

Third Sunday in Lent

March 6-7, 2021



What “foolishness”! “Destroy this temple.” But what a sign! “In three days I will raise it up,” for “he was speaking about the temple of his body” (Jn 2:19, 21, Gospel). The Jews had precisely what they demanded, and yet they stumbled over “the power of God and the wisdom of God” (1 Cor 1:24, Epistle). O Lord, grant that no misunderstanding of the Third Commandment may obstruct our keeping of the First (Ex 20:2–3, 8, Old Testament Reading). In the Epistle, Jewish readers probably were surprised to hear Paul’s description of them. The many false messiahs showing up in the first century tried dramatic signs to attract supporters. The Greeks were attracted by “wisdom,” i.e., someone with a sharp mind matched by a clever tongue. No wonder the simple, blunt but loving words of Jesus were often misunderstood. The Gospel can shock first-time readers. A riot in the temple—and Jesus in the center of it all. Yet above the rumpus of salty language and confusion, the voice of Jesus is heard: “Stop making the temple a market place.” The Old Testament reading and our sermon text is selected because Lent is an appropriate time to check our lives against the guiding principles of the Ten Commandments. Lent is a time of penitence, but a Lutheran observance of Lenten penitence does not mean merely shifting our self-absorption (which plagues us all year long!) from preoccupation with pleasure to preoccupation with our sins. Rather, we seek to shift our eyes from self altogether and instead behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. The Introit quickly focuses the penitent on God’s mercy: “Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good.” The Collect’s rationale for our prayer to all who have gone astray is, “O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy.”

St. John’s Lutheran Church and School

12809 State Route 736 Marysville, OH 43040

Office Phone: 937-644-5540

Church Website: www.stjohnsmarysville.org

School Website: www.sjsmarysville.org

Email: stjohns@stjohnsmarysville.org

Rev. Jack D. Heino, Sr. Pastor 937-240-3002

Mr. Rich Rausch, Principal 937-240-3003

Equipping the family of God to joyfully and boldly make disciples of Christ as we

KNOW Jesus and one another, **GROW** to be more like Him and

SOW His love in Word and deed.



Weekend Worship Services

Janet Nicol – 9:00 a.m. Organist

Dale Scheiderer – 6:00 p.m. & 11:00 a.m. Organist

“God Gave the Law for the Good of His People” - Exodus 20:1-17

When the Israelites were encamped by Mount Sinai, just out of slavery in Egypt and far from the Promised Land, God wisely gave them the Ten Commandments. They are engraved in our historic churches and capitol buildings. Their perfect demands require a Savior for us. Jesus was so jealous for God's Law that He cleansed the temple before cleansing us of our sin by giving the temple of His body. In His wisdom, God did what we could not: He kept His own Law for us and then chose us to be the Body of Christ today. None of us has kept the commandments; we and our spiritual ancestors reflect our weaknesses in faith and action. But in the process, God's wisdom shows forth: When we are weak, He is strong. Today is a day to boast about God's grace and His Son, Christ crucified, the power and wisdom of God.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Make a note on your worship folder that you can read & remember EVERY DAY in the coming week to bring you back to the place where you began to worship today.

WELCOME

A LITTLE LITURGY LESSON

The Gospel: John 20:30-31 (ESV)

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but **these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**”

RINGING OF THE BELLS

As the Bell rings at the beginning of worship – take time to silently pray for the Holy Spirit to fill you as God TRULY arrives in His Word and Sacrament among us.

