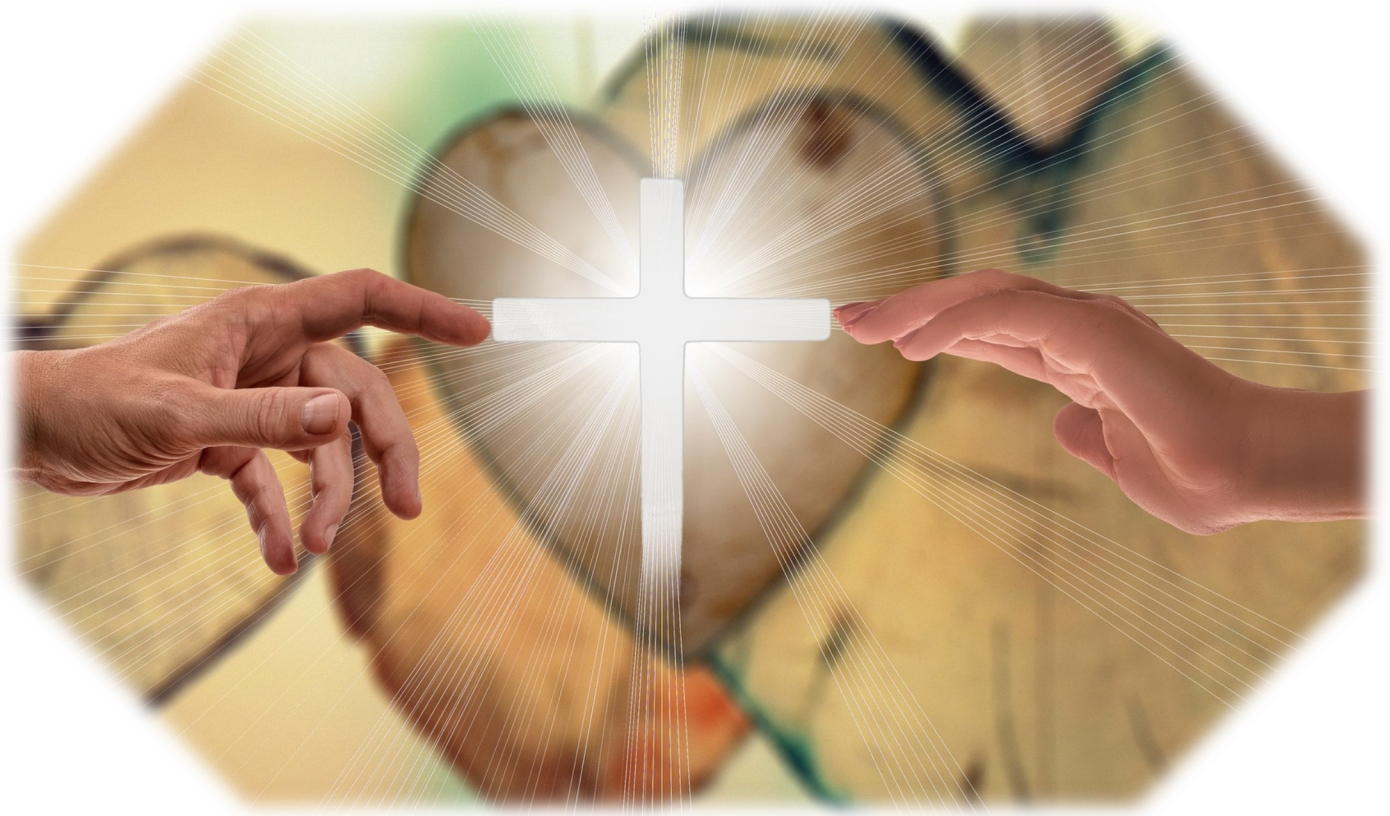


Welcome to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster



Sunday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack
716-848-9683

Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 5, 2023

The Prelude
The Greetings
The Invocation

Opening Hymn

WOV 697

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844 Reprinted with permission under One License #A-740145. All rights reserved.

