

March 31, 2024



# WELCOME

*in the name of the Lord!*

**As God serves us today in Word and Sacrament, may we rejoice in His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation.**

**1) Please complete either a Guest (blue) or Member (white) card found in the hymnal rack of the pews.** You may place this card in the offering plate located in the Narthex.

**2) To parents of small children, we love the sound of children in worship.** Thank you for bringing your child to worship; they belong here! If your child is actively crying, we have a cry room with service audio near the restrooms.

**3) Regarding the Lord's Supper today: If you are not a confirmed member of St. John's congregation or a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, please speak to the pastor before communing.** Pastor is readily available in the narthex before worship for this conversation. For those with medical need, the center section of the individual cup trays is filled with cups of grape juice (darker color). For those who have a gluten intolerance, gluten-free wafers are available. Share your need as you come forward to the altar.

**4) Children are invited to come forward to the altar while the Lord's Supper is distributed; encourage them to bow their heads and fold their hands.** While there, they will receive a Baptismal blessing from the Pastor.

**5) We ask that if you have a mobile device, please silence it during the worship service.**

**6) Our elders and ushers are here to help with any of your worship needs today.**

**Thanks for worshipping with us!**

## Sermon Reflections

**Three things from today's sermon I want to remember:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

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## Standard Worship Times

- ✠ Saturdays 5:30 p.m. — *Abbreviated service*
- ✠ Sundays 8:00 a.m. — *Communion at the rail*
- ✠ Sundays 10:30 a.m. — *Abbreviated service*

**Livestreaming** of the 8:00 a.m. service continues to be available at [stjohnsportage.com/live](http://stjohnsportage.com/live).

Standard Worship Times may change due to Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Please see Weekly Events for changes.

## Weekly Events

- Sunday (31) Easter Sunday**
- 6:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service
  - 8:00 a.m. Easter Day Service
  - 9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast, Church CLC
  - 9:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt, School Gym
  - 9:15 a.m. Praise Band Practice, Church Sanctuary
  - 10:30 a.m. Easter Day Service
  - 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church APR
- Monday (01) Easter Monday**
- All ministries offices closed**
- Strong Bodies, Church Narthex
- 9:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport
- Tuesday (02)**
- 6:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC
  - 9:15 a.m. Parish Life, School Cafeteria
  - 5:30 p.m. PTL, School Cafeteria
  - 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday (03)**
- 9:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, meet at St. John's Chapel
  - 10:00 a.m. Pastor's Open-Door Office Hours
  - 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
  - 12:00 p.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline, Email: [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)
  - 4:00 p.m. Meeting, Church Conference Room
  - 4:30 p.m. Jr. Youth Group grades 4–7, School Gym
  - 5:00 p.m. Handbells, Church Balcony
  - 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir, Church Balcony
  - 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, Church CLC and APR
  - 6:30 p.m. Sr. Youth Group grades 8-12, School Gym
- Thursday (04)**
- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Study, Church CLC
  - 9:00 a.m. Strong Bodies, Church Narthex
  - 10:15 a.m. Rachel Bible Study, Church CLC
  - 11:00 a.m. Heritage House Monthly Worship
- Friday (05)**
- Church office closed**
- Saturday (06)**
- 9:30 a.m. Every One His Witness, Church CLC
  - 6:30 p.m. Chili Madness Cook-off, School Gym
- Sunday (07)**
- 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Fellowship, and Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
  - 9:15 a.m. Praise Band Practice, Church Sanctuary
  - 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church APR

Calendar events are subject to change. For the most up-to-date calendar information, please visit our website, <http://www.stjohnsportage.com/st-johns-calendar>. To schedule your group activity, please contact the church office at 608-742-9000 or email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).

## Please Pray

*Please notify the church office when one of our church family members is in the hospital, so that a pastoral visit may be made or arranged.*

### Other

*Pastor Hovland is deliberating a Divine Call to Trinity Lutheran Church in Mequon, WI.*

### Medical:

*Don Witt, Don Kohrt*

### Long-term Illness/Treatment:

*Stacie Wheeler, Tom Waddell,*

*Ned Seymour (father of Kathleen Bernander)*

*Lani Kohrt (daughter-in-law of Don and Carol Kohrt)*

*Lisa Priske (daughter of Betty Mootz)*

*Gary Tennyson (son of Jim and Nola Tennyson)*

*Mary Maldonado (friend of Gretchen Halvorsen)*

### Mourning:

#### **How Do I Get Someone on the Prayer List?**

If you, or someone you know, would like to have a name added to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Prayer requests for Thanksgiving, Medical, and Mourning will remain on the list for two weeks. Prayer requests for Long-term Illness/Treatment will remain for one month unless the church office is notified with an update on the individual. Please be sure that you have the permission of the individual before contacting the church office to add them to the public prayer list.

