

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETING

Pastor Marc Schwichtenberg

PRAYER OF INVOCATION / OPENING SONGS

YOUR MERCY FOLLOWS ME

PRELUDE: MEN'S CHORUS

Verse 1

You speak in holy splendor Awakening the dawn Drawing my heart forward To the good things You have done

Chorus

Lord Jesus You will always be Deliverer and King Almighty Your promise will not cease Your mercy follows me

Verse 2

You prepare the table You hold a seat for me And all the other sinners Who confess and believe

YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME

Verse 1

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer There is no more for heaven now to give He is my joy my righteousness and freedom My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus For my life is wholly bound to his Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 2

The night is dark but I am not forsaken For by my side the Savior he will stay I labor on in weakness and rejoicing For in my need his power is displayed

To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me Through the deepest valley he will lead

Interlude

Yes I thank You Lord I thank You

Bridge

Once my days have come and gone I will dwell with You God I'll be clothed in righteousness In Your house I'm surely blessed

Ending

Yes I thank You Lord I thank You

Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 3

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven The future sure the price it has been paid For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated Jesus now and ever is my plea Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 4

With every breath I long to follow Jesus For he has said that he will bring me home And day by day I know he will renew me Until I stand with joy before the throne To this I hold my hope is only Jesus All the glory evermore to him When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat Yet not I but through Christ in me

Ending

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat Yet not I but through Christ in me Yet not I but through Christ in me

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REMINDER OF FORGIVENESS IN JESUS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Interim Principal Elizabeth Leinberger

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

MESSAGE

Pastor Tyler Cronkright

SONG OF RESPONSE: HOPE HAS A NAME

Verse 1

There is a song I know it well A melody that's never failed On mountains high in valleys low My soul will rest My confidence in You alone

Chorus

Hope has a name His name is Jesus My Savior's cross has set this sinner free Hope has a name His name is Jesus Oh Christ be praised I have victory

Verse 2

There is a light salvation's flame Christ undefeated trampled the grave See now the cross be lifted high The light has come the light has won Behold the Christ

Verse 3

There'll be a day my hope complete Now home in glory Your face I'll see My pain no more my fear will cease I bow my life I fix my eyes On Christ my king I bow my life I fix my eyes On Christ my king

FACULTY AND STAFF BLESSING / INSTALLATION / PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Pastor Steve Grafe

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

BENEDICTION

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG: THE BLESSING

Verse

The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make his face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn his
Face toward you
And give you peace

Chorus Amen Amen Amen

Bridge 1

May his favor Be upon you And a thousand generations And your family

And your children And their children And their children

Bridge 2

May his presence Go before you And behind you And beside you All around you And within you He is with you He is with you

Bridge 3

In the morning
In the evening
In your coming
And your going
In your weeping
And rejoicing
He is for you
He is for you



A huge Thank You to all who made our 26th Annual Family Praise & Picnic in the Park celebration a reality including over 150 volunteers and our following partners:

City of Rochester

Rochester City Council, Karl Maier (Parks Superintendent) and Staff, John Cieslik (Fire Chief) and Rochester Fire Department, and George Rouhib (Police Chief)

Parking Lots

Rochester Medical Center/Atallah Heart Center, Vito A. & Angela D. Pampalona (Vito Anthony Homes), Michigan Eye Center, Pixley Funeral Home, and University Dental Associates, Lambert Law

Other

Great Oaks Country Club (Golf Carts), Knapp's Dairy Bar (Ice Cream), Busch's Fresh Food Market (Bottled Water), Ameriprise Representative Jerry Kulcycki (Funding), Thrivent Action Team (Funding), Gordon Food Service.

Major Funding Provided by The St. John Foundation & the faithful ongoing Mission and Ministry giving of our St. John family.

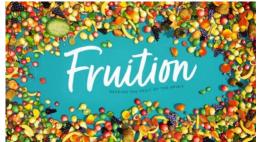
THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of August 24, 2025

WORSHIP CELEBRATION





FRUITION SUMMER WORSHIP SERIES

Jesus made it clear that anyone who would truly be His disciple would also bear the fruit of faith (John 15:4-9, 16). Yet, perhaps your faith, like a broken off, disconnected branch has been wilting a bit lately? If so, forget the Miracle Gro, instead it's time to get reconnected in the miraculous power of the Word of God and begin thriving once again as a Spirit-filled follower of Jesus! Join us in worship onsite (or online if you're out of town) for the remainder of the summer for our FRUITION summer worship series! It is the perfect time to grow as you will be nurtured as a chosen one of God through His promises to rediscover the fruit of the Spirit!



