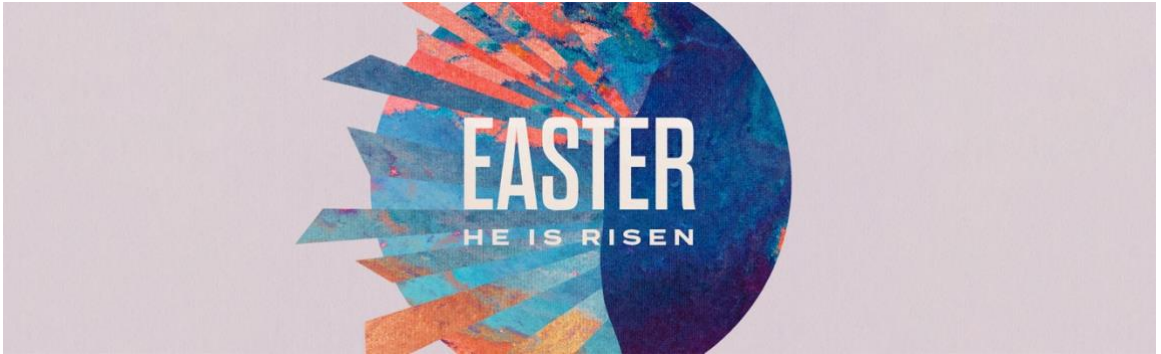


THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of March 31, 2024

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



WELCOME AND HAPPY EASTER!

With all the challenge, pain, tragedy, and struggle that continues to play out in our world today, what a contrast it is to come together knowing that sin, evil, and death have ultimately been defeated by our God! We are so glad you are here today! May the peace of our Risen Savior bless you and your family as we gather to worship and celebrate the true reason for Easter! Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERIES | Complete Joy

As a continuation of our Easter celebration come experience the fullness of COMPLETE JOY as we embark on a transformative five-week journey through the book of 1 John, written by the Apostle John an eyewitness to the resurrection! Join us beginning next weekend in worship as we begin exploring the profound truth and practical wisdom contained within John's first epistle to discover a life of abundant joy in Christ.



- Part 1: The Source of Joy | April 6-7
- Part 2: The Nature of Joy | April 13-14
- Part 3: The Expression of Joy | April 20-21
- Part 4: The Strength of Joy | April 27-28
- Part 5: The Assurance of Joy | May 4-5

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE | Resumes next weekend

Traditional Praise: Sundays at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM (also online), and 11:00 AM

Modern Praise: Saturdays at 5:00 PM | Sundays at 10:45 AM (also online)

TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

Easter Sunday | March 31, 2024

PRELUDE

Screen

BELLS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done*

LSB #464 | Choir sings v. 3

Out of reverence for Christ, please turn and follow the cross as it passes you down the center aisle.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Invocation/Opening Verses

Screen

Hymn of Praise: *This Is the Feast*

LSB p.155

Prayer of the Day

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

Worship Bible p.586

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Worship Bible p.961

Gospel Procession: *He is Arisen! Glorious Word*

LSB #488

Holy Gospel Reading: John 20:1-18

Worship Bible p.906

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Awake, My Heart with Gladness*

LSB #467 | stz. 1, 2, 3, 6, & 7

MESSAGE

Pastor Steve Grafe

THE NICENE CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Special Music

Screen

Hymn: *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

LSB #633

Hymn: *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

LSB #461

POST COMMUNION PRAYER/BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

LSB #457

Out of reverence for Christ, please turn and follow the cross as it passes you down the center aisle.

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Bible teaches that along with the bread and wine of Holy Communion we also receive the true body and blood of our Savior. Jesus' own words, "this is my body" and "this is my blood for the forgiveness of sins" reveal His Real Presence in the sacrament (Luke 22, 1 Cor. 10:15-16). The Bible also teaches (1 Cor. 11:23-32) the Lord's Supper, properly received brings great blessings, but improperly received without understanding can actually incur God's judgment. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the Biblical teaching of communion, please feel free to commune today. If you have any questions, please first speak to a pastor.

