

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 9-10, 2024



Last week the lectionary gave us one of the most famous readings in all Scripture: the Ten Commandments. This week, the Fourth Sunday in Lent, the lectionary tops that: Ephesians 2:8–9 and John 3:16! So much to say. So much already said. So familiar. A bit intimidating for preaching! The Epistle is loaded! Besides the Confirmation Day standard, “For by grace you have been saved . . .,” Paul debunks every form of decision theology, “You were dead in the trespasses and sins”, yet assures us, “God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ”, and, lest we forget, follows grace through faith apart from works with “we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them”. The Old Testament Reading directs us clearly to see Jesus lifted up on the cross just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the wilderness. First, the lifting up of the Son of Man, which makes eternal life possible. Second, that God gives humanity the gift of His Son so that whoever believes in Him should have eternal life. Finally, we see the judgment or condemnation of those who do not believe in the Son and who remain in darkness of sin instead of coming into the light of Christ.

## St. John's Lutheran Church and School

12809 State Route 736 Marysville, OH 43040

Office Phone: 937-644-5540

Church Website: [www.stjohnsmarysville.org](http://www.stjohnsmarysville.org)

School Website: [www.sjsmarysville.org](http://www.sjsmarysville.org)

Email: [stjohns@stjohnsmarysville.org](mailto: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.



## **Saturday 4 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. Traditional Worship Services**

Divine Service *Setting Three* – LSB pg. 184

**Kevin Vollrath – Organist**

### **“By Grace Alone” - Ephesians 2:1-10**

St. Paul takes us through a roller-coaster ride of sorts in our text. In the first three verses, he drops us in a terrifying plunge, a hair-raising free fall—speaking on the depths of the condition of all of humanity. We are enslaved by our own sinful desires, and the world and Satan try to control us. Then, just when we think we're surely dead (no, actually, when we realize that we really were dead!), in verses 4–6 He pulls us out of it; we see God's mercy and grace as He provides salvation for us in Christ. That's the big moment, the center of the ride! The moment when against all those g-forces we're pulled up from death to life. As we first understand and recognize our problem (Law), we then are enabled truly to understand our redemption: because of what Christ has done for us (Gospel), we are made alive to Him. And, finally, climbing out of that center of the ride, in verses 7–10 we thank and praise God for His astonishing grace and, through Him and by His grace, live a life for others.

### **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

#### **WELCOME**

#### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

#### **HYMN OF INVOCATION**

**“My Song Is Love Unknown”**

LSB 430

#### **INVOCATION**

### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION – LSB pg. 184**

(Sat. 4 p.m.) **WORSHIP PRESENTATION:** SJLS Middle School, **“In Christ Alone”** verses 1 & 4, 2 & 3

#### **Congregation**

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace, when fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand

#### *Solo*

*In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live*

#### *Solo*

*There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ*

## Congregation

No guilt in life no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny  
No pow'r of hell no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand  
'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

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## SERVICE OF THE WORD – LSB pg. 186

(Sun. 9 a.m.) **INTROIT**

*Psalm 27:3–5; antiphon: v. 1*

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?\*

**The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?**

Though an army encamp against me, my heart | shall not fear;\*

**though war arise against me, yet I will be | confident.**

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:\*

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the  
beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.**

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;\*

**he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up- | on a rock.**

**KYRIE**

*LSB 186*

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*LSB 189*

[Today's Bible readings are found on page 16 of this worship program]

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:** *Numbers 21:4-9*

**EPISTLE READING:** *Ephesians 2:1-10*

**HOLY GOSPEL:** *John 3:14-21*

**APOSTLES CREED**

*LSB 192*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“God Loved the Word So That He Gave”**

*LSB 571*

**SERMON:** **“By Grace Alone”** - *Ephesians 2:1-10*

**OFFERTORY**

*LSB 192*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** . . . Jesus, may our hearts be burning

