

First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026
9:30 a.m.

Welcome to St. John

St. John Lutheran Church 1802 Skippack Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422
www.stjohnbluebell.org www.facebook.com/stjohnbluebell
Nursery School website: www.stjohnsns.com
610-277-1086

Staff:

Pastor Rachel Manke	pastorstjohnbluebell@gmail.com
Lawrence Baker, Director of Music	lawrencebaker22@gmail.com
Ray Hopkins, Director of Youth and Family	rayhopkins1802@gmail.com
Ann Brennan, Visual Arts Program Coordinator	annlb609@gmail.com
Carrie Engel, Nursery School Director	carrie@stjohnsns.com
Katie Myers, Webmaster	stjohnbluebell@gmail.com
Laura Smeltzer, Bookkeeper	stjohn1802bookkeeper@gmail.com
Laura Soda, Church Office Assistant	stjohn1802@gmail.com

Our Council Members are listed on our website.

Celebrating 257 years of mission and ministry, 1769-2026.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Parents with young children: Please know that your children are welcome and cherished in worship! Wiggles and all! If you find a need to step out with them during worship, we have arranged a special Prayer Ground in the Great Room down the sanctuary stairs. At 10:30, the service is streamed onto a screen above that area so you can continue to worship.

This service is live-streamed on the church's YouTube page.

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Order for Worship

As you enter the sanctuary, please take this time for personal reflection and silence to prepare for worship.

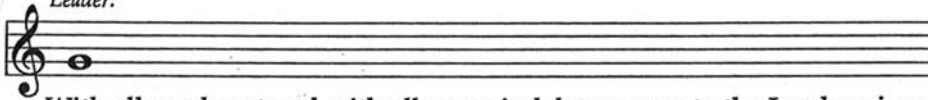
Welcome & Announcements

The assembly may rise at the tolling of the bell.

Gathering

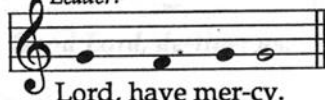
The Great Litany is an extended prayer set in responsorial style. In the early Church, it was associated with long processions asking for God's mercy and protection for the crops. Processional litanies were first used during the late fifth century on the three days before Ascension. Eventually, the form was adopted throughout the Western Church and prescribed for use on days of special devotion, especially those of penitential character (and particularly for the first Sunday in Lent.) This processional prayer was greatly expanded during medieval times and became known as the Litany of the Saints because it included a large number of bids invoking the prayers of saints. The Litany of the Saints underwent major revisions by Martin Luther in Germany during the sixteenth century and was also influential in England. It is on this revision that the 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship text, from which the following comes, is based.

Leader:



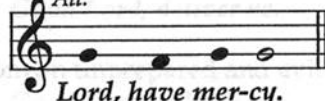
With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord saying:

Leader:



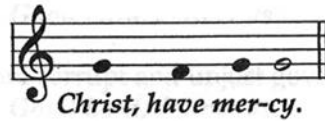
Lord, have mer-cy.

All:



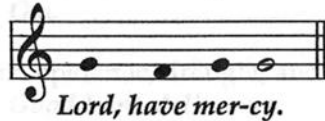
Lord, have mer-cy.

Christ, have mercy.



Christ, have mer-cy.

Lord, have mercy.



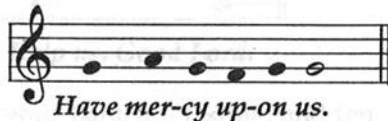
Lord, have mer-cy.

O Christ, hear us.



In mer-cy hear us.

God, the Father in heaven,



Have mer-cy up-on us.

God, the Son, redeemer of the world,

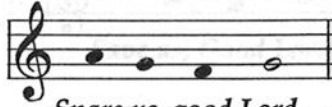
Have mercy upon us.

God, the Holy Spirit,

Have mercy upon us.