As you come forward, gluten free wafers are available by request, as well as individual cup choice of wine or lighter colored non-alcoholic grape juice (located in the center of the trays). Common cup is also offered during Traditional Praise services at the altar only. **During regular worship weekends, the Lord's Supper is celebrated in Traditional Praise on the first, third, and fifth weekends of the month; and in Modern Praise on the second and fourth weekends of the month.**

MODERN PRAISE WORSHIP

A relaxed, modern Lutheran worship celebration led by guitars, keyboard, and drums. All services feature Bible focused teachings, and the life-changing love of Jesus is shared through His Word. The Lord's Supper is celebrated on the second and fourth weekends of the month.



TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP

A traditional, liturgical Lutheran worship celebration led by a pipe organ and enhanced by choirs, hand bells, brass, strings, and other classical instrumentation. All services feature Bible focused teachings, and the life-changing love of Jesus is shared through His Word. The Lord's Supper is celebrated on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of the month.



FAMILY WORSHIP ASSISTANCE

- **Children's Activity Bags** for young children are located just outside of the entry to worship. These activity bags are filled with paper, crayons, and other things to keep little ones content. Please feel free to help yourself to a bag or ask an usher to assist you.
- **A Family Worship Room**, located in the chapel off the north hallway behind the sanctuary, provides a live video feed of traditional worship services. When you feel a need to step away with your little one, this room is the perfect destination!
- **A Mom's Nursing Room**, located in the sanctuary level women's restroom, also provides a live video feed of traditional worship services.
- **A Children's Nursery** staffed with qualified, caring staff is available in the south hallway on non-holiday Sundays from 9:15 AM to 10:45 AM.

BIBLICAL DISCOVERY

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES

There are no classes on Easter Sunday, March 31.

GET INTO THE WORD | Join a group!

A full listing of Bible classes and LIFEgroups are available on our website. Whether you are new to the faith, or are a life-long believer, seeking a large group lecture, or a small group experience - there truly is something for everyone no matter your age, experience, or circumstance. It's never too late to join a group!

Visit www.stjohnrochester.org/getconnected/#BibleStudies to see the full listing of classes and groups.



SHARED LIFE

OFFICE HOURS

Our campus will be closed this Monday, April 1 in observance of Easter. The office hours for the rest of the week return to normal: Tuesday, April 2 -Friday, April 5 will be 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

SAVE THE DATE | Pastor Tyler Cronkright Installation

Pastor Tyler Cronkright has officially accepted the Call to serve as our Associate Pastor of Discipleship! Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Please continue to keep this important time of transition in your ongoing prayers for Pastor Tyler, his wife Brandi (who serves as one of our wonderful St. John kindergarten teachers), along with the beloved people of Family of God, Detroit where Pastor Tyler currently serves. More information will be coming very soon, but in the meantime please mark your calendars for **Sunday, April 21 at 2:00 PM** when Pastor Tyler will be officially installed and welcomed!



ST. JOHN COOKBOOK | Recipes and Preorders due by April 5

St. John Parent Network welcomes our church and school families to contribute their favorite recipes! The St. John Cookbook will be designed as a wonderful collaboration of shared recipes made in our homes, for our families! Money raised from the sale of the cookbooks will help fund Parent Network sponsored student and family enrichment activities! Cookbooks are \$20 and should be available for pick-up before Mother's Day. To share a recipe or preorder your cookbook, please go to <http://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/cookbook>, scan the QR code, or pick up a flyer outside of the sanctuary by the tract rack. For more information, visit the webpage or reach out to the Parent Network at parentnetwork@stjohnrochester.org.



GRIEFSHARE Loss of Spouse Session | Saturday, April 13

GriefShare is hosting a one-time session devoted to those who have lost a spouse. It is always hard to lose someone you love, and the loss of a spouse is not only losing your loved one but your lifestyle as well. Whether you are recently widowed, or it has been several years, you are invited to join us on Saturday, April 13 from 10:00 – 11:30 AM in the Church Library. For planning purposes, please register with Linda Baroli at 248-895-0310 or lbar923@gmail.com.



OWLS Luncheon Meeting | Friday, April 12 at 12:00 PM

The next OWLS luncheon will be held on Friday, April 12 at Noon in Concordia Hall. The OWLS Ministry Team will serve corned beef, potato salad, and beverages. Attendees are asked to bring potluck veggies/salads (last names A-J) and desserts (last names K-Z). To assist with planning, please RSVP to Roger Guetzkow at 248-377-9048 or rjguetzkow@comcast.net by Tuesday, April 9. Transportation may be arranged if needed.