OPENING HYMN

“May God Bestow on Us His Grace”

LSB 823 vs. 1-2



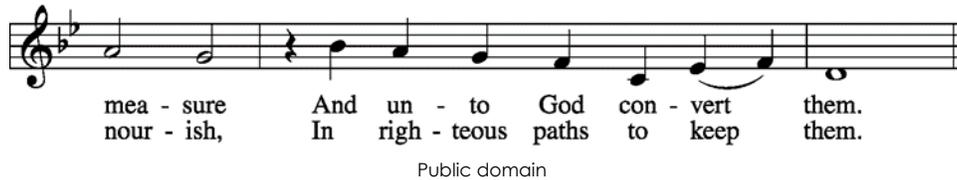
1 May God be-stow on us His grace, With bless-ings rich pro-
2 Thine o-ver all shall be the praise And thanks of ev-'ry

vide us; And may the bright-ness of His face
na-tion; And all the world with joy shall raise

To life e-ter-nal guide us, That we His
The voice of ex-ul-ta-tion. For Thou shalt

sav-ing health may know, His gra-cious will and plea-sure,
judge the earth, O Lord, Nor suf-fer sin to flour-ish;

And al-so to the na-tions show Christ's rich-es with-out
Thy peo-ple's pas-ture is Thy Word Their souls to feed and



INVOCATION

Take a moment when you first wake up to begin your day with the invocation and remember the grace of your baptism. End each day this week as soon as you go to bed in the same way.

CONFESSION

Psalm 19:12-14

Each day confess your "sin-fullness" before God and ask Him for His forgiveness and the Holy Spirit to use you and yours to His glory.

P: When we use the Ten Commandments and other parts of the moral code as a mirror, we see that we have fallen from the perfection of God's good creation and His perfect Law. Who can discern his errors?

C: Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

P: Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;

C: let them not have dominion over me!

P: Our gracious Lord has promised full and free forgiveness to all who call out to our heavenly Father in His name. Let us therefore confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

C: O God, we confess that we have sinned against You and one another in our thinking, speaking, and acting. Worse, in our fallen nature, we are sinful and unclean, and in the eyes of many we are weak, lowly people. But because You have graciously chosen us and worked faith in our hearts, we humbly ask for mercy for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Forgive, renew, and lead us in paths of righteousness.

ABSOLUTION

Think of ways you can each day this week creatively show forth (Epiphany) your sense of rejoicing that your "sin-fullness" has been cleansed.

P: The foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. We preach Christ crucified, and for us the word of the cross is the power of God. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

P: Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

C: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

SALUTATION

As you meet people throughout the coming week, pause for a moment and consider the greeting and the motivation of your heart and feelings towards the person you greet. What message do you want to send to the community around you today with your greetings?

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Use these 5 parts of prayer for your table grace, morning or evening prayer each day this week: 1) Address 2) basis for the petition 3) the petition 4) reason for the petition 5) conclusion of praise to God.

P: Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy,

C: be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word;

P: 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: Exodus 20:1-17

Always read the Old Testament with Jesus and His ministry and mission as the key to understanding any Old Testament passage.

In this passage Moses shares with the Hebrew People God's commandments as they were given to him on Mount Sinai. These commandments would serve as the basis for how they were to live as God's holy and chosen people.

¹And God spoke all these words, saying, ²"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³"You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. ⁸"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹²"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³"You shall not murder. ¹⁴"You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵"You shall not steal. ¹⁶"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The Epistles are great for personal weekday devotional reading and study – pick a letter this week and read it, think on it and share it with a friend, family member or someone with whom you work or play.

Paul instructs the Corinthian church on the wisdom of God and the message of Christ's work on the cross, which are understood by faith and not through intellectual skill or effort.

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE

John 2:19

We are often tempted to believe that we are "on our own" through this life in our choices and life circumstances. Take this time to remember that Jesus is with you at all times and in all places.

P: Destroy this temple,

C: and in three days I will raise it up.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

Think about discussing the readings for this Sunday around your family dinner table or over lunch at work this week.

Our passage today describes Jesus driving corrupt businessmen from the temple during Passover in Jerusalem. While those going to Jerusalem were focused on obtaining pure animal sacrifices to fulfill the form of religious observance, and those selling them were concerned about making a profit, Jesus was focused on the purity of the worship and the attitude and actions of those who are participating at His Father's house. Jesus calls us to purity of worship, and to never mistake form, function, or convenience for the relationship that lies at the heart of it all.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²When

therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON MESSAGE: “God Gave the Law for the Good of His People” - Exodus 20:1-17

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Psalm 25:4-6, adapted

LORD’S PRAYER

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.

