



St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

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NO. 2

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor
Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181
School: 419-598-8702 Cell: 419-270-8863
Church Website: www.sjl.org

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Sermon & Text: "Jesus Fulfills all Righteousness" *Matthew 3:13-17*

Order of Service: Morning Prayer, LSB pg. 235

Hymns: 399 ~ 605 ~ 601 ~ 405 ~ 404 ~ 594

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

The Lord calls all of us to a new way of living under His wonderful grace in our Savior. If you are our guest this morning, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. Please help us get to know who you are by introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you. Simply drop it into the baskets as you leave the sanctuary today. Thank you!



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✠ Addison Naveau, Peyton Naveau, *Acolytes* ✠
- ✠ Dave Von Deylen, Dennis Showman, Dean Badenhop, Rich Elling, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Diana Kruse, Mary Kossow, Karen Germann, *Altar Guild* ✠

ABOUT EPIPHANY – Epiphany is the third season of the Church Year, following the seasons of Advent and Christmas. The word 'Epiphany' means 'manifestation' (literally, to shine on, or show to). The season commences on the Feast of Epiphany, January 6, which commemorates the visit of the Magi when Jesus was manifested to be the King and Savior of the nations, not just the Jews. The first Sunday of Epiphany

commemorates our Lord's baptism, when Jesus was manifested as God's own Son, and His anointed One. The Scripture readings for the remaining Sundays of Epiphany will continue to manifest Jesus as the Lamb of God, as Light to the nations, as the new Moses, as the fulfiller of God's Law, culminating with His manifestation on the Mount of Transfiguration as God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God. You might think of Epiphany as the season in which God has us unwrap His Christmas gift, revealing to us the priceless nature of what He has given us in sending His only Son.

In God's House This WeekOnline church calendar: www.DynaCal.com/sjl

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service with Communion following Sunday School; <i>"The Lamp"</i> ; Adult Bible Class
Mon.	5:30 PM 6:00 PM	Taking down Christmas decorations in sanctuary School Board Meeting
Tues.	8:35 AM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	School Chapel B-ball: Gr 4-6 Girls; 7:00 PM Gr -6 Boys @ Solomon – Woodville Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Jr. High Confirmation Class (6:15 – 7:30 PM)
Thurs.	5:00 PM	B-ball: Gr 4-6 Girls; 6:00 PM Gr -6 Boys vs BG Christian (H)
Fri.		End of 2 nd Quarter Grading Period
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Communion Service Sunday School; <i>"The Lamp"</i> ; Adult Bible Class

MATTERS FOR PRAYER – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- ❖ *Melba Elling, Lorna Von Deylen, Norma Damman*, at Genacross – Napoleon
- ❖ *Lawrence Behrmann*, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab
- ❖ Military: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Niermann, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Sue Hurst and Dave Crandall*, health concerns related to cancer
- ❖ *Jordan Lange and Adriana Garcia*, who were recently married. Jordan is serving in the military at a naval base in Charleston, SC. Congratulations to the Lange's!

A HEARTFELT THANKS to everyone for the prayers and support of sympathy received following the passing of *Walter Rosebrock* from this life to his eternal home in heaven. A special thank you goes out to Pastor Niermann, Renee Petzoldt and the Women of Freedom. "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain." (Rev. 21:4) *The Family of Walter Rosebrock*

SANCTUARY CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS will be taken down tomorrow at 5:30 PM. We invite anyone and everyone to help the School Board members in taking the decorations down and putting them away as we enter the next season of the church year, Epiphany.

2023 ALTAR GUILD (pink) SCHEDULE: The 2023 Altar Guild schedule is available today and can be picked up on the narthex table. The Usher schedule is in the making and will be available soon. Thanks again to all who are willing to be of service to the Lord through St. John. You are a blessing!

THE FLOWER CALENDAR for 2023 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to sign up for a certain Sunday to place flowers on the altar or the piano, sign your name on that Sunday and then about two weeks before that date, call *Nancy Glaser* at 419-906-0963 to let her know if you are getting your own flowers or if you want the Women of Freedom to take care of them. **The price for the flowers through the Women of Freedom is \$25.00.** Please remember that it is your responsibility to contact *Nancy Glaser*. Also, please contact the church office with the information for the bulletin before the week you are placing the flowers in church. This will insure that you are not forgotten or overlooked.