Did you miss a previous FRUITION series message?

Scan the QR code or visit the website below to watch any of the previously aired sermons. https://www.stjohnrochester.org/worship/church-online/#fruition

Traditional Praise (sanctuary) Sunday at 8:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 11:00 AM (Online at 9:30 AM)

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.

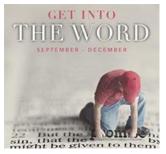


Modern Praise (gymnasium) Saturday at 5:00 PM | Sunday at 10:45 AM (Online at 10:45 AM)

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, fourth, and fifth weekends of the month.



BIBLICAL DISCOVERY



GET INTO THE WORD | Fall Bible Studies and LIFEgroups Starting Soon

We are just a couple weeks away from our launch of over 25 different Bible studies, LIFEgroups, and one-day events happening this Fall! Be watching our website, Facebook, and email for a full listing in the next couple days! Whether you are looking for a small class or large group, there will be something for everyone - no matter your age, schedule, or life circumstances! Be sure to make the most of growing in your faith walk with Jesus through His Word this Fall!

SHARED LIFE



GRIEFSHARE Loss of Spouse Session | Saturday, September 6

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, September 6 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM in the Church Library. For planning purposes, please register with Terry Priestley at tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org or visit the website https://www.griefshare.org/events/269112

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Are you lonely, grieving, worried, recently divorced, out of work, behind on bills, needing groceries, other necessities, or counseling? You don't have to journey through this difficult time alone. St. John has ministries, support, assistance funds, and references available for you. For more information and to learn more about how we can care for you, simply reach out to one of our Pastors at 248-402-8020 or church@stjohnrochester.org. All requests are confidential.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

Just type St. John Lutheran Church & School into the search bar on Facebook, then click the Like button! And be sure to share to help spread God's word online!

3rd GRADE BIBLE BLESSING | Tuesday, September 2 | 6:00 PM

All 3rd graders from our church, school & community are invited for a fun & engaging night where they will receive an age-appropriate Bible & learn how to use it! Join Pastor Marc and our 3rd grade teachers as we will discuss how it works, including teaching time with the parent(s) and student, and fun Bible games. This event is free and does not require a sign-up. For more information, please contact our Pastoral Office at 248-402-8020.





LUTHERAN LAYMENS LEAGUE MEN'S RETREAT | September 4-7

The men of St. John are invited to attend this year's Lutheran Laymen's League Men's Retreat scheduled for September 4-7 at beautiful Camp Arcadia on Lake Michigan. This year's guest presenter is Rev. David Davis, President of the Michigan District

of the LCMS. The cost is \$290, and registration can be completed online at http://camp-arcadia.com/register. For more information and carpooling opportunities, please contact Wayne Kunze (248-276-0135) or Roger Guetzkow (248-622-1606)

COLLEGE STUDENT CARE PACKAGES

We would love to send care packages to all our students heading off to college this fall and keep them connected to their St. John family. To receive a care package, please scan the QR code or visit the website listed and complete the form. All students must fill out the form, even if they have received packages in the past! Please contact our Ministry Engagement Coordinator, Deana Stevens with any questions at dstevens@stjohnrochester.org.



stjohnrochester.org/event/college-care-package/

If you would like to donate items to the college student care packages, please see the Compassionate Service Section for more information.

MUSICAL TALENT | CHOIR ENSEMBLES

Make a joyful noise! Volunteer choirs for the upcoming church year will begin the week of Labor Day. St. John is blessed to offer several ensembles with a variety of meeting/rehearsal schedules. If you are a singer, ringer, or instrumentalist interested in joining, and are high school age or older, please contact Nick Kwapis, the Director of Music at nkwapis@stjohnrochester.org

Mixed Choir: Meets weekly on Thursday evenings (7pm-8pm)

Men's Chorus: Meets 1-2 times monthly on Thursday evenings (Time TBA) Jubilate Bell Choir: Meets weekly on Wednesday evenings (6pm-7pm) Instrumentalists: Rehearse as needed (inquire for more information)



JOIN THE ST. JOHN FAMILY

MEMBERSHIP CLASS STARTING SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

Are you ready to make St. John Lutheran Church & School your home? Have you or someone you know been looking for an opportunity to learn or rediscover what real faith in Jesus is all about? Join us in a relaxed and welcoming environment where your questions can be answered.

This is a great class for anyone new to St. John or returning after being away for some time, or for those who have been worshiping with us as a guest and feel led to make St. John their church home. Whether transferring from another church or brand new to the Christian faith, the ONE Class is for you... and now is the time to enroll!