OFFERINGS OF OUR TIME, TALENTS & TREASURES

“Lord, we are yours. This represents our heart, our attitude, our spirit, and our willingness to recognize and submit to you as our Lord.

PREFACE

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 Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

“May God Bestow on Us His Grace”

LSB 823 vs. 3

3 O let the peo-ple praise Thy worth, In all good works in-
creas - ing; The land shall plen - teous fruit bring forth,
Thy Word is rich in bless - ing. May God the
Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Spir - it bless us!
Let all the world praise Him a - lone, Let sol - emn awe pos -
sess us. Now let our hearts say, “A - men!”

Public domain

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Acknowledgments Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2021 Concordia Publishing House.



NOTES AND NEWS

Church Sanctuary Worship Service Guidelines

Special guidelines will be followed to help assure the safety of everyone attending church, but we know the coronavirus is still active among us. We know that God desires us all to be together in worship again, but we are also sure He wants us to use good judgement in protecting our health.

- Many members who were considered “at-risk” and felt uncomfortable sitting inside the church have now been vaccinated. If you now feel comfortable coming back inside please do so. We still ask that you wear a mask and practice social distancing. The pews are sanitized after each service and hand sanitizer is available throughout the church. **However, if you have a symptomatic health condition, please check with your doctor to see if it is advisable to return at this time.**
- **Wearing face masks inside the church/sanctuary is REQUIRED.** If you don't have one, masks are available throughout the church, along with hand sanitizing stations. Pastor will wear a mask, except when preaching God's Word.
- Services will be held at 6:00 pm on Saturdays, and 9:00 am & 11:00 am on Sundays. Doors will open 30 minutes prior to each service and secured during the services.
- To comply with 6' social distancing guidelines, seating will be limited to every third pew (2 pews in between). Family groups and individuals will be separated by 6' in each pew. Services will be limited to approximately 75 attendees. Overflow will be asked to listen to the service on FM 92.1 in their cars. **Beginning on Palm Sunday seating will be available in every other pew.**
- Ushers and Elders will assist with entry and dismissal to maintain social distancing. Do not sit in the taped off pews and follow the Ushers/Elders directions. We will be seating front to back upon entry and dismissing from back to front.
- Ushers (wearing gloves & masks) will hand out bulletins with the service liturgy and hymns (please take these home; they can't be reused). Hymnals, Bibles and attendance books have been removed from the pews.
- Offerings are collected at the sanctuary doorways while exiting the service. Exit the church promptly upon dismissal as the sanctuary, hallways, restrooms **MUST** be sanitized before the next service.

These guidelines are based on current Federal, State and County Health requirements and the recommendations of the LCMS to provide for your well-being. Although, we are taking steps to reduce the spread of Covid-19 or other infectious agents, the ultimate responsibility for preventative measures belongs to whomever comes to join us at St. Johns'. Thank you for your patience and understanding during these challenging time.

Additional Worship Service Information: (all 3 services are traditional worship services)

- By Radio - You can join our worship service by tuning to WQTT1270 AM and 96.7 FM at 8:00 a.m. airtime.
- Join us in the parking lot by tuning your car radio to 92.1 FM at any of our sanctuary services.
- Join us on Facebook at 11:00 a.m. for our “live streaming” service, or after on Sundays at:
<https://www.facebook.com/jack.heino>

Sacrament of Holy Communion: With many members receiving COVID-19 vaccinations, and with the number of hospitalizations continually decreasing, the Board of Elders have approved moving communion distribution back to the front of the altar. WE will still use single file by alternating release from the pews starting with the front pews. Those in the parking lot and those with difficulty walking up front will be served first. After receiving communion you will be dismissed using the left aisle. Do not return back to your seats. This will open the Marie Pfarr Room back up for some fellowship time, keeping in mind social distancing and masks are still in effect. This new procedure will start the first weekend in March.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

Welcome to St. John's. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We pray that you will encounter Christ, the Living Word, and in a new way experience His mercy and grace today. If you are a guest or visitor we hope we have the chance to say hello. If you would like to know more about our ministry, please call the church office at 937-644-5549.