**C** with more fervent love for You.

**LORDS PRAYER**

*LSB 196*

**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.”

**BENEDICTION**

*LSB 202*

**CLOSING HYMN**

**“What Wondrous Love Is This”**

*LSB 543*

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## ***Sunday 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service***

**Rachel Kapraly, Mark Moran, Rich Rausch & Charles Renner – Accompanists**

### ***“By Grace Alone” - Ephesians 2:1-10***

St. Paul takes us through a roller-coaster ride of sorts in our text. In the first three verses, he drops us in a terrifying plunge, a hair-raising free fall—speaking on the depths of the condition of all of humanity. We are enslaved by our own sinful desires, and the world and Satan try to control us. Then, just when we think we’re surely dead (no, actually, when we realize that we really were dead!), in verses 4–6 He pulls us out of it; we see God’s mercy and grace as He provides salvation for us in Christ. That’s the big moment, the center of the ride! The moment when against all those g-forces we’re pulled up from death to life. As we first understand and recognize our problem (Law), we then are enabled truly to understand our redemption: because of what Christ has done for us (Gospel), we are made alive to Him. And, finally, climbing out of that center of the ride, in verses 7–10 we thank and praise God for His astonishing grace and, through Him and by His grace, live a life for others.

### **Pre-Service Music**

#### ***“How Deep the Father's Love”***

How deep the Father's love for us - How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss - The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory

Behold the man upon a cross - My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything - No gifts no power no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward, I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom

Why should I gain from His reward, I cannot give an answer  
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### **Welcome and Time of Greeting**

### **Time of Praise and Worship**

#### ***“Above All”***

Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things;  
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, above all wonders the world has ever known;  
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth there’s no way to measure what You’re worth.

Crucified, laid behind the stone; You lived to die rejected and alone’  
Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me above all.

Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things;  
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began.  
Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, above all wonders the world has ever known;  
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## Invocation

## Opening Prayer

## Time of Confession and Forgiveness

*Pastor: As we enter into this time of confession, let us approach God's throne in humility, for He is a forgiving, Father.*

**People: Father, we come before You in complete transparency, for You already know the condition of our hearts. We confess that we are drawn to dwell in the shadows over Your light. We are tempted to hide our sin and isolate, preferring our ways over Yours. We acknowledge that we have turned away from our Savior, Jesus, and looked to our own advice instead of seeking Yours. Forgive us, Lord, and cleanse our hearts.**

*Pastor: Hear the good news! Jesus, the Light of the World, has offered us forgiveness and redemption through His sacrifice on the cross! Believe in Him and know your sins have been forgiven.*

**People: For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. What good news! We believe! In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, amen.**

***"At the Foot of the Cross" by Rachel Kaprally and Mark Moran***

## † We Hear God's Word †

(Today's Bible readings are found on page 16 of this worship program)

**Old Testament Reading: Numbers 21:4-9**

**Epistle Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10**

**Holy Gospel: John 3:14-21**

**Response Song:**

### **"Shout to the Lord"**

My Jesus my Savior, Lord there is none like You!  
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love!  
My comfort my Shelter, tower of refuge and strength!  
Let every breath all that I am never cease to worship You!

Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing!  
Power and majesty, praise to the King!  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name.

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands.  
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You!

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**Message: "By Grace Alone" - Ephesians 2:1-10**

## **† We Respond to God's Word †**

### **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **† We Pray †**

### **Prayer of the Church**

#### **The 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."

## **† We Depart in Peace †**

### **Benediction**

#### **Closing Song:**

#### **"Lead Me to the Cross"**

Savior I come quiet my soul - Remember redemption's hill  
Where Your blood was spilled for my ransom  
Everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss  
Lead me to the cross where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees - Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself - I belong to You  
Oh lead me lead me to the cross  
You were as I tempted and tried human  
The word became flesh - Bore my sin and death  
Now You're risen  
Everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss  
Lead me to the cross where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees - Lord I lay me down

