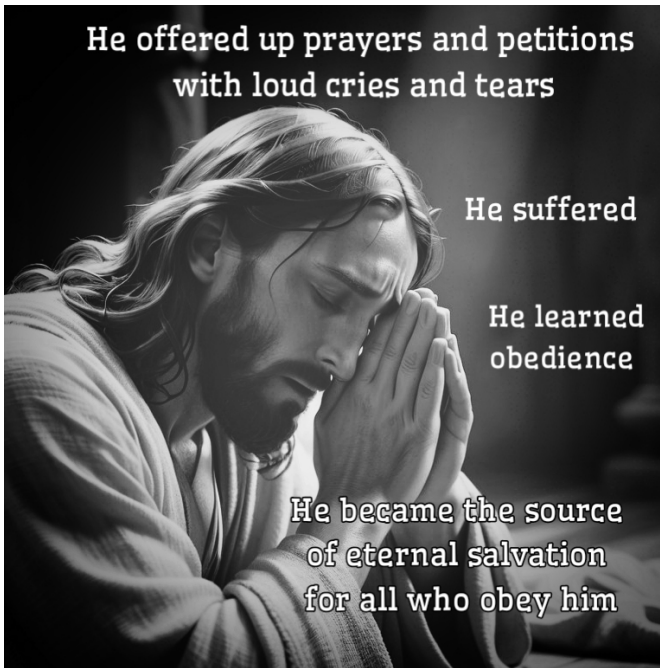


**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**RETHINKING RELIGION: RETHINKING DEVOTED COMMITMENT**



Pastor Zietlow's Sermon:  
Hebrews 5:7-9

**"He Suffered**

**1. It was so very real**

**2. I was so very necessary"**

**WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!**

We pray that you find comfort, peace, and motivation through God's Word today. In our worship bulletin, you will find an outline of **today's order of worship**. The entire service can be found in the hymnal, up on the screen on Sunday at St. John's and Emmanuel and livestreamed at [www.stjohnsmontello.org](http://www.stjohnsmontello.org) and also at St. John's in the Lower Level. At St. John's, the **restrooms** are located in the link way, out the church entry way, to the left and down the stairs. At Emmanuel, they are located in the Parish Hall. You may also find a **nursery changing station** in the lower level of St. John's.

**ST. JOHN'S & EMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCHES**

**March 17, 2024**

**Emmanuel: 8:00am—St. John's: 10:00**

## **RETHINKING RELIGION**

Everyone has assumptions about God. Likewise, everyone has assumptions about religion. Increasingly, those assumptions are negative. Americans are walking away from Christianity in breathtaking numbers. It raises the question. How do those people know if their assumptions about religion are correct? Do they really understand Christianity at all? Do we? Do we truly understand this religion? In the season of Lent, as much as any other, Jesus teaches things that turns the world's assumptions about religion completely upside down. We call it "Christianity." So, in this holy season, let us go straight to Christ and let him replace assumptions with truth. Jesus, help us to rethink religion!

### **THEME OF THE DAY: RETHINKING DEVOTED COMMITMENT**

Religious sociologists sometimes divide Christians into two groups: committed Christians and cultural Christians. The former are usually defined as those who are active in a congregation, who pray regularly, who read Scripture, etc. The latter are those individuals who call themselves Christian and perhaps have some Christian beliefs. Yet, they do not strive to live a Christian life. They are not interested in church involvement. Those definitions are interesting when trying to understand shifts in American Christianity. However, they demonstrate a false assumption about the Christian religion. There is indeed a devoted commitment at the center of Christianity, but it is not man's commitment to God. Even believers will at times demonstrate lukewarm commitment at best. Instead, at the heart of Christianity we find God's devotion and commitment to us. It is a devoted commitment so strong that it put God on the cross.

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** Setting Two; Hymnal Pages 172-181, 171

**HYMNS:** 808, 652 v.1-2, 419, 813 (Hymns also posted on the screen)

**PSALM:** Psalm 121 "I Lift Up My Eyes to the Mountains" (Hymnal/Screen)

**SERMON:** Hebrews 5:7-9 "He Suffered 1. It was so very real 2. I was so very necessary"

**OPENING HYMN:** 808 "Drawn to the Cross"

**CONFESSIONAL HYMN:** 652 v. 1-2 "Lord, Have Mercy"

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 43:1-7

(In devoted commitment the LORD promises his people that even if they need to pass through raging waters or walk through a wall of fire, he will be right there with them.)

