

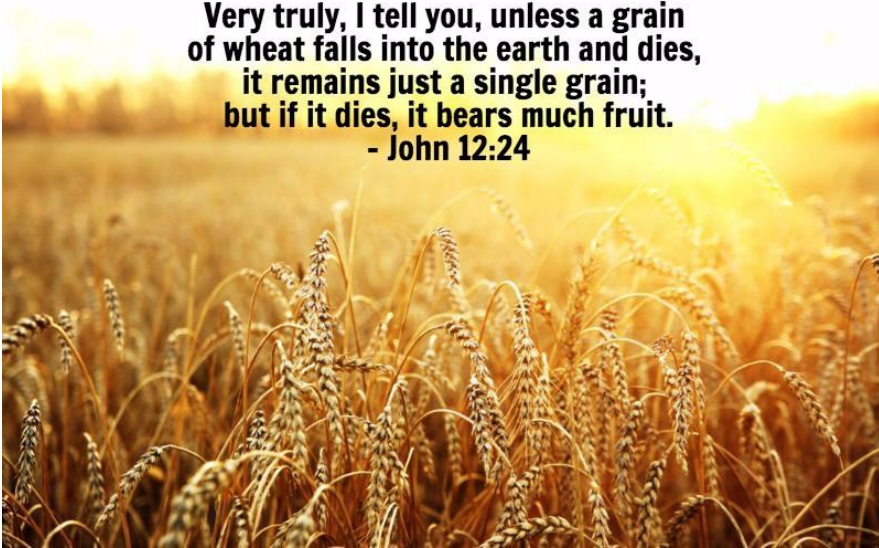


St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool  
200 S Main St  
Charles City, Iowa 50616  
641-228-3397  
[www.stjohncharlescity.org](http://www.stjohncharlescity.org)

Rev. Russ Leeper, Senior Pastor  
Beth Hurt, Intern  
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music  
Cherie Schafer, Pianist

**Sunday, March 17, 2024**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain  
of wheat falls into the earth and dies,  
it remains just a single grain;  
but if it dies, it bears much fruit.**  
- John 12:24



**John 12:20-33**

*Prelude*

**“Amazing Grace”**

*Welcome*

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Ron & Connie Rasmussen in memory of loved ones.

***Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness***

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires know, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**



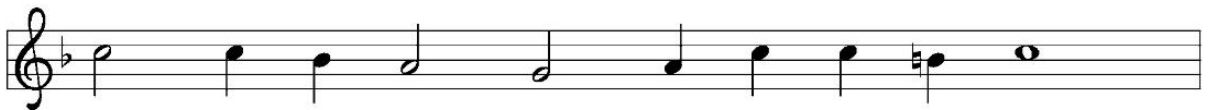
1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church  
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,  
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,  
 so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,  
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,  
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,  
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:  
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:  
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.  
 so we are dead and live with you in God.  
 so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

*Apostolic Greeting*

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

C: **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day***

**O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

***Scripture Reading***

**Jeremiah 31:31-34**

**Read by Brent Hinz**

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

**“Jesus Loves Me”**

Jesus loves me this I know,  
For the Bible tells me so,  
Little ones to Him belong,  
They are weak but He is strong.

**Refrain:**

Yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me,  
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me He who died  
Heaven’s gate to open wide  
He will wash away my sin  
Let his little child come in. **Refrain:**



