

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



Sunday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack

716-848-9683

Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 2025

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.

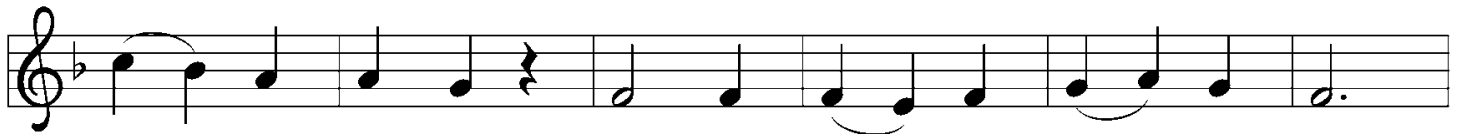
Silence for Prayer & Confession

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.**

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
 bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;



all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
 and the white-robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900

Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774



The Prayer of the Day

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



The First Reading Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

Psalm 23
Read Responsively

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways
for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God
who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

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



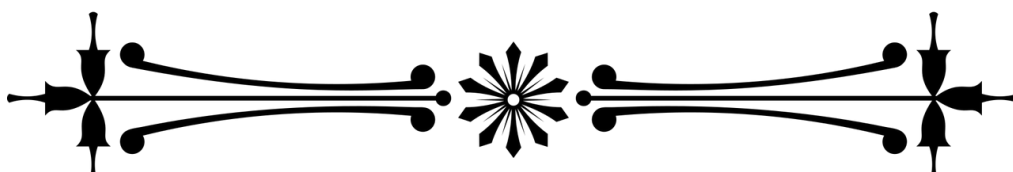
The Alleluia



The Gospel Reading John 10:22-30 Glory to you, O Lord

At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me, but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father’s hand. The Father and I are one.”

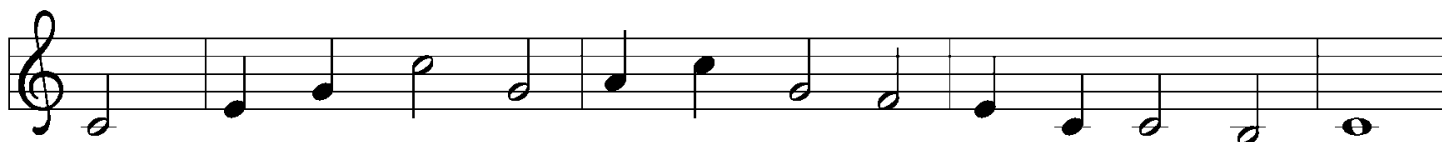
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ



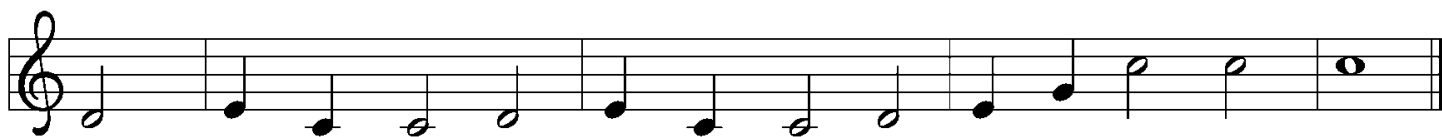
The Sermon
Rev. Jamie Retallack

The Lord's My Shepherd

1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
 2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
 4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;
 5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



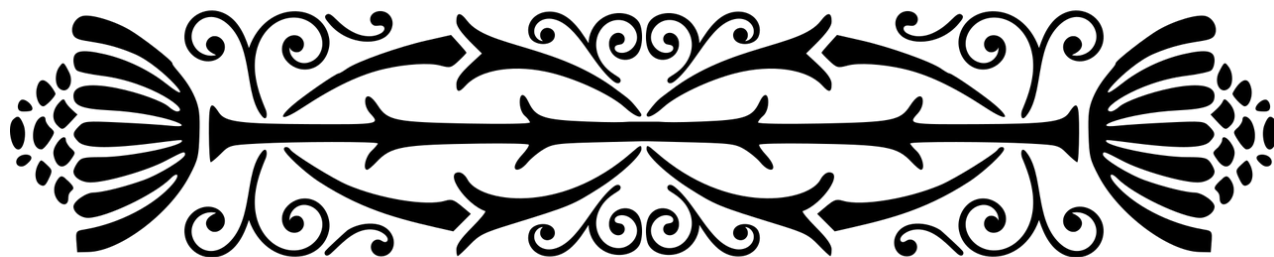
in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
 my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
 My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650

Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain Reprinted with permission under One License #A-740145. All rights reserved.



Prayers of Intercession

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care (especially Edna Mann, Tom & Ruth Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Bruce Jacobs, Dave, Jay, Denise Krueger, Lee Babirad, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arno Konstabel, Antoinette, Issac, Stacey, Jim & Deb, Kelly R., and Kathy Snyder.) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints (especially), we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of 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

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you,
O God, trusting that you are always with us;
in the name of 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 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

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**



The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

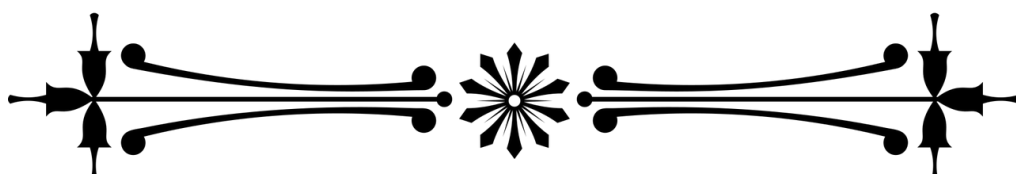
We lift them to the Lord.

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

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



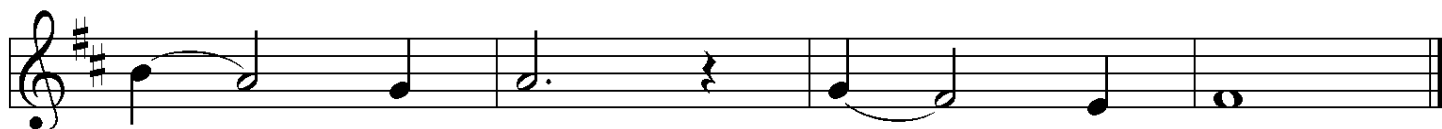
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

The Benediction

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
 ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
 all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
 spot - less let us be; let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
 turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in



bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

The Sending

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

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: Melissa will have office hours here in Lancaster on Mon, Wed, and Thurs, from 10am to 3pm. She will be in the office at St John's Elma on Tuesdays, from 10am to 3pm.

We lift up: Edna Mann, Tom & Ruth Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Bruce Jacobs, Dave, Jay, Denise Krueger, Lee Babirad, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arno Konstabel, Antoinette, Issac, Stacey, Jim & Deb, Kelly R., and Kathy Snyder.

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 Guild: RaeAnn Jakubowski & Timmy Gierlinger

Deacon: RaeAnn Jakubowski

Ushers: Janet Sincebaugh & Rick Tomaszewski

The Elma and Lancaster **Women's fellowship breakfast** will be @ 9am on Wednesday May 14th @ Olive Tree. Please sign up or contact Bev Hess by Sunday May 11th.

Spring Clean-Up : Saturday, May 17th @ 10am

Tentatively on the agenda: clearing out the library, removing some stuff upstairs, and tidying some things outside (weather permitting), followed by a much deserved lunch. Please join us if you are able!

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, May 21st at 2:30 PM to discuss the novel, THE BOOK OF LONGINGS, by Sue Monk Kidd.

Altar Flower Arrangements

are \$30 (for 2). To dedicate flowers use the envelopes provided in church or contact the church office by phone (716-683-8972) or email (stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com). Dedications must be submitted by the Monday before the dedication date.

