

St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Serving Christ in Freedom

Worship • Stewardship • Mission

April 4, 2021

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EASTER DAY – The Resurrection of our Lord

- **7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service with Communion:** *Printed Service Folder*
- **9:30 a.m. Easter Festival Service with Communion:** *Printed Service Folder*
Sermon & Text: "He Is Risen, Indeed. You Are Risen, Indeed." *Isaiah 25:6–9*
Hymns: **457 ~ 482 ~ 479** ~ [Communion: **633, 466**] ~ **477**

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS *CHRIST IS RISEN – HE IS RISEN INDEED! We greet those who are visiting with us today in the name of our Risen Savior. We are gathered as a community of Christians. Our center is Jesus Christ. We are here to know again the touch of His forgiving and healing hand. Please help us get to know who you are by introducing yourself to our pastor and by filling out the blue Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you. Please drop it in the basket at the door. Thank you!*



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ✠ Sharon Damman, *Organist* ✠
- ✠ Bob Norden, Elmer Maassel, Denny Behnfeldt, Ted Ripke, *Ushers* ✠
- ✠ Mary Kay Rettig, Sandy Von Deylen, Kathy Badenhop, *Altar Guild* ✠

MOURNING THE LOSS: Our sister, Renetta Homan, 95, passed away on Thursday March 25, 2021, at the Laurels of Defiance. Renetta's funeral service took place here at St. John on Tues., March 30th at 11:00 AM, with burial following in St. John Lutheran Cemetery, where Renetta will await the resurrection on the last day. Renetta's children, Gene, Nancy, Brenda, and their families will miss her greatly and so we ask that you keep them all in your prayers at this time of sorrow.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY – Sunday School, "The Lamp", and the Adult Bible Class will not be meeting this morning. We will resume classes next Sunday.

In God's House This Week *Online church calendar: <https://74058984.view-events.com>*

Date	Time	Activities
Today	7:00AM 9:30 AM	Easter Sunrise Service with Communion Easter Festival Service with Communion
Mon.		**NO SCHOOL – EASTER BREAK (return on Tues., Apr. 6th)**
Tue.	8:20 AM 8:35 AM 6:00 PM	Classes resume School Chapel School Board Meeting
Wed.	3:30 PM 6:15 PM	Lady Eagles Basketball Skills Camp (<i>see bulletin note</i>) Midweek Confirmation Class
Thurs.	6:30 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Bible Breakfast in fellowship hall Thursday Evening Worship Service
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	Worship Service w/Communion following Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.- Sat.	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM Speaker: <i>Rev. James Fundum</i> , Immanuel Lutheran – Hamler

FOR THOSE LISTENING FROM THE PARKING LOT

Pick up your bulletin and service by driving through the carport before worship

You can give your offering to the deacon at the same time

Tune your FM radio to 87.7

Drive-thru Communion after worship under carport

MATTERS FOR PRAYER – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- ❖ *Melba Elling and Lorna Von Deylen*, at Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Evelyn Rohrs and Ruth Mahnke*, at Assisted Living – Genacross Lutheran Home
- ❖ *Harold Behrmann*, at Fulton Manor, Wauseon
- ❖ *Donald Badenhop*, at Vancrest Nursing Care Facility, Holgate
- ❖ *Donald Landry*, residing at the Ohio Veteran's Home, Sandusky
- ❖ Armed Services: *Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Schroeder, and Jared Dishop*
- ❖ *Sue Hurst, Rev. Logan Scheiwe, Eileen Fitzenreiter, and Patty Badenhop*, for health concerns relating to cancer
- ❖ *Crew Gerken*, born prematurely and in the NICU at Riverside Hospital, Columbus
- ❖ *Norma Damman*, recuperating at Genacross Lutheran Home after a recent fall
- ❖ *Casen Lawrence* (Dan & Deb Wachtman's grandson), who has been experiencing more frequent seizures, that God may quell the seizures and restore his health.
- ❖ *Jim Rosebrock*, home recuperating after a recent hospitalization

COVID-19 MEASURES – The two most important things we can do to prevent the spread of viruses

are 1) social distancing, and 2) wearing a mask when entering and exiting the building, and when singing or speaking. Masks can be removed during longer periods of listening, such as Scripture readings, sermon, prayers, etc.

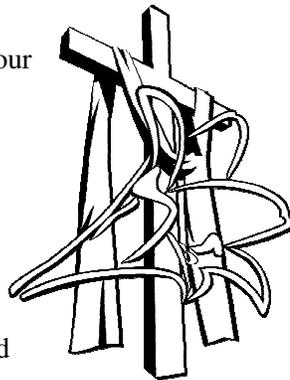
Happy Easter

If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain... But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.” (1 Cor. 15:17, 20)

It is good to be here to celebrate our day of days, the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. The morning schedule is as follows:

- **7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service**
- **NO BREAKFAST THIS YEAR DUE TO COVID**
- **9:30 a.m. Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion**

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this day a day of rejoicing and celebration --- to the tech crew for streaming the service to those who could not be with us today, to the ushers, altar guild members, and for everyone who supplied flowers. In all our service, and in all we do and say, may our lives proclaim the risen Savior.



Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

EASTER FLOWERS – We thank everyone who made donations this year to help supply Easter flowers for our worship. Those who bought Easter flowers (other than lilies) in “honor of” or in “memory of” are listed in the lilac colored bulletin insert today. If you ordered flowers, or made a donation for Easter lilies, please feel free to take them with you after the late service this morning. Your gift is a beautiful adornment to God’s House on this festival day, a reminder of the new life that we have in Christ, our Risen Savior. *Martin Luther himself was an avid gardener and loved flowers, and once said that if he “might only go on living, he would joyfully be a gardener.”* Thank you for sharing their beauty once again!



2020 CHURCH’S ANNUAL REPORT: There are about 40 copies available on the desk and table in the narthex following the service today. There will be more printed and available next Sunday. Thanks to everyone for your information submitted to be included in this report.

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES RESUME NORMAL SCHEDULE – Now that we are through the season of Lent, we will return to our normal schedule for Thursday services. Each Thursday service will be a ‘preview’ of the following Sunday service. Once again the *Sacrament of the Altar* will be celebrated on the Thursday evenings prior to the first and third Sundays of each month. Services on Thursday evenings are at 7:00 p.m.

BALCONY SEATING DURING WORSHIP – With livestreaming and recording of our services taking place from the balcony, we ask that as much as possible the congregation be seated in the *nave* (the main seating area of the sanctuary) so that the microphones don’t pick up extraneous sounds from the balcony. If you feel that you need to sit in the balcony because of the fullness of the sanctuary and for social distancing reasons, please keep that in mind that the microphones are nearby. *Thank you!*

<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 03/28/21	\$10,165.00	\$155.00	\$202.00

ATTENDANCE: Sunday – 137

THURSDAY LENTEN #6 SERVICE: \$520.00 – Worship Anew; Attendance: 40
 \$150.00 – The Lutheran Hour Broadcast

MEMORIALS received for *Sharon Badenhop*: St. John Building Fund - \$1,550.00
 St. John Endowment Fund – Mission & Outreach - \$1,550.00
 St. John Endowment Fund – School Acct. - \$63.00

THREE WAYS TO GIVE YOUR REGULAR OFFERIG

- Deposit your offering in the narthex when you come to worship, or if you're listening to the FM broadcast, give your offering to the usher or deacon when they hand you your bulletin.
- Use the 'Give Now' online giving page – a link (the blue button) is on our website.
- Mail your offering to the church.

LWML QUARTERLIES & ODES are available in the tract rack in the narthex. These are available for all women of the congregation. Please pick up a copy today!

WOMEN OF FREEDOM TO RESUME MEETINGS: The Women of Freedom will be meeting again beginning in April (April 20th). We will plan to begin meeting as usual on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. All women are invited to come to our meetings. Hope to see you on the 20th!

PORTALS OF PRAYERS for *April, May, June*, are available on the desk in the narthex. There are also large print booklets available for anybody to pick up.



FINISHING THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW PROJECT – Pastor Niermann reported at the last voters' meeting that because of increased costs, the donation for our stained glass windows in memory of Juanita Thorpe by her family (Juanita was Pastor Maassel's daughter) will be approximately \$7,500 short of completing the project. This is approximately the amount needed for the final two windows. The family has opted not to complete the financing for the project, **so the church council has decided to begin receiving congregational gifts toward its completion.** If you care to give a donation and become part of this project, please include your special gift with your regular offering, and make note of it on the outside of the envelope.

Also starting now, families who would like a portion of their loved one's memorial

gifts to go toward this project may do so in consultation with the pastor in accordance with the Stewardship Board's Memorial Gift guidelines.

LWML SPRING RALLY - The Women of Freedom are invited to the Napoleon Zone Spring Rally to be held at Emmaus Lutheran Church, Wauseon, on Saturday, April 24th with registration and at 8:30 AM and the program following from 9-11:15 AM. The guest speaker will be *Madalyn Short*, Director of Family Life Ministry, Living Word Lutheran Church, Galena, OH. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information. The theme this year is "Family Life Ministry in Practice."

OPTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION DURING COVID - During this time of pandemic, we are making Holy Communion available in the following ways:

- **Thursday evening Communion services** prior to first and third Sundays
- **First and Third Sundays each month** – in the Sanctuary, and drive-thru after the service
- **Second Sundays** – after the service in the sanctuary



Drive-thru Communion is on the first and third Sundays for those who have participated in the Divine Service from the parking lot.

