

## Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2024 – 10:30 a.m.

With One Voice: Holy Communion, Setting 6



ST. JOHN'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Prayer of preparation:

Lord Jesus, walk with us during these 40 days of Lent. Be near to us in our struggles against temptation, and let us find our strength in you. Bless this time of worship for your Name's sake. Amen.



### Pre-Service Music

"Diapason Movement" (J. Stanley)

### Ringing of the Bells

### Welcome

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**P** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

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

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** Gracious God,

**C we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.**

**We are not worthy to be called your children.**

**Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways.**

**Forgive us and bring us back to you,**

**For we once were dead but now have life, through our Savior Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

**P** The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life, freedom from the power of sin, and resurrection from the dead. In the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. Live in newness of life.

**C Amen.**

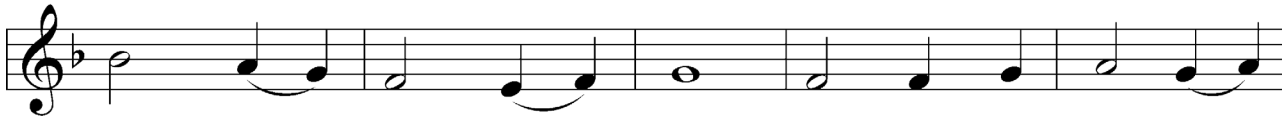
## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### Processional Hymn

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (LSB 425)



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the  
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and  
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.  
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

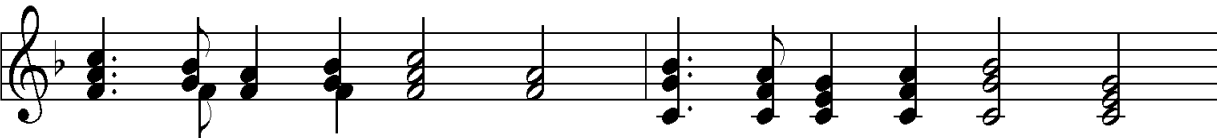
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748  
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872  
Text and tune: Public domain

### Greeting

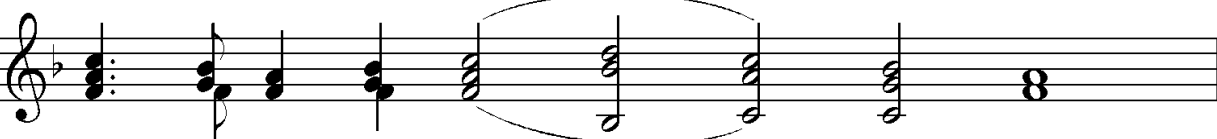
**P** The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**G** And also with you.

### Kyrie



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
Lord, have mer - cy.  
Christ, have mer - cy.

## Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup>And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm (read responsively)

Psalm 107:1-9

**L** Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good,\*  
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

**C Let the redeemed of the LORD | say so,\*  
whom he has redeemed from | trouble**

**L** and gathered in | from the lands,\*  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and | from the south.

**C Some wandered in | desert wastes,\*  
finding no way to a city to | dwell in;**

**L** hungry and | thirsty,\*  
their soul fainted with- | in them.

**C Then they cried to the LORD in their | trouble,\***

**and he delivered them from | their distress.**

**L** He led them by a | straight way\*  
till they reached a city to | dwell in.

**G** **Let them thank the LORD for his | steadfast love,\***  
**for his wondrous works to the chil- | dren of men!**

**L** For he satisfies the | longing soul,\*  
and the hungry soul he fills | with good things.

## Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

<sup>1</sup>And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— <sup>3</sup>among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. <sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## Lenten Verse



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your God, who is  
gra - cious and mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## Holy Gospel

John 3:14-21

Please join in reading aloud the highlighted portion of Scripture  
And consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

**G** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said:] "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. **<sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.** <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God."