Rid me of myself - I belong to You  
Oh lead me lead me to the cross

To Your heart - To Your heart  
Lead me to Your heart - Lead me to Your heart

Lead me to the cross where Your love poured out

Bring me to my knees - Lord I lay me down

Rid me of myself - I belong to You

Oh lead me lead me to the cross

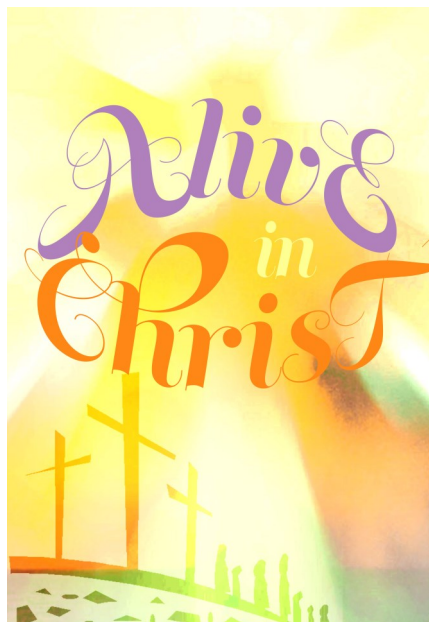
Lead me to the cross where Your love poured out

Bring me to my knees - Lord I lay me down

Rid me of myself - I belong to You

Oh lead me lead me to the cross

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# NOTES AND NEWS



## 2024 Prayer Vigil Sign Up Many Slots Still Available!

Our Prayer Vigil will be held again this year, **praying** in the **Marie Pfarr Room** or in your own **home** (or, anywhere!), starting at 8:00 p.m. on Good Friday, March 29, and will go until Saturday 12:00 a.m. Midnight on March 30. Reserve a time to focus - praising God, thanking Him for His many blessings and sharing our concerns! Enjoy the closeness of a precious 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 who/whatever the Lord lays on your heart.

The Signup Genius link is: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040845A8AA22A2FB6-stjohns#/>

Please email prayer requests to Regina Bullerman, Church Secretary, at [rbullerman@sjsmarystville.org](mailto:rbullerman@sjsmarystville.org). Any questions, please contact Regina by email or call 937-644-5540.

## Mixed Choir for Easter Sunday

If you would like to sing with a choir on Easter, meet in the church balcony for rehearsal on Wednesday, March 13 at 5:00 P.M. If you are unable to make that practice, please contact Joy at [joyrballard@gmail.com](mailto:joyrballard@gmail.com) or 937.644.4344.

## Saturday Afternoon Service

4:00 start time has been extended to March 16 to accommodate a CEA event. The Saturday Service will resume the summer start time of 6:00 beginning March 23.



## Easter Egg Candy Donations for Easter Egg Hunt

We are accepting candy donations until **March 17**. The donations will be used to fill plastic eggs for the Sunday School Easter Egg hunt on March 31.

Please bring in individually wrapped candy (preferably nut free) and drop them in the box located in the Marie Pfarr room.



**JOIN US** on Wednesday, March 13, for our Midweek Lenten Supper, hosted by our LYF & LEAP from 5:00-6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria/gym. The menu features Sloppy Joe Sandwiches, Green Beans, Potato Salad, Cake for dessert and Beverages. Come out and have a great meal while supporting our 2023 LYF/YMO Mission Trip to Fredericksburg, Maryland, with a free will offering. Please invite your family and friends! We also invite you to join us for our Midweek Lenten Worship Service at 4:00 p.m. and Lenten Bible Study led by Pastor Jack at 6:30 pm in the Heritage House.

## St. John's Lutheran Church 2024 Lenten & Holy Week Worship Service Schedule and Activities



### Lenten Worship Services, Suppers & Study Wednesdays: March 13 & 20

**Midweek Lenten Services:** 4:00 pm

**Midweek Lenten Suppers:** 5:00-6:30 pm in the School Cafeteria/Gym

**Midweek Lenten Bible Study: "Be Gracious to Me",** weekly Bible study, led by Pastor Jack, 6:30 pm in the Heritage House.