April's guest speaker is Pastor Chad Foster, Senior Pastor at Immanuel, Macomb, whose topical presentation is based on "Therefore, every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old (Matthew 13:52)." Pastor Foster is both an ordained Rabbi and LCMS Pastor and will share a unique perspective on the Holy Land. Those wishing to attend the presentation only should arrive by 12:50 PM. Although OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans in Service) is a senior ministry of St. John, **all are invited to attend the monthly luncheons.**

OWLS OUTING | "Melodies at the Museum" at the Detroit Institute of Arts | April 25

Seniors 55+ are invited to attend a special DIA program featuring a one-hour concert by the Royal Garden Trio performing jazz and popular songs from the early 20th century. The 1:00 PM concert will be followed by a self-guided museum tour. A luxury 50-passenger bus will depart from St. John at Noon and return by 4:00 PM. There is no charge for this OWLS-sponsored event. To assist with planning, please RSVP to Roger Guetzkow at 248-377-9048 or rjguetzkow@comcast.net by Thursday, April 11. All are welcome, but bus transportation is limited to the first 50 registrants.



VESTRY, ELDERS, AND FOUNDATION NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED | Submission Deadline is April 1

"The greatest among you is the one who serves." Matthew 23:11. These humble words, spoken by Jesus, set the tone for what it means to be great in the Kingdom of God. Taking on a leadership role at St. John as a member of the Vestry, Elders, or Foundation is about humble service to Jesus and others. Nominations are now being accepted for individuals to serve on Vestry, Elders, and Foundation. Please pray for those whom you know that may be a blessing to Christ's ministry at St. John and if He leads you to do so, complete a nomination form. Nomination forms can be found in the church lobby by the tract rack or in the pastoral office. The Vestry has a specific need for an individual with a financial background. Please prayerfully consider if you or someone you know has this gift. What an incredible opportunity at a very exciting time to use the talents that the Lord has blessed us with, to make a difference in furthering His work! Nominations must be submitted to the Pastoral Office no later than April 1.

2024 ST. JOHN MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE | Begins Tuesday, April 16

The St. John Men's Golf League is looking for league members and substitute golfers. This year the league will start on Tuesday, April 16 at Black Heath Golf Course. The league plays for 20 weeks and is scheduled to finish on August 27. Tee times are from 3:20 to 4:20 and golf carts are included with your membership dues of \$600 for the season. Substitutes pay \$20 and that also includes the cart fee. All men over the age of 18 are welcome to be members and substitutes can be 16 years and older. All degrees of ability are welcome. There are weekly prizes along with a year-end banquet. Please contact David Schulz at davidischulz@comcast.net or 586-770-6495 for more information.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL | Sundays at 9:30 AM | Resumes April 7

Weekly Sunday School meets at 9:30 AM in the school classrooms of our building (September – May). All children ages 3 (if potty trained) through 6th grade are welcome. Pre-registration is not required and there are no attendance requirements. We look forward to seeing your children and sharing with them the love of Jesus!

LIGHTHOUSE MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY | Resumes April 7

Lighthouse is a place where Middle School students can come and feel safe and at home. It is also a place for students to bring their friends to share Jesus. Our activities include students in grades 6-8, and all are welcome! Lighthouse meetings are on Sundays 6:00 - 8:00 PM. For more information, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family Ministry, at 248-402-8006 or swilson@stjohnrochester.org.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY | Resumes April 14

High School is a defining part of a person's life. Students begin to really settle into their beliefs about the world, God, their purpose, etc. During this influential time, we want students to be surrounded by people who know and love Jesus. The High School Youth usually meet on Sundays 6:00 - 8:00 PM, in the Youth Room or offsite. All are welcome to join in the fun and fellowship! For more information, please contact our Director of High School Youth Ministry, Melissa Hammett, at 248-402-8008 or mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.





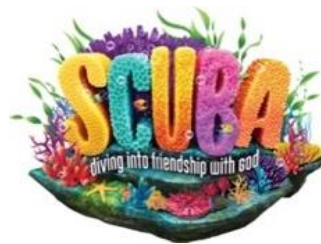
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

St. John Lutheran School, established in 1943, provides an excellent Christ-centered education for Preschool to 8th Grade, with enrollment open to the congregation and community. St. John Lutheran School is committed to nurturing students and preparing them for their future as disciples of Christ. St. John Lutheran School is fully accredited by the National Lutheran Schools Accreditation (NLSA) and by the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools (MANS), with Preschool and Care Rooms fully licensed by Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA). Excitement is building about the additional

classroom space that will be available through the All2Jesus Campus Expansion! Enrollment is in progress for the 2024-2025 school year, with some preschool sessions and grade levels at capacity. Personal Campus Tours are available for families interested in learning more! For more information or to schedule a tour, contact Beth Dameron, Director of Admissions, at 248-402-8012 or bdameron@stjohnrochester.org.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024 | July 22-26 | Register Now!

