

*Laetare*

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023 ✝ 9:00 AM



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod ✝ [www.stjohns-mattoon.org](http://www.stjohns-mattoon.org)

200 Charleston Avenue, Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Church (217) 234-4923 ✝ School (217) 234-4911

St. John's Lutheran Church is a parish of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (lcms.org), where God's people gather to receive the gifts of Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament. Welcome in the name of the Lord!

We are blessed to have a vibrant and growing parochial school, St. John's Lutheran School (Preschool & K-8), serving the families of the church and the Mattoon community with a Christ-centered education. For more information, visit [stjls-mattoon.com](http://stjls-mattoon.com), or contact the school office at 217-234-4911.

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GUESTS, we pray you are comforted by the Gospel and feel welcome among us. We invite you to introduce yourselves.

CHILDREN OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME in the Divine Service. Restrooms and a cry room/nursery are located in the narthex.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE with all page numbers for the hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*, is found in this bulletin, as well as each week's Propers\*. The end of the bulletin contains St. John's weekly news and announcements. The large-print bulletins also contain the hymns and liturgy for the convenience of those who may need it.

\**The Propers are the Psalm verses (Introit and Gradual) and Readings that are appointed for (or "proper to") the particular Sunday in the Church Year.*

Divine Service, Setting Three,  
*Lutheran Service Book, page 184*

<u>Hymns</u>	
684	743
710	625
435	440
454	



Prelude  
Announcements

**Opening Hymn: *Come unto Me, Ye Weary* ..... 684**  
*Stand for the final stanza.*

**Confession and Absolution.....page 184**

**Introit (sung by choir) ..... Isaiah 66:10; Psalm 122:1**

*Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her,  
all you who love her;*

*Rejoice for joy with:  
all ye that mourn for her.*

*I was glad when they said to me,  
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”*

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen. (Antiphon repeated)*

**Kyrie ..... pages 186**  
*The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted from Septuagesima through Lent.*

**Salutation and Collect of the Day.....page 189**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** *And with thy spirit.*

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing

obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** *Amen.*

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 49:8–13*

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord:

“In a time of favor I have answered you;  
in a day of salvation I have helped you;

I will keep you and give you  
as a covenant to the people,

to establish the land,

to apportion the desolate heritages,

<sup>9</sup>saying to the prisoners, ‘Come out,’  
to those who are in darkness, ‘Appear.’

They shall feed along the ways;

on all bare heights shall be their pasture;

<sup>10</sup>they shall not hunger or thirst,

neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them,

for he who has pity on them will lead them,

and by springs of water will guide them.

<sup>11</sup>And I will make all my mountains a road,  
and my highways shall be raised up.

<sup>12</sup>Behold, these shall come from afar,  
and behold, these from the north and from the west,  
and these from the land of Syene.”

<sup>13</sup>Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;  
break forth, O mountains, into singing!

for the Lord has comforted his people

and will have compassion on his afflicted.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual** (sung by choir)

*Psalms 122:1, 7*

*I was glad when they said to me:*

*Let us go into the house of the Lord.*

*Peace be within thy walls*

*and prosperity within thy palaces.*

## Epistle

Galatians 4:21–31

<sup>21</sup>Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? <sup>22</sup>For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. <sup>23</sup>But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. <sup>24</sup>Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. <sup>25</sup>Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. <sup>26</sup>But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. <sup>27</sup>For it is written,

“Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear;  
break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!  
For the children of the desolate one will be more  
than those of the one who has a husband.”

<sup>28</sup>Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. <sup>29</sup>But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. <sup>30</sup>But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” <sup>31</sup>So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand. The Tract replaces the Alleluia from Septuagesima through Lent.*

Tract (spoken responsively)

Psalm 125:1–2, 5b

*They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion,  
which cannot be removed, but abideth forever.*

*As the mountains are round about Jerusalem:*

*so the Lord is round about His people henceforth*

*from this time forth and forevermore. Peace be upon Israel!*

Holy Gospel

John 6:1–15

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

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. <sup>5</sup>Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to

Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?”<sup>6</sup> He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do.<sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.”<sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?”<sup>9</sup> Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number.<sup>11</sup> Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted.<sup>12</sup> And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, “Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost.”<sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten.<sup>14</sup> When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!”