## Divine Call Update

### **Pastor Hovland Call Update**

On March 17, Pastor Hovland received a call to serve Trinity, Mequon. This new call came just after he decided to decline the call to Redeemer, Manitowoc. Please pray for St. John's, Redeemer, Trinity, and Pastor's family. Remember that pastors in the LCMS do not seek calls or apply for positions in congregations. His name was submitted for consideration by a congregation member or district.

## Get Involved

### **Join Parish Life and contribute to our vibrant congregation!**

The **Board of Parish Life** is dedicated to nurturing and enhancing the spiritual life of our congregation. We cordially invite you to join us for our upcoming meeting on **April 2nd at 5:30 p.m.**

This is a wonderful opportunity to share your ideas, connect with fellow members, and play an active role in shaping our spiritual experiences together.

The following events are hosted by Youth Group and supported by Parish Life.

Chili Madness—April 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the school gym  
Vacation Bible School (VBS)—June 10-14, time: TBD

Come be a part of something meaningful.

HE IS  
*Risen*

## Sunday School

**Please note that there will be no Sunday School on April 7th.**

Instead, we warmly invite you to join us for worship on Saturday evening, April 6 at 5:30 p.m. Following the service, we encourage everyone to stay and support our **Youth Group** as they host



**Saturday, April 6  
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
St. John's School Gym**

**Join the St. John's Youth Group for food & the final 4 games!**

Free will suggested donation of \$5 per person

Enter the chili cook-off and showcase your favorite chili at our Chili Madness event. Email [youth@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:youth@stjohnsportage.com), text 608.697.2649, Sign-Up Genius link: <https://shorturl.at/nxyEI>, or QR code.

Include: your name, chili name, chili recipe, and category: spiciest, unique, or best all around.

Free will suggested entry fee donation of \$5.



## Walkie Talkies

**Stretch your legs, and engage in meaningful conversations with the Walkie Talkies!**

Join us Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. in the church Narthex for walking and talking.

*Thank you to all who made contributions towards our Easter flowers this year  
in celebration of our Risen Lord and Savior.*

<i>Given By:</i>	<i>In Loving Memory Of:</i>
Carolyn Koepp	Donald and George Koepp
Alex & Carol Swanson	Robert Weiss, Mr. & Mrs. Rudie Maass, Mr. & Mrs. Fritz Swanson
The Ted Mootz Family	Tina Gaffney, Rose Mootz, Helen Thompson, and Wilfred Saeger
Children, Grandchildren, and Great-Grandchildren	Walter & Alice Atkinson
Orin Leege Family and Charles Dehmlow Family	Donna Leege
Henry & Betty Mootz	Deceased members of Priske and Mootz family
Bob & Marion Beahm	Carol Beahm and Tom Maloney
Mike & Bonnie Mulhern	Lester & Joyce Paske, Stan & Marjorie Mulhern, Cathy Thompson, Marie Krueger, and George Koepp
John Neale and Family	Arlene Neale
Howard Dehn Family and John Mountford Family	John & Doris Mountford, Edward & Josephine Dehn, Herb Dehn, and Harriett Fredricks
Dale & Bonnie Horton	Mr. & Mrs. Joe Horton, Adeline Horton, Mr. & Mrs. Clark Bell, and Barbara Bell
Bill & Judy Haase	Corbin Dansie, Sue & John Carlin
Nancy, Neal, Norman	Russ & Alice Hurd
Eugene & Carol Pribnow	Roland & Dorothy Seering, Harvey & LaVerna Pribnow
Your Loving Family	George & Amy Horton, Karen Herwig, Kelly Herwig
Cindy & Tom Luedeman and Family	Donald & Elaine Schumann
The Konkell Family	Raymond, Brian, and Theresa Konkell
Sherry Aberle	Ryan Bubulz
John Wilcox Family	Our Parents and daughter, Amber Ann
Sherry Oeftger	Wallace Oeftger, Ed & Lorraine Oeftger, Walter Monthey, and James & Gladys Hon
His Loving Family	Jeff Huston
Nancy Johnson	Harold & Shirley Johnson, Rod Oosterhof, and Larry Udelhofen
Kathy Gerstenkorn	Russ Gerstenkorn and Peter O. Haakenson
Polly Koepp	George Koepp
Casey Zimmerman	Grandma (Doris) & Grandpa (Rodney) Simonson, Brian Loveland, Uncle Doug Lovland, Uncle Harley Simonson