<sup>1</sup>But now, this is what the LORD says—he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be

burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. <sup>4</sup>Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth— <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

**PSALM:** Psalm 121 "I Lift Up My Eyes to the Mountains"

**SECOND READING:** Hebrews 5:7-9 (Sermon Text)

(Because he was truly human Jesus did not relish having to suffer for our salvation. Yet he submitted to the cross out of his devoted commitment to us.)

<sup>7</sup>During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered <sup>9</sup>and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION FOR LENT:** Hymnal Page 179

**GOSPEL:** John 12:20-33

(Though the thought of the cross troubled his soul, Jesus was committed to glorifying his Father's name by winning eternal life for us.)

<sup>20</sup>Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup>Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. <sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup>The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had

spoken to him. <sup>30</sup>Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** 419 "Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle"

**SERMON:** Hebrews 5:7-9 "He Suffered 1. It was so very real 2. I was so very necessary"

**APOSTLES CREED:** Hymnal Page 181/Screen

**PRAYER THAT GOD IS AN EVER-PRESENT HELP & INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

**OFFERING & PRAYER**

**CLOSING HYMN:** 813 "He Will Hold Me Fast"

### **Acknowledgments**

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### **THEME FOR NEXT SUNDAY:**

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

Rethinking Religion: Rethinking Real Strength

## **EMMANUEL & ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES 2024 LENT & EASTER WORSHIP**

### **SCHEDULE:**

**WEDNESDAY LENT DEVOTIONS: EMMANUEL: 3:30 PM---St. JOHN'S: 6:30 PM**

**WEDNESDAY LENT WORSHIP: 3/20**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE (NO SATURDAY WORSHIP)**

**EMMANUEL: 8:00 AM---St. JOHN'S: 10:00 AM**

**HOLY THURSDAY-MARCH 28: EMMANUEL: 6:30PM**

**GOOD FRIDAY-MARCH 29: St. JOHN'S: 1:00PM**

**EASTER-MARCH 31: EMMANUEL: 8:00 AM---St. JOHN'S: 10:00 AM**

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

- For the sick and others facing trials, including: Gale "Blackie" Boyd, Mike Brown, Bob Buehrens, Michael Cox (Marjorie Fabian's brother), Vicki Davis (Marilyn Riemer's sister), Edith Duesterhoeft, Don Ebert, Ken Elmer (Sally's husband), Earl Ewert, Judy Fandrey, Bob & Christine Ferber, John Gaedke (Dan Finger's uncle), Donna Gatzke, Dennis Gray (Mary Dahlke's brother), Kelleen Grucza (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Kim Hanko (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Laura Heibler (Marjorie Fabian's granddaughter), Del & Jean Henke, Jerry & Darlene Hunter (Bonnie Chapman's parents), Xzander Jahr, Kris Kemp (Diane Hintz' daughter), Dale Kozlowski, Emily Krueger, Jeff Krueger (Diane Hintz's son), Darren Marceau, Julie Moran, Debbie & Steve Parrish, Milo Petrick, Melissa Prater, Sharon Priewe, Karen Radke, Roxanne Schmanke, Ashley Schroeder, Eloise Schultz, Lynn Sellnow, Bob Sluga (Sherry's husband), Amanda Stalker, Tom Stempniak, James & Suzanne Weber, Cheryl Wegner, Stacy Weisensel, Paul Weldon, Tama Zuehls (Zeb's mother) (added this week: Sharon Priewe)
- For Pastor Jacob (Elizabeth) Hanneman called at our 3/10 E/SJ Joint Voter's meeting to serve as our lead pastor
- For Miss Patricia Bodi called at our 3/10 St. John's Voters meeting to serve as our Little Lambs 3,4K director/teacher
- For our St. John's members, Steve and Debbie Parrish, who are renewing their wedding vows today (3/17) after the 10am St. John's worship service

<b>St. John's</b>	<b>Usher's Schedule</b>
Sunday, March 17 Wednesday, March 20	Sunday, March 24 Friday, March 29
Paul Van Treeck Matt Borzick Ken Borzick James Henke Haiden Van Treeck Nolan Van Treeck Brody Henke Milo Henke	Jerre Duerr Joe Zauner Gordon Krause Kevin Kaul Corey Kaul



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## This Week: March 17-23, 2024

