

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



## Sunday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack  
716-848-9683

Second Sunday of Easter  
Sunday, April 12, 2026

The Prelude  
The Greetings



Confession and Forgiveness

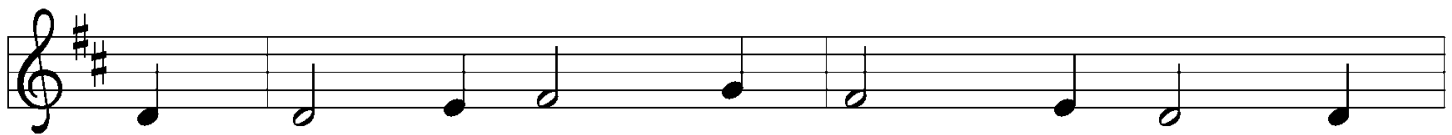
Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal,  
the builder of the city that is to come. **Amen.**

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ.  
Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

*Silence for Prayer & Confession*

God our helper,  
**we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

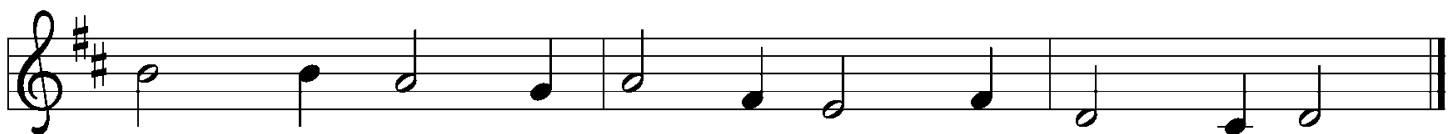
There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news. **Amen.**

*That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the  
 2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with  
 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in  
 4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing  
 con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will  
 this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our  
 you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!  
 ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.  
 strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.  
 e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

## The Prayer of the Day

**Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The First Reading:  
Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.  
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.  
You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

“This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

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

Psalm 16  
*(Read Responsively)*

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;  
I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**

But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names upon my lips.**

O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me night after night.

**I have set the Lord always before me;  
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.

**For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

The Second Reading  
1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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



The Alleluia

Musical notation for the Alleluia, consisting of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and contains the lyrics: Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? The second staff contains the lyrics: You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel Reading  
John 20:19-31  
**Glory to you, O God.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

The Sermon  
Rev. Jamie Retallack

Hymn of the Day

ACS 939

*Touch That Soothes and Heals*



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that  
2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it  
3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's  
4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the  
ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and  
peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of  
wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:  
shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.  
kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.  
tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

*Refrain*



“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, “live as



ones I died to save.”

## Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way (especially Edna Mann, Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arden Kruger, Jillian Graap, Anna Hart, Kelly R., Bryce, Mary Anne, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, Gloria Richards, Vicky and her family, Susan Thaesler, Jessica Riker, Andrea, the Carpenter Family, Tom K., Karen & Andy, and Faye Szulist). Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers  
to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

## The Sharing of the Peace

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

# The Offering

## The Offering 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.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957  
Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune  
Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

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## The Offertory Prayer

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## The Sanctus

Musical notation for the Sanctus, consisting of five staves of music in G major and 3/4 time. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

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



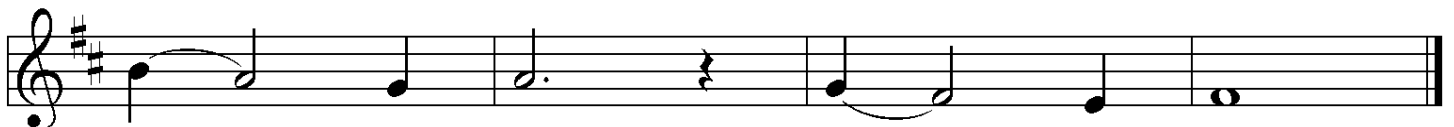
**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**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  
LBW 212, WOV 709

## 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

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## The Benediction

*Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!*



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;  
 2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn-ful sigh?  
 3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;  
 4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - jice. Praise him, ran-somed of the earth.  
 5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom-y halls of death Christ, the con-quer-or, has gone,  
 He who died our broth-er here lives our broth-er still on high,  
 joined to him, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;  
 Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth.  
 Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.  
 lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless-ings on his church be - low.  
 with the Lord, at his right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.  
 Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.  
 glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.  
 Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887



The Sending  
 Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **The People of St. John's Welcome You for 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.

### **Office Hours:**

St John's Lancaster M, W, Th 10am-3pm.

St John's Elma Tuesdays 10am-3pm.

**Altar Guild:** Kathy Snyder

**Deacon:** Kathy Konstabel

**Ushers:** Rich Rice & Dave Rice

### **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!



### **Altar Flower Arrangements:**

**as of January 1, 2026, flower arrangements are \$40 (for 2).**

**Available Flower Dates:** Apr 19, 26 May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

We lift up: Edna Mann, Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arden Kruger, Jillian Graap, Anna Hart, Kelly R., Bryce, Mary Anne, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, Gloria Richards, Vicky and her family, Susan Thaesler, Jessica Riker, Andrea, the Carpenter Family, Tom K., Karen & Andy, and Faye Szulist

Grape juice & gluten free wafers are available for **Communion**

## **Congregation Care Committee**

will be meeting to cook on April 18th at 12:30pm.  
We are usually done in about 2 hours. Please join us!  
Everyone is welcome and all help is appreciated!