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

"Journey to Joy: Lifted Up"

## Hymn of the Day

"God Loved the World So That He Gave" (LSB 571)



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

**☩ We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, ☩ and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Church

**☩** Gathered by the Spirit, let us return to the Lord our God and pray for the church, the world, and all who yearn for new life.

*Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer. During the season of Lent each petition ends with the phrase: "Lord, in your mercy."*

*Please respond by saying: "Hear our prayer."*

*The prayers end with the words:*

**P** Almighty God, you have commanded us to pray, and you promise to hear us. Hear the prayers of your people and grant us all that we need, for the sake of the One in whose name we pray, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Announcements

### Offertory Prayer

**L** Let us pray. God our provider,

**C** **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.**

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## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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### Great Thanksgiving

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

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

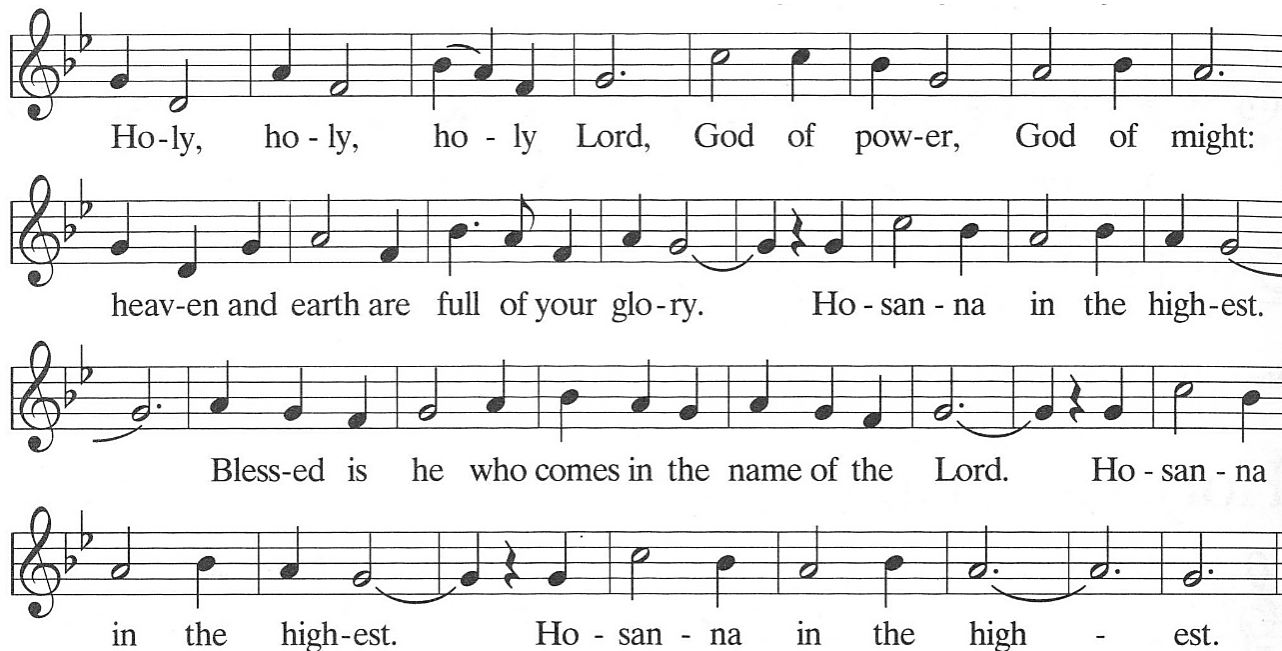
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### Preface

**P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of the grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Sanctus



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of 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.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc.

