

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 AND SUNDAY, APRIL 27

2nd Weekend of Easter (Holy Hilarity)



Pastor Chris Schoon Phone: 815-498-3810 • Cell: 815-768-7452 • Email: pastor@elcastjohns.org

Worship Services: Saturdays at 5:00pm • Sundays at 9:45am

Parish Education: Sunday School - Grades Pre-K to 6th - 8:30am • Adult Forum - 8:30am
Confirmation - Grades 7 & 8 - Wednesdays 6:30pm

Church Office Hours: Tues-Thurs 9am-2pm • Fri 9am-12pm

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UPCOMING EVENTS

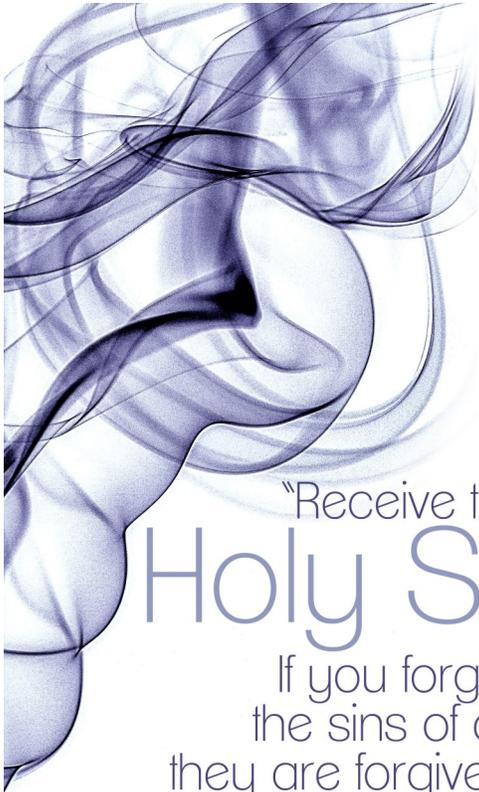
for the week of
April 27 – May 4

Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship (Holy Hilarity)
Tuesday	10am Reading Buddies
Wednesday	8:00am - 3:00pm Preschool Screening 6:30pm Confirmation @ Salem
Saturday	12:00pm Ladies Luncheon 5:00pm Worship - Rev. Tom Rogers
Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship - Rev. Tom Rogers

Sign up for the
Ladies Luncheon
May 3, 2025 • 12:00 pm



READING BUDDIES
TUESDAY, APRIL 29TH
Sign up in the Welcome Center to read with Wendy Merkel's kindergarten class.



"Receive the Holy Spirit.
If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
John 20:22-23, NRSV

Offering 4/19 & 4/20	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	\$4,586.15	\$77,024.55
Capital Fund	\$521.91	\$6,739.64
Habitat for Humanity	\$100.00	\$631.13

Prayer Requests

Mary Bark	Sharon Goode	James Moris
Lance Davenport	Mary Ann Hulon	Lonnie Murray
Marion Gaffney	Jen	Sharon Rhea's son, Jeff
Lee Gehrke	Karen	Larry Rogers
Gianna	Linda Martin	Shelly
Dean Gibson		Lynn Skryzpiec
Jim Gletty		Jack & Evelyn Smith
		Jackie Wendland
		Susan White

Dates to Remember

Month	Date	Occasion
APRIL	29	READING BUDDIES
MAY	3	LADIES LUNCHEON
MAY	11	CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
MAY	25	WORSHIP TIME CHANGE TO 9AM

Prelude
Welcome & Announcements
Introduce Holy Hilarity Weekend

Please stand as you are able.

Easter Call to Worship

P: Hold your head high, Christ has risen!

C: **Rejoice and shout! Death has been conquered!**

A: All that was broken has been made whole.

C: **All that was dislocated has been set right.**

P: Christ has risen! Christ has come calling us home.

C: **To a world where truth and justice triumph, to a place where abundance flourishes, to a community where generosity flourishes.**

A: Hold your head high, Alleluia, Christ has risen!

C: **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The Second Call to Worship:

P: Smiling is infectious. You catch it like the flu.

C: **When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling, too.**

P: I passed around the corner, and someone saw my grin.

C: **When they smiled I realized I'd passed it on to them.**

P: I thought about that smile. Then I realized its worth.

C: **A single smile just like mine could travel the whole earth.**

P: So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected.

C: **Let's start a craze, and get the world affected!**

Confession & Forgiveness (*based on John 20: 19-31*)

P: We pray:

C: **Must we see you in order to believe you, Lord? Is seeing truly believing? Are we to be prisoners of our senses, distrusting and rejecting whatever we cannot see, touch, or hear? Yet you are faithful—you give sight to the blind, you carry us when we are weary, you call us to your side. The locked room of our hearts opens at the turn of your key. Speak your words of life to us again: "Do not doubt, only believe." Speak your words of life, that we might live.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

God's Words of Assurance

P: The peace of God be with you. Receive God's forgiveness and the promise of the Spirit, for Jesus is risen from the dead. Seen or unseen, he is present in our midst, and we see the presence of Christ reflected in each other's faces. Happy are those who have not seen, yet have come to believe.

C: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn ELW 384 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

Greeting

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

C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie (on screen)

Prayer of the Day

P: O God of life,

C: **you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, 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.

A: The **First Reading** for this 2nd weekend of Easter comes from the Book of Acts Chapter 5 verses 27-32

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

A: Our Psalm for today is **Psalm 118** verses 14-29

¹⁴The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:**

"The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!

¹⁶The right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.**

¹⁸The Lord indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

²⁰"This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter."

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵**Hosanna! O Lord, save us! We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days!**

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷**The Lord is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.**

²⁸You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹**Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God's mercy endures forever.**

A: The **Second Reading** comes from Revelation Chapter 1 verses 4-8

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 20th Chapter

C: **Glory to you O Lord.**

Gospel: John 20:19-31

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 635 We Walk By Faith

Apostle's Creed

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: **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.**

Prayers of Intercession

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A: ... Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: **Amen.**

The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us offer to each other the sign of peace.

The congregation may shake one another's hand. If you do not wish to shake hands, please hold your hands in a prayer position and bow to the other person.

Offering & Noisy Offering

Please stand as you are able.

Offering Prayer

P: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: **Amen.**

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Gathered at and around the Lord's table, we remember with thanksgiving that *"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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.'"*

The Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray together the words our Savior gave us:

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Holy Communion is served.

Communion Hymn ELW 469 By Your Hand You Feed Your People
ELW 474 Bread of Life From Heaven

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

A: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: **Amen.**

Blessing

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn W&P 53 Great is the Lord

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

A: May you know the glee of the Lord Jesus Christ,
The mirth of God,
And the laughter of the Holy Spirit today and always.

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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