Available Altar Flower Dates:

May 25 & June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

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

Offering: 5/4/25 - \$3684.00

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
MOTHER'S DAY		
BIBLE STUDY	9:00AM	MEMORIAL LOUNGE
JOYSINGERS	9:30AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM
IN PERSON/ ONLINE SERVICE	10:00AM	SANCTUARY
SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:00AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM
PROPERTY & GROUNDS	11:30AM	

MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS	10:00AM - 3:00PM	CHURCH OFFICE
GUIDING EYES	4:30PM	FELLOWSHIP HALL
LYMA GOLF	5:15PM	KIS-N-GREENS ALDEN
CHORDSMEN	7:30PM	CHAPEL

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
NA MEETING	7:00PM	FELLOWSHIP HALL

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
WOMEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST	9:00AM	OLIVE TREE
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS	10:00AM - 3:00PM	CHURCH OFFICE
GARDEN CLUB	7:00PM	FELLOWSHIP HALL
LYMA MTG.	7:30PM	

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
GOOD NEWS ARTICLES DUE		
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS	10:00AM - 3:00PM	CHURCH OFFICE
BIBLE STUDY	1:00PM	CHAPEL - CONFERENCE AREA
HANDBELL PRACTICE	6:30PM	SANCTUARY
CHOIR PRACTICE	7:30PM	CHOIR ROOM

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
BIBLE TRIVIA NIGHT	6:15PM - 8:00PM	FELLOWSHIP HALL

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
SPRING CLEAN-UP	10:00AM - 12:00PM	
IN PERSON SERVICE	5:30PM	CHAPEL

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025

EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
QUILTERS	8:00AM	
BIBLE STUDY	9:00AM	MEMORIAL LOUNGE
JOYSINGERS	9:30AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM
IN PERSON/ ONLINE SERVICE	10:00AM	SANCTUARY
SUNDAY SCHOOL	10:00AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM
COFFEE HOUR	11:00AM	MEMORIAL LOUNGE
CONFIRMATION CLASS	11:00AM	
WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE	11:00AM	

The poster has a dark purple background with various colorful illustrations. At the top left, there is a yellow lightbulb with a blue base, surrounded by pink and yellow stars. At the top right, there is a yellow lightbulb with a blue base, surrounded by pink and yellow stars. In the center, there is a large black speech bubble containing the text 'BIBLE TRIVIA NIGHT'. Below the speech bubble, there is a white text box containing the text 'Come test your Biblical knowledge'. To the left of this box, there is a white text box containing the text 'May 16th'. To the right of this box, there is a white text box containing the text 'St. John's Lutheran Church - 6:15 - 8:00', '55 Pleasant Ave,', and 'Lancaster, NY, 14086'. At the bottom, there is a white text box containing the text 'RSVP to Samantha at (716) 309-9651 or RaeAnn at (716) 474-1873' and '(Or sign-up in person at St John's Lancaster, Elma or Zion.)'. There are also large pink question marks and lightbulbs scattered around the poster.