### Holy Week Worship Services March 24-March 30

**Palm Sunday Services:** March 24

9:00 am: 2024 Youth Rite of Confirmation & 1st Holy Communion - Sanctuary

11:00 am: Contemporary - Gym

**Maundy Thursday Service:** March 28

7:00 pm with Communion

**Good Friday:** March 29

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

Prayer Vigil: Starts at 8:00 pm - Marie Pfarr Room

**Holy Saturday Service:** March 30

6:00 pm with Communion

**Easter Sunday Services:** March 31

9:00 & 11:00 am with Communion: Both in the Sanctuary

**No Sunday School Classes, but please attend:**

10:00 am: Easter Egg Hunt for All Ages up to 6th Grade (Meet on the softball field)

10:15 am: Our Family Easter Breakfast hosted by the Cafeteria Bible Study Group

**Please Join Us — All Are Welcome!**

## 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. We ask if you are a visitor, please fill out the **blue card** located in the pew rack in front of you. Then drop the card in the offering box as you leave worship. If you would like to know more about our ministry, please call the church office at 937-644-5540.

**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 **8:00am** on local channel **WQTT (1270 AM & 98.7 FM)**.

**Altar Flowers:** Altar flowers are placed in memory of **Norma Jean Van Gorden**, loving Mother, Grandmother, Dairy Farmer's wife and Secretary, who went to her eternal home 25 years ago on March 13, 1999; by Jay and Marie Van Gorden, Erin, Ethan and Otto Nicol, Ben, Taylor, Cooper and Harper Van Gorden, Justin, Kari and "June baby" Haerr.

### THE LORD'S WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S MARCH 10-17, 2024

<b>TODAY</b> 03/10/24	9:00 am Traditional Worship Service (Live-Streamed)
	10:00 am Adult & Young Adult Bible Study/ Youth & Children Sunday School
	10:00 am 2023-24 Youth Catechism Class/Modulars
	11:00 am Contemporary Worship Service/Gym
<b>MONDAY</b>	8:00 pm Adult Open Gym Volleyball
<b>TUESDAY</b>	11:30 am Ladies Aid Quilting 7:00 pm Board of Administration Mtg./Heritage House
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	1:30 pm ACES/Youth House 4:00 pm Lenten Worship Service <b>5:00 pm Lenten Supper: Hosted by LYF/LEAP</b> 6:30 pm Lenten Bible Study/Heritage House
<b>THURSDAY</b>	12:00 pm Ladies Aid Quilting 8:00 pm Dartball/Gym
<b>FRIDAY</b>	1:00 pm Ladies Aid Quilting
<b>SATURDAY</b>	4:00 pm Sanctuary Worship Service: Communion/ <b>3 Year Old Beginner Bible Presentation</b> <b>5:00 pm CEA: Light Up the Night Glow Dance/Gym</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 03/17/24	<b>3 Year Old Beginner Bible Presentation</b> 9:00 am Traditional Worship Service (Live-Streamed): Communion 10:00 am Adult & Young Adult Bible Study/ Youth & Children Sunday School 10:00 am 2023-24 Youth Catechism Class/Modulars 11:00 am Contemporary Worship Service: Communion <b>6:00 pm Sr. LYF Gathering/Youth House</b> (Rescheduled from 3/10)

### ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 - 11:00 am

(Fall-Winter-Early Spring Schedule)

**3 Years-Kindergarten**—Church Basement

**1st-5th Grades**—Meet together in the gym with Teacher Mark Moran, and then move to school classrooms.

**6th Grade**—Mrs. Ashley Monroe's Classroom

**7th & 8th Grade Youth Catechism Class**—Mrs. Susie Miller & Mrs. Jayme Allen's Modular Classroom

**High School Youth "Cornerstone Discipleship"**—Youth House

**Women's Bible Study**—Classroom (below the school loft):

**Topic - "Where Love Abides."** Bible study based on John 15:1-17, written by Donna Snow.

**Adult Bible Study—School Cafeteria:** Topic - "Job" led by Rich & Kristine Rausch.

If you have questions, please contact the Sunday School Superintendent, Lisa Arnold at 937-205-1802 or [arnoldlisa50@yahoo.com](mailto:arnoldlisa50@yahoo.com)

**Valet Parking:** Available at the 9:00 am service. Contact Charlie Fisher at 614-370-5495 or [clfpagg@aol.com](mailto:clfpagg@aol.com) if interested in helping valet park, or have questions.