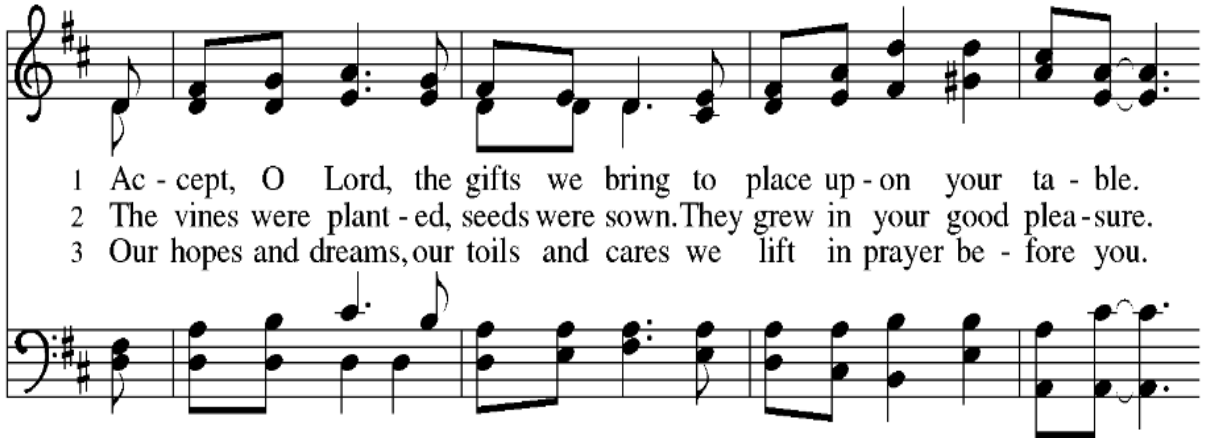


**Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families:** Kaleb Bilharz, Mackenzy Bilharz, Tanner Evans, Kaylie Fox, Hannah Fox, Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs, Cameron Kakac, Drew Roethler, Robson Shankland, Ben Hauser, George Brockney

*The Offering Hymn*

**“Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring”**

**#691**



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.  
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.  
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

**\*Response**

**“Feed Us Now”**

Feed us now, Bread of life, In this holy meal;  
Let us know your love a-new; We hunger for you.  
Feed us now, Bread of life, Come and live with-in.  
Let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray

## *The Words of Institution*

### *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.**

### *Communion Invitation*

#### **“O Bread of Life from Heaven”**

**#480**

O bread of life from heaven,  
O food to pilgrims given,  
O manna from above:  
feed with the blessed sweetness  
of your divine completeness  
the souls that want and need your love.

O fount of grace redeeming,  
O river ever streaming  
from Jesus' wounded side:  
come now, your love bestowing  
on thirsting souls, and flowing  
till all are fully satisfied.

We love you, Jesus, tender,  
in all your hidden splendor  
within these means of grace.  
Oh, let the veil be riven,  
and our clear eye in heaven  
behold your glory face to face.



“Just As I Am, Without One Plea”

#592

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,  
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
 man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

# “Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling”

#608

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*

watch - ing for you and for me.  
 mer - cies for you and for me? “Come home, come home!  
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home.” Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, “O sin - ner, come home!”

*Communion Blessing & Benediction*

*Sending Hymn*

**“Lord. Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”**

**#545**



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.  
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.  
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

**L:** Go in peace. Share the Good News!

**C:** Thanks be to God!

*Postlude*



*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool  
200 S. Main Street, Charles City, IA 50616; 641-228-3397*

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

## March 17—March 24

3/17/2024	9:00 a.m.	Worship & Communion (5th Sunday of Lent)		
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Morning Schedule		
3/18/2024	6:00 p.m.	Cub Scouts		
3/19/2024	6:30 p.m.	GriefShare		
3/20/2024	9:00 a.m.	Newsletter Deadline		<u>Sunday Morning Schedule</u>
	9:00 a.m.	Do Day Quilters		
	3:30 p.m.	Wednesday Night Lenten Schedule	9:00 a.m.	Service
3/21/2024	5:00 p.m.	Finance Board	10:05 a.m.	Youth Hour
	6:00 p.m.	ALL BOARD MEETING (PH)	10:05 a.m.	Spark Sunday School
3/22/2024	5:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts	10:05 a.m.	After Worship Social Time
3/24/2024	9:00 a.m.	Worship		
	7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Palm/Passion Sunday Breakfast		

### Offering from the week of:

#### March 10, 2024

General Receipts: **\$3,978.45**

Designated: **\$350.00**

**Total \$4,328.45**

*General Receipts of \$10,902.91 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget.*

**Sunday Attendance: 102**

### Wednesday Night Supper

**\*\*March 20\*\***

Cheeseburger Soup, Vegetable Pasta  
Salad, Fresh Fruit, Ice Cream with Nilla  
Wafers