Monday	6:30 p.m.	Adult Choir SJ
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ
Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Joint Council Meeting EM
	7:30 p.m.	SJ Council Meeting
Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ
	3:30 p.m.	Lent Worship EM
	5:00 p.m.	Public School Catechism SJ
	5:30 p.m.	Lenten Supper SJ Hosted by...
	6:30 p.m.	Lent Worship SJ
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	GriefShare
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Easter Festival SJ
	11:00 a.m.	Tot Time SJ
		NO SJ Worship

## Next Sunday: March 24, 2024

8:00 a.m.	Emmanuel Worship with Communion
8:30 a.m.	St. John's Sunday School
8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study St. John's
9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study Emmanuel
10:00 a.m.	St. John's Worship with Communion

### Attendance

Date	EM	SJ
3/10/24	47	88
3/13/24	44	28

### Sunday School, Little Lambs & CALA Singing Schedule

3/20/24	LL-2 at Emmanuel
3/24/24	LL-8 at SJ Montello
3/29/24	(Good Friday) CALA 3-8 & Chimes at Princeton
4/21/24	Sunday School at Montello

Total Feb. Offerings	Budget Needs	February Expenses	Year to Date Offerings	Year to Date Expenses
\$19267.43	\$33939.58	\$34529.18	\$175760.87	\$213325.44

*Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **2 Corinthians 9:7***

At our Pastor call meeting March 10 the voters present voted unanimously to extend a call to Pastor Jacob R Hanneman, to be our next lead Pastor.

Following is his contact information.

627 Ensign St.

Fort Morgan CO 80701-2015

Phone: 406-852-6463 (cell) 970-867-5500 (home)

Email: [pastor.hanneman@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.hanneman@gmail.com)

He is 40 years old, is married to Elizabeth (nee Greenlee) she is a graduate of MLC and they have a 1 year old child. He is presently serving at Shepherd of the Plains Lutheran Church, Fort Morgan CO. His father has a part time call serving St. John's Princeton. His sister Charisa (married to Josh Cheek) were members here and now are members of St. John's Princeton. His bio indicates that Pastor Hanneman is described as a man blessed with a sincere heart who seeks the welfare of others. He demonstrates good organizational skills and careful planning. He is a hard worker. Please pray for him, his family and all three congregations as he deliberates his calls. Also, please reach out to him with cards, texts and emails as an encouragement as he seeks the Lord's guidance as to where he can best use his gifts.

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At our March 10 call meeting the voters present cast a unanimous vote to extend a call to Miss Patricia M Bodi to be our next LL preschool Director/Teacher.

Following is her contact information.

9111 W Allerton Ave

Milwaukee WI

Phone: 414-509-6772 (cell) 414-481-7881 (home)

Email: [pat.bodi@stjohnsmilw.org](mailto:pat.bodi@stjohnsmilw.org) (work)

She is 62 years old, is licensed in the state of WI and is presently serving at St. John Lutheran School in Milwaukee. She has a history of teaching in Early Childhood Ministries and enjoys the task. Please reach out to her with encouragement through cards, texts, emails, or phone calls as she deliberates where she can best use her gifts to promote the saving Gospel. Please keep both congregations and all of our called workers in your prayers, as we work together to carry out our Gospel ministries.

**SPRING MISSION OFFERINGS** are being collected by the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society throughout March and early April. Containers are located in the entrance at both St. John's and Emmanuel—*Please give your gift at the church where you are a member.* 75% of gifts given will support Beaver Dam Circuit mission projects—HM/Children's Ministry Outreach WM/New World Mission Fields. 25% of gifts given will support home & world mission projects that will be decided by ballot in May and will be presented at the 2024 LWMS Convention, June 27-30, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. *Gifts welcome from all who love missions!*

**SPRING SERVICE PROJECT** St. John's & Emmanuel members are invited to join LWMS in a **monetary donation drive for 2 current building projects of Our Savior's Lutheran School in Peridot, Arizona:** 1) a new school & 2) teacher housing. With a student/teacher ratio of 38:1, school expansion and on-reservation housing to accommodate a bigger teaching staff are badly needed. Learn more about these projects

Podcast: <https://kingdomworkers.com/podcasts/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PeridotOurSaviorsLutheranSchool/>

To avoid confusion with LWMS mission offerings currently being collected, **please give gifts for this project directly to your church's LWMS Reporter if you wish to donate for Peridot—Helen Stelter at Emmanuel, Linda Wachholz at St. John's.**

