

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
February 11, 2024

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

February 11, 2024

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Welcome to Worship! The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

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.

We thank Nathan Samsa for sharing his gift of music today. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

Bells

Prelude

"Onward, Christian Soldiers" Arthur S. Sullivan, Arr. Gail Smith

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Welcome and Announcements

Please stand if you are able

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you.
We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another and sinned against you.
We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.
Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us,
that we might proclaim your good news to all.
Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of
✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"Beautiful Savior"

ELW 838

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

Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee,
truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown. | 2 Fair are the meadows,
fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing. |
| 3 Fair is the sunshine,
fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky. | 4 Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine! |

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Kyrie

Refrain



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

A reading from 2 Kings.

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 50:1-6 (Read responsively)

¹The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God shines forth in glory.**

³Our God will come and will not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of the people.**

⁵“Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”

⁶**The heavens declare the rightness of God’s cause,
for it is God who is judge.**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Youth Time

Sermon

Please stand if you are able

Hymn of the Day

“How Good, Lord, to Be Here!”

ELW 315

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt. Music: W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

1 How good, Lord, to be here!
Your glory fills the night;
your face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.

2 How good, Lord, to be here!
your beauty to behold
where Moses and Elijah stand,
your messengers of old.

3 Fulfiller of the past
and hope of things to be,
we hail your body glorified
and our redemption see.

4 Before we taste of death,
we see your kingdom come;
we long to hold the vision bright
and make this hill our home.

5 How good, Lord, to be here!
Yet we may not remain;

but since you bid us leave the mount,
come with us to the plain.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

Prayers of the people:

Response: God of grace, **Receive our prayer.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Offering

"More Love to Thee" William H Doane Arr. Marilyn Reimer

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Please stand if you are able

Offertory

"We Are An Offering"

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F/G G C² Dm⁷ C²/E C/E
 We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our

F C/E Dm⁷ F/G G C² Dm⁷
 lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our

C²/E C/E F C/E Dm⁷ F/G G/F
 hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing.

Em⁷ Em⁷/A A Dm⁷ Dm⁷/G Esus D/F# E/G# Am
 All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we

Dm⁷ C²/E Bb/C Dm^{7sus2} Dm⁷ F/G
 give to you, we give to you.

G C² Dm⁷ C²/E C/E
 We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our

F C/E Dm⁷ Dm⁷/G C
 lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Offering Prayer

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

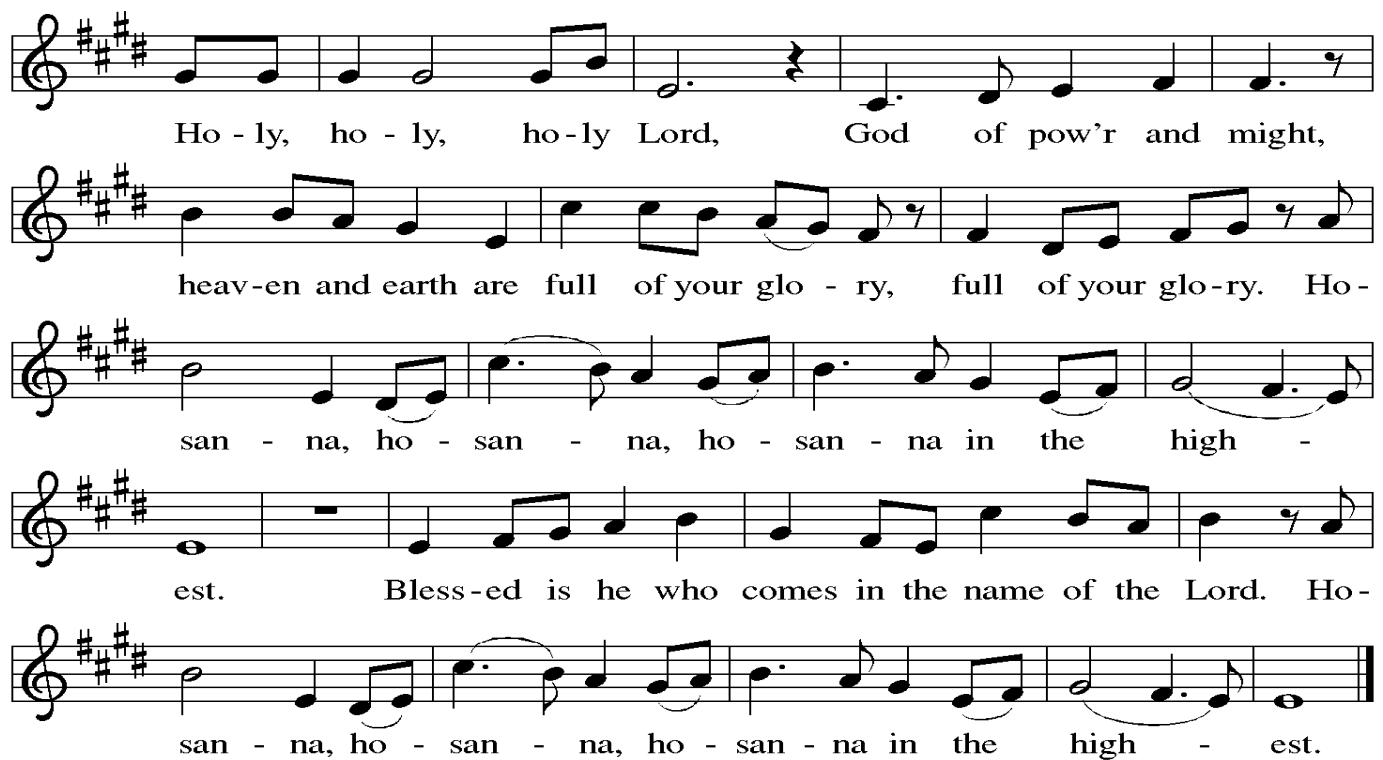
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