The Lutheran Hour is on the radio Sunday mornings at **7:00am on WLW (700 AM)**. Log on to www.lhm.org for more information and channels. Jim Vandre, LHM Ambassador.

St. John's Radio Program airs Sunday mornings at **8:30am** on local channel **WQTT (1270 AM & 98.7 FM)**.

Altar Flowers: To the glory of God and in memory of **Larry Bunsold's** 81st birthday on March 13, by his family.

Chancel Flowers: Chancel flowers have been given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of **David Gruenbaum and Rachael Peltari** who were wed at St. John's on Saturday, March 6.

THE LORD'S WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S MARCH 7-14, 2021

We continue to review events based on the Covid-19 health protocol.

TODAY	9:00 am	Sanctuary Worship Service/Communion
03/07	10:00 am	Adult & Young Adult Bible Study/ Youth & Children Sunday School
	10:00 am	Youth Catechism Class/Classrooms
	11:00 am	Sanctuary Worship Service/Communion & "Live Streaming"
	12:00 pm	Church Readers Meeting/Sanctuary
MONDAY	8:00 pm	Adult Open Gym Volleyball
TUESDAY	11:30 am	Ladies Aid Quilting
	7:00 pm	Board of Administration Mtg./Heritage House
WEDNESDAY	4:00 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship Service
	7:00 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship Service
THURSDAY	12:00 pm	Ladies Aid Quilting
FRIDAY		No School: Teacher In-Service
SATURDAY	7:30 am	Ladies Morning Bible Study/Heritage House
	6:00 pm	Sanctuary Worship Service
SUNDAY	9:00 am	Sanctuary Worship Service
03/14	10:00 am	Adult & Young Adult Bible Study/ Youth & Children Sunday School
	10:00 am	Youth Catechism Class/Classrooms
	11:00 am	Sanctuary Worship Service & "Live Streaming"



ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 - 11:00 am

3 Years-Kindergarten—Church Basement

3 Years-Kindergarten—Zoom: **Email Colleen Foster** at colleenearl11@yahoo.com for link and password

1st-6th Grades—Teacher Nichol Nicol's School Classroom

7th & 8th Grade Youth Catechism Class—Mrs. Bowsher & Mrs. Monroe's Classrooms

High School Youth "Cornerstone Discipleship"—Youth House

Women's Bible Study—School Loft

Adult Bible Study—School Cafeteria: **Topic—The Book of Genesis: Through this nine session study, you will deepen your understanding of God's plan of salvation through Jesus.**

If you have questions, please contact Sunday School Superintendent, Lisa Arnold at 937-205-1802 or arnoldlisa50@yahoo.com

Congregational Tithes

Third Quarter Mission

Opportunities of Fiscal Year 2020-21



Ohio District LCMS - 50%, Hearts for Jesus - 10%, Youth Mission Outreach - 10%, L.A.M.P. - 10%, Kingdom Investments International - 10%, Food for the Poor - 10%

Weekly Church Attendance

6:00 p.m. Saturday, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday
2/27 & 2/28: 184

Mobile Version of Online Giving: St. John's offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give by credit or debit card anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's Quick Response (QR) code reader! You may also go to stjohnsmarysville.org and click on the "Electronic Giving" button and follow the easy directions.



Weekly Worship Bible Readings

For those of you who would like to study the Word ahead of the next weekends worship services, we are listing here in the N&N the Bible readings that Pastor Jack will be using.

March 13-14, 2021

Old Testament Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

Holy Gospel: John 3:14-21

NOTES & NEWS ITEMS



2021 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR DATES

Available dates for altar flowers in February through June are as follows:

March 21	April 25
April 11	May 2
April 18	June 20

There are also many dates available for altar flowers throughout the remaining months. Please call Charlotte Blumenschein at (937) 644-4111 to reserve any special dates for flowers in church. Chancel flowers are available almost every weekend.

The Flower Committee thanks you for your continued support.

