## HOLY TRINITY: FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST A TOP-DOWN FAITH: ONLY A TRIUNE GOD CAN DELIVER WHAT ONLY A TRIUNE GOD CAN OFFER





Pastor Zietlow's Sermon: Romans 8:14-17 "How Can I Be Sure?"

#### 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 <a href="www.stjohnsmontello.org">www.stjohnsmontello.org</a> 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

May 25 & 26, 2024

Emmanuel: Sun. 8:00am

St. John's: Sat. 4:30pm & Sun. 10:00am

#### A TOP-DOWN FAITH

The phrase "from the top down" is often used to denote a hierarchical system of management or governance. The will and beliefs and directives of those "at the top" are imposed—sometimes aggressively, sometimes even oppressively—on those below. From the top town. We have entered the second half of the Church Year, the half that focuses on the teachings of the Christian faith. We will see that Christianity is very much a top-down faith. Christian teachings come "from the top down," but not in the sense that those teachings are oppressively imposed on us. When we call Christianity a "top-down faith," we mean that it tells us things about God that are so beautiful and good—teachings that couldn't possibly have originated from human thinking. The Christian faith contains teachings that are so wonderful that we would never even believe them unless God himself revealed their truthfulness to us. So, God sent his Spirit from heaven to earth—from the top down—to empower his children to believe that which would otherwise be totally unbelievable

#### THEME OF THE DAY:

#### ONLY A TRIUNE GOD CAN DELIVER WHAT ONLY A TRIUNE GOD CAN OFFER

No Christian teaching demonstrates that we have a top-down faith more than the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Scripture teaches that there is only one God. Yet that God exists as three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Incomprehensible! It is the type of teaching about which the psalmist declares, "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain" (Psalm 139:6). We believe in the Triune God without fully comprehending his existence, simply because the Spirit has given us the gift of faith. Our belief in the triune God came from the top down. Not only is the concept of the Trinity itself something unique to the Christian faith, but what the triune God does for us and offers us is also completely unique. Our triune God invites us into the blessed relationship that is part of his very nature. The members of the Trinity share with us an intimacy that they have enjoyed with each other from eternity. Our triune God makes us not servants or subjects but blessed members of his family

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** Setting Three with Communion, Hymnal Pages 188-203

**HYMNS:** 483, 953 v. 1 & 5, 586, 480, 617 (Hymns also posted on the screen)

**PSALM:** Psalm 29 "Ascribe to the LORD" (Hymnal/Screen)

**SERMON:** Romans 8:14-17 "How Can I Be Sure? - 1. Because the Spirit leads you

- 2. Because the Father adopted you - 3. Because the Son suffered for you"



In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### **HOLY TRINITY DIALOGUE:**

I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life.

The Lord makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate—bringing forth food from the earth.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

When the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

Christ has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

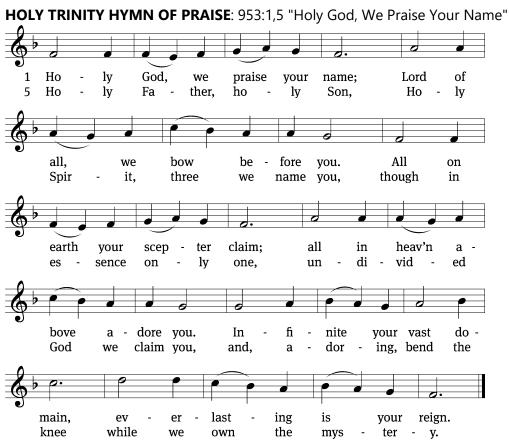
No one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

In the same way, the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! From him and through him and for him are all things.

To him be the glory forever! Amen.



Text: tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.; German version, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, abr.; Latin, c. 4th cent. Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God and Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, filling and renewing all creation by your eternal Spirit, and manifesting your saving grace through our Lord Jesus Christ, in mercy cleanse our hearts and lips that, free from doubt and fear, we may ever

worship you, one true, immortal God, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, living and reigning, now and forever.

Amen.

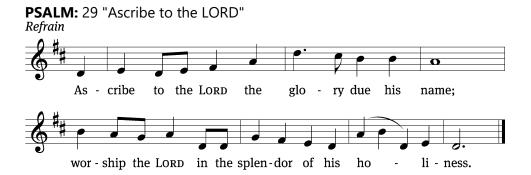
#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

(The triune God delivers Isaiah from guilt and sin and offers Isaiah lofty purpose.)

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." ⁴At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. ⁵"Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty." ⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. 
³With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." 
³Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.



#### Tone



Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly / beings, ascribe to the LORD glory / and strength.

The voice of the LORD is / powerful; the voice of the LORD is ma- / jestic.

The voice of the LORD breaks the / cedars.