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.

The Lord's Prayer

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

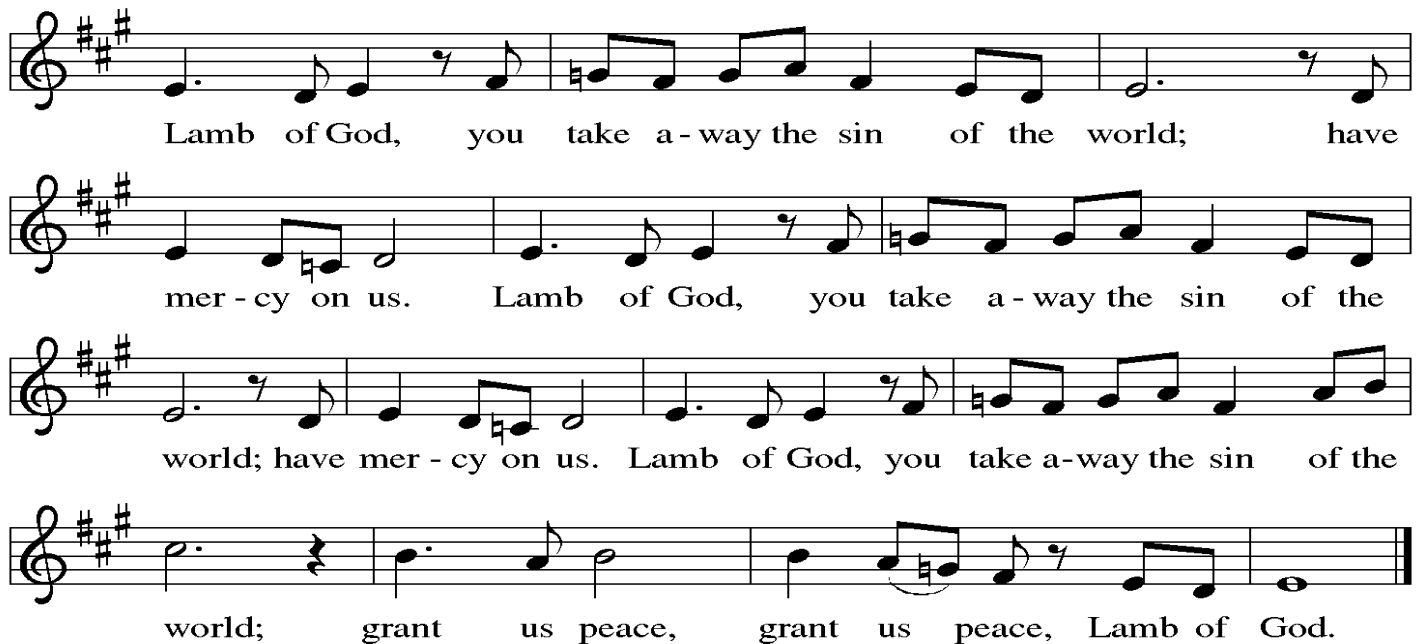
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please be seated

Communion Song



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

Distribution Hymn

“Christ, Be Our Light”

ELW 715

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- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.
- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

Refrain

- Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.
- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*
 - 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*
 - 5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Distribution Hymn

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

ELW 631

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

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.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

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

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn

"We Are Marching in the Light"

ELW 866

Tr. and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing . . .
We are praying . . .
We are singing . . .