### **LWMS SPRING MISSION RALLY at ZION-KINGSTON on SATURDAY, APRIL**

**27** All are welcome to join us for a day centered on missions! Speaker Pastor Daniel Sims, Director WELS Christian Aid & Relief—“*Christ's Love Compels Us to Share with Others Spiritually and Physically!*” Service Project: monetary collection for Peridot school building projects (see separate announcement). 9:30 a.m. Registration; 10:15 a.m. Bible Study; 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting with Election of officers and new mission projects; 11:45 a.m. Lunch; 12:50 p.m. Devotion & Speaker; 2:10 p.m. Officer Installation & Closing. Carpool signup in Information Room at St. John's or call your LWMS Reporter: Helen Stelter, Emmanuel, 608-297-7116; Linda Wachholz, St. John's, 608-369-2635.

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FOR 61ST ANNUAL LWMS CONVENTION IS DUE APRIL 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024!** Register on-line or get a form to mail from your church's reporter. Point of Information: *If you have completed application for riding the Beaver Dam Circuit bus (now full) to Convention, you must still register for the Convention!*

# 2024 LWMS BEAVER DAM CIRCUIT



**NEW DATE!**  
**Saturday, April 27**

**NEW LOCATION!**  
**Zion, Kingston**  
**326 Vine Street**

**Co-hosted by St. Paul-Manchester & St. John-Salemville**

**Christ's Love Is Sharing with Others**  
**Spiritually and Physically**

*If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?*

**James 2:16**



**SPEAKER**  
**Pastor Daniel Sims**  
**Director of WELS**  
**Christian Aid and Relief**



## **HANDS-ON SERVICE PROJECT**

**Monetary Donations Only** for Native Christian Ministries, Our Savior's Lutheran School, Peridot, Arizona, to assist with their school & teacher housing building projects.

## **SCHEDULE**

9:30 a.m.	Registration	11:45 a.m.	Lunch
9:45 a.m.	Reporter's Meeting	12:50 p.m.	Devotion
10:15 a.m.	Rally Opening	1:00 p.m.	Speaker
10:20 a.m.	Bible Study	2:00 p.m.	Offering/Summation
11:00 a.m.	Business Meeting	2:10 p.m.	Closing

Carpool Signup in the Information Room at St. John's OR Call your LWMS Reporter:  
(Emmanuel: Helen Stelter 608-297-7116 St. John's: Linda Wachholz 608-369-2635)





## ***Help us stay in touch!***

*Scan the code below using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information. Don't have a smartphone? That's ok! Fill out an attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate located at the entry of each church.*



**Welcome to our visitors!**

**Find & Like us on Facebook**

**Visit our website:** [www.stjohnsmontello.org](http://www.stjohnsmontello.org)

**Pastor Pete Zietlow:** 608-408-7830, **Email:** [zietlowPL6@hotmail.com](mailto:zietlowPL6@hotmail.com)

**Principal & 6-8 Grade Teacher:** Larry Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext.102

**Email:** [principal@christalonelutheranacademy.net](mailto:principal@christalonelutheranacademy.net)

**3-5 Grade Teacher:** Beth Barenz: 920-481-9002 ext.103

[bbarenz@christalonelutheranacademy.net](mailto:bbarenz@christalonelutheranacademy.net)

**1-2 Grade Teacher:** Shelley Myers: 920-481-9002 ext.201

[smyers@christalonelutheranacademy.net](mailto:smyers@christalonelutheranacademy.net)

**Kindergarten Teacher:** Lynn Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext.202

[lynn Sellnow@christalonelutheranacademy.net](mailto:lynn Sellnow@christalonelutheranacademy.net)

**Little Lambs Director:** Barbara Stelter: 920-481-9002 ext. 203

[littlelambs@stjohnsmontello.org](mailto:littlelambs@stjohnsmontello.org)

**CALA Secretary/Office:** Ciara Neuhauser: 920-481-9002

**School Email:** [secretary@christalonelutheranacademy.net](mailto:secretary@christalonelutheranacademy.net)

**Church Office:** Matthew Kath 608-297-2866/608-494-0167

**Church/School Address:** 313 E Montello St. Montello, WI 53949

**Church Email:** [scsecretary@stjohnsmontello.org](mailto:scsecretary@stjohnsmontello.org)