And in his temple all cry, / "Glory!" Refrain

The LORD sits enthroned o- / ver the flood; the LORD is enthroned as king for- / ever.

The LORD gives strength to his / people; the LORD blesses his peo- / ple with peace.

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. Refrain

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Setting: Henry V. Gerike
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#### **SECOND READING:** Romans 8:12-17 (Sermon Text <u>Underlined</u>)

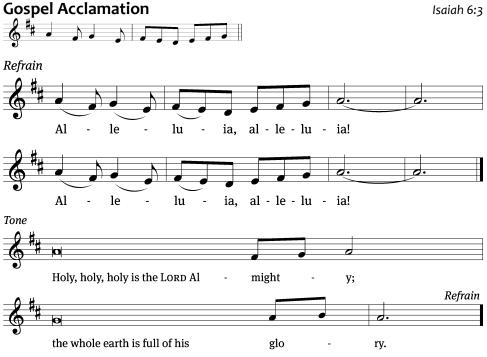
(The triune God gifts us the right to speak to our Father, the comfort of our Brother, and the indwelling of the Spirit.)

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. <sup>13</sup>For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. <sup>15</sup>The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. <sup>17</sup>Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and

<u>co-heirs</u> with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.



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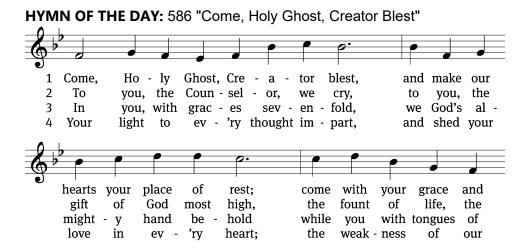
#### **GOSPEL READING:** John 3:1-17

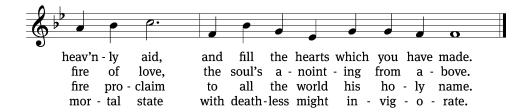
(Jesus teaches a Pharisee named Nicodemus about the kingdom of the triune God, who rules in the heart of all those who are born again.)

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." <sup>3</sup>Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." <sup>4</sup>"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to

be born!" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. 10"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. <sup>12</sup>I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him." <sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. The Gospel of the Lord.

#### Praise be to you, O Christ!





- 5 Drive far away our wily foe, and your abiding peace bestow; with you as our protecting guide, no evil can with us abide.
- 6 Teach us to know the Father, Son, and you, from both, as Three in One that we your name may ever bless and in our lives the truth confess.
- Praise we the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit, with them One, and may the Son on us bestow the gifts that from the Spirit flow!

Text: tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; attr. Rhabanus Maurus, 776–856 Tune: Geistliche lieder auffs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1533, ed. Joseph Klug

Text and tune: Public domain

**SERMON**: Romans 8:14-17 "How Can I Be Sure? - 1. Because the Spirit leads you - 2. Because the Father adopted you - 3. Because the Son suffered for you"

#### **NICENE CREED:**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and

is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **HOLY TRINITY & INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

#### OFFERING, CARE CARDS, FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS & ALTAR PRAYER

#### **COMMUNION LITURGY:**

\*For our Closed Communion Practice, see p.16\*

#### THE SACRAMENT

#### **PREFACE**

The Lord be with you.

#### And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

#### We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

#### It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns forever in perfect unity with you and the Holy Spirit as one God and one Lord. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



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#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin. We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen

our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### 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.

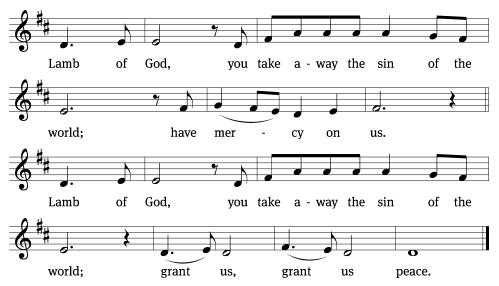
#### **Words of Institution**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

#### Amen.

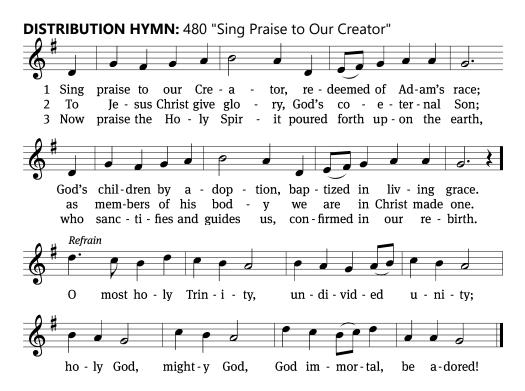




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Tune: Limburg Gesangbuch, 1838
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Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and T give you peace.

Amen.

praise

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Son, and Ho

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Ghost.