Supper is from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00 for adults

Children through 12<sup>th</sup> grade free thanks to

Kans for Kids

(Menu subject to change)

### Wednesday Night Lenten Schedule

Please Note Schedule Changes

**February 14<sup>th</sup> through March 20<sup>th</sup>**

3:15 to 5:00 After School Program

4:30 to 4:50 Kids Choir-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade

4:30 to 5:30 Supper in the Parish Hall  
(Kids eat free—Adults \$5  
\*All Welcome\*)

5:30 Lenten Worship Service

6:15 Trinity Choir

**\*\* (Tone Chime Choir will resume after Easter) \*\***

# GriefShare®

GriefShare is a 13-week grief support group that is beginning again at St. John. Join us to find help and encouragement after the death of a loved one.

Tuesdays at 6:30\*\*\*January 23 through April 16  
Register at GriefShare.org or call the church office  
at 228-3397.

See Susan Leeper for more information.



**St John After School Program**  
**Wednesdays from 3:15 to 5:00pm**  
**The St John bus picks up at IC, Lincoln,**  
**Washington and the Middle School**  
**Join anytime!**

## Mid-Week Lenten Services 2024

### “Wandering Heart”

**Wednesday worship services are  
at 5:30 p.m.**

We will explore the life and faith of Jesus’ disciple, Peter. In him, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter’s journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

**ALL BOARD MEETING WILL BE  
MARCH 21 AT 6PM IN PARISH HALL.**

Please let Kim or office know by email if you  
will be attending or not.

**Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24,  
2024; Worship: 9:00 a.m.**

**Youth Palm/Passion Sunday  
breakfast  
from 7:30 - 11:00 a.m.**

**Menu: eggs, ham, hash browns,  
pancakes, cinnamon rolls,  
juice, milk, and coffee**

**(Free will donation goes to Youth.)**

### *Family Board’s Easter Egg Hunt*

**Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.**

**St. John Parish Hall**

**Children up through 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
& their families!**

**(Donations of wrapped Easter candy  
by the congregation would be**

Call or stop in the office to donate  
towards the  
**Easter Lilies by March 25<sup>th</sup>**  
(641) 228-3397



**Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**  
Worship/Communion will be at  
8:00 am & 10:00 am.



**Mission trip to Kansas City will be June 16-22.** This is open to 7th thru 12 grade students. There is a sign up sheet by the youth office along with information sheet. **Deadline to sign up will be April 1st.**

Any questions contact Kim at 330-5441.

(Our God is a giving God...That is why it feels so good to give)

Tons of opportunities to give & have fun during this trip!!

In this year of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the construction of our present church, we are planning a Harvest dinner in October like the good old days. There will be an organizational meeting, April 7<sup>th</sup> after church. We will just meet in the Parish Hall, grab some coffee and meet around a table. We will try to get some ideas of what we want to do, what we want to eat and if we want anything else special. No pressure, just something to get the ball rolling and gather ideas. Hope to see you there.

Janet Petefish, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee

St. Johannes Kirche



**Charles City Community Blood Drive**

Messiah Lutheran Church  
705 3rd Ave. | Charles City

**Tuesday, April 9**

12:30 PM - 5:30 PM



Text: LIFESERVE to 999.777 Call: 800.287.4903 | Visit: [lifeserve.info/schedule](http://lifeserve.info/schedule)



***The Annual Ladies Luncheon***

April 14th in the Parish Hall will be at  
11:30 a.m.

Games, activities, food, and  
devotion...you won't want to miss  
this!!

**\*\*Keep an eye out for more  
information!\*\***

***SAVE THE DATE***

***Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>***

***Pack the Parking Lot!!!  
Games, music, & food!!!***

***Scholarship Applications:***

Those students attending a Lutheran college who would like to receive an EPIC grant must notify the church by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**.

St. John scholarship applications for non-Lutheran colleges can be emailed to you and should be emailed to the office by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**.

We will be having a **Man Day** coming in **June**. Plans are in the works and fun is to be had!! Watch for more information to come!!

***As precautionary steps for safety and security, we would like to ask all attendees and visitors of St John, to make sure you are locking your vehicles anytime you are inside the church or away from your vehicle.***