### Weekly Church Attendance

**4:00 pm Saturday and Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am**  
**3/2 & 3/3: 254**

### Weekly Worship Bible Readings

We have provided next weekends Bible readings for those of you who would like to read and study the Word ahead of next weekends worship services:

**March 16-17, 2024**

**Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

**Epistle Reading: Hebrews 5:1-10**

**Holy Gospel Reading: Mark 10:32-45**

### Congregational Tithe—3rd Qtr. Mission Opportunities of Fiscal Year 2023-24

LCMS Ohio District - 50%;

Youth Mission Outreach - 10%;

Armed Forces Ministry - 40%



## NOTES & NEWS ITEMS



Those who are visiting with us today, please feel free to take a blue visitor "welcome" bag located in the back of church or on the tables in the gym at 11:00 am worship service.



### 2024 ALTAR FLOWER DATES

Flower dates can be reserved for the altar or chancel flowers by contacting Charlotte Blumenschein at (937) 644-4111. Chancel flowers are available almost every weekend. Dates available for altar flowers through the month of August are the following:

May 5	June 23	July 14	July 28	August 11
May 12	July 7	July 21	August 4	August 18

*Many dates are also available in September, October, November, and December.*

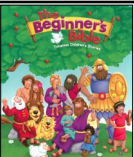
***The Flower Committee thanks you for your support.***

### New Sunday School Class Offering

Have you ever wondered why St. John's and the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod identify as Confessional Lutherans? Or maybe you heard about the Book of Concord and wondered what it was? Or has it just been a long time since you were in Catechism and you need a refresher on the Lutheran Confessions? Well, you're in luck. Starting March 17th, St. John's will be offering a six week introduction to the Lutheran Confessions, taught by Gage C. Garlinghouse.

This class will be held in the cafeteria during the Sunday School hour, and will give an introduction to the history, organization, and teachings of the Lutheran Book of Concord. We hope to see you there as we explore the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3).

Questions? Call Gage at (937) 707-5158, or email him at [gacgar221@gmail.com](mailto:gacgar221@gmail.com)



### 3 Year Old Beginner Bibles Presentations

At all three church services the weekend of March 16 and 17, Beginner's Bibles will be presented to all three year old children (birth dates of January 2020-March 2021) of church members. Please contact Emily Anderson ([emmyjane819@yahoo.com](mailto:emmyjane819@yahoo.com) or 937-303-2164) with questions.



### Stephen Ministry Information

We continue to meet with groups and individuals to get a group of folks for Stephen Ministry training after Easter. Please consider joining us as a Stephen Minister to reach folks who are going through difficult times or hurting in our congregation and community.

### ***What are common caregiving situations for Stephen Ministry?***

Grief, Medical Crisis, Job loss, divorce or broken relationships, pregnancy or birth challenges, infertility and miscarriage, family caregiver stress, end of life and hospice, long term illness, chronic conditions, disability, financial difficulties, major life transitions, relocation, blended family, empty nest, retirement, move to assisted living, military deployment of a loved one, aftermath of a natural or human-caused disaster.

If you are interested, or know someone you think would be a good candidate to be a Stephen Minister, please contact: Doug Doellinger at 937-644-0576, [weaverwood8@gmail.com](mailto:weaverwood8@gmail.com) or Marie Van Gorden at 614-736-7162, [marievangorden@gmail.com](mailto:marievangorden@gmail.com).