<sup>15</sup>Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed..... page 191  
*Sit*

Hymn of the Day: *Jesus, Priceless Treasure* .....743  
*Choir sings stanzas 2 and 4.*

**Sermon**

*Stand*

**Offertory:** *Create in Me* .....pages 192–193

*Sit*

**Offering**

*Please take this time to fill out the red record of fellowship at the end of the pew.*

*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

OUR TEACHING ON THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION:

Attending communion at our altar indicates agreement with the doctrine and teachings of Scripture that our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod confesses. Therefore, only confirmed members of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod should come forward without first speaking to the pastor and being instructed. Thank you.

Preface through *Agnus Dei* ..... pages 194–198

*Sit*

Distribution Hymns (as needed)

<i>The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want</i> .....	710
<i>Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread</i> .....	625
<i>Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain</i> .....	435
<i>Jesus, I Will Ponder Now</i> .....	440

*Stand*

Nunc Dimittis through *Benediction*..... pages 199–202

MARCH HYMN OF THE MONTH

Closing Hymn: *Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle* ..... 454

*The Postlude is omitted during Lent.*



**Laetare, The Fourth Sunday in Lent ~ The Lord Feeds His People**

The Lord provided bread from heaven for His people in the wilderness (Ex. 16:2–21). Now He who is Himself the living bread from heaven miraculously provides bread for the five thousand (John 6:1–15). This takes place near the time of the Passover, after a great multitude had followed Jesus across the sea, and when He went up on a mountain. Seen in this way, Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mount Sinai and makes us free children of the promise (Gal. 4:21–31). Five loaves become twelve baskets—that is, the five books of Moses find their goal and fulfillment in Christ, whose people continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship of the twelve apostles, and in the breaking and receiving of the bread of life, which is the body of Christ together with His precious blood, and in the prayers (Acts 2:41–47). So it is that God’s people “shall not hunger or thirst” (Is. 49:8–13). For He abundantly provides for us in both body and soul.

*Church Year Calendar, CPH*

The name *Laetare* comes from the first word in Latin of the Introit (taken from Isaiah 66): *Laetare Jerusalem: Rejoice, Jerusalem . . .*

**03/19/2023**

**Lent 4**

**03/22/2023**

**Lent Evening Prayer**

**03/26/2023**

**Lent 5**

<b>Celebrant</b>	Rev. Andrew Herzberg	Rev. Andrew Herzberg	Rev. Andrew Herzberg
<b>Cantor/Organist</b>	Peter Eckardt	Peter Eckardt	Peter Eckardt
<b>Head Elder</b>	Scott Harris	Scott Harris	Scott Harris
<b>Asst. Elder</b>	Kevin McReynolds	Kevin McReynolds	Kevin McReynolds
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Tara Stortzum, Natasha Hagen, & Connie Elder	Tara Stortzum, Natasha Hagen, & Connie Elder	Tara Stortzum, Natasha Hagen, & Connie Elder
<b>Acolytes</b>	Raygen Smith & Liz Herzberg	Adriana Veach & Liz Herzberg	Chase Upton & Max Wetzel

***Altar Flowers are given by Larry & Nancy Maxedon in celebration of their 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!***

## ***Those in Need of Comfort, Health, & Recovery***

Douglas Blume	Bianca Stodden	Connie Elder
Dennis Johnson	Lora Grubbs	John Metzger
Pat Smith	Jim Duey	Lorene Reinhart
Marge Anderson	Larry & Bebe Griffith	Alvin Schagemann
Bob Zschau	Susan Sochowski	Art & Charlotte
Herman Janssen	Dan Johnson	Zuhone
Jeff Ferree	Chris Greer	Terri Fry
Mary Beth Tamm	Thomas Seaman	Jeannie Ahasay
Shirley Kolbus	Brooklynn Dotson	Tim Gass
Shoni Anderson	Carolyn Muessman	
Charles Stodden	Gene Ewald	

**Gathered in Worship last Sunday: 168**

**Lent Evening Prayer: 117**

**Sunday School Attendance: 68**

Children: 29

Adults: 39

## **Church Announcements**

**Easter Breakfast** is fast approaching and the FIRE Youth Group needs YOUR help! Outside the Fellowship Hall is a board with all the things we need donated for breakfast. If you would like to help, grab a post-it with the items you want to bring and have it to the kitchen by Friday, April 7, 2023. Thanks for your continued support of our youth!