## Weekly Offerings

**March 24**

In-person Attendance: 430 (includes Lent midweek service)

Unrestricted Unified Received: \$13,073.74

Restricted Contributions Received: \$585.00

TOTAL: \$13,668.74

**Weekly Unrestricted Unified Needed: \$12,885.00**

YTD Unrestricted Unified Giving: \$509,955.43

**YTD Budgeted Unrestricted Unified Need: \$502,515.00**  
(week 39)

## Daily Lectionary

This week's readings comes from the Daily Lectionary found in the Lutheran Service Book page 299.

**Easter Sunday,**

Ex. 14:10-31 &  
Heb. 7:23-8:13

**Easter Monday,**

Ex. 15:1-18 &  
Heb. 9:1-28

**Tuesday,**

Ex. 15:19-16:12 &  
Heb. 10:1-8

**Wednesday,**

Ex. 16:13-35 &  
Heb. 10:19-39

**Thursday,**

Ex. 17:1-6 &  
Heb. 11:1-29

**Friday,**

Ex. 18:5-27 &  
Heb. 12:1-24

**Saturday,**

Ex. 19:1-21 &  
Heb. 13:1-21

## Stewardship Thoughts

**John 20:1** – “Now on the first day of the week ...” All is made new by the resurrection of Jesus! Even the day of worship has transitioned from the Old Testament’s Sabbath (Saturday) to the Lord’s Day of the New Testament (Sunday). For the Lord has made all things new: In rising from the dead as the new Adam, He has begun a new week for a new creation. We are also made new in Him — a new heart, a new life, new desires, a new outlook toward God. All this comes from our risen Lord’s grace. Especially after the sort of year we’ve had since last Easter, it sure is good news to hear that the Lord makes all things start afresh!

## Life Thoughts

**March 31 – Resurrection of Our Lord** – The Scriptures do not limit the sanctity of human life to a few isolated passages. Almighty God has made survival and salvation, abundant and everlasting, the point of the whole story. He intends His resurrection to encompass and affect every member of our race and every moment of our existence, from fertilization to forever. This is nothing less than the Gospel of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)!

## Reminder

**For the protection of the church facility,** the only door unlocked during church office hours is the side entrance on Armstrong Street (near Franklin Street). Feel free to park on Armstrong Street near the entrance, if you plan on stopping by.

## LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*O death, where is your victory?*

*O death, where is your sting?*

1 Corinthians 15:55

## Coffee Hour



**Adopt a Sunday! It's a fun and easy way to get to know your church family.** We encourage families and groups to “Adopt a Sunday” by hosting coffee hour on Sunday mornings. Hosting coffee hour involves providing a simple snack, making coffee, and enjoying fellowship time with our church families. Sign up in the Christian Life Center or email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

**March 31**  
Easter Breakfast

**April 7**  
7th and 8th Grade

**April 14**  
Tracy F.

**April 21**  
LWML

## Contact us: 608-742-9000

**Church:**  
option 4  
Office Hours:  
M—Th 8:00a–3:30p  
[churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

Rev. Greg Hovland,  
Senior Pastor  
(c) 608-571-3360  
[ghovland@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ghovland@stjohnsportage.com)

**Child Development Center:**  
option 2  
Office Hours:  
M—F 7:00a–5:00p  
[cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

Debra Drew,  
Director  
[ddrew@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ddrew@stjohnsportage.com)

**School:**  
option 3  
Office Hours:  
M—F 7:30a–3:15p  
[schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com)

Jim Krupski,  
Principal  
[jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com)

**St. John's Elder Directory:**  
Bob Fairfield 296-4012, Chairman  
Roger Baerwolf 617-6088  
Ken Chvojicek 697-2102  
Bill Hageman 279-0272  
David Hall 493-2125  
Patrick Kirchenwitz 575-3959  
Ron Mueller 369-1845  
Pete Smith 697-3807  
Gene Thompson 697-4786  
Mark Witt 697-0224

To schedule your group activity or add a loved one to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 608-742-9000 option 4 or email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).