

St. John's Lutheran Church

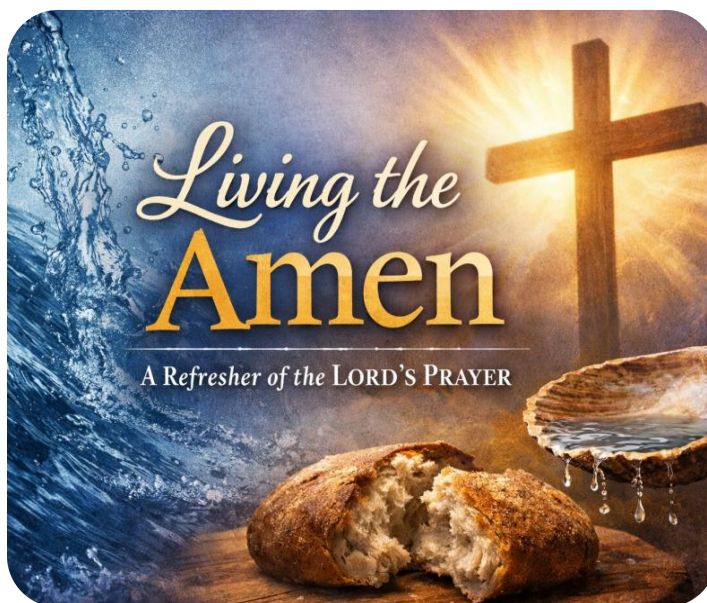
ELCA

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Little Suamico, WI 54141
920-826-7785

Emergency Contact# 906-202-4415 (text ok)

Guest Pastor—Reverend Keith Kolstad
Reverend Stacy Malzhan

Office Manager & Family/Youth Ministry Director— Karie Peters



Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am - 1 pm
Call for an appointment with Pastor Stacy

Email - Pastor Stacy: pastor@stjohnlittlesuamico.org
Office: stjohnsls@stjohnlittlesuamico.org



Our worship services are live broadcasted and available for future viewing via YouTube. In-person attendance implies consent to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

Meditation

During the prelude, we invite you into a time of reflection. The main doors of the sanctuary will remain closed prior to worship so those who wish may have a time of centering and reflection of the past week, our community, our world, and God's sacrificial and redeeming love for us all.

Church Year Information~ Season: Lent • Color: Purple

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt
and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdaining the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,

and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,

and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you,
pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

Amen.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE & CANTICLE OF PRAISE: Please see *ELW Page 138* in the front of your hymnal.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

READING: Romans 5:1-11

Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

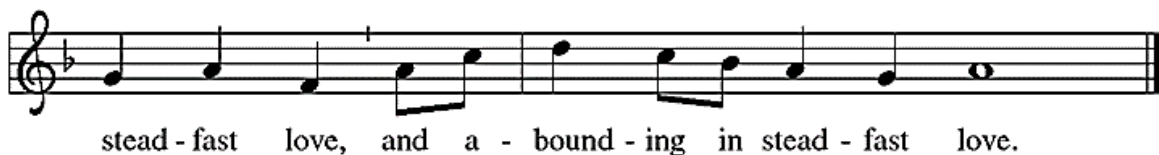
¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

The Holy Gospel according to John, the fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews."²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him."²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work."³⁵ Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done."⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked

him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ON THE STEPS:

The noisy offering today will be donated to a local school's lunch program.

MESSAGE: "Thy Will Be Done- Serve all people, following the example of Christ"



HYMN OF THE DAY: As Your Spirit in the Desert (ACS 923)



1 As your Spir - it in the des - ert led the Christ to
 2 As your fire and cloud - y pil - lar Is - rael's tribes to
 3 Though wild beasts may lurk in shad - ow, and dire thirst may
 4 Through the nar - row gate now draw us, past all em - pire's
 5 God of des - ert, God of prom - ise, you have bid us



dust and stone, so in - still our hearts with cour - age now to
 Ca - naan led, may your pres - ence be our com - fort, may your
 sear and sting, you have prom - ised liv - ing wa - ters wait - ing
 pull and strife, where be - yond our fear and cling - ing stands the
 jour - ney on through the days of dust and dark - ness to the



cross where Christ has gone. Let us cross in - to the
 man - na be our bread. Let us cross in - to the
 for us at the spring. Let us cross out of the
 thresh - old of new life. Let us cross out of the
 ris - ing of the dawn. Let us cross out of the



wil - der - ness so to walk where Christ has gone.
 wil - der - ness with God's man - na as our bread.
 wil - der - ness to the wa - ters of the spring.
 wil - der - ness to the thresh - old of new life.
 wil - der - ness to the ris - ing of the dawn.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

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 THE PEOPLE

To You All Hearts Are Open (ACS 1012)



The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "To you all hearts are o - pen, to". The second staff contains: "you all de - sires known. To you there are no". The third staff contains: "se - crets, al - might - y God; we come to you." The third staff includes a triplet of eighth notes and a "Last time" marking above the final measure.

SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

STEWARDSHIP TIME

The apostle Paul reminds us, "God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." With gratitude for God's goodness and in response to God's indescribable gift of Jesus Christ, let us present our tithes and offerings. (2 Corinthians 9:8)

STEWARDSHIP OF GENEROSITY

Thank you for your ongoing financial support of St. John's Ministries.

Offerings may be given in the following ways:

- Use the QR code to the right to make a gift.
- Place your offering in the plate when it is passed.
- Enroll in Simply Giving for automatic giving from a bank account or credit card.
(See Karie for more information.)



STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Create in Me a Clean Heart* (ELW 186)

PRAYER OF FAITHFUL RESPONSE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

MEAL

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER LITANY

Our Father in heaven, You are holy. You are above us. To you we pray.

Hallowed be your name.

Your name is holy. Keep it holy among us, and throughout this world, this needy world.

Your kingdom come.

Come, O Father, with your holy kingdom—to us, and through us to many others.

Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

If it's your will, it has to be good. Let it be done here on earth, Lord. Please.

Give us today our daily bread.

Our bread for today is plenty, but we ask enough for all the needy in this world.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

We cannot live without your forgiveness, O Lord, and this world will destroy itself unless we forgive each other. Help us to keep the forgiveness flowing.

Lead us not into temptation.

You are strong, and we are weak. When we walk with you, we are strong.

But deliver us from evil.

Evil is many-faced and many-sided. Only you are stronger. Be our strong rock.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

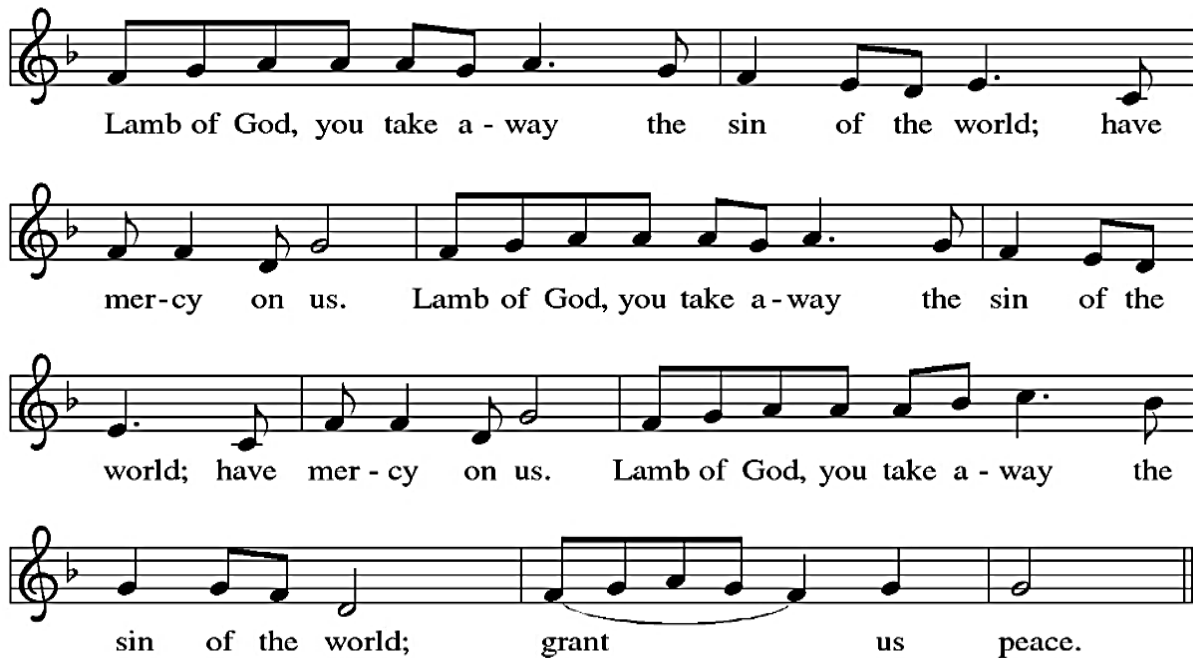
You can hear. You can answer. You can prevail. And you let us call you "Our Father."

We thank and praise you. So be it.

Amen!

