

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church April 20, 2025

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870 (419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com Sanctuary Worship 10:30 a.m. Live streamed to Facebook

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

April 20, 2025

Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Day

Welcome to Worship! "The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the celebration of Holy Communion as he is God with us. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to come to the Lord's table. We commune children of any age who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received communion instruction will receive a blessing. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered to accommodate various traditions. Gluten free wafers are provided for those with dietary restrictions. Please make the pastor aware of your need.

If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

Bell

Prelude

"O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing" arr. Lani Smith

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Welcome and Announcements

Please stand if you are able

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God. Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace and glory,

you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves you and + frees you from your sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

Amen.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

ELW 365

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

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured; Alleluia! now above the sky he's king, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia! who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as his love; Alleluia! praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Litany of Easter Praise

Hold your head high, Christ has risen! Death has been conquered. Christ has restored us to new life. All that is broken has been made whole.

"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

Hold your head high for Christ has risen! From a triumphant Palm Sunday to a dark Friday, passing through sorrow, through death, to life and joy, we arrive at Easter. We know that joy and sorrow, life and death are bound together.

By the power of God, the cross could not defeat Christ. The tomb could not hold him.

Hold your head high for Christ has risen! Carry forward God's healing. Carry it to a world, where truth and justice triumph over evil and oppression. You have been called out of despair and into hope, out of death and into new life!

Rejoice! Life bursts through death. Jesus Christ is alive for evermore! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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 Please be seated if you are able

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

A reading from Acts

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, "receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how 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. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not 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. ⁴²He 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. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (Read responsively)

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;

God's mercy endures forever.

²Let Israel now declare,

"God's mercy endures forever."

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

²¹I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Paul describes the consequences of the resurrection, including the promise of new life in Christ to a world that has been in bondage to death. He celebrates the destruction of evil and the establishment of God's victorious rule over all.

¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹ For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²² for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵ For he must

reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Please stand if you are able

Gospel Hymn

"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" (Verses 1& 2)

ELW **364**

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

1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.
Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy. 2 For three long days the grave did its worst until its strength by God was dispersed. He who gives life did death undergo, and in its conquest his might did show. *Refrain*

Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

Gospel: John 20:1-18

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John's gospel describes the confusion and excitement of the first Easter: the stone is moved, disciples race back and forth, and angels speak to a weeping woman. Then, Jesus himself appears.

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ¹and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁵Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁵for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹¹Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you

weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

Gospel Hymn

"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" (Verse 5)

ELW **364**

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. Refrain
Please be seated

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy. Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!"

ELW **369**

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt. Music: Robert Williams, 1781–1821 Public Domain

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia! Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia! offer praise with love replete, Alleluia! at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!
- 3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia! God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia! when contending death and life, Alleluia! met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!
- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia! sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia! Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!
- 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia! all your grateful homage pay; Alleluia! Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia! now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Prayers of the people:

Response: God of grace, hear our prayer.

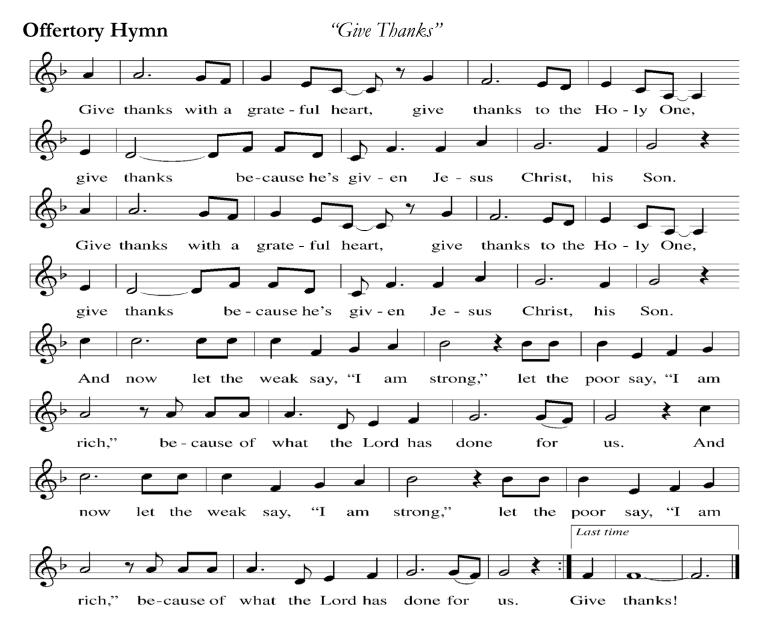
Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Choir Offering "Christ the Lord Is Risen Again" Michael Weisse, Eugene Butler ©1990 The Sacred Music Press All Rights Reserved. Printed in the USA

Please stand if you are able



Text: Henry Smith Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

Offering 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.

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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 our thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; 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, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

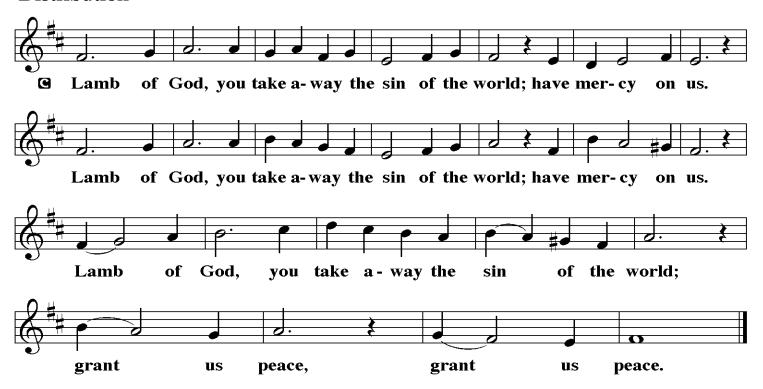
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

Please be seated

Distribution



Distribution Hymn "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing" ELW 385
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Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!Now is the triumph of our king!To all the world glad news we bring:Alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's mighty stone is rolled away; let all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life, which cannot die, and sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord, the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Distribution Hymn

"Now the Green Blade Rises"

ELW **379**

Text from Oxford Book of Carols, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; love lives again, that with the dead has been; love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain; raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain, thinking that he would never wake again; laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen; love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, your touch can call us back to life again, fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been; love is come again like wheat arising green.

