



**"LORD,
I BELIEVE."**

JOHN 9:38

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
March 15, 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

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Welcome to Worship! Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

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 welcome and thank Pastor Sarah Schaaf, Assist. to the Bishop for leading our worship today while Pastor Stacy is away. We welcome the members of Zion Huron today for worship. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

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

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our

sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate”

ELW 722

Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com.
800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission

1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev'ry human pain.
Its beating was the pulse of God;
its breadth, God's vast domain.
The heart of God, the heart of Christ
combined in perfect rhyme
to write God's love in human deeds,
eternity in time.

3 O Christ, create new hearts in us
that beat in time with yours,
that, joined by faith with your great heart,
become love's open doors.
We are your body, risen Christ;
our hearts, our hands we yield
that through our life and ministry
your love may be revealed.

2 As once you welcomed those cast down
and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another's pain
as though it were our own.

4 O Love that made the distant stars,
yet marks the sparrow's fall,
whose arms stretched wide upon a cross
embrace and bear us all:
come, make your church a servant church
that walks your servant ways,
whose deeds of love rise up to you,
a sacrifice of praise!

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.

Lenten Wreath

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

ELW 337

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Music: Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824 Public Domain

During the singing of “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” verse 1-3, a single candle on the Lenten wreath is extinguished. Our space becomes a little darker as we journey together toward the Passion of Christ.

- 1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
and did my sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head
for sinners such as I?
- 2 Was it for sins that I had done
he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
and love beyond degree!
- 3 Well might the sun in darkness hide
and shut its glories in
when God, the mighty maker, died
for his own creatures' sin.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

A reading from 1 Samuel.

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ²Samuel said,

“How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’”³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?”⁵ He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the LORD.”⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.”¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.”¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 23 (Read responsively)

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from Ephesians.

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

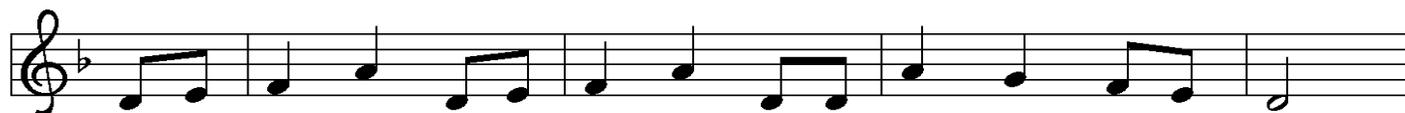
⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light,
⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

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

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

Gospel: John 9:1-41

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the

world.”⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes,⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?”⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.”¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?”¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.”¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.”¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided.¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind,²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.”²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.”²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes.³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.³³ If this man were not from

God, he could do nothing.”³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.”³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.”⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

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

Pastor Sarah Schaaf

Please stand if you are able

Hymn of the Day

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

ELW 779

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt. Public Domain

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see. | 2 | 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed! |
| 3 | Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home. | 4 | The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures. |
| 5 | When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun, | | we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun. |

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: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Offering

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt. Public Domain

Please stand if you are able

Offertory

"Create in Me a Clean Heart" Hillert

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offering Prayer

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our 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

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,
but guided us into the path of love and light.

In every age you sent prophets
to make known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become your own cry;
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
to preach good news to the afflicted,
to break bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.
Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.
Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.
Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,
we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.
Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, 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



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Distribution Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

ELW 793

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

Music: Irish traditional Public Domain

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Distribution Hymn

“O God of Mercy, God of Light”

ELW 714

Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

1 O God of mercy, God of light,
in love and mercy infinite,
teach us, as ever in your sight,
to live our lives in you.

2 You sent your Son to die for all,
that our lost world might hear your call;
oh, hear us lest we stray and fall!
We rest our hope in you.

3 Teach us the lesson Jesus taught:
to feel for those his blood has bought,
that ev'ry deed and word and thought
may work a work for you.

4 For all are kindred, far and wide,
since Jesus Christ for all has died;
grant us the will, and grace provide,
to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
may we each other's burdens share;
may we, where help is needed, there
give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move
all those who live to live in love,
till you receive in heav'n above
all those who live in you.

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.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

ELW 324

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872 Music: Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867 Public Domain

1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.

3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.

4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God.

Prelude

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872 Music: Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867 Public Domain

From Sunday and season.com. License #SAS103330

Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies

*New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-720241 All rights reserved.

Copyright License A 11364729 / Streaming License A 20657245 with permission under CCLI All rights reserved.

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: Connie Deehr

Usher: Chuck Thompson

Communion Assistant: Sandy Thompson

Audio/Visual Tech: Jason Shupe

Assisting Minister: Mary Snook

Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

Attendance: Mar. 1 - 60

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

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.”

In this season of Hope, Council asks the congregation to pray for those families coming to us as new members on April 26th, that they may find a welcoming spiritual home as they join the St. John’s family.

Communion Clean-up today: Sue & Lynn Schlessman

Mar. 22 – Set-up – Joleen Dillender

Cleanup – Sandy Thompson

29 – 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 Joleen Dillender or Sandy Thompson.

Easter Candy needed: St. John’s annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Easter Sunday at 9:45. If you would like to help, please bring individually wrapped candy to church by Sunday, March 22nd. A container will be at the handicap entrance for your candy donations.

