

Saturday, February 21st and Sunday, February 22nd 2026
1st Weekend of Lent



*We welcome Pastor Salena Blackwell
to St. John's as our interim!*

Worship Services: Saturdays at 5:00pm • Sundays at 9:45am

Parish Education: Sunday School - Grades Pre-K to 6th - 8:30am • Adult Forum - 8:30am
Confirmation - Grades 7 & 8 - Wednesdays 6:30pm

Church Office Hours: Tues-Thurs 9am-2pm • Fri 9am-12pm

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UPCOMING EVENTS

for the week of
Feb 22-Mar 1

Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship - Noisy Offering/Bury Alleluias
Tuesday	10:00am Reading Buddies 4:30-6:00pm Community Feast @ Salem
Wednesday	5:00-6:00pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Lenten Worship - Holden Evening Prayer
Saturday	5:00pm Worship
Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship

**Tuesday,
February 24th
10:00am**

Reading Buddies



Sign up in the Welcome Center

The Federated Church in Sandwich will be having their breakfasts throughout Lent. They will be at 9:00 am on Wednesday mornings during Lent.

Community Feast Casserole Sign-Up

St. John's has been asked to provide 12 casseroles or dishes for the Community Feast at Salem Lutheran Church on February 24th, 2026 (4 vegetable, 4 potato, and 4 meat) Each dish should feed 12 people. Dishes need to be dropped off at St. John's on Tuesday, February 24th by 3:30pm or Salem by 4:00pm. Sign Up in the Welcome Center

Offering 2/14 and 2/15	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	\$2,848.10	\$21,181.37
Capital Fund	\$250.00	\$1,868.10
Easter Lillies	\$40.00	\$40.00
Donna Guehler Memorial	\$25.00	\$50.00
LWR Personal Care Kits	\$50.00	\$683.36
Memorials & Other Gifts	\$300.00	\$300.00

FEED MY
STARVING
CHILDREN



**Thursday, March 26, 2026
2:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.**

This will be during Spring Break so kids are encouraged to participate!

We will meet at and carpool from St. John's and leave by 12:30.

Sign up in the Welcome Center.

Prayer Requests

Mary Bark
Mary Carlson
Lance Davenport
Judy Erickson
Lee Gehrke
Marlyn Glover
Sharon Goode

Mike Hamer
Mary Ann Hulon
Linda Johnson
Rhea Lumsden
Linda Martin
Doris Miller
James Moris
Becky Morphey
Lonnie Murray

Kay Nelson
Roger & Helen
Larry Rogers
Shelly
Lynn Skryzpiec
Lois Spizziri
Rosemary Underwood
Jackie Wendland
Cindy Westbrook
Susan White
Family of Bruce Wold

Dates to Remember

Month	Date	Occasion
FEBRUARY	24	READING BUDDIES
FEBRUARY	24	COMMUNITY FEAST @ SALEM

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

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

C: **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

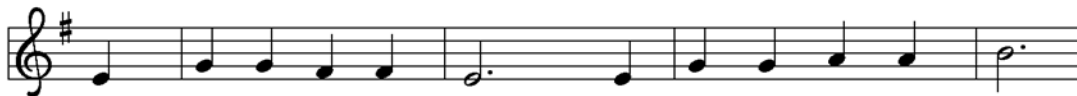
Gathering Hymn ELW 325 I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

Greeting

P: 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 .**

Kyrie



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Prayer of the Day

P: Lord God,

C: **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. Amen .

Please be seated.

A: The **First Reading** comes from the Book of Genesis Chapter 2 verses 15-17 and Chapter 3 verses 1-7

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 32

¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

² **Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered 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 conceal 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.

A: The **Second Reading** comes from Romans Chapter 5 verses 12-19

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

P: The **Holy Gospel** according to St. Matthew the 4th Chapter

C: **Glory to you O Lord. Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11**

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 504 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Apostle's Creed

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we 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

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

A brief silence.

A: ... Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

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

C: **Amen.**

The Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us offer to each other the sign of peace.

Offering

Please stand as you are able.

Offering 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.**

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

- P:** Gathered at and around the Lord's table, we remember with thanksgiving that *"In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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 for the remembrance of me.'"*

The Lord's Prayer

- P:** Let us pray together the words our Savior gave us:
**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

- P:** Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Holy Communion is served.

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

- A:** 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 ELW W&P 81 Kyrie Eleison

Pastor & Assisting Minister process to back of sanctuary during Sending Hymn.

Dismissal

- A:** Go in peace. Believe the good news.
C: Thanks be to God.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

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