

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



Easter Sunday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack
716-848-9683

Resurrection of Our Lord
Easter Sunday
April 5, 2026

The Prelude

The Proclamation

The Lord is Risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Come, O Faithful, and take from the Light that never fades;
Come and glorify Christ who is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen from the dead!
He has crushed death by his death
And bestowed life upon those who lay in the tomb.

Let God arise and his enemies will scatter
And those who hate him will flee before him.

The Lord is Risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Jesus Christ is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4
 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

The Greeting

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

The Prayer of the Day

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The First Reading Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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

Sing Alleluia
Performed by St. John's Choir

The Second Reading
Colossians 3:1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

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

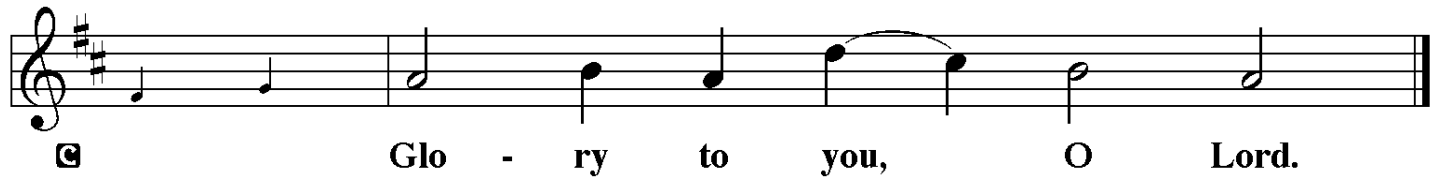


The Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

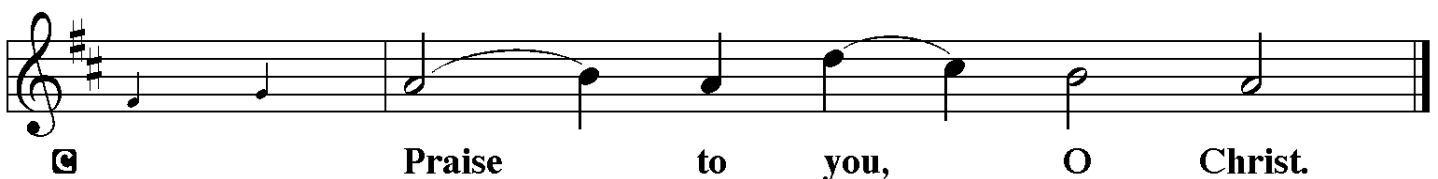
The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and contains the lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?". The second staff contains the lyrics "You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia." The music consists of simple, melodic lines with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes.

The Gospel
Matthew 28:1-10



After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The Sermon
Pastor Jamie Retallack

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

- 1 Christ is ris-en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
- 2 Christ is ris-en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
- 3 Christ is ris-en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
- 4 Christ is ris-en! Hence-forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
 through the o - pen gates of glad-ness he re-turs to life once more;
 now has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing of to - day.
 We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have triumphed o - ver all.



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;
 death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,
 See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground;
 All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
 an - gels on his steps at-tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow.
 Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.
 hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

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.*

Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus' resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain (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, Susan Loniewski, Vicky and her family, Susan Thaesler, Jessica Riker, Andrea, the Carpenter Family and the family and friends of Tony Rogacki, Ron Vidars, and Veronica (Reilly) May). Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. 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.**

Easter Carol

Performed by St. John's Choir

The Prayers of the Church

Each petition ends... 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.
And also with you.