The Easter Giving Tree is back!! The Faith Life Team needs your help in gathering items to fill Easter baskets for the Domestic Violence Shelter. Please take one or several tags to help with this giving ministry. Your items need to be returned by **March 31st**.

New Members: We will be welcoming new members on April 26. If you would like to join the St. John’s family, please let Pastor Stacy know by March 15.

New Book Study: “Love is the Way” by Bishop Michael Curry and Sara Grace. Walk the path of love with one of the warmest, most beloved spiritual leaders of our time, and learn how to put faith into action. The way of love is essential for addressing the seemingly insurmountable challenges facing the world today: poverty, racism, selfishness, deep ideological divisions, competing claims to speak for God. This book will lead readers to discover the gifts they need in order to live the way of love: deep reservoirs of hope and resilience, simple wisdom, the discipline of nonviolence, and unshakable regard for human dignity. **The new study begins on Tuesday, March 17th at 10:00 am at Panera Bread, Sandusky.**

Greeting Cards Available: Are you in need of a greeting card? Handmade greetings are available at the back of the sanctuary. The donations from your purchases will go to

The Season of Lent

Join us at St. John’s for special opportunities for fellowship and worship on Wednesday evenings during Lent beginning February 25th, featuring soup suppers at 5:30 pm followed by worship at 6:30 pm. We will begin our time in the fellowship hall and then move to the sanctuary for Holden Evening Prayer along with focus on the “Holy Lament”! **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.

Happy Birthday to Marcia Giordano and Bonny Ambos.

Church Council and Team Leaders were installed for the year 2026 on Feb. 15th. We are blessed to have the following leaders in place for 2026:

President:	Jeff Justi	Faith Life Rep:	Dawn Schlessman
VP:	Allison Young	Financial Team Rep:	Ron Zorn
Secretary:	Melinda Zorn	Property Team Rep:	Bill Deehr
Treasurer:	Ron Zorn	Young Adult Rep:	Jenna Stacy
Worship Team Rep:	Sandy Thompson	Endowment:	Bob Stacy
At Large Rep:	Mike Babiuch	At Large Rep:	Richard Schlessman

We thank Jerrie Krawetzki with gratitude for her service as an At Large Rep. of St. John’s Council. Many thanks. We also thank Richard Schlessman for accepting the At Large position.

ST. JOHN’S CALENDAR FOR MARCH 15TH THRU MARCH 29TH

Sunday, March 15	9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Sunday School K-12 Worship
Tuesday, March 17	10:00 am 7:00 pm	“Love is the Way” Book Study meets at Panera Bread Church Council
Wednesday, March 18	5:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Lenten Soup Supper Lenten Worship Choir Practice
Sunday, March 22	9:15 am	Study with Lynn

	9:15 am 10:30 am	Catechism Class and Sunday School K-4 Worship
Wednesday, March 25	5:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Lenten Soup Supper Lenten Worship Choir Practice
Sunday, March 29	9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Sunday School for all ages Worship

Holy Week Worship Opportunities

March 29 - Palm Sunday Worship - 10:30 am

April 2 – Maundy Thursday Joint Worship – 7:00 pm at Zion Lutheran Huron with celebration of Holy Communion

April 3 – Good Friday Joint Worship at St. John’s – 6:30 pm

Easter Sunday Schedule:

Easter Sunday, April 5

Easter Breakfast – 9:00 am

Easter egg hunt will be held for the youth at 9:45 am.

Easter Worship at 10:30 am with Holy Communion.

Note: only one service will be held on Easter morning.

Thank you St. John’s Congregation and Endowment Fund:

Thank you for your congregation’s gift of \$3500. I am so grateful for your generous support of Luth. World Relief! It is because of caring congregations like yours that Luth. World Relief has been able to serve our hurting world for 80 years, and it is because of your compassion that our ministry together will continue helping children and families who need it most. Your always in Christ, Daniel Speckhard, Pres. And CEO

Thank you for your gift of \$1,000. We are thrilled to receive your recent gift to further our ministry of Gospel proclamation, discipleship and healing among Native people. Your gift is a blessing to children and families you may never meet this side of heaven, but on their behalf, I thank you! With heartfelt gratitude, Robert Heffle, MSW (Inupiat Eskimo) Executive Director

Thank you for your donation of \$500. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness, generosity and support. Best wishes, Melissa Gundlach, HSEC Exe. Director

Thank you for your generous grant of \$2,000.00 to help us provide some comfort to the less fortunate, by serving warm meals, during these cold & frigid days. Because of your support we are able to provide nutritious meals for breakfast and lunch. We also provide pantry items, produce, and bakery items as available. God bless you according to His Word. In the love of Christ, Rev. David "Luke" Walters

Thank you for your recent gift of \$2500.00, restricted for the Transportation Fund, to Luther Home of Mercy. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. May God's abiding love guide you and fill the year ahead with renewed joy, lasting peace and hope. We appreciate Jim Semon, Sr. for sharing our ministries. Thank you! Melissa Gregg, Director of Mission Advancement and Megan O'Brien, Vice President