### Easter Lily Orders

The Flower Committee is taking orders for Easter lilies through

**March 24, 2024.** The lilies will be

displayed in church Easter weekend. The cost of each lily is \$11.25. Please use the order form included in the Notes & News to order lilies and place it along with payment in the flower box in the Marie Pfarr room.

Contact Charlotte Blumenschein at (937) 644-4111 with any questions. Lilies may be picked up after either service on Easter Sunday or the following weekend.

***Thank you for supporting the Flower Committee.***

### Weekly Notes & News Deadline

Please submit articles by no later than Tuesday at noon to Regina Bullerman, Church Secretary. Call 937-240-3004, mail to the church office, or email to [rbullerman@sjsmarysville.org](mailto:rbullerman@sjsmarysville.org)

## MORE NOTES & NEWS

# Golden Eagles

Soar on Wings God has Made for You

## Brats & Sauerkraut Supper Wednesday, March 20th

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for The Golden Eagles Annual Brats and Sauerkraut Supper! Wednesday, March 20th will be the last Lenten Supper of the season and we'll be serving our traditional German meal of bratwurst sandwiches, sauerkraut, homemade German potato salad, and delicious desserts. Please check the bulletin board in the Marie Pfarr Room for sign-up opportunities. We need help with set-up, serving, dish washing and clean up as well as dessert donations. Please see Carol Reinhard at 614-579-9124; or Jeff Reinhard at 614-560-5085 if you can help. **WILLKOMMEN!**



## EASTER EGG HUNT

MARCH 31ST, 2024

To follow 9 am service. Approximately 10 am  
meet at the grass between church and gym



**The Call Committee** would like to thank members and voters for their prayers and unanimous support at last Sunday's special voters meeting. St. John's paperwork is on the Seminaries desk and in God's hands. We will be anxiously awaiting April 23 Call night.

Thanks to you all - Call Committee

## Expedition Unknown-- St. John's History Search

With a 185 year history, every detail of our past has been recorded, discovered, and explored--or has it?

- Our St. John's ancestors are buried in the three cemeteries associated with the church, including the one now Trinity's; or are they?
- What are Lebenslaufs and what previously unknown information do they reveal?
- The location of the first church has been described; do we really know where it was located?
- What history has been uncovered recently, and how is it accessible?



To find the answer to these and other questions, please **join us at Ladies Aid on April 4 at the Heritage House at 1 pm.**

Nina Boerger will answer all those questions and more. Expedition Unknown has been hard at work.



Mark your calendar for the following 9 am special services:

**March 24: 2024 Youth Rite of Confirmation &  
1st Holy Communion**

**October 27: 50th Confirmation Class Anniversary**

# thrivent

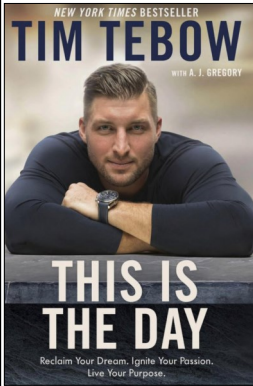
## ATTENTION: Thrivent Members

Please don't forget to designate your 2023 Choice Dollars before March 31, 2024. If you have questions or need assistance in directing your Choice Dollars, contact Thrivent at: **1-800-847-4836** and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted and then **press 1**. You may also go online to **Thrivent.com/thrivent choice**, navigate to the "Get Started" section and click on Thrivent Choice.

If you have 2023 Choice Dollars remaining by the end of March, Thrivent will designate those Choice Dollars to something of their choice. Remember Choice Dollars are **no cost to you and allows you to further support the ministry at St. John's Marysville.** Last year, St. John's received \$6442.00 through Choice Dollars so every amount received is counted and is appreciated. Thank you to all who participate in this program!

## NOTES & NEWS ITEMS

### New Bible Study: **This Is the Day** by TIM TEBOW



#### *Have you ever felt stuck?*

Sometimes life feels rigid—as if nothing could ever really change. Maybe we're afraid of taking a step of faith. Or maybe we're too injured from the past to move forward. Or maybe life threw us a curveball and we still don't know how to react.