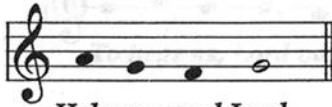
Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy upon us.

Be gracious to us.



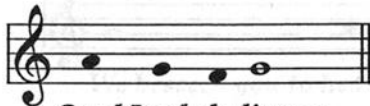
Spare us, good Lord.

Be gracious to us.



Help us, good Lord.

From all sin, from all error, from all evil:



Good Lord, de-liver us.

From the cunning assaults of the devil:

Good Lord, deliver us.

From an unprepared and evil death:

Good Lord, deliver us.

From war, bloodshed, and violence:

Good Lord, deliver us.

From corrupt and unjust government:

Good Lord, deliver us.

From sedition and treason:

Good Lord, deliver us.

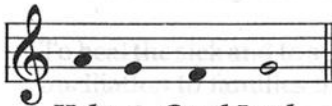
From epidemic, drought, and famine:

Good Lord, deliver us.

From fire and flood, earthquake, lightning and storm; and from everlasting death:

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your incarnation; by your holy birth:



Help us, Good Lord.

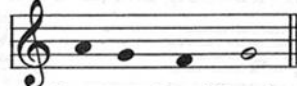
By your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by your agony and bloody sweat; by your cross and suffering; by your death and burial:

Help us, Good Lord.

By your glorious resurrection and ascension; by the gift of the Holy Spirit:

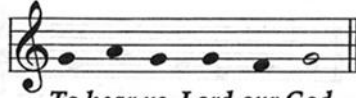
Help us, Good Lord.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:



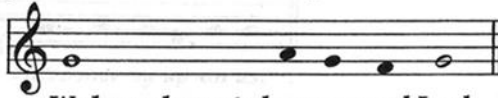
Save us, Good Lord.

Though unworthy we beseech you:



To hear us, Lord our God.

To rule and govern your holy catholic Church; to guide all servants of your Church in the love of your Word and in holiness of life:



We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense to those who would believe; and to bring into the way of truth all who have gone astray:

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful workers into your harvest; to accompany your Word with your Spirit and power:

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

To raise up those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the fainthearted and the distressed:

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

To give all nations justice and peace; to preserve our country from discord and strife; to direct and guard those who have civil authority; and to bless and guide all our people:

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

To behold and help all who are in danger, need, or tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel:

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

To preserve and provide for all women in childbirth; to watch over children and to guide the young:

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

To heal the sick and to strengthen their families and friends; to bring reconciliation to families in discord:

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

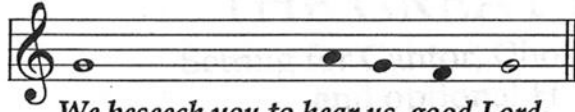
To provide for the unemployed and for all in need; to be merciful to all who are imprisoned:

We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

To support, comfort, and guide all orphans, widowers, and widows; and to have mercy on all your people:

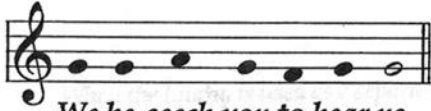
We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to reconcile us to them; to help us use wisely the fruits and treasures of the earth, the sea, and the air; and graciously to hear our prayers:



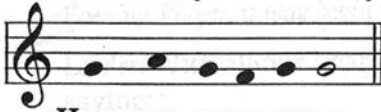
We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God;



We be-seech you to hear us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

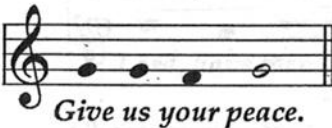


Have mer-cy up-on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

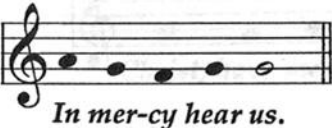
Have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;



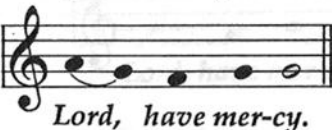
Give us your peace.