The Offering

The Offertory Music

Intermezzo, Op. 35, No. 11 by Reinhold Gliere

Performed by David Peita on the French Horn

The Offertory Hymn ELW 184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

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



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



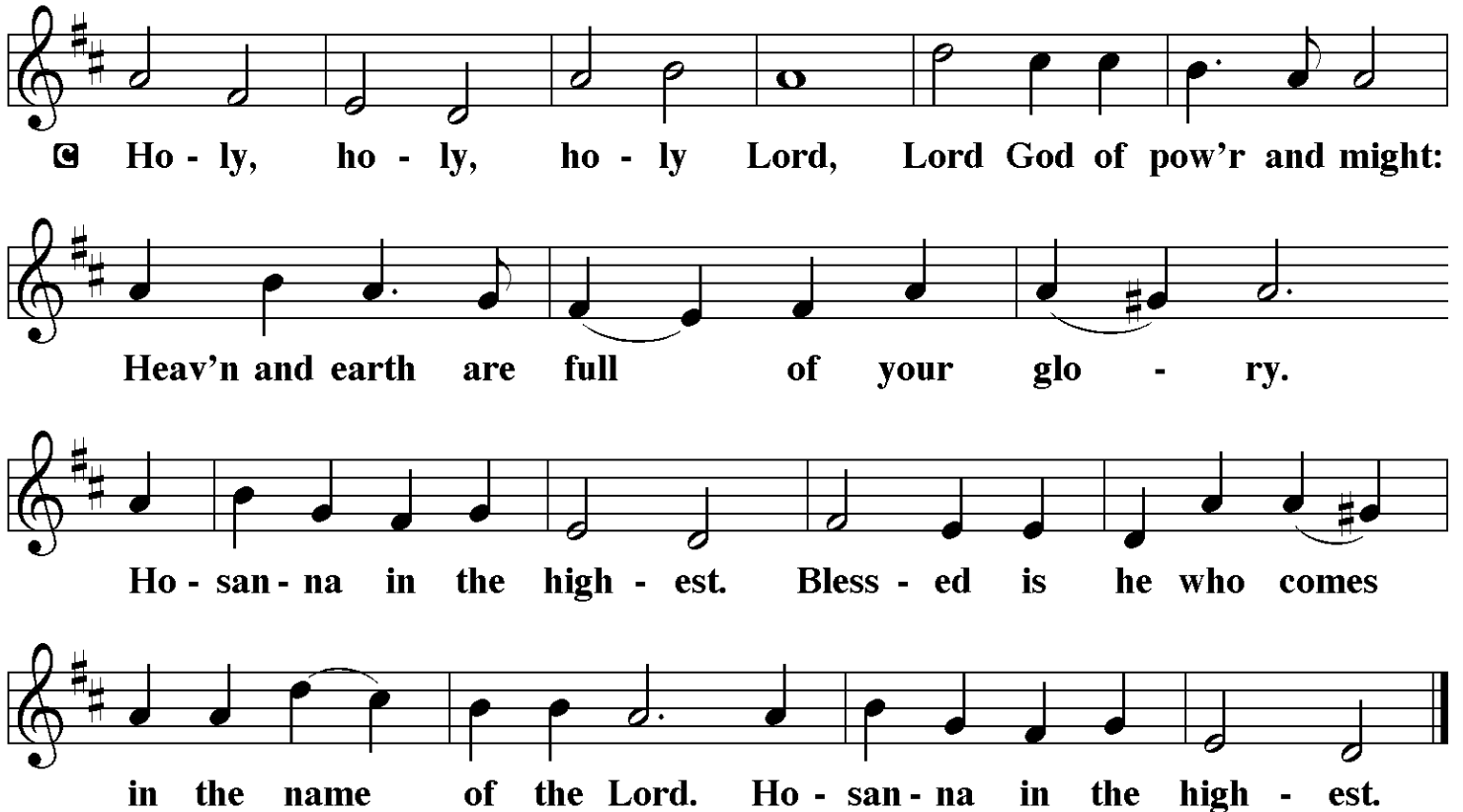
C It is right to give him thanks and praise.



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, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n 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.

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 Invitation

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

The Lamb of God



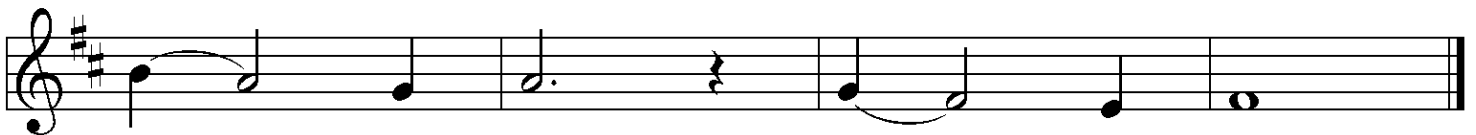
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.