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Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

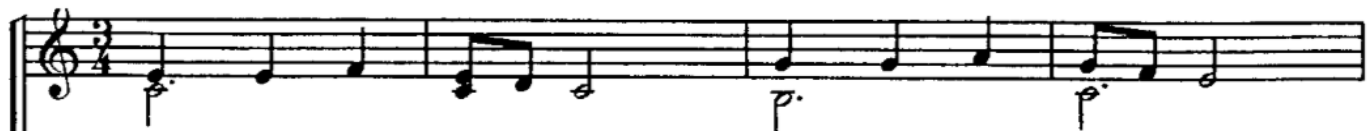
Holy God,
we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, + forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Hymn of Praise



1. Meek - ness and maj - es - ty, man - hood and De - i - ty,
 2. Fa - ther's pure ra - di - ance, per - fect in in - nocence;
 3. Wis - dom un - search - a - ble, God, the in - vis - i - ble;



in per - fect har - mo - ny, the Man who is God.
 Yet learns o - be - di - ence to death on a cross.
 Love in - de - struct - i - ble in frail - ty ap - pears.



Lord of e - ter - ni - ty, dwells in hu - man - i - ty;
 Suf - f'ring to give us life, con - quering through sac - ri - fice;
 Lord of in - fin - i - ty, stoop - ing so ten - der - ly;



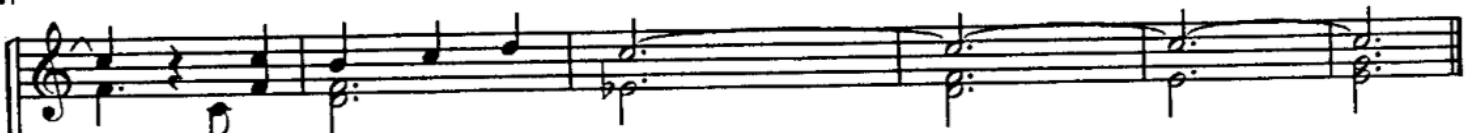
Kneels in hu - mil - i - ty and wash - es our feet.
 And as they cru - ci - fy prays, "Fa - ther, for - give."
 Lifts our hu - man - i - ty to the heights of His throne.



O what a mys - ter - y, meek - ness and maj - es - ty;



Bow down and wor - ship,



for this is your God.

The First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

Now 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. 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. 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.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

10:30am - Joysingers: *Who Did?*

Psalm 121

(Read Responsively)

I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?

**My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

The Lord will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

the Lord watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

**the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

The Lord will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.

**The Lord will watch over your going out
and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

The Second Reading
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17


What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For 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. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Lenten Gospel Acclamation



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,
slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

The Gospel Reading
John 3:1-17
Glory to you, O God.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”

Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon
Pastor Jamie Retallack

Hymn of the Day

WOV 698

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus



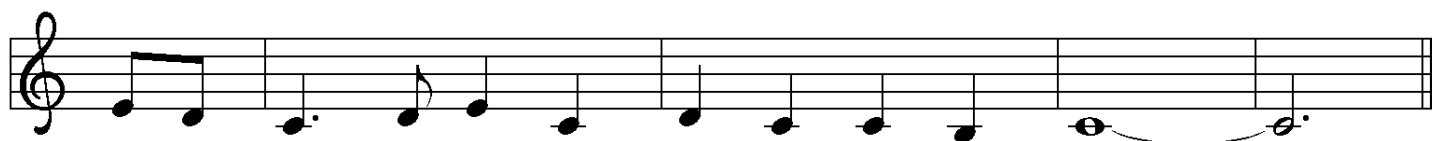
1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit - ness, in the break - ing of the bread,
3 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread - ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re - sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: OUIMETTE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

