and he shows that you can do that with other things and people in life. It helps me understand that to not think with one mind, but two minds is better than one. He shows that to not be so self-centered and put others before yourself, and when you do that, it will eventually pay off. One final thing God shows is that it is alright to put faith in others and you cannot do everything on your own and that is ok.

This verse helps me better understand myself because if you are not self-centered and care about others and put them before you it could turn out really good in the end. This verse helps me because when you are in a rough patch it is ok to look for others or God and they will help you get out of that tough time. One final way this verse helps me understand myself more of that when you succeed to always be humble and show respect to others that you competed with or if they did well too.

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I present Sam and Ty, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Sam and Ty:* I renounce them.

People of God, do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**



## **AFFIRMATION**

Sam and Ty, you have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:  
to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Sam and Ty:* I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these siblings in Christ and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life...

...

Let us rejoice with our siblings in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. Responding to "God of grace," with "hear our prayer."

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

God, the divine giver, gifts us with life and breath and all that is. In gratitude, let us offer our gifts in return for the goodness and grace of God in Christ.

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

### *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious God,

You call us not just to give us the blessing of being called your people, but also to be a blessing for all people on this earth. Give us the wisdom and the courage to be a blessing to this community and to this world. Through these offerings may we be channels of your compassion and healing to others.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

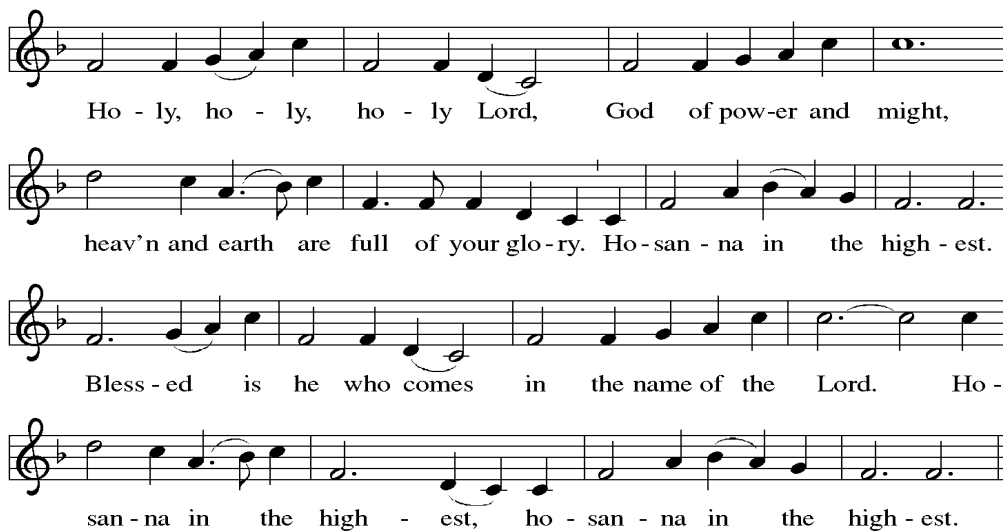
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is given for you.

## COMMUNION HYMNS



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMNS CONTINUED

## What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav-en?
- 2 What light of truth is of-fered here, what cov-e-nant from heav-en?
- 3 What wine of love is of-fered here, what crim-son drink from heav-en?



What food of ev-er-last-ing life, what gra-cious gift is giv-en?  
What hope of ev-er-last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv-en?  
What stream of ev-er-last-ing life, what pre-cious blood is giv-en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav-en.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav-en.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet-est wine of heav-en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man-na giv-en!  
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv-en!  
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv-en!


Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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## Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,  
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.  
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,  
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure,  
 Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.  
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath,  
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,  
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy;  
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;  
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.  
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.  
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.  
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.  
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.  
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.  
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigmund von Beken, 1626-1681; in *Luthero's Book of Worship*, ed.  
 Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Böhm, 18th cent.  
 Text © 1978 *Luthero's Book of Worship*, ed. Augsburg Fortress.

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## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Generous God,

We thank you for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.

Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

May the Creator bless you, so that you can be a blessing to others.

May Christ bless you, so that you can be healers in a world that is hurting.

May the Holy Spirit bless you, so that you can spread hope inspired,

And may the Holy ✝ Trinity bless you and keep you always.

**Amen.**

## Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.  
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional  
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Welcome to all!** "The earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord" (Psalm 33:5, ESV). Welcome to worship. Let us together praise God!

God, you invite us: "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me" (Psalm 50:15, ESV). Thank you for this assurance of your care.



Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones during services.

**To those who are visiting:** Welcome to St. John and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex. May God bless you today and all days.

**Reminder!** If you are in need of Pastoral care, please contact St. John's at (715) 675-6950

**Holy Communion** is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us.

**Food Basket.** Each week you are invited to bring non-perishable grocery items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Food Basket* next to the main entrance.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Monday, June 12, at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Maggie's Book Club.** We will be discussing *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng.

**Tuesday, June 13, at 6:30 p.m. Church Council meeting.**

**Wednesday, June 14, at 6:30 p.m. Worship Service.** If you are craving a Wednesday night worship service, because you will be out of town on Sunday, come to this worship service. Pastor Maggie and the Church Council are seeing if there is an interest for a mid-week, summer evening service. Please note, this service will not be recorded.

**Monday, June 19, at 6:30 p.m. Roots of Our Faith Second Study Session.** We will be discussing chapters 3 & 4.

**Thursday, June 22, at 8:00 a.m.** Marathon County Sheriff's Office will be hosting a free event on keeping worship spaces safe. There is a flyer in the narthex for more information, or you can talk to Pastor Maggie if you are interested. It will be at Mount Olive Lutheran Church from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**June 25 – June 29 St. John Vacation Bible School.** This year's "STELLAR: Shine Jesus' Light" VBS will be 'Out of this world!' Sunday, June 25th through Thursday, June 29th. 5:30pm - 8pm with dinner served each night from 5:30-6pm. Come join the fun! Register your kids and their friends online <https://stjohnwausau.org/education/vbs/>

**VBS food donations needed.** If you can help donate food for VBS, please sign up on the board in the Narthex. Thank you to all who are able to donate!

**Thank you from Peggy Oravez.** Peggy would like to thank everyone for the kind cards and prayers. She looks forward to coming back to church and seeing all of you once she is out of rehab.

**Exciting news!** Pictures that were taken for the new church directory are here and can be picked up in the fellowship hall. Pictures are located on the table and in the box. We are also excited to have our new directories soon, stay tuned.

**St. John Parking Lot.** During the May council meeting, a discussion was had about St. John's Parking lot, as the asphalt needs to be replaced. There are many cracks, crevasses, and areas where the base layer is no longer good and as time goes on would only grow worse. The area to be replaced starts at the corner of the building going out to the road.

***A meeting will be held at a later date for the congregation to discuss options.***

A discussion is noted in the meeting minutes for May, please contact a council member if you have concerns.

**Live Streaming and Photography Notice.** When you enter a St. John Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize

congregants. Parents, please note our children's sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

**Coming This Week @ St. John June 11 – June 18**

**Today**

9:00 a.m. Worship

**June 12**

6:30 p.m. Pr. Maggie's Book Club

**June 13**

9:00 a.m. Pr. Maggie @ Pr. Meeting

6:30 p.m. Council

**June 14**

6:30 p.m. Worship

**June 18**

9:00 a.m. Worship