

March 31, 2024

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NO. 13

Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

Church: 419-598-8961 Home: 419-598-8181  
School: 419-598-8702  
Church Website: [www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)

### EASTER DAY – The Resurrection of our Lord

- **Sunrise Service:** *Printed Service Folder*
- Sermon & Text: **“1 is the Biggest Number”** *Matthew 28:5-6*
- Hymns: 467 ~ 457 ~ 465 (*interspersed with readings*) ~ 478 ~ 475 ~ 490 ~ 466
  
- **Easter Festival Service with Communion (9:30 AM):** *Printed Service Folder*
- Sermon: **“A Jarring New Reality”** *Mark 16:8*
- Hymns: 463 ~ 478 ~ 488 ~ 465 ~ (Communion: 548, 474, 633) ~ 461

**Choir Anthem, both services:** “Easter Acclamation”

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**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 and drop it in the baskets at the doors as you leave.*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

1<sup>st</sup> Service: ✠ Evelyn Szabo, Erin Damman, *Acolytes* ✠

2<sup>nd</sup> Service: ✠ Zeek Kramer, Cayden Ruffer, *Acolytes* ✠

✠ Sharon Damman, Elaine Buenger, *Organists* ✠

✠ Denny Von Deylen, Dan Wiechers, Jerry Short, Dave Badenhop, *Ushers* ✠

✠ Deb Von Deylen, Elaine Buenger, Teresa Weller, *Altar Guild* ✠

**EASTER FLOWERS** – Those who bought Easter flowers to beautify the sanctuary for Easter are listed in the bulletin insert today. You may take your flowers home after the 9:30 AM Easter Festival Service (2<sup>nd</sup> Service) today. Thank you for sharing their beauty once again!

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Today	<b>7:00 AM</b> 8:00AM <b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Easter Sunrise Service</b> Easter Fellowship Breakfast <b>Easter Festival Service</b>
Mon.		NO SCHOOL – Easter Break
Tues.	8:20 AM <b>8:35 AM</b> 6:00 PM	Classes resume <b>School Chapel</b> <i>GriefShare</i> Ministry Support Group ( <i>until 7:30 PM</i> )
Wed.	5:15 PM 6:45 PM	School Board Meeting Midweek Confirmation Class ( <i>until 7:30 PM</i> )
Thurs.	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study Breakfast Kindergarten Clinic ( <i>Parents come at 1:30 PM</i> )
Sun.	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:20AM 1:30 PM	<b>Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp" 4-H Meetings – Gerald Busy Fingers & Cloverbuds

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

- ❖ *Melba Elling* and *Norma Damman*, at Genacross
- ❖ *Lawrence Behrmann*, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab
- ❖ Our Shut-Ins: *Irene Joost*, *Leona Durham*, and *Elaine Mahnke*
- ❖ Military: *Justin Atkinson*, *Jason Rohrs*, *Emily Carmon*, *Jared Dishop*, *Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Alan Gruenhagen*, *Lowell Petzoldt*, *Sue Hurst*, *Dave Crandall*, dealing with health concerns related to cancer
- ❖ *Aimee Naveau*, recovering from injuries sustained in a serious car accident
- ❖ *Bev Elling*, recovering at the rehab center at the Lakes of Monclova facility
- ❖ *Elaine Hesterman*, moved to Genacross – Napoleon for rehab following a stroke
- ❖ *Arlene Gruenhagen*, recovering from shoulder surgery this past Monday

**CHILDREN'S EASTER 'BAG-SKETS'** – The Stewardship Board is planning something special for the children of the congregation and any friends that may be here today. Much as we hand out treat bags at Christmas, we have ***Easter Bag-skets*** to give to the children today! Join us this morning for worship, breakfast, and a little something special for the young ones!

**MEN'S BREAKFAST AND BIBLE STUDY!**

The men's Breakfast Bible Study will meet again this Thursday morning, April 4, at 6:30 a.m. We hope you can make it as we enjoy a wonderful breakfast menu, and grow together in fellowship, in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord!