The Distribution of the Bread & Wine

The Distribution Hymns

The Blessing

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

The Post Communion Canticle



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

The Sending Prayer

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

The Benediction

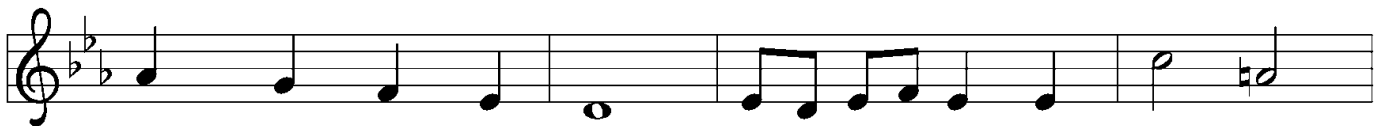
Thine Is the Glory



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

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: Sharon Walker/Corinne Rudz

Deacon: RaeAnn Jakubowski

Ushers: Janet Sincebaugh/Linda Costa

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 12, 19, 26

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, Susan Loniewski, Vicky and her family, Susan Thaesler, Jessica Riker, Andrea, the Carpenter Family and the family and friends of Tony Rogacki, Ron Vidars, and Veronica (Reilly) May.

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

The Women's Lunch Group will meet at 11:30am on Wed, April 8 at **St John's Lancaster**. Pizza and salad will be served and there will be a free will offering. The reason for the **change in venue** is to reflect on past luncheon meetings and plan for the future. Please bring your comments and ideas for discussion. Sign up by April 5. Hope to see you there!

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!

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!

This Week At-a-Glance

Sunday, April 5, 2026

Event	Time	Location
In Person/ Online Service	10:00am	Sanctuary

Monday, April 6, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

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

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
Women's Lunch @ St John's Lancaster	11:30am	St. John's Lancaster
Lancaster Garden Club	7:00pm	Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 9, 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 11, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Guiding Eyes	1:00pm - 2:00pm	Fellowship Hall
In Person Service	5:30pm	Chapel

Sunday, April 12, 2026

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

*Flowers are placed on the Altar and throughout
the Sanctuary to the Glory of God and*

<u><i>Given in Memory of:</i></u>	<u><i>By:</i></u>
Carl (Bud) Burkhardt	Wife Amber and Family
Aunt Christina, Uncle Mike, & Papa	Tommy & Christopher Burgio
Mark Wnek	Diane Wnek
Colette Westwood	The Tomaszewski Family
James, Brian, Scott, & Jack Graney	The Tomaszewski Family
Stosh & Allison Tomaszewski	The Tomaszewski Family
Heidi & Joe Kostanciak	The Tomaszewski Family
Jody Kotowski	The Tomaszewski Family
Roger D. Kruger	Marjorie Kruger
Roswell & Marjorie Clark	Marjorie Kruger
Rosalie Clark	Marjorie Kruger
Seth Clark	Marjorie Kruger
Marlene Stutzman	Roy Stutzman
Our Loved Ones	Glen & Kathy Snyder
Mrs Ethel Nagel	Harvey F Nagel
Robert J Nagel	Harvey F Nagel
Mr & Mrs Clarence Chapman	Harvey F Nagel
Our Loved Ones	Felicia Rosenthal
My Parents & Brother	Beverly Hess
Beatrice & Howard Burr	Kathy Burr & Barbara Burr-Nagel
Lawrence & Helen Peters	Marty & Kathy Peters
Francis & Margaret Nehl	Marty & Kathy Peters
Our Siblings	John & Leila Swanson

*Flowers are placed on the Altar and throughout
the Sanctuary to the Glory of God and*

<u>Given in Memory of:</u>	<u>By:</u>
David Maki	Shirley Maki
Mr & Mrs Archie Clark Jr	Shirley Maki
Mr & Mrs Eugene Maki	Shirley Maki
Michael Altenburg	Shirley Maki

<u>Given for/in Honor of:</u>	<u>By:</u>
Blessings received	Steve & Mary Cameron-Kemna
Budd Family	Linda Jean Budd
Blessings received	Geraldine Nowicki
Blessings Received	Paul H Rudz & Family
Our Blessings	Tom & Darlene Kramer
Family	Tom & Darlene Kramer
Blessings Received	Linda Green

The flower arrangements on the altar today are in loving memory of Alice & Robert Sharpe and Daniel Sharpe from the Sharpe Family.

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

PAUL RUDZ ROOM 211
SELECT SPECIALTY HOSPITAL
252 W 11TH ST
ERIE PA 16501

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

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stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com

Congregation Council

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Karen McClintock (Secretary)

Kathryn Snyder (Treasurer)

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