

“Did not our **hearts**
burn within us ...
while **he opened** to us
the **Scriptures**?”

Luke 24:32, ESV

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
April 19, 2026

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 19, 2026 Third Sunday of Easter

Welcome to Worship! Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

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

"Duke St." arr. B. Wayne Bisbee

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Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering

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

Please stand if you are able

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of **✝** Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” vs. 1-4

ELW 362

Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious king,
who has washed us in the tide
flowing from his wounded side. Alleluia!

2 Praise we Christ, whose love divine
gives his sacred blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast--
Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!

3 Where the paschal blood is poured
death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
paschal victim, paschal bread;
with sincerity and love
eat we manna from above. Alleluia!


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



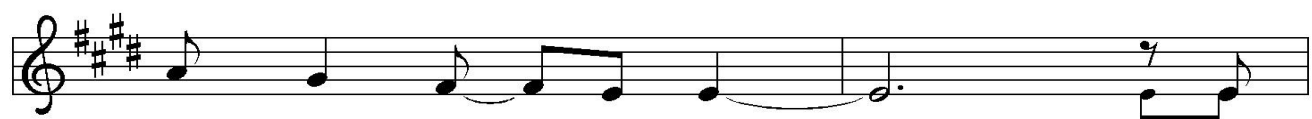
Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




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.

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

A reading from Acts.

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:

³⁶ "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him."

⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (Read responsively)

¹ I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

² **for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴ **Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."**

¹² How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶ O LORD, truly I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

A reading from 1 Peter.

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

Text and music © 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc., admin. Capitol Christian Music Group

G C D C G C
 Lord, I lift your name on high, Lord, I love to sing your
 D C G C D C
 prais - es. I'm so glad you're in my life,
 G C Dsus D G C
 I'm so glad you came to save us. You came from heav - en to earth
 D C G C
 to show the way, from the earth to the cross,
 D C G C
 my debt to pay; from the cross to the grave,
 D Em⁷ Am⁷ Dsus D G C/G G
 from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹ He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” ²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

Please be seated.

Youth Time

“Jesus Loves Me”

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868 Public Domain

Sermon

Please stand if you are able

Hymn of the Day

“You Are Mine”

ELW 581

You Are Mine



1 “I will come to you in the si - lence,
 2 “I am hope for all who are hope - less,
 3 “I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. To stanza 2
 Come and rest in me. To refrain
 all will know my name. To refrain
 up, now walk and live! To refrain



Refrain
 Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine.”

4 “I

Text: David Haas, b. 1957
 Music: YOU ARE MINE, David Haas
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The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

Prayers of the people:

Response: Merciful God. **receive our prayer.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Choir Offering

"Open Our Eyes, Lord" Josh Sparkman

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Arrangement ©2025 by the Wilds. All rights reserved.

Please stand if you are able

Offertory

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through 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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

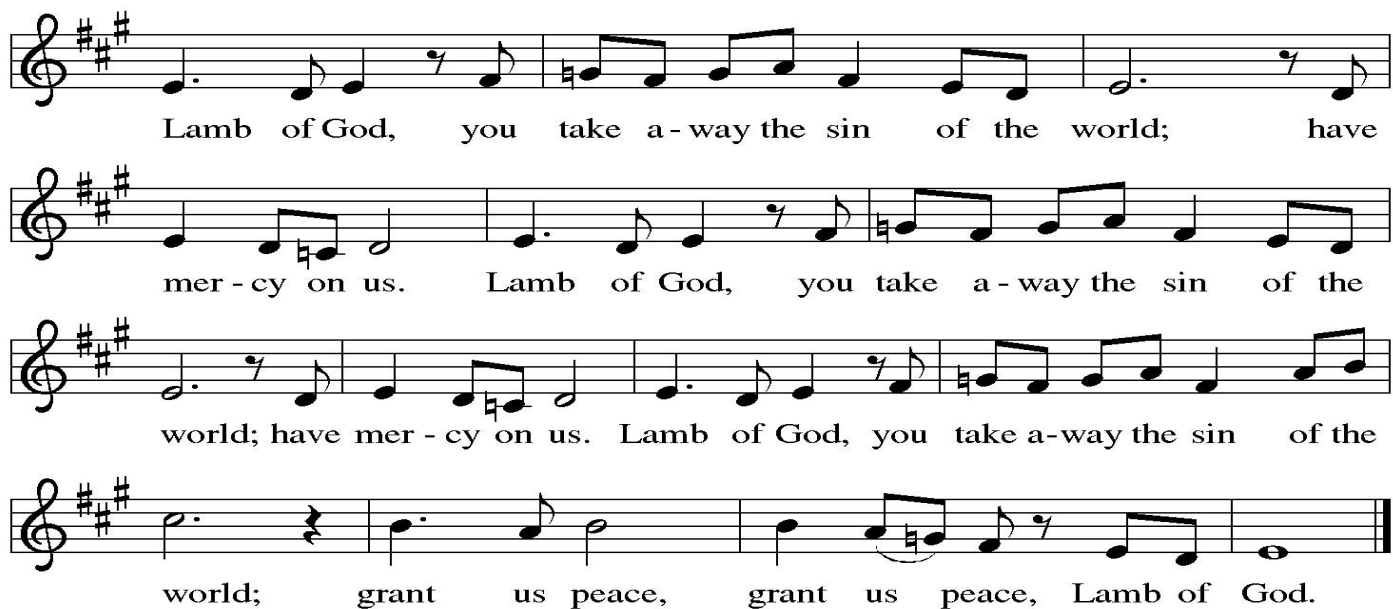
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

