

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



## Saturday Worship

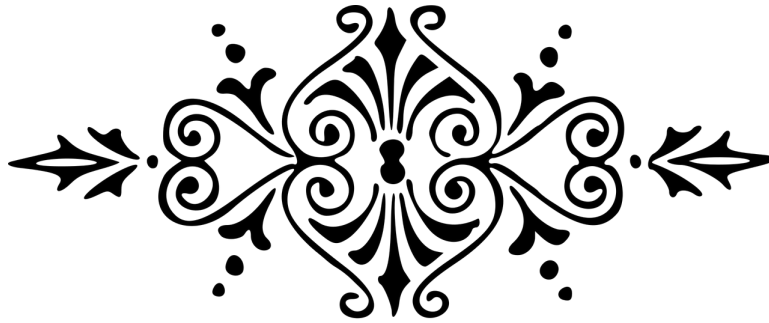
Rev. Jamie Retallack

716-848-9683



Transfiguration of Our Lord  
Last Saturday after Epiphany  
March 1, 2025

The Prelude  
The Greetings



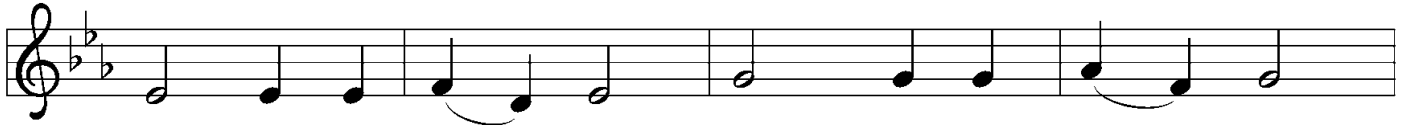
Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator,  
our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts,  
let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Merciful God, you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

*Beautiful Savior*

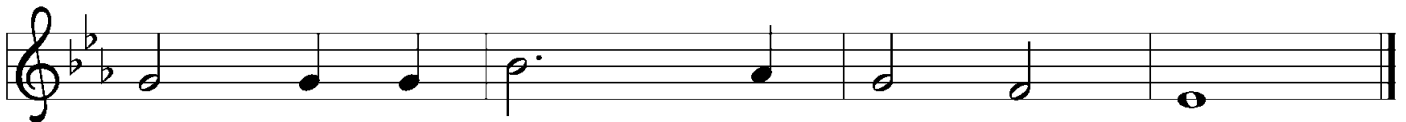
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904

Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

## The Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...**Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The First Reading  
Exodus 34:29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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

Psalm 99  
*Read responsively*

The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!  
The Lord sits enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth shake!

**The Lord, great in Zion;  
is exalted over all the peoples.**

Let them confess God's name,  
which is great and awesome;  
God is the Holy One.

**O mighty king, lover of justice,  
you have established equity;  
you have executed justice  
and righteousness in Jacob.**

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord  
and fall down before God's footstool;  
God is the Holy One.

**Moses and Aaron among your priests,  
and Samuel among those who  
call upon your name, O Lord,  
they called upon you, and you answered them,**

you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;  
they kept your testimonies  
and the decree that you gave them.

**O Lord our God, you answered them indeed;  
you were a God who forgave them,  
yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord  
and worship upon God's holy hill;  
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.



Second Reading  
2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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 Gospel Reading  
Luke 9:28-36  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

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



The Sermon  
Rev. Jamie Retallack





## Prayers of Intercession

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Transfiguring God, through the glory of your presence, you transform us. Move the church from complacency to boldness in sharing the good news with others. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for your creation. As seasons change, give patience and skill to all who tend to animals giving birth. Grant nourishing weather for the growing of crops. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in leadership, especially for those who lead states, counties, and town councils (local leaders may be named). Give them wisdom to protect local resources so that all will flourish both now and in the years to come. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Bring your healing grace to those who feel distant from you. Speak comfort to those who need your words of mercy. We pray for those close to our communities and in our hearts (especially Edna Mann, Tom & Ruth Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Bruce Jacobs, Dave, Jay, Heather, Denise Krueger, Lee Babirad, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arno Konstabel, Pat, Kevin, and Nubia Schneider). God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of our past, present, and future, lead us into new beginnings, trusting in the promise of new life in Christ. Accompany congregations needing to close, and give courage to congregations starting new ministries (new ministries may be named). God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people (especially John Wesley and Charles Wesley, renewers of the church). We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **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

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

## The Sharing of the Peace

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

## The Gathering of the Gifts



- 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

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **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; who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and gather at your table.

## 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 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.**

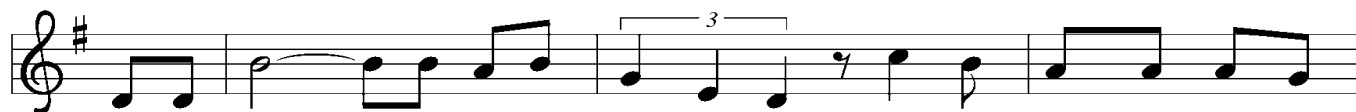
## The Sending Prayer

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**



## The Benediction

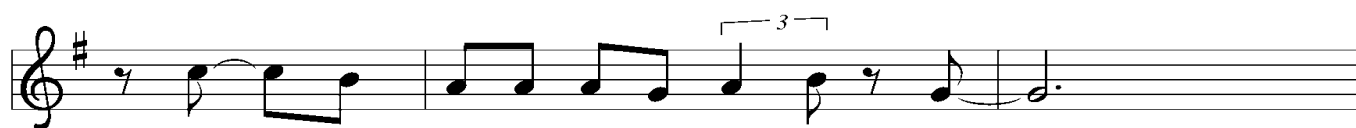
*We Are Marching in the Light*



*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -*  
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



*nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*  
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



*Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO*  
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



*Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO*  
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

*Additional stanzas ad lib.:*  
 We are dancing ...  
 We are praying ...  
 We are singing ...