Distribution Hymn

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing!"

ELW **389**

Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
- 3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,

- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Please stand

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His care.

Amen

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

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.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The triune God,

who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

Amen

Sending Hymn

"Thine Is the Glory"

ELW 376

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

- 1 Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won! Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
- 2 Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
 Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom; let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting! Refrain

Refrain

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!

3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. *Refrain*

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

"Thine Is the Glory"

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

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is:
"A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known"
And a congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S, MINISTERS

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday

Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Secretary

Nathan Samsa, Organist

Trumpeter: Brandon Alt

Usher: Ray Witt/Chuck Thompson

Audio/Visual Tech: Ann Voight

Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

Like us on Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church, Sandusky

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Lay Reader: John Giordano

Communion Assistant: Sandy Thompson

Attendance: April 13 - 62

2025 The Year of Listening Memory Verse.

"Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live..." (Isaiah 55:3a).

Thank you to everyone who assisted with worship this Easter morning and during our Holy Week services. Your willingness to serve is a blessing to the members of St. John's. We thank Brandon Alt and Nathan Samsa for blessing us with their musical offerings as well as St. John's choir.

In this season of Hope, Council asks the congregation to pray that people at St. John's, keep our hearts and spirits open to new opportunities.

Communion Clean-up today: Jim Kluding

27 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben Cleanup - Sue & Lynn Schlessman Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help, please see Toni Nossaman, Joleen Dillender or Sandy Thompson.

St. John's is a family of disciples, faithfully making Christ known. We gather for worship, we care for our neighbors, we pray and study together. And now, we are going to have a month of fellowship! You are invited to join the fun!

Please sign up for each of these events so that we can make reservations. Lunch, you will pay for your own meal, and each event will have a small charge (less than \$20). At Colonial Gardens, we will be potting some beautiful plants. At Island Sham, we will be making our own candles. With Cherished House to Home, we will meet at the church and do a painting project. We will volunteer with OHgo. We hope you will join us!

May 1 @ 11:30 lunch @ Bar North

1:00 Colonial Gardens

May 8 @ 11:30 lunch @ Manny's

1:00 St John's for art project with Cherished House to Home

May 15 @ 11:30 lunch @ Daly's

1:00 make candles @ Island Sham - 136 E Market St, Sandusky, OH 44870

May 22 @ 11:30 lunch @ Old Dutch

1:00 volunteer at OHgo

Weekly Listening Plan

For this Year of Listening, we have invited local musicians to select a song for collective reflection each month. We encourage you to explore the monthly scripture and weekly listening practices.

We invite you to join us in these four unique listening practices each month!

April 2025

Psalm 95:1-7

Week 3 - "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

Enjoy the song selection video.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDdOIWqkUrQ&t=51s

- 1. Read and reflect on the scripture that inspired the song. Psalm 95:1-7
- 2. Explore weekly practices connected to the lyrics throughout your week.

3. As April showers and storms are upon us, how might you use this song as a meditation as the storms roll in? When you notice the weather changing, out the window or in life, sing with gusto.

Happy Birthday to Allison Young, Kimberly Luman, Laura Knott, Jerrie Krawetzki, and Paxton Luman.

Happy Anniversary to Don and Vicky Johnson.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR APRIL 20^{TH} THRU MAY 4^{TH}

Sunday, April 20	9:30 am 10:30 am	Easter Egg Hunt Easter Worship
Thursday, April 24	6:00 pm	Bell choir practice
Sunday, April 27	9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Worship
Thursday, May 1	11:00 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:45 pm	Fellowship Lunch at Bar North Huron Planting at Colonial Garden Greenhouse Choir Practice Bell Choir Practice
Sunday, May 4	9:15 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Choir Practice Worship

We thank the following members who furnished flowers to beautify our sanctuary this Easter morning:

Kathy Strayer in loving memory of Bob Strayer and sister-in-law, Barb.

Bonny Ambos in loving memory of husband, Dale and grandson, Stone.

Chuck and Sandy Thompson in loving memory of Charles and Pearl Thompson, Arden and Ruth Bruns.

Lynn and Sue Schlessman in loving memory of our parents.

Dennis and Sue Bottorf in loving memory of our parents.

Paul and Laura Knott in loving memory of loved ones.

Doreen Ross in loving memory of Mark, Mom, Dad, and Dean.

Peg Kingsley in loving memory of husband, Chuck.

Toni Nossaman in loving memory of my parents and brother.

Jim and Bonnie Semon in loving memory of our parents.

Bob & Jerrie Krawetzki in loving memory of Jennie & Marceda, Jim & Ray, Judy & Jean, Jim and Darlene. In honor of Bob & Jerrie, Shawn, Casey, and Alryc, Gary & Karen and Keith.

Laurie Kropf in loving memory of my husband Mark Kropf and my sister Amy Dukes. In honor of my parents, Lyn and Jean Dircks.

Jim Kluding and Kathleen Shuck in loving memory of Paul and Norma Kluding and Charles and Florence Shuck.

William and Carolyn Steinfeldt in loving memory of mothers, Edna Brown and Helene Steinfeldt.

Rollie and Myrna Schlessman in loving memory of Janet.