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Prayers of Intercession

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

O God, you so love your church. Raise up leaders who care for your people. Bless lay theologians, seminary and college professors, and all who are called to the ministry of teaching, that they form and inspire us for the work of the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your creation. Breathe new life into our planetary home. Guide the work of researchers, scientists, and activists who love your earth and who inspire us to care for the natural world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organizations that promote peace and harmony (especially). Direct their work to alleviate human suffering and to address its root causes. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction, and accompany them in healing and recovery. Hear the cries of those who look to you in their distress (especially Elliana Meyers, Beatrice Gill, Brianna Wood, Edna Mann, Jackie Engelbach-Ugale, George Stubblebein, Brad Hueseke, Roberta Anzelone, Sarah Hermsmeyer, Bernie Lewis, Ron Bennett, and Jon Drosendahl.). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder, and curiosity. Revive our ministries with children and youth and equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

O God, you so love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Apostles' Creed

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

The Prayers of the Church

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

...We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast
love and your promise to renew your whole creation;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace

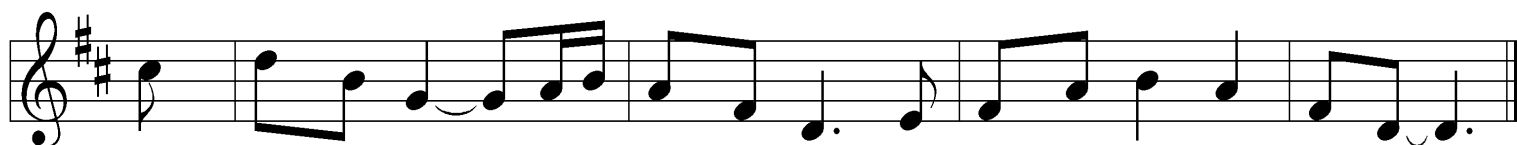
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The Offertory Music

The Offertory Hymn



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

The Offertory Prayer

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

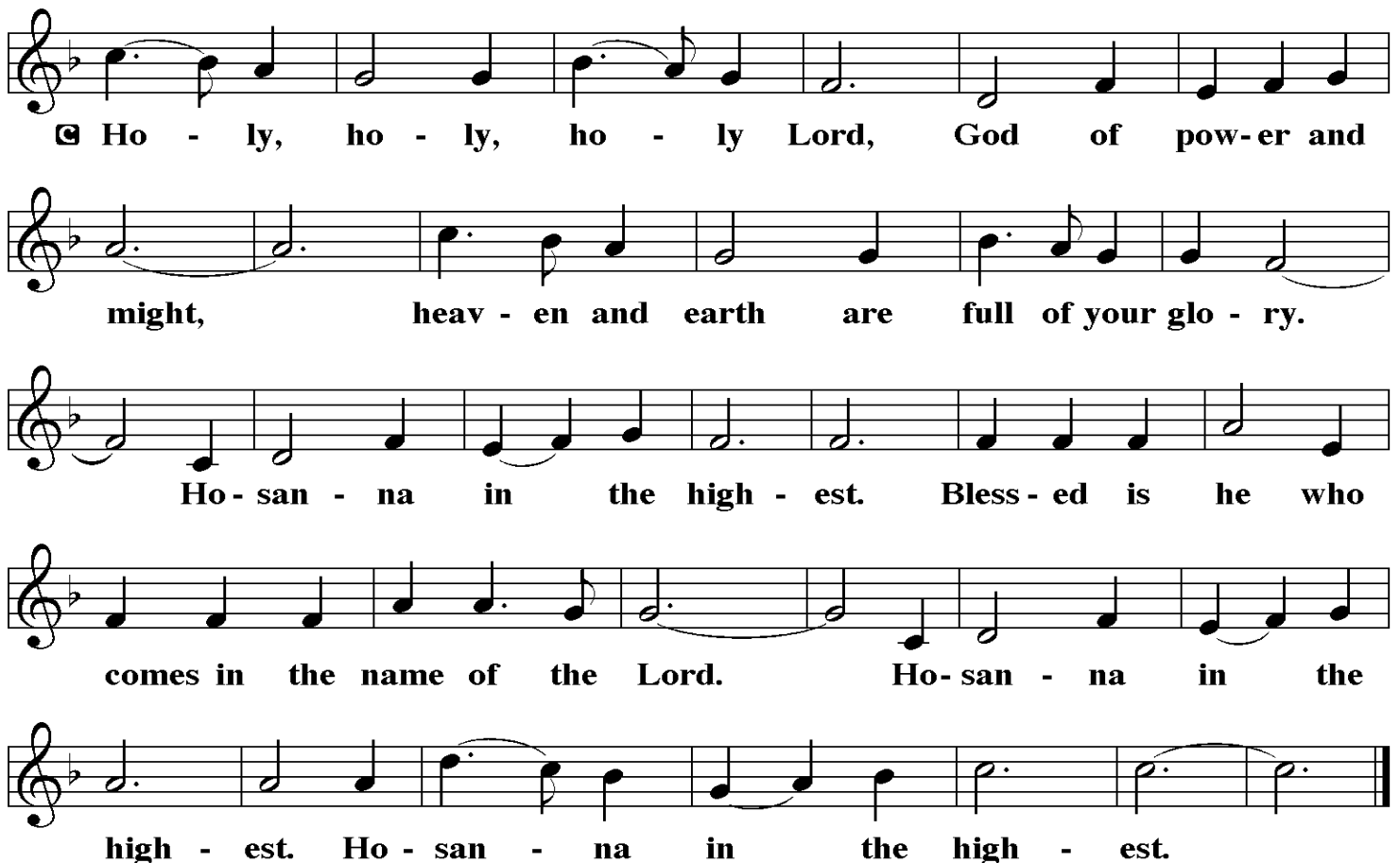
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The 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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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:

The Sanctus



The musical score for 'The Sanctus' is written on five staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The text is as follows:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en 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.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks He 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, poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Invitation

The Lamb of God



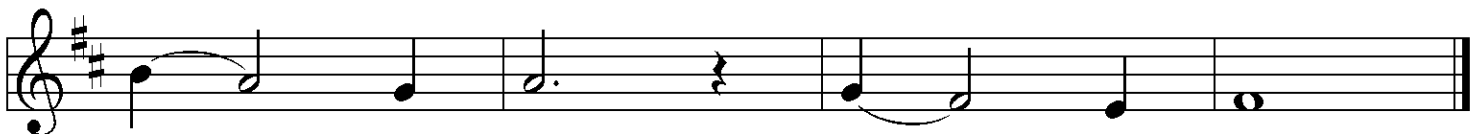
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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 Music

The Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

*Lord remember us in your kingdom
and teach us to pray...*

**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.**

The Sending Prayer

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

The Benediction

Lift High the Cross



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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The Sending
Go in peace. Serve in love.
Thanks be to God.

The People of St. John's Welcome You to Worship Today!

If you would like a pastoral visit for any reason, please call the office or call Pastor directly on his cell @ (716) 848-9683.

This Week at a Glance

Sunday	3/5	9:00am	In Person/Streamed Service Sunday School
Sunday	3/5	10:00 am	Joysingers
Sunday	3/5	10:30am	In Person/Streamed Service
Monday	3/6	4:30pm	Guiding Eyes
Monday	3/6	7:30pm	Chordsmen
Tuesday	3/7	9:30am	Quilters
Tuesday	3/7	7:00pm	Narcotics Anonymous
Thursday	3/9	1:00pm	Bible Study
Thursday	3/9	6:30pm	Handbell Rehearsal
Thursday	3/9	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	3/10	7:30pm	Narcotics Anonymous
Saturday	3/11	5:30pm	In Person Service
Sunday	3/12	9:00am	In Person/Streamed Service Sunday School
Sunday	3/12	10:00am	Joysingers
Sunday	3/12	10:30am	In Person/Streamed Service

Altar Flower Arrangements are \$30 (for 2).

Available dates: 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30

The flowers on the altar this week are in loving memory of
Joan C. Miller Boone from Samuel L. Miller & Family

We pray for Elliana Meyers, Beatrice Gill, Brianna Wood, Edna Mann, Jackie Engelbach-Ugale, George Stubblebein, Brad Hueseke, Roberta Anzelone, Sarah Hermsmeyer, Bernie Lewis, Ron Bennett, Jon Drosendahl.