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 Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984  
 Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional  
 Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.



The Sending  
Go in peace. Live in hope.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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

**This Week at a Glance**

|           |     |         |   |
|-----------|-----|---------|---|
| Sunday    | 3/2 | 9am     | Bible Study                                     |
| Sunday    | 3/2 | 9:30am  | Joysingers                                      |
| Sunday    | 3/2 | 10:00am | Worship<br>Sunday School                        |
| Monday    | 3/3 | 4:00pm  | Guiding Eyes                                    |
| Monday    | 3/3 | 7:30pm  | Queen City Chordsmen                            |
| Tuesday   | 3/4 | 9:30am  | Quilters  |
| Tuesday   | 3/4 | 7pm     | NA Meeting                                      |
| Wednesday | 3/5 | 7pm     | Ash Wed @ Elma                                  |
| Thursday  | 3/6 | 1pm     | Bible Study                                     |
| Thursday  | 3/6 | 6:30pm  | Handbell Practice                               |
| Thursday  | 3/6 | 7:30pm  | Choir Practice                                  |
| Saturday  | 3/8 | 5:30pm  | Worship   |
| Sunday    | 3/9 | 9:00am  | Bible Study                                     |
| Sunday    | 3/9 | 9:30am  | Joysingers                                      |
| Sunday    | 3/9 | 10:00am | Sunday School<br>Worship/Baptism                |
| Sunday    | 3/9 | 11am    | Confirmation Class<br>Worship & Music Committee |
| Sunday    | 3/9 | 11:30am | Property & Grounds Committee                    |

## 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!



**Offering:** 2/23/25 : \$1846.25

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

We pray for: Edna Mann, Tom & Ruth Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Bruce Jacobs, Dave, Jay, Heather, Denise Krueger, Lee Babirad, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arno Konstabel, Pat, Kevin, and Nubia Schneider

Follow us on Facebook [@stjohnslancaster](#)

## YOUTH

LUTHERAN YOUTH EVENT: Lasertron Lock-in. Feb 28-Mar1: Event begins at St Paul's Lutheran Church, 4007 Main St, Eggertsville, then moves to Lasertron, 5101 N Bailey Ave, Buffalo. Transportation provided if needed. Contact Kelly S for details.

**St John's Elma & Lancaster Women's Lunch** is Wed, March 12 @ noon @ Olive Tree. Sign up or call Bev Hess @ 716-868-5096 by Sun, March 9.

**St Patty's Meal** sponsored by LYMA is March 16th from 11am until sold out. The meal of corned beef, cabbage, veggies, and bread & butter is \$5. There are only 100 meals, and you must purchase a ticket. The meal is take-out only. Contact Gary Rudz for tickets 716-829-9618.

**Altar Flower Dates Available:**

3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30 - \$30 for two bouquets

**Confirmation Classes March 9 & 23**

**Ushers**

Linda Costa  
Janet Sincebaugh

**Deacon**

RaeAnn  
Jakubowski

**Altar Guild**

Amy & John  
Petrunyak

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

**JANUARY 2025**

**Offering/Giving envelopes / Loose Income**

**\$2,584.00 amount needed each Sunday**

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 4 Sundays thru JANUARY '25 = | \$10,336.00 |
| actual thru JANUARY 2025 =   | \$8,968.57  |
| difference                   | -\$1,367.43 |

**Shine, Jesus, Shine**

Text: Graham Kendrick, b.1950; tr. by Luis Alfredo Díaz and Lori Black Mathis  
Tune: SHINE, 9 9 10 10 33 with refrain; Graham Kendrick, b.1950, arr. by Tom Fettke  
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# LENTEN/EASTER SCHEDULE

**ASH WEDNESDAY~ MARCH 5TH**

Worship @ 7pm @ St. John's Elma  
2131 Woodard Rd, Elma NY 14059

**PALM SUNDAY ~ APRIL 13TH**

Pancake Breakfast @ 8am~10am

Worship @ 10am

Easter Egg Hunt @ 11am

**MAUNDY THURS ~ APRIL 17TH**

Worship @ 7pm @ St. John's Lancaster

**GOOD FRIDAY ~ APRIL 18TH**

Worship @ 7pm @ St. John's Elma  
2131 Woodard Rd, Elma NY 14059

**EASTER VIGIL ~ SAT APRIL 19TH**

Worship @ 5:30pm

**RESURRECTION SUNDAY ~ APRIL 20TH**

Worship @ 10am



# ST. PATTY'S DAY DINNER

**@ St. John's Lancaster: 55 Pleasant Ave.  
Corned Beef/Cabbage/Vegetables/Bread & Butter**

**Sunday, March 16th @ 11am**

**\$5 Dinner Reserve - Takeout Only**

**Must Have Ticket! Limited to 100 Tickets  
Sales end March 15th or Sold Out**

**Contact: Gary Rudz — 716-829-9618**





## **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.—Thurs. 10am-3pm)**

[www.stjohnslanc.org](http://www.stjohnslanc.org)

[stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com](mailto: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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