St. John's School Enrollment Now Open

School enrollment is open. Please view the school website for more information:
www.sjsmarysville.org



The LYF mission trip is on!

Amidst the craziness of this past year and a cancelled trip last summer, LYF is excited and planning on serving in Imperial, PA this summer from June 20-26th! While many of our youth who signed up for last summer are planning on attending, we do have a few open spots for youth who were not previously committed.

The mission trip is a fantastic experience, where our youth and adults will shine Christ's light on a deserving community through home repair projects. We will also attend daily devotions and worship sessions to grow in our faith and relationships with one another.

There are many COVID-19 precautions in place on this year's trip, such as mask-wearing, our group lodging together, only outdoor home repairs, and increased worship/devotional/dining sessions to assist with physical distancing. Eligible youth are those entering 9th grade in fall 2021-college. If you have a youth, or are an adult or parent that might be interested in attending, please reach out to Laura Zeiler at lauraezeiler@gmail.com! It's sure to be a remarkable experience!

Loss of a Spouse Event

Are you grieving the death of a Spouse? Or do you know someone who is? Find encouragement, comfort, and hope at a special **Loss of a Spouse** event being held on **Sunday, March 14, from 2-4 pm** at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 7960 State Route 38, Milford Center, OH 43045.

Loss of a Spouse helps men and women grapple with the challenges of being widowed. The **FREE** seminar features an inspiring 35-minute video that's filled with moving stories, practical advice, and a variety of perspectives on spousal loss. After the video, you'll have the opportunity to discuss what you learned with other widows and widowers. You'll discover that you're not alone in your grief and what you're going through is normal. Plus, you'll receive a booklet to take home with over 30 short readings on how to rebuild your life.

Please call or text **Deaconess Janet Nicol** at **614-561-7411** to register for this encouraging seminar.



Thrivent Choice Dollars: If you have a Thrivent policy, have you directed your free Choice Dollars for the year 2020? Choice Dollars for 2020 expire March 31.

You can direct your free Choice Dollars by calling **1-800-847-4836** and say "**Thrivent Choice**" at the prompt or go online to service.thrivent.com. Your free dollars can be directed to St. John's Church or to 40,000 other charitable organizations. If you are not sure if you have Choice Dollars, give them a call and ask. Remember even small amounts make a difference.

Weekly Schedule - Please submit articles and announcements to

Regina Bullerman, Church Secretary, by calling directly at 937-240-3004, dropping them in the black lockbox outside the office doors, mailing or emailing them to rbullerman@sjsmarysville.org, by

NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, AT NOON. Thank you.



In All the World, There's Only One Superhero! JESUS CHRIST!

"Look, up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's Superman!" When the Superman TV show came into our homes in 1952, it was one of the first I recall watching on our tiny table-top black and white TV. It came out in the midst of the Cold War, a terrifying time in our history, at least for kids my age! It was a time when we became familiar with the sound of air raid sirens, when we practiced "duck and cover" drills in school hallways, and when bomb shelters began springing up in back yards.

It was the perfect time to introduce a super hero to our world... Superman fought for "truth, justice, and the American way!" He was "faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, and able to leap tall buildings in a single bound"! It was a welcome diversion into a fantasy world, where one man could somehow sense trouble anywhere in the land, and could defeat evil in miraculous ways! If only his superpowers could really right our world's wrongs! It was a nice thought, but the reality was that Superman's powers only came to life when we turned the knob on that small black and white TV. Sadly, we knew that Superman was not going to be there to rescue us when things got scary in our world.

How blessed we are that you and I DO have a Superhero... Jesus Christ! One who is capable of all of those amazing feats and more! His entry into the world wasn't a lavish affair. Instead He was born in a stable, and His first bed was a trough used to feed cattle. He led the life of a common man, the son of a carpenter. He didn't wear a signature emblazoned robe, but still crowds gathered to hear Him speak, and eye witness accounts confirm that He healed the crippled, walked on water, and calmed the seas with just the sound of His voice. Yet, sadly, there were still those who sought to destroy Him.