Ushers

9:00am Linda Costa
& Sam Miller

10:30am Rick Tomaszewski &
Virginia Graham

Altar Guild

Sharon Walker & Carol Graham

Deacons

9am RaeAnn Jakubowski
10:30am Kathy Snyder

Book Club

Thursday, March 16th @ 7pm
to discuss LESSONS IN CHEMISTRY by Bonnie Garmus

St Patty's Day Dinner - Sun Mar 19th Noon

\$5 Dinner Reserve -Takeout Only - Must Have Ticket!

Corned Beef / Cabbage / Vegetables / Bread & Butter

Limited to 100 Tickets Sales end Mar 12th or Sold Out

Contact: Gary Rudz – 716-829-9618

Part of the Young Men's 150th Year Celebration!

St. John's Open Stage Event

Saturday, March 25th @ 7pm

Back by popular demand, the St. John's Open Stage Event is the perfect way to share your talent/s! David Sieracki will MC this non-competitive, no-judging showcase. **Please sign up** if you are interested in participating, and definitely join us March 25th to cheer on all of St. John's talent.

There is a 3-song limit per act.

On **Mother's Day, May 14th**, we will be having our first annual **Music Sunday**. The service will be full of as much music as possible and we are asking those of you who would like to participate to let Vicky know. Musicians of any type are invited to be a part of the service, so join us in making a joyful noise to the LORD.

The St. John's Young Men's Association would like to thank Eagle Scout candidate, Jake Ostrowski from troop 545, for his eagle project work for our Church. Jake and a dozen other helpers spent last Sunday helping to take down 8 large trees, cut, split, and stack the wood in a corral they built by the garage. There were another 15-20 smaller trees and wood removed, the back of the property was raked, and many years of debris and leaves removed. Additionally, 2 shelving units were built for the Pastor's barn, to be installed when their family is ready to organize the shed.

Jake's work, done in cooperation with the Men's Group, presents a very open and clean appearance, and clears out a large area where animals and people may harbor. His troop at Twin District Firehall on William St, has an ongoing bottle drive and he funded all the costs for material and equipment. We look forward to partnering more with the troop 545, reaping mutual benefits and helping promote successful growth for the youth of the area.

QR Code for Offering

Using your camera app you can scan the QR code to go to St. John's donation page where you can make a one-time or recurring offering! Thank you for giving to St. John's Lutheran!



Collecting Dash's Register Receipts

Save your Dash's receipts and deposit them in the boxes in the Memorial Lounge or The Chapel

UPCOMING EVENTS

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 2nd

Youth Breakfast Prep @ 7:30am

Pancake Breakfast 8am~10am

Worship @ 10:30am

Easter Egg Hunt @ 11:30am

HOLY DAYS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday

Worship April 2nd @ 10:30am

Maundy Thursday

Worship April 6th @ 7pm

Good Friday

Worship April 7th @ 7pm

Easter Vigil ~ Saturday

Worship April 8th @ 5:30pm

Easter Sunday

Worship April 9th

9am & 10:30 am

CHOWDER SALE

Sunday, April 23rd

MISSION STATEMENT

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church provides
an inviting environment for spreading God's Word
through worship, teaching, and fellowship to address
the spiritual needs of our congregation and community.
Open - Inviting - Alive in Christ!*

Pastor Rev. Jamie Retallack (716-848-9683)
Pastors Emeriti -Rev. John Swanson -Rev. John Scarafia
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
55 Pleasant Avenue, Lancaster, NY 14086
Office 683-8972 (Mon.—Thurs. 10am-3pm)
www.stjohnslanc.org
stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com

Congregation Council

Janet Sincebaugh (President)
Carol Graham (Vice-President)
Karen McClintock (Secretary)
Kathryn Snyder (Treasurer)
Linda Dean
Sam Gierlinger
RaeAnn Jakubowski
Jamie Kloc
Jeff Miller
Samuel Miller
David Nester
Rich Rice
Kelly Sieracki