O Christ, hear us.



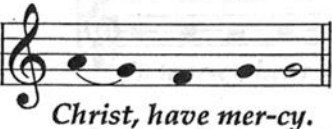
In mer-cy hear us.

Lord, have mercy.



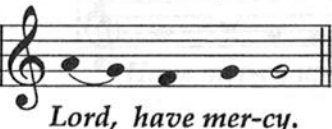
Lord, have mer-cy.

Christ, have mercy.



Christ, have mer-cy.

Lord, have mercy.



Lord, have mer-cy.

Prayer of the Day

P: Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

Children's Message

Word

First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

A: The first reading is from Genesis.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32 (Read Responsively)

- ¹ Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,
and whose sin is | put away!
- ² **Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!**
- ³ While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,
because of my groaning | all day long.
- ⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.**
- ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."
Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.
- ⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.**
- ⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.
- ⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;
I will guide you | with my eye.**
- ⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you."
- ¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.**
- ¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

A: The second reading is from Romans.

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly may rise.

Gospel Acclamation



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’ ”

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

The assembly may be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Rachel Manke

Following a time of silence for reflection, the assembly may rise.

Hymn of the Day~ "When We Are Tested"



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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Apostles' Creed

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

A: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

A: God of all grace, grant faith to your church. Give to all the baptized the will to resist temptation and to worship and serve you alone. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all creation, tend this earth. When human greed and disobedience threaten this planet and the life it contains, lead us by your Spirit into ways of reverence, awe, and gentleness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all nations, preserve us from trouble. Surround all living in places of violence with your steadfast love and give resilience to all who work for peace. Grant courage to those who challenge, especially around issues of racism and systemic oppression. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who are sick, give peace to all who groan in grief, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated. We pray especially for: Calvin, Roger, Maria, Carolyn, Rosemary, Angelo, Tony, Cheryl, Liz, Andy, Greg, Sivan, Joan, Corey, Kevin, Ruth, Rob, Matt, Bongchun, Jimmy, Lance, Stacey, Sean, Eleanor, Marie, Greg, Nan, Joshua, and Robert. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all people, provide for our community. For any among us who hunger for bread, bring nourishment. For any among us who hunger for truth, speak your life-giving word. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: God of all life, bring us to you. We thank you for your free and abounding grace, and for those who, by that same grace, now rest eternally in you. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Pastor: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

*The assembly **may be seated after sharing peace.** If you have not already done so, we ask that members and visitors please take a moment to fill out the communication slips located in each pew and place them in the offering plate.*

Meal

Anthem~ "Walk With Me"

Chancel Choir

I'm just a poor wayfarin' stranger, a-travelin' through this world of woe,
and there's no sickness, toil, or danger in that bright world to which I go.

I want Jesus to walk with me, all along my pilgrim journey,

I want Jesus to walk with me. I know my way is dark and steep,
yet Jesus walked this road before me, and in his love my path he keeps.

I'm goin' there to meet my Savior, to sing his praises evermore.

I'm just a poor wayfarin' stranger, and I want Jesus to walk with me.

Text and Music: *Folk Song/Spiritual*, arr. Zebulon M. Highben

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

We are grateful for your support of St. John. Here are the ways to share tithes and offerings:

-You may make use of the offering plate located on the table at the back of the sanctuary, or scan this QR code to use Square.



Scan to give an offering.

-Simply giving - You can arrange for a regular gift (weekly, monthly, quarterly) to be deducted from a bank account. Please contact Laura Smeltzer, our bookkeeper, to arrange this. Her email address is stjohn1802bookkeeper@gmail.com.

For communion: We practice a "standing station" distribution of communion. An usher will indicate to you when it is time to come up. They will have empty cups for you to take if you are to have wine, and proceed down the center aisle. First, receive the wafer from pastor, putting your hands out. Then, if you are receiving wine, hold up your empty cup to the pouring chalice to receive the wine. Grape juice is in the tray beside the cup in pre-filled cups. Younger children or anyone not receiving are welcome to come up for a blessing from the pastor. You will return to your pew from the side aisle. Christ is the host of this meal, his real presence in bread and wine, and **all are welcome at the table.**

The assembly may rise.