We all have weaknesses, those things that cause us to stumble and lose focus. We become sidetracked by the mere complexity of daily living. Our schedules are so full with work and family responsibilities that we fall into the trap of thinking we can live without the extra commitment it takes to go to church on Sundays, or join a Bible study. Superman's weakness was Kryptonite, a mysterious glowing mass that reduced our super hero to a helpless, common man. And for some reason, Kryptonite always found its way into the hands of "evil doers" bent on Superman's destruction.

Our "Kryptonite" is the Devil! He preys on the busyness of our daily lives; he's happy when we are tired and preoccupied, because that's when we are most vulnerable! He works his way into our thoughts and plans, offering other activities to fill our time, doing all in his power to keep us from hearing the truth of Jesus Christ! He relies on the hope that we won't see his plan for what it is... a willingness to use excuses to distance us from our Savior and His love for us! Keeping Satan and other "evil doers" at bay, those who seek to distract and destroy us, sometimes takes all our strength. It is a battle against evil we can only win through our faith in Jesus Christ!

Heavenly Father, In a world filled with "super heroes", help us to keep our eyes focused on You and the prize of eternal life with You in heaven! As we strive to provide guidance for our families, help us to monitor their role models and encourage ones that are worthy of their trust. Guard our hearts from worshipping the fantasy world of today's "super heroes", who hide in the form of games, athletes and movie stars. Our daily lives become so busy, that at times we are tempted to take the path of least resistance, which too often leads away from You. You are our Super Hero! Encourage us to place our trust and faith in you, and you alone!

Amen

NOTES & NEWS ITEMS

Lenten Worship Schedule 2021

Midweek Lenten Services

March 10, 17, 24 - 4:00 & 7:00 pm

Holy Week Worship Schedule 2021

Palm Sunday

March 28, Sanctuary Worship Services
9:00 & 11:00 am

Mauddy Thursday

April 1, Sanctuary Worship Services
4:00 & 7:00 pm (Communion)

Good Friday

April 2, Tenebrae Service: "Service of Darkness"
7:00 pm

Holy Saturday

April 3, Sanctuary Worship Service
6:00 pm (Communion)

Easter Sunday

April 4, Sanctuary Worship Services
9:00 & 11:00 am (Communion)

**Please join us here at St. John's for our
Lenten Worship Services,
and Holy Week & Easter Worship Services!**

EASTER LILIES



The Flower Committee is taking orders for lilies to decorate the church for Easter. Lilies can be ordered by completing the order form included in the Notes & News and dropping it along with payment in the box in the Narthex. Orders and payment can also be mailed to Charlotte Blumenschein, 20570 State Route 245, Marysville, Ohio 43040. The cost is \$8.25. Lilies will be available for pickup after either of the services on Easter Sunday. Special arrangements for pickup can be made for those not attending church in the sanctuary by calling Charlotte at (937) 644-4111.



Thank you to everyone who made our 50th wedding anniversary special by remembering us with cards, prayers and personal greetings.

God's blessings, Bill & Judy Morris

Thanks very much to Amanda Moore and the members of her Sunday School class, the Sunshine Committee, members of the congregation and Pastor Jack for the birthday cards. I am always amazed at the designs made by the Sunday School girls and boys.

Robert Barthlow

College Student Care Packages: Help us share God's love and blessings to our St. John's College students. The 7/8th grade catechism classes are collecting items to create and send College Care Packages. Please bring in your donations to the Marie Pfarr room through Sunday, March 28. We want to package the boxes to be ready for Easter weekend so students can have their packages before finals week. Donation boxes are located in the Marie Pfarr room.

Donations needed:

- Key Chains
- Book marks
- Pens, pencils, highlighters, post-it's
- Single serving snack items: chips, crackers, pop-tarts, pretzels, cookies, candy, gum, granola bars, K-Cups, hot chocolate packets, Kleenex packets, beef jerky, oatmeal packets
- Gift cards: \$10 cards to any fast food or grocery store

Thank you for showing our college age members we are thinking about them and praying for them. Please contact Kelly Gallmeyer (purdue43221@yahoo.com), Mary Boehm or Christy Fisher for questions.