No matter where you find yourself, you can make the most of today. In

this inspirational series, Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow shares stories from his life to illustrate what it means to seize each day for God's glory. He challenges us to step out in courage because this is the day to act.

Please feel free to join us for this new 6-week Bible study led by Rich Rausch. The study is geared more towards dad's and kids. You have two sessions to choose from:

- Starting Sunday, March 17th during the Sunday School hour (10:00-11:00 am) in Mrs. Wade's classroom (#3017)
- Starting once a week on Wednesday, March 20th at 6:45 a.m. Location TBD.


There is a companion book that goes with this study. It can be listened to for free if you have an Amazon Prime account, or you can order a book via Kindle, hardbound copy or soft copy. Cost of books are \$16.50 for a hardback or \$15.00 for paperback. If you would prefer a copy be ordered for you, please email Rich at rrausch@sjsmarysville.org. Hope you can join us!

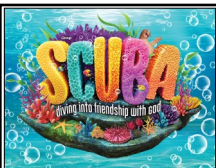
### Join St. John's LYF on their Annual Mission Trip this Summer!

June 16th-22nd, LYF is headed to Fredericksburg, Maryland to serve. While on the mission trip, youth and leaders will serve the elderly, disabled, and impoverished with home repairs, while most importantly, shining and sharing Christ's light to all! Eligible youth are entering 9th grade this fall and up. Cost to attend is \$225 per youth. We are also looking for adult leaders (specifically female) to attend.

Registration forms can be found at [www.tinyurl.com/LYFMissionTrip2024](http://www.tinyurl.com/LYFMissionTrip2024). Please reach out to Laura Zeiler at 913-549-0057 or [lauraezeiler@gmail.com](mailto:lauraezeiler@gmail.com) with any questions. It's sure to be a wonderful week!

#### Upcoming Sr. LYF Events

- 
- **DATE CHANGED FROM 3/10 TO 3/17: Sunday, March 17th - Devotions/Games** at the Youth House, 6pm
  - **Wednesday, March 13th - Lenten Meal** - Meet at 3:45pm in the school cafeteria to set up, serve, and clean up for the Lenten meal. This meal will be served alongside LEAP, with donations going towards the summer mission trip.
  - **Saturday, March 30th - Egg My Yard Fundraiser** - Meet at 2:30pm in the school cafeteria to stuff Easter eggs, followed by delivering/hiding eggs in yards around town! Funds raised go towards LYF events/mission trip.
  - **Sunday, April 14th - Devotions/Games** at the Youth House, 6pm.



### Are You Ready to Dive Right In?!?!??

The VBS leadership team met a couple of weeks ago – and some very important plans are developing for this year's VBS to help accommodate the same increased attendance we experienced last summer. If you've been considering helping with VBS, but weren't sure – this is your year 😊! The leadership team has some needs now, as well as an increase to 18 crew leaders that we will be signing up in May. The openings we need to fill now are:

- 2 Bible story station leaders
- 1 games station leader
- Preschool Leader / visionary
- Actors and actresses

The team will meet again **Sunday, April 7th at noon** in the cafeteria. If you would be interested in one of these jobs, please join us that day! If you aren't sure, or have questions about what it entails – please contact Amanda at 937-243-7471 or [AmandaDavisAnd2Littles@gmail.com](mailto:AmandaDavisAnd2Littles@gmail.com) / [vbs@sjsmarysville.org](mailto:vbs@sjsmarysville.org)

## MORE NOTES & NEWS

### Church & School Picnic

**5.19.24**  
*Save the Date!*

Join us following the 11:00 service from noon to 3pm in the  
St. John's Gym and Cafeteria  
for a potluck, games, music,  
and prizes!

*See you there!*



**FUTURE BLOOD DONOR**

HOPE begins with you.