BIBLE TRIVIA NIGHT

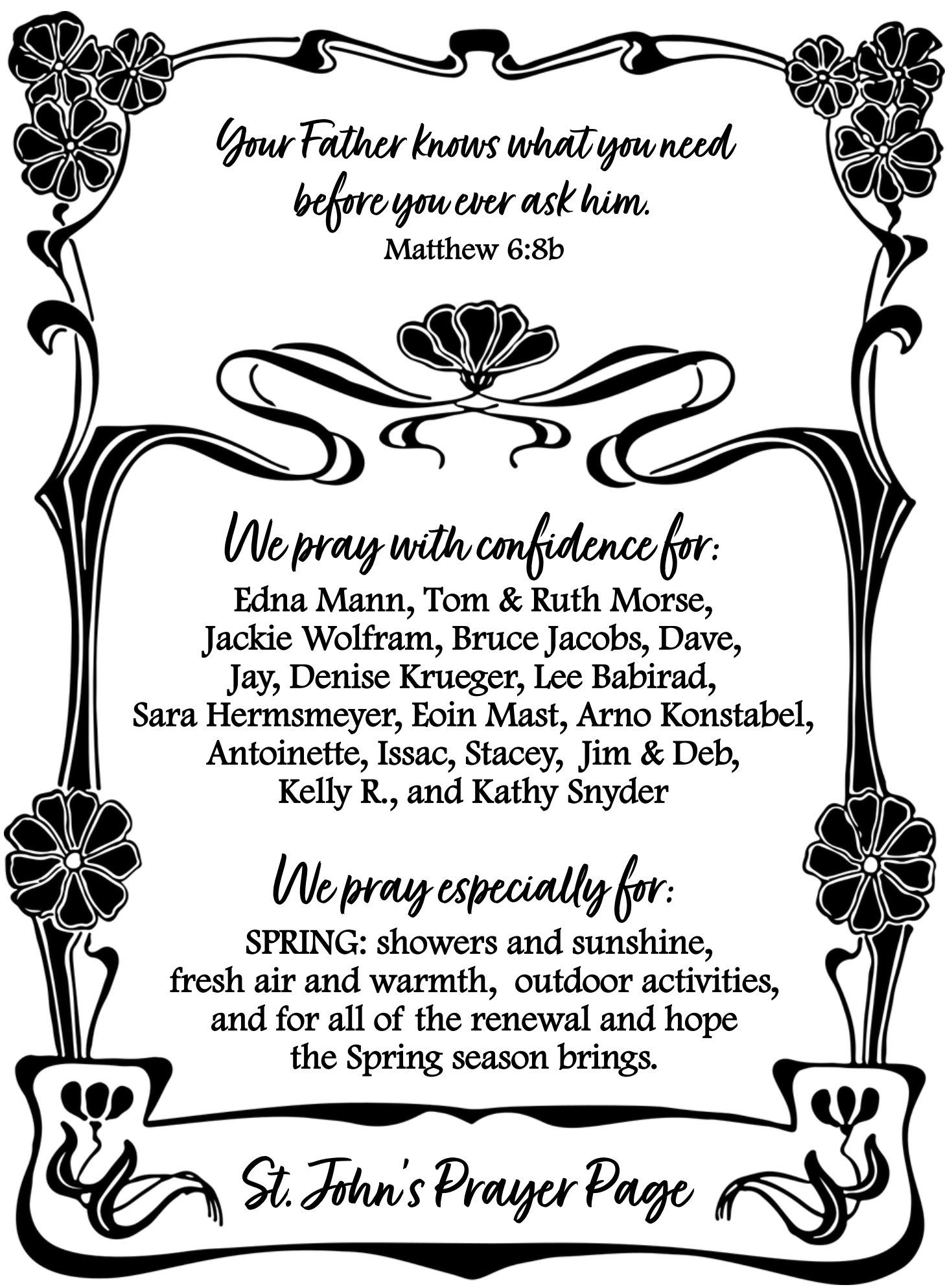
Come test your
Biblical knowledge

May
16th

St. John's Lutheran
Church - 6:15 - 8:00
55 Pleasant Ave,
Lancaster, NY, 14086

RSVP to Samantha at
(716) 309-9651 or RaeAnn at (716)
474-1873

(Or sign-up in person at St
John's Lancaster, Elma or Zion.)



*Your Father knows what you need
before you ever ask him.*

Matthew 6:8b

We pray with confidence for:

Edna Mann, Tom & Ruth Morse,
Jackie Wolfram, Bruce Jacobs, Dave,
Jay, Denise Krueger, Lee Babirad,
Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arno Konstabel,
Antoinette, Issac, Stacey, Jim & Deb,
Kelly R., and Kathy Snyder

We pray especially for:

SPRING: showers and sunshine,
fresh air and warmth, outdoor activities,
and for all of the renewal and hope
the Spring season brings.

St. John's Prayer Page

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
Vicar Teresa J. O'Connor
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
Sam Gierlinger	Rich Rice
RaeAnn Jakubowski	Paul Rudz
Jamie Kloc	Kelly Sieracki
Marjorie Kruger	

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