**SAVE THE DATE!** Pictures for our church directory will be taken on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup>. You can sign up for a time by clicking the link on our Facebook page or by checking in with a Parish Life committee member during these next few Sundays. At this time all of our dates are filled except for Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>!



**Easter Lily Order:** Easter is just around the corner and we will be decorating the church again this year with Easter Lilies. If you would like to purchase a plant or plants to help beautify our chancel for our Easter services, please fill out an order form located on the ledge by the church office. Order forms are due with payment of \$18 by Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Our Annual EASTER EGG HUNT will take place on April 1<sup>st</sup>!** We are asking for your help to get the eggs filled! We are now accepting candy & trinket donations that would fit in an Easter egg. Drop off donations at the church office!

**Enrollment has begun** for the 2023–24 school year, which also means financial applications are coming in as well. Please consider tithing to the Scholarship fund to support families who need assistance. Scholarship determinations will happen in April.

**Ushers:** We are looking for volunteers to usher during the Divine Service on a monthly basis. Ushers assist the elders by greeting members and visitors, taking offering, and inviting people forward for Communion. Even if you have not ushered previously, we would encourage you to consider volunteering. High school and college age members are especially encouraged to usher. If you have any questions or are interested in helping, please reach out to Scott Harris at 217-259-1707.

**Annual Reports:** Just a reminder that all church organizations must turn in a 2022 annual report to the church office. There are still several organizations that have not yet turned in their reports, please do so ASAP.

Don't forget to get your **2023 Auction** tickets! Go online to the school's webpage under the fundraising tab to get your auction tickets. Tickets are \$35/person or \$60/couple and \$300/full table. Also, don't forget to buy your tickets for the new 2023 Hyundai Venue! Tickets are \$100 and available at either the church or the school office.

**A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life** "When we ignore the baby in the womb and focus instead on what is now being labeled as the rights of the mother and women's health care, we are turning our backs on God. Never has God authorized killing and called it a right. Never has God condoned promoting abortion and called it health care. His love for life is written throughout Scripture. What are we doing when we ignore His sacred Word?" *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

## Schedule for March 19 – March 26

<b>Sun</b>	<b>9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion (Lent 4)</b> 10:20 – 11:20 am Adult Bible Study/Sunday School 2:00 pm Stortzum—Gym
<b>Mon</b>	8:00 Laborer’s of Love 4:30 pm PTL Meeting 5:30 pm Larson Gym
<b>Tue</b>	6:30 am Men’s Bible Study—Honey Bee Café 3:30 – 4:15 pm Youth Choir 6:00 – 7:15 pm Adult Choir
<b>Wed</b>	5:30 – 6:15 pm Lent Meal <b>6:30 pm Lent Evening Prayer</b> 7:15 – 8:00 pm Confirmation Class
<b>Thurs</b>	10:30 am Bible Study—The Fellowship Hall
<b>Sat</b>	5:00 pm “The Greatest Show” Dinner Auction
<b>Sun</b>	<b>9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion (Lent 5)</b> 10:20 – 11:20 am Adult Bible Study/Sunday School 2:00 – 6:00 pm Voltenburg—Multi-Purpose Room 2:00 pm Stortzum—Gym 5:00 pm FIRE

## Lent Midweek Services

### **Wednesday, March 22**

5:30 pm – 6:15 pm Meal (FIRE Youth Group)

6:30 pm Evening Prayer

### **Wednesday, March 29**

5:30 pm – 6:15 pm Meal (Lutheran School Board)

6:30 pm Evening Prayer



### **Maundy Thursday, April 6**

5:30 pm – 6:15 pm Meal (Altar Guild)

6:30 pm Divine Service

### **Good Friday, April 7**

6:30 pm Divine Service



## Easter Sunday Services Schedule

### **Sunday, April 9**

6:30 am Easter Sunrise Divine Service

7:45 am – 9:45 am Easter Breakfast

10:00 am Easter Day Divine Service

