



**Saturday,
April 4, 2026**

Easter *Vigil*

St. John's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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 5-12

Sunday	6:30am Sunrise Service at St. John's Cemetery 9:45am Worship
Wednesday	6:30pm Confirmation @ Salem 7:00pm Growing Hope Globally Meal & Presentation
Saturday	5:00pm Worship
Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship



Offering 3/28 and 3/29	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	\$1,636.14	\$37,150.39
Capital Fund	\$60.00	\$3,663.80
Lenten Meals	\$214.00	\$852.95
Bruce Wold Memorial	\$1,430.00	\$1,630.00
Men's Breakfasts	\$52.00	\$434.00
Sunday School	\$100.00	\$710.99

Growing Hope Globally overseas guest from Timor Leste, Africa will be at St. John's on Tuesday, April 7th. Please join us at 6:00PM for dinner and his presentation about the impact of our work in his country. Please let Jerry or Toni Lundeen know if you plan to attend so that we can plan for the meal.

Prayer Requests		
Mary Bark	Mary Ann Hulon	Kay Nelson
Mary Carlson	Rhea Lumsden	Matt Potter
Lance Davenport	Linda Martin	Roger & Helen
Judy Erickson	Doris Miller's	Larry Rogers
Lee Gehrke	brother, Curt	Shelly
Marlyn Glover	James Moris	Lynn Skryzpiec
Sharon Goode	Becky Morphej	Lois Spizziri
Mike Hamer	Lonnie Murray	Rosemary Underwood
		Jackie Wendland
		Cindy Westbrook
		Susan White

Dates to Remember		
Month	Date	Occasion
APRIL	7	GHG DINNER AND PRESENTATION
APRIL	19	SUNDAY SURPRISE SOCIAL HOUR

Prelude Welcome & Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Dialogue

- P:** This is the day that you have made, life-giving God. Joining with angels and archangels and with the chorus that is rising throughout all the earth,
- C:** **we will rejoice and be glad this day. You take our endings and you make your new beginnings.**
- P:** Living Lord, Savior Christ, we praise you, for you are raised by the power of God
- C:** **and there is a new creation and, by your grace, we are in it! Alleluia! Amen.**
- ~ written by Christine Jerrett, <http://christinejerrett.wordpress.com/tag/prayer/>

Confession & Forgiveness

- P:** Christ, we come to the empty tomb, we see our own death, we see our own tomb, we see our own emptiness.
- C:** **And we remember how we have treated other people—members of our family, friends and neighbors.**
- P:** Lord we come to your tomb, we see a hungry world before us,
- C:** **the pain of starving children, the guilt of war on our hands, and we know that collectively we share in those injustices.**
- P:** People of God, why do you seek the living among the dead in an empty tomb?
- C:** **Our wounds are deep, we have turned away from that man, we have broken with him and seek his fellowship.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P:** Do not dwell on your wounds any longer for he has risen to heal you, he has risen to forgive you; ✚ he has risen to change us all and bind us together now.
- C:** **Christ has risen to forgive us. Thanks be to God.**
— excerpted from *Service of Holy Communion 2010*, posted on the [River of Life](#) website.

Gathering Hymn ELW 365 Jesus Christ is Risen Today!

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.**
- P:** Beloved people of God, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

Prayer of the Day

- P:** Eternal giver of life and light,
- C:** **this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Wayne Karp:

First Reading: Genesis 1:1 & 2, 31–2:3 *Creation*

First Response: Psalm 136:1-8

- ¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good,
for God's mercy endures forever.
- ² **Give thanks to the God of gods,
for God's mercy endures forever.**

³ Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for God's mercy endures forever;
⁴ **who alone does great wonders,
for God's mercy endures forever;**
⁵ who by wisdom made the heavens,
for God's mercy endures forever;
⁶ **who spread out the earth upon the waters,
for God's mercy endures forever;**
⁷ who made the great lights—
for God's mercy endures forever;
⁸ **the sun to govern the day,
for God's mercy endures forever;**

Cindy Karp:

Second Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11

Salvation freely offered to all

Second Response: Isaiah 12:5-6

⁵ Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.
⁶ **Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

Mike Hamer:

Third Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10

Clothed in the garments of salvation

Third Response: Deuteronomy 32:1,3-4, 43a

¹ Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak;
let the earth hear the words of my mouth.
³ **For I will proclaim the name of the Lord;
ascribe greatness to our God!**
⁴ "Great is our God, the Rock, whose work is perfect,
whose ways are just:
a faithful God, without deceit, just and upright."
^{43a} **Rejoice with the Lord, you heavens;
bow down in worship, all you gods!**

Connie Hamer:

New Testament Reading: Romans 6:3-11

Please stand as you are able.

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

C: **Glory to you O Lord. Gospel: John 20:1-18**

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 382 Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

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: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

A: ... Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior .

C: **Amen.**

The Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

Please stand as you are able.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: 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 with confidence in 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 new life. Receive the risen Lord.

Please be seated. The usher will direct you when to come forward for Holy Communion.

Holy Communion is served

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

A: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,

C: **Amen.**

Blessing

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ELW 619 I Know That My Redeemer Lives vs 1-4

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

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



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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