VBS will take place July 22-26 from 9:00 AM to Noon at Lutheran High Northwest (due to ongoing construction on our campus) for children ages 4 through those entering 6th grade. We are looking forward to another amazing year! Our registration fills up quickly for this annual event, and we encourage you to sign up early. Register now at <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/2024vbs/>. Students entering 6th grade (and older) are also welcome to be volunteers. Come one, come all to an amazing week of VBS!



SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE

Your continued financial support and partnership in the ministry and mission of St. John Lutheran Church & School is so important and is making a huge difference in changing lives for eternity in Jesus' name! If you are worshiping onsite, offerings are taken touch-free at the door. You can also scan the provided QR Code to give online now or visit our website giving portal at <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/give/>.



COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

THANK YOU

The St. John family has shown such kindness through compassionate service this year! Many simple tasks, donated items, and acts of service have made a real difference in Jesus' name. It is a true blessing that we can share the love of Jesus through compassionate witness and service with our Mission Partners - St. Paul, Pontiac, Family of God, Detroit, Rochester Neighborhood House, Gifts for All God's Children, Crossroads Care Center, and more! As we continue to support our mission partners and our community, we thank you for continuing to be One in Jesus... Reaching Many!



If you are interested in upcoming and on-going service opportunities, please contact our Director of Mission Mobilization, Jennie Eller at jeller@stjohnrochester.org, or sign up for People Helping People emails to receive regular updates by scanning the QR code.

RELATIONAL WITNESS

STAY CONNECTED

Every week we send out email worship updates, seasonal devotional thoughts, opportunities to serve, children's ministry news, youth ministry news, and more. These emails are intended to help you stay connected and keep growing in your faith and to experience a better sense of community with our St. John family. If you don't already receive these emails and would like to begin receiving them, please sign up on the bottom of the homepage of our website at www.stjohnrochester.org. When you sign up you can select what types of emails you would like to receive (worship, youth ministry, service opportunities, etc.)



WATCH & SHARE PREVIOUS SERMONS

While nothing replaces the experience of gathering in the same space with others in worship, prayer, and praise, we sincerely hope our online worship resources help you connect wherever you are with the loving promises of your Savior Jesus. Previous sermons can be found on our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/@stjohnrochester810>. Make sure to Like and Subscribe!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

Another great way to stay connected to your St. John family and ongoing news and events is follow us on Facebook and Instagram! Find us on Facebook at [@StJohnLutheranChurch&School](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnLutheranChurch&School) and on Instagram at [@StJohnRochester](https://www.instagram.com/StJohnRochester).



CONSTANT PRAYER

WE WOULD LOVE TO PRAY FOR WHATEVER IS ON YOUR HEART

To submit a prayer request, please email prayer@stjohnrochester.org at any time or visit our website and click on the prayer link toward the bottom of the homepage. These requests are received by our pastors and are passed along (or kept confidential when requested) to our prayer warriors and are also included in our weekend worship.



Healing & Peace: Dave Peck – heart surgery April 12 / Mary McColeman – stomach cancer and on-going treatment / Arnold Schilke – rehab from hip repair surgery

Bereavement: For the family & friends of Marilyn Miller

All2Jesus: The progress continues! Classrooms are taking shape with finished goods, shingles and light fixtures being installed – so many wonderful blessings! Continue to keep the workers in your prayers for their safety on the project. Thank you for your financial support! Pledges are being fulfilled, more in process, and so many who are giving over and above! Through you the Lord is making this dream a reality! Please continue to pray!

Gospel Impact: That all who attended Holy Week & Easter services might be transformed by the power of Jesus' death & resurrection!

Thanksgiving: For everyone who gave of themselves behind the scenes which allowed everyone to celebrate Easter services with such joy!