Offertory Prayer

P: O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
 that we should at all times and in all places
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
 through our Savior Jesus Christ.
 You call your people to cleanse their hearts
 and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
 that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
 we may come to the fullness of your grace.
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P: O God, Creator of our wilderness world,
 O God, Savior of the lost,
 O God, Comforter of the sick and suffering,
 we give you thanks for your everlasting might;
 we glorify you for your covenant of mercy.

For forty days you cleansed the earth with the waters of the flood.
 For forty days you illumined Moses with the words of your law.
 For forty years you fed your people with manna from heaven.

You became truly human in Jesus our brother.
For forty days, with fasting and prayer, he renounced the power of the devil.
On the night before he died he took bread, and gave thanks,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.

P: We extol his life.

C: **Amen.**

P: We lament his death.

C: **Amen.**

P: We celebrate his resurrection.

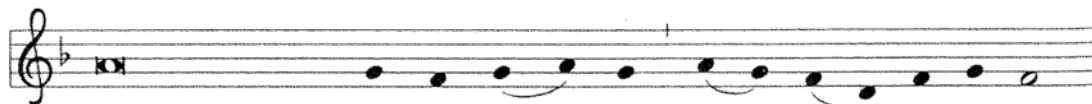
C: **Amen.**

P: Transform us, O God, with your lively Spirit.
Make this food into manna for our journey, the body and blood of your Son.
Grant us with the Ninevites forty days of repentance.
Teach us your words of wisdom and justice.
Renew the whole earth with baptismal grace.
At the last, lead all your pilgrim people through our deserts to your Easter garden.

To you, O God, Creator, Savior, Comforter,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be our worship and praise, adoration and thanksgiving
now and forever. Amen.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer



A: Lord, remember us in your king - dom, and teach us to pray.



ALL: Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



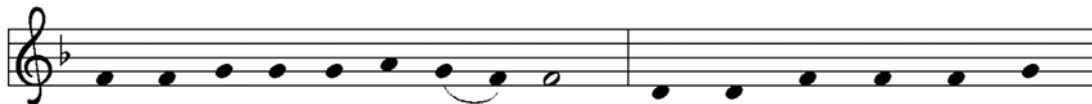
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Invitation to Communion

P: The gifts of God for the people of God.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Communion Canticle ~ Agnus Dei

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

The assembly may be seated. The meal is shared.

Anthem "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

Chancel Choir

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.

As you with Satan did contend and did the vict'ry win,
O give us strength in you to fight, in you to conquer sin.

As you did hunger and bear thirst, so teach us gracious Lord,
to die to self and always live by your most holy word.

And through these days of penitence, and through your Passiontide,
forevermore in life and death, Lord, with us abide.

Abide with us that when this life of suffering is past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last!

Text: Claudia F. I. Hernaman

Music: Zebulon M. Highben

Post Communion Blessing

P: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

P: God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Blessing

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
✠ bless you now and always.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn~ “The Glory of These 40 Days”

1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
 4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in

brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
 God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
 from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
 fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en

things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
 with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt.

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Remember those who are poor.

C: **Thanks be to God**

The assembly may depart in contemplative peace during the season of Lent.

Assisting with Worship

Pastor

Pastor Rachel Manke

Director of Music

Lawrence Baker

9:30 Usher

Audrey Pyle

9:30 Lector

MaryEllen Scheffey

9:30 Communion Assistant

9:30 Acolyte

Video Technicians

Phil Wood, Adam Kiefski, Xavier Mitchell, & Megan Kiefski

Counters

Andrea Greyson, Beth Wood

During Lent we do not place flowers on the altar.