HOLY COMMUNION will be offered this morning following the Worship service. Those who wish to attend should fill out a card from the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the baskets as you leave the sanctuary. Return immediately to the front pews in the sanctuary.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE STUDY

We have been discussing a phenomenon in our Western civilization called “Cultural Marxism.” Like its classic version, Cultural Marxism divides people into groups and pits them against each other as “oppressors” and “oppressed.” The language is a little different, however. Instead of “oppressor” and “oppressed” we hear of “privilege,” and “victimhood.” Instead of a seeking “revolution” we hear a lot about “equity” and “social justice” as the noble goal of this movement. Language, and its manipulation, is very important to this agenda, and Christians need to understand this vocabulary and how to respond to it with love and the truth of God’s Word. Join us for our Sunday study...



Christians in a Woke World - A Call to Courage, Confession and LOVE

We are analyzing this new Marxism from a Biblical perspective, and seeking courage to confess the truth to this ‘Woke’ world that our true identity is in Christ. We are not defined by any humanly devised identity group, but by the cross at which ALL of us were redeemed to be the children of God.

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 1/01/23	\$2,805.00	\$325.00	\$50.00

ATTENDANCE – Sunday: 94

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES – There are still a few who have not picked up their 2023 offering envelopes. Be sure to pick yours up today!

MISSION SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 19

Sunday, February 19 is Transfiguration Sunday and will also be a Mission Sunday as we receive our special guest preacher, **Rev. Robert Rahn**, from *The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF)*. You may recall that Rev. Rahn was last here at St. John at the end of our 150th anniversary year to receive our year-long anniversary thank offering in support of *LHF* for their work in translating, publishing and distributing Bible-based, Christ-centered, Reformation-driven books around the world. It will be our pleasure to welcome him back. Mark it on your calendar!

EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's subjects include: Biblical Archeology's Top Discoveries of 2022, The Secularization of the West, The Wedding at Cana, Jesus Calls the First Disciples and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

PORTALS OF PRAYER booklets for January, February, and March are on the desk in the back of the church. Pick up a copy today!

FREEDOM FLOCK HELP: The Freedom Flock After School Program is looking for a person(s) to be an aide with our after school program a few days each week. It would be for three hours or less from 3 – 6 PM, (*depending how soon all the children are picked up*). This person must be 18 years old, have a high school diploma, and be willing to be FBI/BCI background checked. If you are interested, please contact the school office at 419-598-8702. This is a great chance for any high school seniors to complete their community service hours for the year.

LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS are available today on the table in the narthex. The Children's Bulletins are coordinated with the Bible texts for each Sunday, and provide activities that tie in with the weekly themes. Pick one up today for your child.

WORSHIP ANEW: Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. produces a weekly, 30-minute Lutheran broadcast worship service called *Worship Anew* (*formerly Worship For Shut-Ins*). Each service includes music, scripture readings, prayers, and a pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel one-on-one to the viewer. For over 50+ years, the ministry's dedicated staff and supporters have touched the lives of countless viewers around the world. They look forward to the continuation and expansion of this ministry in the years to come. Lutheran Ministries Media would like to thank you for your prayers and support of God's work through *Worship Anew*. Broadcasts can be viewed every Sunday on: *Toledo's WTVG (CW) Channel 13.2 at 10:30 AM.*

COLLECTING STAMPS: The LWML is collecting stamps "For Missions." A box is on the table in the narthex. Here is what you do: Cut the stamps from the envelopes allowing ¼ inch margin or more around the stamp. The stamp may not be damaged and the perforations around the stamp must be perfect. You need not trim the stamp; we have someone who trims and sorts the stamps. Do not remove stamps from envelopes, albums, and older postcards. An "old" postcard is usually from 1930 or before. The most valuable stamps are commemorative, foreign, and stamp denominations larger than 46 cents. When purchasing stamps, ask the post office staff for commemorative stamps. Colorful and large stamps are desirable. Collecting stamps is an easy way to participate in a mission project sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

SPORTS NOTE: **Basketball schedules/calendars are being posted on FastDirect.** Please continue to check Joe Badenhop's Calendar in Fast Direct frequently as this is where he will post any changes to the schedules.

IF YOU'RE EVER IN A PINCH and could use a little help, the *Good Neighbor Fund* is there to assist you! Please don't be bashful about asking – everything is strictly confidential. Just give Pastor Niermann a call, and we will see what we can do for you!

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Food For Thought...

An open mind is sometimes too porous to hold a conviction.

"He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it." (Titus 1:9)