Come join Pastors Marc, Steve, and Tyler on this engaging and interactive eight-week journey through God's Word! This is an opportunity to discover the Christian Lutheran faith and understand how our church and school mission and vision are rooted in its teachings. This is also a great opportunity to meet new friends and share your faith journey with others!

This class meets Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, beginning on September 15. The last day to register for this class is September 29. Childcare is available for those who need it! Upon completion of the class, participants are welcomed to prayerfully consider official membership as part of the St. John family.

If you have any questions, please contact the Ministry Engagement Coordinator, Deana Stevens at 248-402-8004 or dstevens@stjohnrochester.org.

TO REGISTER FOR THIS CLASS SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT:

THE CLASS OF SPRING 2025



https://www.stjohnrochester.org/ event/one-class/





Please keep our entire St. John church and school ministry team in your ongoing prayers as we begin a new ministry year together with the start of school tomorrow! We also welcome the newest members to the team as well as those with new roles this year!

New staff/faculty:

- Ashleigh McCatty 2nd Grade Teacher
- Beth Johnson Kindergarten Aide
- Brianna Metz Nursery Staff
- Deana Stevens Ministry Engagement Coordinator
- Jon Horstman Communications Coordinator / Graphic Design
- Karla Heinert 7th Grade Teacher

- Kristen Redd Spanish Teacher Middle School
- Kyle Chuhran Administrator Support
- Laura Gilbert 6th Grade Teacher
- Mark Siewert Facilities Team Lead
- Mary Lease Preschool Care Room Aide
- Pam Brady Kitchen Aide
- Rachel Stephens Preschool Specials Teacher

Current staff moving to new positions:

Cassie Benter - Moving from 6th Grade Teacher to 8th Grade Teacher
Jennifer Shore - Moving from Preschool Specials Teacher to Kindergarten Teacher
Kristen Janetzke - Moving from Kindergarten Teacher to 4th Grade Teacher



GET 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 our website at https://www.stjohnrochester.org/stayconnected/ or scan the QR code. When you do, you can also designate what you are most interested in receiving.















CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

This year's school theme is Power Lab: Discovering Jesus' Power! For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16. This school year, we are focusing on Jesus' power over all things. Jesus, through His resurrection, has power over our sin, our loss, our sickness and all things that are against us.

Are you looking to enroll at St. John for the 2026-2027 school year? St. John Lutheran School provides a Christ-centered education for Preschool to 8th grade, with enrollment available to the community. For more information, please contact Beth Dameron, Director of Admissions, at bdameron@stjohnrochester.org. Campus tours will resume soon!



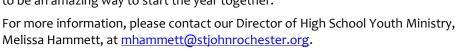
HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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. We also give them the skills and the support groups they need to make wise decisions at this critical time in their lives.

High School Youth typically meets on Sundays from 6:00-8:00 PM, in the Youth Room or offsite. All are welcome to join in the fun and fellowship!

OPENING EVENT | September 7 at 5:00 PM

We can't wait to kick off the year together at our first gathering September 7, 5:00 PM at the Hammett house. We will start the night off right - with dinner and a nacho bar! There will be beef, chicken, and all the delicious sides. After that, we'll jump into large group games and a devotional you won't want to miss! It's going to be an amazing way to start the year together.





MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 12:30 PM

Middle School Youth is a place where 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 are for students in 6th-8th grade, and all are welcome! This year our meetings are shifting to Sundays from 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM. For more information, please contact our Interim Director of Middle School Youth, Melissa Hammit at 248.818.0861 or mhammett@stjohnrochester.org



OPENING EVENT | September 7 at 12:30 PM

To kick off the new season, we'll be hosting a WELCOME BACK PIZZA PARTY for Middle School students! Join us on our St. John campus on Sunday, September 7, in the St. John Youth Room from 12:30 to 2:30 PM. We'll enjoy pizza, spend time getting to know one another, share in a short devotion, and wrap things up with a fun group game. This is a great chance for returning students to reconnect and for new faces to

feel welcomed. All students in grades 6-8 are invited - we can't wait to see you there! Bring a friend!

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE

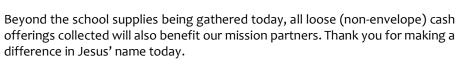
Your continued financial support and partnership in the ministry and mission of St. John Lutheran Church & School is so important and is making a huge difference in changing lives for eternity in Jesus' name! If you are worshiping onsite, offerings can be placed in the designated areas outside the sanctuary. You can also scan the provided QR Code to give online or visit our website https://www.stjohnrochester.org/give/. If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Operations, Steve Gauss, at sgauss@stjohnrochester.org.