Easter Altar Flowers Are Given By:

Peter and Melissa Auchter - In honor of Rolf and Rita Auchter and Roy and Rita McCallum

Linda and Wally Ayotte - In memory of Clarence, Cora and Thomas Deuel; Williams,
Wes, and Wayne Ayotte; and Terry Taylor, Sr. and Terry Taylor, Jr.

Jim and Jan Baker - In memory of our parents, Shirley Hammond and Jim and Bobbie Baker

Alisa and Christian Bartl - In memory of our little Johnny

Brian and Melissa Berger - In memory of our parents

Jan Boldt - Blessings of God's loving care and protection

Kathy, Cheryl, Jeff, Eve, Craig and Jack - In memory of Alan Briscoe

Jim & Cathy Creighton - In memory of our mothers, Ruth Creighton & Margaret Keller

Mark & Peggy D'Orazio - Easter Blessings

Diane Donahue - In memory of John Donahue

Drummelsmith Family - In memory of Selma & Herman Holzke and
in honor of Danny & Selma Wisniewski

Suzanne, Steven and Jonathan - In memory of Dave Ehlen

John Fedototszkin - In memory of my wife, Sherry Fedototszkin

Patricia Gonser - In memory of Ella Goettsch and Marilyn and Warren Petersen

Frank & Lorraine Hayes - For blessings received

Katherine and Gary Hedlund - In memory of Alonzo Theodore Cummings

Kriss and Lisa Hinchman - In memory of Henry Hinchman

Robert Hobson - For blessings received

Jeff and Chris Judd - In memory of Charles and Carole Renshaw

The Kiehl Family - In memory of our sweet Ellie

Alicia Kieninger - Easter Blessings

Bev Koch, Tim & Marian Grothaus - In loving memory of Pastor Robert & Marlys Koch,
and Dr. Larry Grothaus

Koss Family - In memory of Steve and Judy Hein

Ellen Kraft - In memory of Earl Kraft and John Kraft

Bob, Amy, Max, Julia, & Mitch Kranker - In memory of our parents / grandparents,
Julie Cole and David & Joan Kranker

Arlene Kruger - In memory of Gary Kruger

Wayne Kunze - In memory of Joan Kunze, James & Effie Kunze, and Albin & Genevieve Sliwinski



Gary and Andrea Kwapis - Easter Blessings
Nick & Aubrey Kwapis - Easter Blessings
Sandy Landino - In memory of Bruce Landino
The John Lucas Family - Easter Blessings
Joan Lucas - In memory Albert G. Lucas
Tom Majerowicz - Easter Blessings
Mike & Mary McColeman - In memory of Irma McColeman and Bill McColeman
Russ & Janet McKee - In honor of our parents
Lindsey Mobley - Blessings of the birth of Brynn Brodacki
The Morgante Family - In memory of Sue Thornberry
Steve & Barb Morris - In memory of Thelma Mordecki
Roberta Neilson & Ann Neilson - In memory of Douglas Neilson
The Noonan Family - Easter Blessings
Bob & Lynette Novack - Easter Blessings
Mark & Karen Olex - In memory of Herb von Rusten
Catherine Olsen - In memory of Kristin Wallace
Diane Parker - Easter Blessings
The Primavera Family - In memory of our Papa Joe Primavera
Joe & Yvonne Prokes - In memory of James Prokes and Gary Wilkins
The Raffler Family - Easter Blessings
John, Jamie, Jonathan & Luke Rawcliffe - In memory of James Justus
Diane and Tom Rowe - Blessings for our health and family
Marie Schwartz - In memory of Frank Schwartz and Carter Jankovich
Aaron & Molly Smith - In memory of GG and Grandpa Jim
Deb Spresney - In memory of Daniel Whitney
Sue Stachel - In memory of Walt and Lois Stachel
Don and Jean Susewitt - Thanksgiving for many blessings received
Vicki Torgler - In memory of Bernard Torgler
Davide and Lori Verzeroli - Thanksgiving for the birth of our daughter, Rosa
The Woodhull Family - In memory of Bill Woodhull
The Zaliwski Family - In memory of Ken Mangan



Worship Schedule

Traditional Praise: Sundays at 8:00 AM (also online), 9:30 AM, and 11:00 AM

Modern Praise: Saturdays at 5:00 PM | Sundays at 10:45 AM (also online)

1011 W. University Dr. | Rochester, MI 48307 | 248.402.8000 | stjohnrochester.org