PTL SPRING FLOWER FUNDRAISER ENDS APRIL 7TH: The PTL Spring Flower sale is underway and will run thru Wed., April 7th. There are numerous varieties (36) of flowering plants and hanging baskets to pick from. To order online go to www.fundraiseit.org, and enter the church's Web Sale Code (**C44EE**). Enter your email address and click "submit." Click on the shop now URL. If you can't order online, use the yellow order forms available on the narthex table and return them to the office with payment to St. John PTL. These flowers and hanging baskets are coming to us thru Foertmeyer & Sons Greenhouse. The profit from this fundraiser will be used toward the school's technology. Orders will be delivered on May 13th. Please contact Ashley Crall at 419-966-0067 or email her at aellingcrall@yahoo.com with any questions you may have. Think spring!

THE SPRING S.T.O.P. PENNY DRIVE! Save Those Old Pennies!!! Classrooms—get your pennies gathered up for the PTL Spring Penny Drive! This has begun and continues thru Fri., April 23rd. This year we are reverting back to collecting the most pennies by classroom. The classroom collecting the most pennies will be given a pizza party, while the remaining classrooms will be given an ice cream treat for participating. **If any congregation member has pennies to contribute, please leave them on the narthex table. If you choose, you may leave a note with which classroom you wish for them to go. Otherwise they will be divided amongst the classrooms.**

ATHLETIC RECOGNITION: The Athletic Banquet will take on a different look this year. It will be an Athletic Recognition program. There will not be a potluck meal held with this program. This will be held on Sun., April 18th beginning at 4 PM. Special guests will be high school senior athletes who will share their experience with academics and athletics at the high school level.

LADY EAGLES SKILLS CAMP: Coach Schroeder will be conducting a Lady Eagles Elite Skills Basketball Camp at St. John from 3:30 – 5:00 PM on April 7, 12, 21, 28, May 3, 10, 17. This is open to any congregation member/student in Grades K-4. Flyers located on the narthex table. For questions, please call Coach Schroeder at 419-591-6655. Let's go Eagles!

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT: The St. John Lutheran Preschool is now accepting enrollment applications for 2021-22 school year. Anyone interested in enrolling your child in our preschool program should contact the school office at 419-598-8702 to request an enrollment packet. We are now opening the registration up to the public as of Feb. 2, 2021, so be sure to register soon. There is a non-refundable \$30 registration fee that must accompany your registration. Here are the School Board approved rates for the 2021-2022 school year: 3-yr old Preschool - \$80/month; 4/5-yr old Preschool - \$210/month.

KINDERGARTEN CLINIC & ELIGIBILITY for students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2021! The St. John K-clinic will be held on Thursday, April 29th beginning at 1:00 PM. **St. John Lutheran School's eligibility date for entering Kindergarten is that a child must be five years old on or before September 30th to enroll in Kindergarten.** Items needed for our St. John clinic are: An original and/or certified copy of their birth certificate; a physical dated after August 2020 (*if available*); immunization records; Social Security number; child custody documents if applicable; and the baptism date/baptismal certificate, or dedication date. *NOTE: If your child is enrolled in our Preschool program, we already have this information and you will not need to bring them the day of the clinic.*

KINDERGARTEN HALF DAY! Please note that on Thurs., April 29th (*the day of the K-garten Clinic*), the Kindergarten class will dismiss at 11:20 AM. Please make pick up arrangements at that time for your child on April 29th. Thank you!

ST. JOHN SCRIP: Scrip orders will be received on Wednesdays, ordered on Fridays and delivered on the following Tuesday. Order forms are posted on FastDirect under 'Links,' titled SCRIP Order Forms and SCRIP Program Info, there are also hard copies on the table in the narthex and in the 'School Info' rack outside the office. Payment must accompany orders. **Any questions about SCRIP can be directed to the SCRIP Coordinator Kristyn Honemann at 419-966-0207 or email at honemann@embarqmail.com.**

FELLOWSHIP HALL SETUP CREW NEEDS YOU! The ministry team that sets up the fellowship hall for funerals or special events could use a little extra help. They typically set up on evenings prior to an event, so you don't need to be retired to help out. If you can serve with this helping ministry, please speak with Pastor Niermann or Joyce Wiechers so we can get you added to the crew.

CHURCH HISTORY BOOKS – If at any time during the year you need a gift for a current or former member of St. John, why not consider one of our Church History Books. This book is full of interesting facts about St. John's and is available in the church office at a cost of \$12.00.

IF YOU'RE EVER IN A PINCH and could use a little help, the *Good Neighbor Fund* is there to assist you too! Please don't be bashful about asking – everything is strictly confidential. Just give Pastor Niermann a call, and we'll see what we can do!

DRIVE-THRU BBQ CHICKEN DINNER: The Ridgeville Sons of the American Legion invite you to their Drive-Thru BBQ Chicken Dinner at the Legion Hall on County Road 19, on Sun., April 11th from 11:00 AM until sold out. On the menu: ½ BBQ chicken, Baked Potato, Roll, and Cookie. The cost is \$10. Hope to see you there!

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Easter is the one time it's okay to put all your eggs in one basket!

"Trust in the Lord with ALL your heart." (Prov 3:5)

For "He is risen, as He said." (Matt 28:6)