## **BOOK CLUB**

Please join us at the Conference Table downstairs in the Chapel Hall at St. John's Lancaster (using the ramp entrance) on Wednesday, April 22nd at 2:30 PM to discuss the psychological thriller, **BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**, by B.A. Paris.

## **B\*I\*N\*G\*O**

Join us on Friday, April 24 in the Fellowship Hall (Lancaster) for fun, fellowship and prizes! Free to play, and all ages welcome! Doors open at 6:30pm - bingo starts at 7:00pm. Bingo chips, drinks and snacks will be available for anyone who doesn't bring their own!

## **Soup Fest 2026: Join us for great soup and even better fellowship!**

Soup Fest fellowship event is on April 25th from 4-7pm this year.

If you are interested in making soup for the event, please sign up on the sheet at the back stairs entrance of the church.

There are only 15 spots open for making soup, so sign up soon!

**The Women's Lunch Group** will meet at 11:30am on Wed, May 13 at **Olive Tree**. Sign up by May 10. All are welcome!

Follow us on Facebook [@stjohnslancaster](#)

**Poppi's Pantry** is serving residents of the Lancaster Towers on **Mondays from 11-2**. We are seeking volunteers to assist during this time. Kindly consider donating time to help. There is a sign-up sheet on the door to the pantry. Thank you!

**Poppi's Pantry** is extremely grateful for all donations. If you are looking for donation ideas, **the pantry is in great need of ready-to-eat soups and pasta sauces**. You may also consider: cereal, canned meats (chicken, spam), canned meals (Hash, stew), canned fruit (sugar free too), and single serving pudding or gelatin cups (including sugar free), Thank you!

New address for Paul Rudz @ rehab if anyone wishes to send cards.

PAUL RUDZ ROOM 211  
SELECT SPECIALTY HOSPITAL  
252 W 11<sup>TH</sup> ST  
ERIE PA 16501

**Offering**

4/5/2026

\$ 2655.89

**Quarterly Statements available upon request.**

If you would like to receive quarterly statements by mail, please let the office know.

**Collecting Dash's Register Receipts:** Save your Dash's receipts and deposit them in the boxes in the Sanctuary or the Chapel to benefit Niagara Lutheran Health Services. Thank you!

**Touch That Soothes and Heals**  
*See My Hands and Feet*

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972

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# Soup Fest

*Fellowship Event*



**April 25th**  
**4pm~7pm**

*Sign up to Enter/Make Soup*  
*Join us for Soup & Fellowship*  
*Donations Accepted*

**St. John's Lutheran Church ~ 55 Pleasant Ave**

**St. John's Lutheran Church ~ 55 Pleasant Ave**



*Donations Accepted*  
*Join us for Soup & Fellowship*  
*Sign up to Enter/Make Soup*

**4pm~7pm**

# This Week at-a-Glance

## Sunday, April 12, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Bible Study	9:00am	Memorial Lounge
Joysingers	9:30am	Memorial Lounge
In Person/ Online Service	10:00am	Sanctuary
Sunday School	10:00am	Sanctuary
Choir Practice	11:05am - 11:20am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs
Property & Grounds	11:30am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs

## Monday, April 13, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
Guiding Eyes	5:00pm - 7:30pm	Fellowship Hall
Girl Scouts	6:00pm	Fellowship Hall

## Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Quilters	9:30am	Fellowship Hall
NA Meeting	7:00pm	Fellowship Hall

## Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Good News Articles Due		
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
Book Club	2:30pm	Chapel - Conference Area

## Thursday, April 16, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
Bible Study	1:00pm	Chapel - Conference Area
Handbell Practice	6:30pm	Balcony

## Saturday, April 18, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Congregational Care Meals	12:30pm	Kitchen
In Person Service	5:30pm	Chapel

## Sunday, April 19, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Bible Study	9:00am	Memorial Lounge
Joysingers	9:30am	Memorial Lounge
In Person/ Online Service	10:00am	Sanctuary
Sunday School	10:00am	Sanctuary
Coffee Hour	11:00am	Memorial Lounge
Choir Practice	11:05am - 11:20am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs
Confirmation Class	11:15am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs
YOUTH Meeting & Games	6:30pm - 8:00pm	Kitchen & Youth Lounge

## **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-Wed-Thurs 10am-3pm)**  
www.stjohnslanc.org  
stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com

## **Congregation Council**

Janet Sincebaugh (President)  
Carol Graham (Vice-President)  
Karen McClintock (Secretary)  
Kathryn Snyder (Treasurer)

Pauline Bauer	Jeff Miller
Tom Frost	Rich Rice
Sam Gierlinger	Paul Rudz
RaeAnn Jakubowski	Kelly Sieracki
Marjorie Kruger	

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