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

LAMB OF GOD (ELW Setting 3)



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.

COMMUNION HYMN: *Bread of Life from Heaven* (ELW 474)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: *Rock of Ages, Cleff for Me* (ELW 623)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Please remember these people in your prayers.

There are **PRAYER CARDS** in the Narthex beneath the nametags and in the pews. If you have a special prayer request, please complete the form and place it in the offering plate or place it in the office mailbox. Your prayer will be added to the Prayer List and **will remain there for 3 weeks**. If you wish to have the person's name continue to be listed, you must notify the church office in writing on a prayer card or by email. Be sure to let us know when someone may be removed from the prayer list as well. If you have questions, please contact Karie in the church office.

Those who are home bound:


Arlene Matuszewski Fran Koski Arlene Giese Ron and Diana Sefcik
Edwin Kazik (Father of Karie Peters) Donna Ward (Sister of Lorna Koch)
Bud & Ann Wardecki (Parents of Barb Dorn)

Those who are ill/recovering/ have special needs or concerns:

Ron Koch Earl & Shirley Habeck Doris Fleck
Wayne Wentworth Eleanor Nickel Joe Kozlovsky
Marie Zirbel Meyer (Aunt of Janet Francies) Mark Heisel (Friend of Greg & Tammy Yager)
Greg Roberts (Son-in-law of Nancy Valentine) Peggy Foltz (Sister of Beth Wentz)
Betty Couillard (Sister of Doug Malueg) Kerry Pranica (Friend of Doris Fleck)
Randy Denneau (Brother of Lorna Koch) Helen Mohan (Daughter of Tess Smith)
Kay Koch (Friend of Lorna Koch) Al Reimer (Friend of Pam Giese)
Erin Culbertson (Friend of Doris Fleck) Yvonne Virtues (Mother of Pat Virtues)
Carol Barker (Mother of Beth Wentz) Mike & Carmen Peters (Parents of Tim Peters)
Dave Hansen (Nephew of Doug & Helen Malueg) Ashley Rogers (Friend of Tim & Karie Peters)
Family of Ronny Neitzel (Friend of Tina Douglass) Kelly Havlik Lacera (Friend of Desiree Kozlovsky)
Nick Carter (Friend of Duayne & Pat Rosenberg) Eli Marchand (Son of Michelle Marchand)
John and Shirley Tramontin (Parents of Tess Smith)
Brenton Severson (Grandson of Janet Francies)
Jill Willner (Niece & Cousin of Ann, Rob & Nikky Urbaniak)
Sharon Hanson (Sister/Sister-in-law of Doug & Helen Malueg)

Those who are serving in the Military:

Josh & Cheyenne Perrault- Air Force
Gage Boyd- Air Force (Grandson of Tracey & Pamela Krumrei)
Alex Culbertson-Wisconsin National Guard (Grandson of Dave & Ginny Burkart)
Sam Cooper-Captain, Army Reserves (Son of Jerry & Michelle Cooper)

<i>This Week at St. John's</i>			
Sun, March 8	Mon, March 9	Tues, March 10	Wed, March 11
DST Begins 9:00am , Worship 10:15am , Fellowship Faith Finders!		10:00am , Fitness Class Level 2 11:00am , Fitness Class Level 1  6:00pm , Council	Lent 3 5:45pm , Simple Supper 6:30pm , Midweek Lenten Worship
Thurs, March 12	Fri, March 13	Sat, March 14	Sun, March 15
11:30am , Brown Bag Bible Study	Office Closed	6:00pm , AA Meeting	9:00am , Worship 10:15am , Fellowship Faith Finders! Worship Team

	<i>Sunday March 8</i>	<i>Sunday March 15</i>
<i>Acolyte(s)</i>	Rayce Kissinger	Needed
<i>Welcome Center</i>	Nancy Valentine	Nancy Valentine
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	Four Needed	Nancy Gleffe Three Needed
<i>Communion Steward</i>	Helen Malueg	Nancy Gleffe
<i>Greeters</i>	Two Needed	Two Needed
<i>Technology Team</i>	Nikky Urbaniak	Sara Beth Holman
<i>Scripture Readers</i>	Nancy Valentine	Duayne Rosenberg
<i>Scrip Volunteers</i>	Steve & Angie Larsen Susan Mittelstaedt	Steve & Angie Larsen Susan Mittelstaedt
<i>Offering Counters</i>	Kelly Stellmacher* Betty Stevens*	Betty Stevens* Needed
<i>Ushers</i>	Elora Curell Lorna Koch John Warren	Steve & Angie Larsen Dave Zimmerman

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