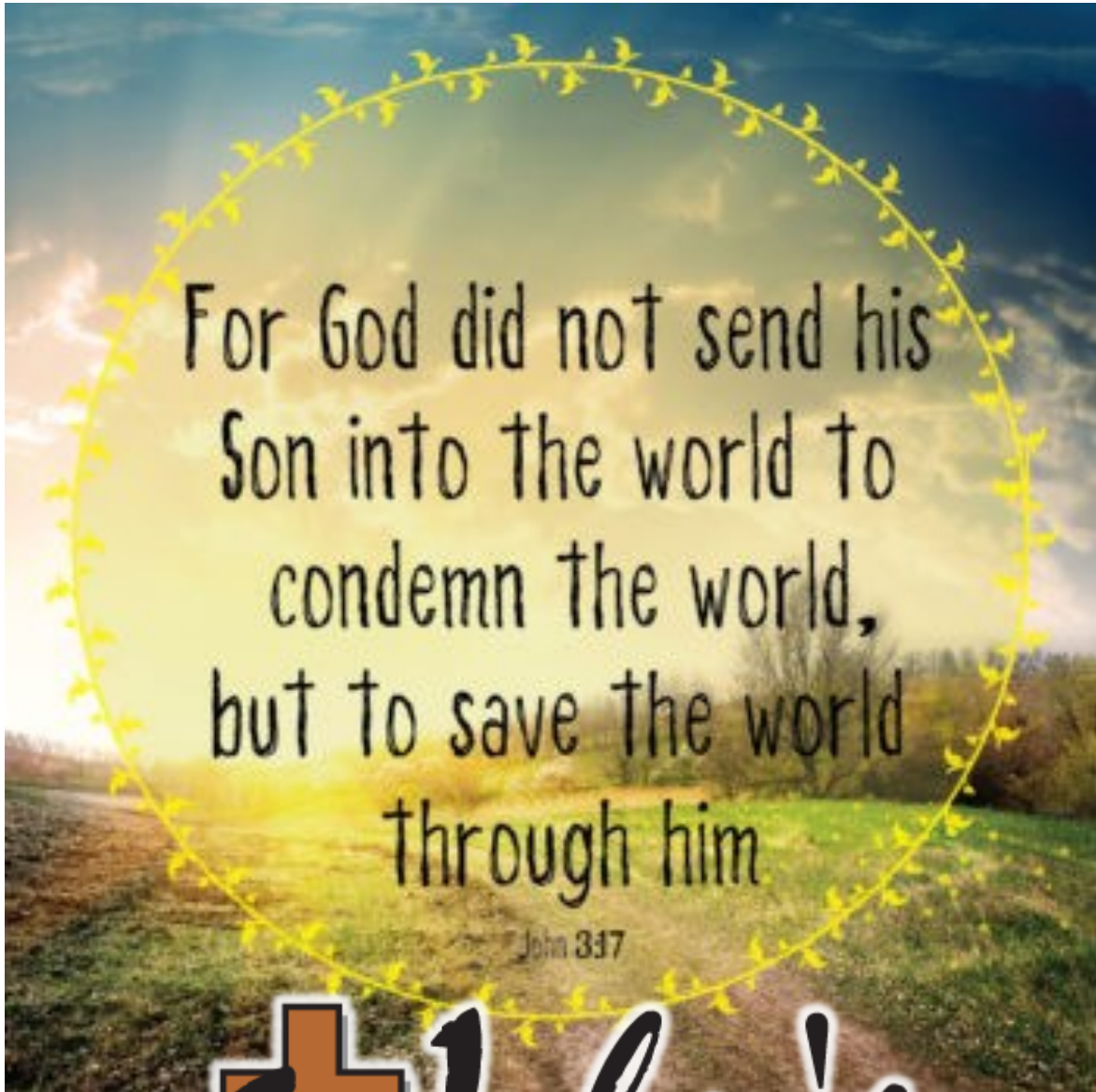


Saturday, February 28th and Sunday, March 1st 2026
2nd Weekend of Lent



For God did not send his
Son into the world to
condemn the world,
but to save the world
through him

John 3:17

St. John's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

235 S Green Street | PO Box 245 | Somonauk, IL 60552 | 815-498-3667

office@elcastjohns.org | www.elcastjohns.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

for the week of
Feb 28-Mar 8

Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship
Wednesday	5:00-6:00pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Lenten Worship - Holden Evening Prayer
Saturday	7:00am Men's Breakfast 5:00pm Worship
Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship

Next Reading
Buddies date is
Tuesday, March
31st at 10:00am



Sign up in the Welcome Center

The Federated Church Lenten breakfasts
March 4, 11, 18 and 25 @ 9:00am

Singers wanted!

Salem Lutheran will be presenting a cantata at the ecumenical Good Friday worship service @ 7:00pm, and singers are invited to participate! Rehearsals begin on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at 7:00pm and continue on Thursdays, March 12, 19, and 26. Each rehearsal will last approximately 40 minutes.

Please email the church office (office@elcastjohns.org) or let Julie know if you'd like to participate so that enough music will be available.

Offering 2/21 and 2/22	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	\$3,373.44	\$24,554.81
Capital Fund	\$636.10	\$2,504.20
Utilities - Sharing Pantry	\$50.00	\$350.00
Ash Wednesday Supper	\$250.00	\$250.00
Men's Breakfasts	\$83.00	\$83.00
Growing Hope Globally	\$25.00	\$325.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$200.00	\$200.00
Bruce Wold Memorial	\$150.00	\$150.00



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's
brother, Curt
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
MARCH	26	FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN
MARCH	28	COMMUNITY EGG HUNT

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.**

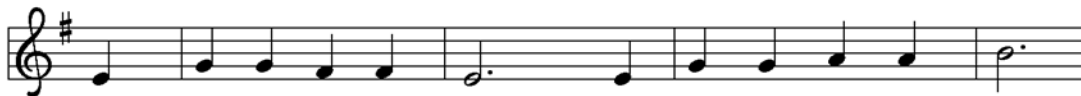
Gathering Hymn ELW 335 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

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: O God,

C: **our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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 12 verses 1-4a and

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 121

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
² **My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**
³ The Lord will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**
⁵ the Lord watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**
⁷ The Lord will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.
⁸ **The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

A: The **Second Reading** comes from Romans Chapter 4 verses 1-5, 13-17

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. John the 3rd Chapter

C: **Glory to you O Lord.** **Gospel: John 3:1-17**

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 660 Lift High the Cross

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 638 Blessed Assurance

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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