GIVE NOW

SPECIAL MISSIONAL GENEROSITY FOCUS TODAY

This year at Praise in the Park, we will be collecting school supplies for our Mission Partners, St. Paul, Pontiac & Family of God, Detroit. Help us support the students they work with by supplying school supplies such as pencils, college ruled paper, notebooks, glue sticks, markers, colored pencils, pencil cases, and tape. Thank you for your generosity and support that is continually given to our mission partners. If you have questions or want to be more involved in missions, please contact Jennie Eller, Director of Missions & Outreach. jeller@stjohnrochester.org





CONSTANT PRAYER



NEED PRAYER?

If you have a prayer request or have a need for someone to pray over you with encouragement for whatever you are facing, stop by the Prayer Tent today, or look for a team member with a prayer badge.

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.

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

What a blessing to know that when you need help you can call on your St. John family! Our "People Helping People" communication shares the needs of our St. John family, Mission Partners, and local community needs that we try to fulfill. To receive emails about these serve opportunities you can sign up by scanning the QR Code.

You will receive occasional communications with areas of needs that you may be able to help with and be a witness of the Lord's love. There is no requirement to serve! Respond to emails when you are able, and stay connected to the outreach that is continuing to happen behind the scenes of church & school. If you have additional questions or need more information contact Jennie Eller, Director of Missions & Outreach at jeller@stjohnrochester.org



COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

The faith family of St. John is tremendously blessed with amazing volunteers! These areas are in urgent need of assistance. Please take a moment to pray and reflect on how your time and gifts might be used to bless others. We would love to have you join us in these meaningful ministry opportunities!

FAMILY OF GOD | September 7

The first Sunday of each month our St. John family provides a meal to Family of God Church in Detroit. Our next serve event is September 7. There are several ways you can help:

- 1. **Donate Food:** Sign up to donate specific items by visiting the link below. Donations can be dropped off to the St. John church kitchen (downstairs).
- 2. Meal Prep Team: Help prepare food (at St. John) after worship on Sept. 7.
- 3. **Greet & Serve:** Travel to Family of God (carpool leaves St. John at 2:00 PM) to greet and serve the meal.

For more information, please contact our Director of Missions & Outreach, Jennie Eller, at *jeller@stjohnrochester.org*.



SIGN UP NOW AT: stjohnrochester.org/FOG2025 or scan the QR code!



момсо

MOMCO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY | Beginning September 11

St. John MomCo (formerly MOPS) is seeking loving, responsible individuals to care for the MomCo children during meetings every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month (September-May). There are currently 3 different childcare rooms: Infants (under 12 months), Nursery (Age 1-3), and Preschool (Age 3-5). Volunteers do not have to be available for every meeting and can even sign up to be a substitute when additional help is needed. Volunteers are essential to the group, by providing childcare so moms with young children can enjoy fellowship and community with other moms.

If you would like to volunteer or need more information, please email stjohnmomco@gmail.com.



COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE DONATIONS

This is unique opportunity to uplift the hearts & spirits of our college students! The care packages we send aren't just boxes of snacks; they're tangible expressions of God's love and our unwavering prayers, designed to offer comfort, remind them of their faith, and encourage their walk with Christ amidst academic demands.

Please prayerfully consider **donating an item from our Amazon Wishlist** and help us send a powerful message of faith, hope, and love directly to students' dorm rooms. Scan the QR code or visit *https://a.co/b9naiR1* to contribute and have items sent directly to St. John!



MUSIC DEPARTMENT GUITAR DONATIONS

The St. John School Music Department is looking for new or used acoustic guitars and portable, electric keyboards to use in the middle school music curriculum in the upcoming school year. If you have a used guitar or keyboard and would like to donate it, please contact our Music Director, Nick Kwapis <u>nkwapis@stjohnrochester.org</u> before the end of August. Thank you!

WEEK AT A GLANCE: AUGUST 25-31

Here is a highlight of activities happening on campus this week.

9:00 AM Quilters Guild (Room 128) 5:30 PM Essenmacher 242 Group (Offsite)

8:30 AM The Vine Women's LifeGroup (Mary Martha)

6:00 PM Adult Bible Study (Concordia)

10:00 AM International Bible Study (Mary Martha)6:00 PM Torgler 242 Group (Offsite)

FRI

SAT

9:30 AM Summer Bible Study (Concordia Hall) 6:00 PM McLeod 242 Group (Church Library)





ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY

Worship Schedule

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)

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