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"We Are Marching in the Light"

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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	Church: 419-625-2192
Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday	Cell: 419-680-0358
Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Secretary	419-625-2192
	E-mail: Sandy8110@gmail.com
Morgan Noon, Organist	Lay Reader: Paula Hoffman
Today's Musician: Nathan Samsa	
Usher: Chuck Thompson	Communion Assistant: Paula Hoffman
Audio/Visual Tech: Jason Shupe	Attendance: Feb. 4 - 62
Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com	
Like us on Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church, Sandusky	

2024: The Year of Rest Memory Verse

"So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God" Hebrews 4:9

Council asks the congregation to pray that we continue to rely on God as our rock and our salvation, our place of safety and comfort in times of tribulation as well as times of peace.

Communion Clean-up today: Kathy Strayer/Bonny Ambos

Feb. 18 – Set up – Joleen Dillender Clean up – Sue & Lynn Schlessman

Feb. 25 - Set up - Elizabeth Libben Clean up -Elizabeth Libben

Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help out, please see Toni Nossaman, Joleen Dillender or Sandy Thompson.

Join us for a Meet, Greet and Thank you fellowship to meet and thank our organists, Linda Stauffer and Nathan Samsa and their families. Fellowship will take place on Sunday, February 25th immediately following worship. Plan to stay to welcome our new musicians.

Youth Sunday School meets the first Sunday of each month at 9:30 am. Jenna Stacy leads our youth each month.

Souper Bowl Sunday TODAY! Please donate your loose change or any monetary amount this morning. The soup kettle will be in the rear of the sanctuary for your donations and also in the handicap entrance. All donations will benefit Victory Kitchen in Sandusky. Thanks for playing in the Souper Bowl.

The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14th with the Imposition of Ashes. Join us for special opportunities for fellowship and worship on Wednesday evenings during Lent beginning February 21st, featuring soup suppers at 5:30 pm followed by worship at 6:30 pm. This year's theme is "In Community." **The soup supper sign-up sheet is on the back window for you to share your delicious soup recipes.** May God bless you in your Lenten journey.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 11TH THRU FEBRUARY 25TH

Sunday, Feb 11	9:15 am 10:30 am	Genesis Study with Lynn Sunday Worship
Tuesday, Feb. 13	10:00 am	Book Study Chapters 9 & 10
Wednesday, Feb. 14	11:00 6:30 am	Scripture & Prayer Jim's Pizza Huron Ash Wednesday Service
Sunday, Feb. 18	9:15 am 10:30 am	Genesis Study with Lynn Sunday Worship
Tuesday, Feb. 20	7:00 pm	Church Council
Wednesday, Feb. 21	5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Lenten Soup Supper Lenten Worship
Sunday, Feb. 25	9:15 am 10:30 am	Genesis Study with Lynn Sunday Worship

February Birthdays

Feb. 3 – Kylie Ross
 10 - Ray Witt
 18 - David Voight
 Emily Young
 21 – Peg Kingsley

22 – Cara Stacy Spontelli
 23 – Sue Lucht
 24 – Dawson Dillender
 25 – Kevin Young
 Ted Call

Weekly Verse:

“The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord”
 Isaiah 11:2



EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

We will beautify our sanctuary with Easter flowers on Easter.
 Please place your order in the offering plate by **Sunday, March 3, 2024**
deadline to order.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: St. John’s Lutheran Church

DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
EASTER LILY 6”	\$14.00		
DAFFODIL 6”	\$12.00		
TULIP 6” (PINK)	\$12.00		
TULIP 6” (RED)	\$12.00		
TULIP 6” (YELLOW)	\$12.00		
6” is pot size			
	TOTAL		

NAME _____

IN LOVING MEMORY OF (Deceased) _____

IN HONOR OF (Living) _____