2021 Prayer Vigil



Our Prayer Vigil will be held again this year, **praying in your own home (or, anywhere!)**, starting at 8:00 p.m. on Good Friday, April 2, and will go until 9:00 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 4.

Join me in thanking God for His many blessings and sharing our concerns with Him! Please consider taking an hour of time to pray, perhaps with your entire household, for our current situation, our nation, our church, our church family, our own family, those we know, or whatever the Lord lays on your heart.

The signup link is:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0544AAA623A3F85-stjohns>

MORE NOTES & NEWS ITEMS

Neudettlesau Nostalgia

In the early 1830s many of our German ancestors arrived in Union County. They built their log homes and began clearing the area in what became known as the Settlement.

In 1838 St. John's was chartered by about 20 families, including "three Americans" who were citizens of the area prior to 1830, but of German ancestry and German-speaking. The log church they built was on the north side of the intersection of today's SR 736 and Scottslawn Road. A pioneer cemetery, the Brown graveyard, was located on the south side of the intersection. History does not say why that location was chosen for the church, but the proximity to a cemetery could have influenced their decision. It was likely the burial spot for not only the local pioneers, but also those early German settlers from the early 1830s until approximately 1843. Families who are believed to have been buried there include Doellinger, Hegenderfer, Lehner, Ruhl, Schwartzkopf, and others.



The log church burned. In 1843 St. John's reorganized, erected a second log church and consecrated the congregation's first cemetery two miles north of the original location.

The Brown graveyard likely became little used with the availability of the new church cemetery and the growing Unionville Center (now Darby Township) cemetery. The 1883 Beers Union County history states, "In the northeastern part [of Darby Township], at one time the Brown graveyard was the only burying place for the settlers in that region. It is now a neglected spot."

The wooded location of the old graveyard, surrounded by a rail fence, was well known among those living in the area. One gentleman recalled in the early 1900s Teacher Burger made students stay after school if they were not sufficiently prepared for religion class. One day the teacher made the mistake of leaving the room and one of the boys being detained couldn't resist the temptation of putting Teacher Burger's pointing stick down his pants leg when leaving. On the way home he hid the stick in the rail fence.

Fast forward to the late 1960s when the woods was cleared for farming. In recent years the farm was sold to another farmer, and more recently to a land development company. When the farm ground was observed being marked for lots, and driveways being installed, concern was raised over the possibility of the graves being disturbed by the construction of homes in the area.

With the assistance of the Union County Historical Society, interested local citizens, the cooperation of Countrytyme Land Specialists, and with funding provided by the Union County Veteran's Services, Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc. will search the area of the cemetery with ground penetrating radar and magnetometry equipment to determine the location of the pioneer cemetery, and ensure the earliest pioneers and Settlement residents continue to rest in peace. The Veterans Service is pursuing the likelihood Revolutionary War and/or War of 1812 soldiers they have identified are also buried there.

2021 CHURCH BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

PASTOR - Jack Heino

CHAIRMAN - Craig Wetterman

VICE CHAIRMAN - David Gruenbaum

PRINCIPAL - Richard Rausch

SECRETARY - Darlene Slack

TREASURER - Adam Smith

ASSISTANT TREASURER - Joy Ballard

FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Mary Mayer

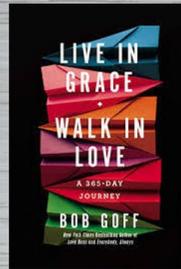
NOTES & NEWS ITEMS

Christian Devotional Book Study

Led by Rich Rausch, Sundays at 10:00 a.m., March 7-May 2 in Classroom #6. Details below.