*Our full prayer list is printed on a separate piece of paper which is available near the bulletins. Names will remain on our list for **a month and then be removed**. If you want to be sure that someone remains there, contact the church office.*

This Week at St. John...

Sunday, Feb 22

10:45 Annual Ministry Meeting

Monday, Feb 23

10:00 Quilters

Thursday, Feb 26

12:15 NO Bible Study this week

10:00 Visual Arts Class

6:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, Feb 27

10:00 Visual Arts Class

6:30 Boy Scouts Troop 98 [FH, MPR, YC]

Sunday, March 1

8:15 Worship

9:15 Adult Class

10:30 Worship



Scan this QR code to see the church calendar on our website.

Happening at St. John

TODAY! After WORSHIP!

Join us for our annual ministry meeting following this service. We will get time to settle, grab a bite and a beverage and then share a recount of our past year. We will also have the chance to look forward a little and give thanks for the service of others. There are no items up to vote on this year so it will be simple! However, are you interested in attending Synod Assembly this year as one of our voting delegates? All voting members are eligible to do so (and preference is for those who have not gone before or recently).

Lenten Services - We will once again join our neighbors of the S.P.A.M. Ministers group and their congregations for weekly Wednesday Lent services at each other's churches. The theme for preachers this year is "Encounters with Jesus". *Keep an eye out in the Great Room for our usual table of Lenten resources to aid in your prayer life during the season.* **Lenten services at 7pm at the following locations and dates:**

- 2/25 – Trinity UCC in Skippack
- 3/4 – Methacton Mennonite in Fairview
- 3/11 – Wentz's UCC in Skippack
- 3/18 – Bethel Hill UMC in Lansdale
- 3/25 – Trinity Episcopal in Blue Bell

Save the Date: Chili Cookoff Fundraiser - Mark your calendars for a youth fundraiser on **March 7th** We have 4 chefs confirmed but still room for any aspiring chefs, but hope to see as many people as possible on March 7 to help us raise funds for the youth programs at St. John. Cash prizes for Judges' Choice and Crowd Favorite.

Pastor's Thursday Bible Study will not meet for the next two weeks (2/26 & 3/5) but will resume with our new study on the book of Proverbs on 3/12 at 12:15.

News and Info

2026 Summer Youth Trip — Gettysburg (July 12–17) - This summer we're returning to Gettysburg for a week at the seminary! In 2026, we'll be partnering with the seminary and participating in **Theological Education of Youth (TEY)**—a program that blends service, fun, and opportunities for youth to dig deeper into their faith. All youth in the confirmation program through completed 12th grade are invited. For details, please contact Ray.

Giving Envelopes - Just a few envelopes remain for pick-up! Please reach out to Laura Smeltzer, bookkeeper, at stjohn1802bookkeeper@gmail.com if you have not picked up yours.

Sanctuary Heat Update – As of bulletin printing we anticipate that our boiler will be fully functional by the end of Thursday thus – today! We are grateful for the hours of attention and legwork put in by our volunteers from start to finish. From temporary heat to finished repair. Thank you to Guy Gilpin, Ron Nordmeyer, Dan Pfeiffer and overseeing the project in God’s eternal embrace, the late John Posen.

Snow Policy - We thought we might communicate a plan for cancellation and communication should there be weekend snow again. The plan is that by 7:00 am on Sunday we will send out an email and post on Facebook if we are CANCELLING services (one or both - and include any changes to morning classes). If you don’t get an email or see a posting on our Facebook page you might assume that we are on. As best as we are able we will livestream anything that goes on in person.

Altar Flowers – A reminder that during the season of Lent we do not place flowers at the altar.

Bulletin Announcements & Weekly Email - *To request the inclusion of an announcement in the bulletin, please contact the church office by Monday of that week. To request inclusion in the weekly email, contact Katie Myers by Monday of that week.*



Scan this QR code to receive our weekly email newsletter!