# EASTER HE IS RISEN

## THE PASCHAL GREETING

A happy and blessed Easter to all! Today we greet one another, "**Christ is risen.**" "**He is risen indeed**" (to this greeting we might also add a few 'alleluias').

This ancient Paschal greeting, also known as the Easter Acclamation or Easter Day Greeting, is an Easter custom among many Christian churches, ours included. The word, 'Paschal,' is derived from the Hebrew word, Pesah, meaning 'Passover,' for it was on the occasion of the Jewish Passover that the saving events of our Lord's death, burial and resurrection all played out. In Christ, the Jewish Passover found fulfillment, for now the angel of death can do us no harm, but must pass over all who are risen with Christ by faith and baptism. Alleluia!

Credits for the origin of the Paschal Greeting vary. However, the phrase "Christ is risen" is likely a shortened piece from Matthew 28:5-6, "The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; **he has risen**, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."

There are two competing theories for the source of the response, "He is risen indeed." The first follows the legend, not biblical, when Mary Magdalene brought an egg (the first Easter egg) to Emperor Tiberius and greeted him with the words, "Christ is risen." Tiberius was naturally skeptical, but God confirmed that Mary's testimony was indeed true by turning the egg red. This, of course, is mere legend. In truth, the response comes from the Gospel of Luke 24:33-34 "There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, **'It is true! The Lord has risen'** and has appeared to Simon."

Regardless of the source, the phrase has become part of the Christian tradition. The joyful greeting celebrates our faith in the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

*He is risen indeed!*

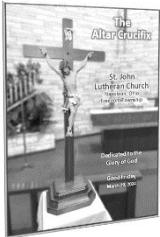


## EASTER MORNING AT ST. JOHN

- 7:00am Easter Sunrise Service – "One is the Biggest Number"
- 8:00am Fellowship Breakfast – Easter bags for the children
- 9:30am Easter Festival Service, Holy Communion – "A Jarring New Reality"

**ARCHIVES DISPLAY:** The Archives Display has been finished and is showcasing the 2023-2024 St. John School students, teachers, and staff; field trips; St. John high school sports students; and pictures of the Ladies Aid Mother-Daughter Banquets of the past and more. Stop by and enjoy the variety of pictures. Thank you to the Archives Committee for this nice feature!

**CHANGES IN WORSHIP SLIDES** – In view of Pastor Niermann’s pending retirement, it is necessary that the task of preparing worship slides be handed off to another individual. Currently, Pastor Niermann is working on this transition with a member of the church who kindly volunteered to take this on. However, the transition will require some changes. You will notice that we are scaling back worship slides to the basics – a theme slide to set the tone for worship, hymn slides, and the Steward**MINUTE** slide for the offering. This means that we will need to make more extensive use of our hymnals to follow the liturgies, and the back side of the bulletin to read along with the Scriptures. To help in this process, a slide at the beginning of worship will relate helpful information on getting your hymnal ready with ribbon markers so that you can navigate the service more easily.



**NEW ALTAR CRUCIFIX** – This past Friday evening, at the beginning of our Good Friday Tenebrae service, the new altar crucifix, which you see before you this morning, was blessed and dedicated for service in God’s house as a permanent fixture in the Lord’s sanctuary. To learn more about this crucifix in particular, and about the history and use of the crucifix in general, Pastor Niermann has prepared a booklet that you can pick up from the narthex table this morning. If you get a moment, please come near to the altar to get an up-close look at this beautiful work of art, and the care and detail that went into it.

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

**LWML SPRING RALLY** - The Napoleon Zone Spring Rally will be held at St. John Lutheran, Stryker, Ohio, on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> with registration at 8:30am followed by the program at 9am. The speaker will be Judy Kaufmann, who will share news about her mission trip to Malawi in Africa. The ingathering will be new socks and underwear for men, women and children to be donated to Orphan Grain Train. See flyer for more information!