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Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

#### FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WELS mission in Apacheland video

#### THEME FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Second Sunday after Pentecost
A TOP-DOWN FAITH: REST IS A GIFT, NOT SOMETHING TO BE EARNED

#### **Acknowledgments**

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COMMUNION PRACTICE: Today our congregation will be receiving the Lord's Supper. Those who are members of Emmanuel, St. John's, another WELS church, or a church in full doctrinal agreement with the WELS, are invited to attend. Others are politely asked to refrain until communion fellowship is established. There are two Scriptural reasons we distribute the Lord's Supper this way. 1.) Receiving the Lord's Supper improperly results in harm, not blessing, to the recipient. (1 Cor. 11:27) Like a prescription it must be administered with care. 2.) Recipients of the Supper publicly proclaim their unity in the faith. (1Cor. 10:17) Members of other denominations have, by joining those church bodies, publicly declared their allegiance to the teaching of those churches. By also communing here at this altar it would send a confusing message regarding not only what the believe, but also what the Bible teaches and what this church and its members believe and confess. We'd love to speak to you about this more fully so that all are prepared and speak with one voice as we proclaim Christ to the world. For more information, and especially if you are interested in becoming a communicant member of this congregation, please speak to Pastor Zietlow.

#### 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), Randy Hardell, Del & Jean Henke, Jerry & Darlene Hunter (Bonnie Chapman's parents), Xzander Jahr, Orlene Johnson, Ruth Jones, Kris Kemp (Diane Hintz' daughter), Jim Kirschbaum, Dale Kozlowski, Emily Krueger, Jeff Krueger (Diane Hintz's son), Darren Marceau, Julie Moran, Debbie & Steve Parrish, Milo Petrick, Sharon Priewe, Melissa Prater, Sharon Priewe, Karen Radke, Roxanne Schmanke, Ashley Schroeder, Eloise Schultz, Bob Sluga (Sherry's husband), Amanda Stalker, Tom Stempniak, James & Suzanne Weber, Cheryl Wegner, Stacy Weisensel, Paul Weldon, Tom Zietlow (Pastor's brother), Tama Zuehls (Zeb's mother) (added this week: \_\_\_) For Martin Luther College graduation on Saturday (5/18), Call Day service &
- director/teacher of Little Lambs Learning Center)
   For Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary graduation on Saturday (5/25), Call Day service (5/24) and assignment of graduates (Emmanuel/St. John's requested a graduate to serve as lead pastor)

assignment of graduates (St. John's requested a graduate to serve as the

- For Memorial Day (5/27)



#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This Week: May26-June 1, 2024					
Monday		Memorial Day			
Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	BoE Meeting SJ			
	5:30 p.m.	Stewardship Meeting SJ			
	6:30 a.m.	Worship Meeting SJ			
Saturday	4:30 p.m.	SJ Worship			

Next Sunday: June 2, 2024				
8:00 a.m.	Emmanuel Worship			
10:00 a.m.	St. John's Worship			

Attendance				
Ì	Date	EM	SJ	
	5/18/24	-	8	
	5/19/24	44	84	

Total April	Budget	April	Year to Date	Year to Date
Offerings	Needs	Expenses	Offerings	Expenses
\$23,749.30	\$33939.58	\$36,959.87	\$225288.04	\$283981.53

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** 

St. John's	Usher's	
	Schedule	
Saturday, May 25 Sunday, May 26	Saturday, June 1 Sunday, June 2	
Paul Van Treeck	Jerre Duerr	
Matt Borzick	Joe Zauner	
Ken Borzick	Gordon Krause	
James Henke	Kevin Kaul	
Haiden Van Treeck	Corey Kaul	
Nolan Van Treeck		
Brody Henke		
Milo Henke		



#### **CALA Yard Signs Available!!**

### You Can Help Advertise our School!!

# They are available in the linkway at St. John's. Please take one for your yard!

If you would like to help by covering the cost of the sign, you are welcome to put \$11.00 in the basket by the signs in the linkway. However, do not feel obligated to cover that cost, we just want to get the signs out there to advertise our awesome school. Thanks for your help!

#### 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

Pastor Pete Zietlow: 608-408-7830, Email: zietlowPL6@hotmail.com

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

Email: principal@christalonelutheranacademy.net

**3-5 Grade Teacher:** Beth Barenz: 920-481-9002 ext.103 bbarenz@christalonelutheranacademy.net

**1-2 Grade Teacher:** Shelley Myers: 920-481-9002 ext.201 smyers@christalonelutheranacademy.net

**Kindergarten Teacher:** Lynn Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext.202 lynnsellnow@christalonelutheranacademy.net

**Little Lambs Director:** Barbara Stelter: 920-481-9002 ext. 203 littlelambs@stjohnsmontello.org

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