### **Blood Drive** **St John's Lutheran School**

American Red Cross Bus  
12809 OH-736  
Marysville, OH 43040

**Thursday, March 21, 2024**  
**10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

To Schedule please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and use Sponsor Code: SJL.

Come give March 1 to 24 for a \$10 e-gift card to a pet supply merchant of choice.  
[rcblood.org/Pets](https://rcblood.org/Pets)

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting  
[RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health  
history questions on the day of your appointment.



Scan to be directed to  
RapidPass®



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.

[RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS | Download the Blood Donor App

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### CONCORDIA SEMINARY

Find God's calling and direction for your high schooler's life! **Concordia Seminary, St. Louis** invites ninth- through 12th-grade students to attend **Vocatio: High School** — a retreat that encourages high school men and women to explore many aspects of the Seminary, including worship and devotions, sessions with professors, and even some fun and recreation.

**Registration** costs \$100 and closes  
May 24. **Register today!**



**GriefShare – Week 5:** The 5<sup>th</sup> session, titled "Fearful & Overwhelmed" helps participants find a road map out of worry. Classes are Thursday evenings (through May 16) from 6-8 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 7960 St. Rt. 38, Milford Center. They'll discover:

- Worry is a fear of what *might* happen, not what will happen.
- Having a plan can prevent "grief overload."
- Fear reminds you to depend on a trustworthy God.

GriefShare is a Bible-based support group for people who are grieving the death of a loved one. Each session includes a 30-minute video, small group discussion, and participant guide study. There is a \$20 suggested donation. To register or have questions, please visit [www.griefshare.org](https://www.griefshare.org) or text Deaconess Janet Nicol at **614-561-7411**.

ST. JOHN'S CEA

LIGHT

UP  
THE

*Night*

GLOW DANCE

SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH

5-8PM

ST. JOHN'S GYMNASIUM

Middle -School Dance to follow 8-10 pm  
(grades 5-8)

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Join us for dancing, snacks, games  
and fun

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**Wear your brightest clothes!**

Gym lights will be on for family portion, neon glow lights on for  
middle school.

email [cea@sjsmarysville.org](mailto:cea@sjsmarysville.org) for questions



National Alliance on Mental Illness

# **NAMI** Family-to-Family **FaithNet**

***"The class gave me hope that it will be okay, that I am not alone, and reduced a lot of my shame, guilt, and hopelessness."***



**March 25th – May 13th**

**6:00pm - 8:30pm**

**(Every Monday for 8 weeks)**

**St. John's Lutheran Church, Heritage House  
16561 Kandel Rd., Marysville, OH 43040**

**For more information  
or to register:**



**NotAloneOhio.org**

**A free educational program for family, partners, and friends of those with mental health conditions. With lived experience, our instructors understand and remind you that you are not alone. Research shows that our program significantly improves the coping and problem-solving abilities of those closest to those with a mental health condition.**

**Join us better to understand your loved one's diagnosis and its impact.**

**Questions? Contact Makayla at [Makayla@NotAloneOhio.org](mailto:Makayla@NotAloneOhio.org) or (740) 815-1767.**

NAMI Mid Ohio receives funding from and is a provider for the Delaware-Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board, the Mental Health & Recovery Board of Union County, and SourcePoint: Thrive After 55.

## TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS

### Old Testament Reading: *Numbers 21:4-9*

***God sent venomous snakes to bite the grumbling and complaining Israelites, whom eventually repented. God instructed Moses to make a bronze serpent so whoever looked at the serpent were healed and saved from the snakebites.***

<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.

### Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 2:1-10*

***Before Christ, we were in a spiritual state of death due to sin, but in Christ, we are saved by grace through faith, a gift from God. Salvation is a beautiful result of God's love for us and the sacrifice of Jesus.***

<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.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Holy Gospel: *John 3:14-21*

***Just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the desert for the Israelites to look upon and be healed, so Jesus was lifted up for us to be healed from our sin through His death and resurrection.***

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

**C** Glory be to Thee, 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** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.