WHAT BETTER WAY TO CELEBRATE LOVE THAN A *Christian Devotional Book Study*



"He's not a pastor, nor a preacher, but he does encourage you to live a life reflective of Jesus' love. He's not selling anything, not calling you to repentance, but encouraging you to be brave enough to engage in life, throw caution to the wind, and be authentic in offering love towards others." -Goodreads Review

SUNDAYS @ ST. JOHN'S
10:00 AM

Please visit our school's website
www.sjsmarysville.org and click on the book
cover to sign up via Google Form!
Virtual & In-Person options will be available.
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/PHRKOPA2HFN3NMG6](https://forms.gle/PHRKOPA2HFN3NMG6)

LED BY RICH RAUSCH
937.240.3003
RRAUSCH@SJSMARYVILLE.ORG

Changes to Worship Service Guidelines

The Board of Elders approved the following changes to our worship service guidelines:

- Many members who were considered "at-risk" and felt uncomfortable sitting inside the church have now been vaccinated. If you now feel comfortable coming back inside please do so. We still ask that you wear a mask and practice social distancing. The pews are sanitized after each service and hand sanitizer is available throughout the church. **However, if you have a symptomatic health condition, please check with your doctor to see if it is advisable to return at this time.**
- To comply with 6' social distancing guidelines, seating will be limited to every third pew (2 pews in between). Family groups and individuals will be separated by 6' in each pew. Services will be limited to approximately 75 attendees. Overflow will be asked to listen to the service on FM 92.1 in their cars. **Beginning on Palm Sunday seating will be available in every other pew.**
- With many members receiving COVID-19 vaccinations, and with the number of hospitalizations continually decreasing, the Board of Elders have approved moving communion distribution back to the front of the altar. WE will still use single file by alternating release from the pews starting with the front pews. Those in the parking lot and those with difficulty walking up front will be served first. After receiving communion you will be dismissed using the left aisle. Do not return back to your seats. This will open the Marie Pfarr Room back up for some fellowship time, keeping in mind social distancing and masks are still in effect. This new procedure will start the first weekend in March.

PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 1 Corinthians 11:27-29

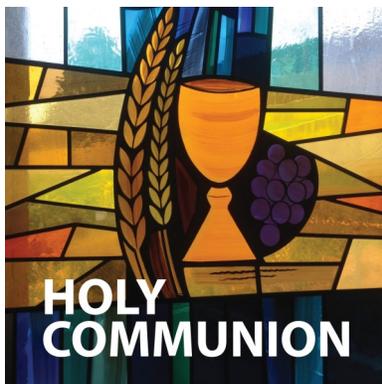
The following is a summary of what we believe and teach as Missouri Synod Lutheran Christians. Because we care for you, we ask that you carefully review the following statements:

1. I have been baptized into the name of the one true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:16-20*
2. I have been instructed concerning the meaning of Holy Communion, understand the importance of self-examination prior to coming to the Lord's Supper and have made my confirmation of faith.
1 Corinthians 11:27-29
3. I confess that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness. I am sorry for my sins. *1 John 1:8-9*
4. I believe that Jesus Christ, God's Son, is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil.
Romans 3:21-24
5. I believe that the body and blood of Jesus Christ are really present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, and I desire to receive Christ's body and blood, given and shed for my forgiveness.
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
6. If possible, so far as it depends on me, I seek to live peaceably with all. *Romans 12:17-19*
7. By the power of the Holy Spirit, I desire and intend to lead a more Godly and Christ-like life, trusting in God's promises and obeying His commands. *Galatians 5:22-24*

If you unreservedly agree with the seven points above, you are invited to come to the Lord's Supper. If you do not agree with one or more of the seven points, please refrain from participating in Holy Communion lest you sin against the body and blood of the Lord. If you agree with the seven points above but are not a member of St. John's, we welcome you to the Lord's Table and invite you to give prayerful consideration to joining our partnership in the Gospel. You are encouraged to speak with a pastor or elder prior to communing regarding any point(s) of disagreement and/or regarding the process of joining St. John's.

Gluten-Free Communion Wafers: A gluten-free communion wafer option is now available for those who are allergic. They are located in the brass cup in the middle of the communion plate.

Communion Wine: For those who have health related, or other issues with drinking alcohol, please take the purple individual communion cup. It contains all water with one drop of wine.



THIRD SUNDAY IN
LENT