**AMAZING ARTWORK**: The students of St. John School have been busy in art class this school year. They have created some amazing drawings and 3D images. Please take a few extra minutes to stroll down the back hallway to enjoy some of the fun projects they have completed.

**NEW BOOKS!** The St. John Church Library is located in the hallway west of the sanctuary. Many new books have been recently added to its shelves including: "Objections Overruled III, Answering Arguments Against Christianity", "Reading Isaiah With Luther", "The Work Of His Hands, A View of God's Creation From Space", and "Luther, The Graphic Novel". Just take any book you wish at any time and return it in the basket provided when finished.

<b><u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u></b>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 03/24/24	\$7,500.00	\$100.00	\$400.00

**ATTENDANCE:** Sunday – 204

**LENTEN SERVICE (3/20/24):** *SJL Mission Endowment Fund - \$831.00; Attendance: 66*



**GRIEF SHARE** is a class offered here at St. John for those grieving the loss of a loved one. We meet on Tuesday evenings, 6 - 7:30 p.m., from now until May 21. It is led by the team of Nancy Nemoyer, a member of St. John and Rev. Robert Bartz, interim pastor of Emmaus Lutheran, Wauseon. Learn more or register to attend at [www.griefshare.org/groups/177431](http://www.griefshare.org/groups/177431). Pray for

the comfort of the participants and the wisdom of the leaders.

**THIS WEEK'S TOPIC** is *Anger – When it All Seems so Unfair*. A normal, yet powerful, response to loss, anger can give you energy to make changes, to advocate for others, or it can get out of control. God's gift of forgiveness can play an important role in managing this powerful emotion and finding peace.

**VBS 2024** **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – STAFF RECRUITMENT SOON**  
A director for our 2024 VBS has come forward, so very soon we will begin making plans to recruit a staff so that work can begin. Tentatively we are looking at the dates of June 10-14 (Monday – Friday) for our VBS. Please look for more information coming out soon, and consider serving the children of our church, school and community by preparing to volunteer as a member of our 2024 VBS staff. Thank you!

**PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT** – The St. John Lutheran Preschool is now accepting enrollment applications for 2024-25 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.

**KINDERGARTEN CLINIC & ELIGIBILITY**: For students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2024, our Kindergarten clinic will be held this Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. There WILL BE Kindergarten class as usual on the 4<sup>th</sup>. **St. John Lutheran School's eligibility date for entering Kindergarten is that a child must be five years old on or before September 30<sup>th</sup> to enroll in Kindergarten.**

**PROJECT CONNECT** – There are many free booklets in the rack in the narthex. Be sure to check for some informative reading. Some titles are: *“Alzheimer's: Facing the Loss of a Lifetime,” “Talking with God,” “Forgiveness is a Choice,” “Talking Openly with Kids,” “Setting Priorities,” “Your Place in God's Plan,” “Stressed but Connected,” “Beyond Divorce,” “For Better, For Worse,” “What Is Faith in Jesus?”* and many more. These booklets are furnished through the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

**COLLECTING STAMPS**: The LWML is collecting stamps “For Missions.” A box is on the table in the narthex. Here is what you do: Cut the stamps from the envelopes allowing ¼+ inch margin around the stamp. The stamp may not be damaged and the perforations around the stamp must be perfect. You need not trim the stamp. Do not remove stamps from envelopes, albums, and older postcards. An “old” postcard is usually from 1930 or before. The most valuable stamps are commemorative, foreign, and stamp denominations larger than 46 cents. Collecting stamps is an easy way to participate in a mission project sponsored by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

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### **Food For Thought...**

**Flowers are optional, but there will be no visitation. He's alive!**

*“But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.” (1Corinthians 15:20)*

**HE HAS  
RISEN!**



LifeWay | Kids