Invitation to Communion

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

“We Come to the Hungry Feast”

ELW 479

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

1 We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a word of peace.
To hungry hearts unsatisfied
the love of God is not denied.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

2 We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a world released
from hungry people of ev'ry kind,
the poor in body, poor in mind.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

3 We come to the hungry feast
hungry that the hunger cease,
and knowing, though we eat our fill,

the hunger will stay with us; still
we come, we come to the hungry feast.

Distribution Hymn

“Come, Let Us Eat”

ELW 491

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and adapt.

© 1972 *Contemporary Worship 4*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

1 (Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
(Our Lord's body let us take together,
our Lord's body let us take together.

2 (Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
(Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.

3 (In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest,
in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
(In the presence of our Lord we gather,
in the presence of our Lord we gather.

4 (Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,
rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.
(Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.

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.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" vs. 5-8

ELW 362

Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

5 Mighty victim from the sky,
hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;
you have conquered in the fight,
you have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy,
this alone can sin destroy!
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
now no more the grave enthrall;
you have opened paradise,
and your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Prelude

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

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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, Admin.	419-625-2192
	E-mail: Sandy8110@gmail.com
Nathan Samsa, Organist	Lay Reader: Jim Stauffer
Usher: Chuck Thompson	Communion Assistant:
Audio/Visual Tech: Melinda Zorn	Attendance: April 12 - 51
Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com	
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2026 The Year of the Way of Love. Welcome to 2026: The Way of Love! This year for our annual theme, we will be grounded in 1 John 4:19, “We love because he first loved us.”

Council asks the congregation to pray In this year of the Way of Love, council asks the congregation to pray that we follow Jesus' command to love one another as he loves us, even when that is challenging, and to remember that God's love is for ALL people.

Communion Clean-up today: Sue & Lynn Schlessman

April 26 – Set-up - Elizabeth Libben Cleanup – Sandy Thompson

Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help, please see Elizabeth Libben or Sandy Thompson.

New Member Sunday: On Sunday, April 26th, St. John's church family welcomes 6 new families. To welcome and connect with our new church members, please join us for a meet and greet after worship in the fellowship hall. We welcome The Cepec family: Joe, Stephanie, Tori and Geneva. The Snook family: Devon, Kendra, Mary, Lucas and

Mallory. The Bell family: Mike, Jen, Harper and Ellie. The Livingston family: Leianda and Hayley transfer from Zion Sandusky. The Boger family: Carolyn, Hunter and Lucie. Vicki Kluding transfers from Zion Sandusky. We give thanks for these new families and look forward to "Being a family of disciples, faithfully making Christ known".

Graduation is fast approaching! Please contact Sandy Thompson with names of our High School, Technical School or College graduates.

Thank you, members of St. John's!! Your generosity in support of **Lutheran Disaster Response** during our Lenten season and noisy collections raised \$1,274.45. Thank you for your servant and loving hearts to help those who are experiencing great need.

Happy Birthday to Allison Young, Kimberly Luman, Laura Knott and Jerrie Krawetzki. **Happy Anniversary** to Don and Vicki Johnson.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR APRIL 19TH THRU MAY 3RD

Sunday, April 19	9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Catechism Class Sunday School for Youth Worship
Tuesday, April 21	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Love is the Way Book Study Upper Rm. Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 22	5:30 pm 6:15 pm	Choir Practice Bell Practice
Sunday, April 26	9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Study with Lynn Sunday School service project Worship/New Member Fellowship Older youth (7 th and up) get together to plan fundraiser for National Youth Gathering
Wednesday, April 29	5:30 pm 6:15 pm	Choir Practice Bell Practice
Sunday, May 3	9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Catechism Class Sunday School plan worship service Worship

Dear Friends of Safe Harbour,

The Board of Trustees, Staff and Volunteers would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous donation of Easter Baskets for our survivors and their children. Special thanks to Dawn and Linda for delivering everything to our office. It is because of your generosity that Safe Harbour can offer the services to victims of domestic violence to provide for their safety, to help them heal and become independent survivors in our community. Sincerely, Hazel Foley, Executive Director

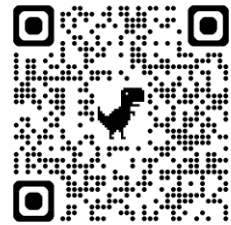
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