## Eucharistic Prayer

### Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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.**



## Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Please be seated*

## Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to

distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

## Music at the Distribution

Choir Anthem

"Create in me" (B & N. Muskrat)

Choir of St. John's

*Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.*

*Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.*

*Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.*

*And then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.*

*Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.*

## "Glory Be to Jesus"

(LSB 433)



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains  
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;  
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream  
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!  
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!  
Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!  
But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

- 5 Oft as earth exulting  
Wafts its praise on high,  
Angel hosts rejoicing  
Make their glad reply.
- 6 Lift we, then, our voices,  
Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder  
Praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-78, alt.  
Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804-76  
Text and tune: Public domain

# "What Wondrous Love Is This"

(LSB 543)



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my  
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will  
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt.  
Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Dismissal

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

- L** Let us pray: Merciful God,
- C** accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of Baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### Sending of Lay Eucharistic Ministers

#### Blessing

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

# Sending

**L** Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Sending Hymn

"There in God's Garden" (WOV 668)

**ALL** 1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,  
**HIGH** 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sa - vior!"  
**LOW** 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;  
**CHOIR** 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:  
There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - fring;  
our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.  
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -  
see where the ten - drills of our hu - man  
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -  
Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.  
self - hood feed on its life - blood.  
stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.  
sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

**ALL 5** This is my ending,  
this my resurrection;  
into your hands, Lord,  
I commit my spirit.  
This have I searched for;  
now I can possess it.  
This ground is holy.

**ALL 6** All heav'n is singing,  
"Thanks to Christ whose Passion  
offers in mercy  
healing, strength, and pardon.  
Peoples and nations,  
take it, take it freely!"  
Amen! My Master!

## Postlude

"Fugue in G Minor" (J. S. Bach)



## Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher

Pastor Meehan

Welcome & Children's Message

Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship

Lay Assistant

Angie Stiens

Communion Lay Assistant

Mark Guilfoil

Organist/Pianist

David Leahey, Director of Music

Acolyte

Charlotte Hills

Crucifer

Sofi Hills

Ushers

Barbara Pate

Greg Miller

Altar Care

Karen Kemmet

AV Operators

Scott Budzien

Jurgen Gobien

Welcome Host

Tish Nordvall

Nursery

Barbara Gilliland

To **Give** to St. John's Lutheran Church  
scan this QR Code





This weekend's **altar flowers** are given in donation to the flower fund.



To download our SJLC app text: "APP" or "App" or "app" to (877) 776-1304



To **view** the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter,

***Midweek Update,***

scan this QR Code



## **Acknowledgments**

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*Create in me* – B & N. Muskrat/arr. T. R. Pearce

*Fugue in G Minor* – J. S. Bach BWV 578 (Public Domain) All rights reserved.

## **2024 Lenten Worship Schedule**

***NOTE: livestreaming available for service times with an \****

### **Sundays, Lenten Worship Services**

10:30AM\* - Holy Communion  
March 10, 17, and 24

### **Wednesdays, Midweek Lenten Worship**

Noon\* - Holy Communion  
March 13, 20, and 27

### **Thursdays, Lenten Bible Study with Compline**

7:45PM - Zoom Class online ONLY (not recorded)  
March 14, and 21

### **Sunday, March 24**

10:30AM\* - Palm/Passion Sunday  
(Holy Communion)

### **Thursday, March 28**

7:30PM\* - Maundy Thursday  
(Holy Communion and stripping of the altar)

### **Friday, March 29**

Noon\* & 7:30PM - Good Friday  
(No Communion)

### **Saturday, March 30**

7:30PM - Holy Saturday/Great Vigil of Easter  
(Holy Communion)

### **Sunday, March 31**

8:00AM & 10:30AM\* - Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday  
(Holy Communion)

*Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt between worship services*





**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**5952 Franconia Road**  
**Alexandria, VA 22310**



*A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

**St. John's Lutheran Church Staff**

Pastor	Rev. John Meehan
Director of Discipleship	Jennifer Hills, DCE
Director of Music	David Leahey
Office Administrator	Michelle May
Finance Administrator	Jennifer Smith
Communication Specialist	Jacqueline Fuller

**Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) Staff**

Director of ECEC	Amanda Parks
ECEC Administrator	Kari Wells

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