

Saturday, March 28th and Sunday, March 29th 2026
Palm Weekend



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

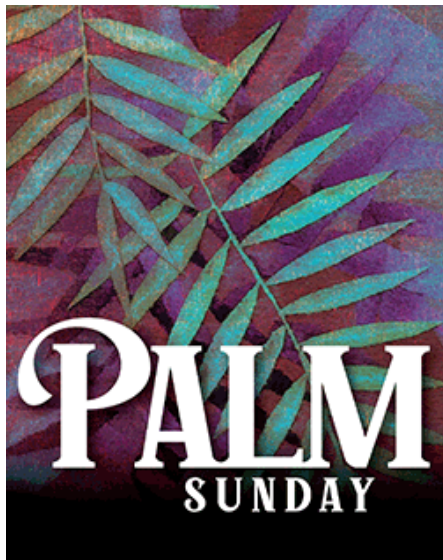
for the week of
March 29 — April 5

Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship
Thursday	6:30pm Maundy-Thursday Worship Service
Friday	7:00pm Good Friday Worship @ Salem
Saturday	7:00am Men's Breakfast 5:00pm Worship
Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Palm Sunday Worship



Welcome to Church

A place to grow, serve & belong.



Offering 3/7 thru 3/22	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	\$6,727.44	\$35,514.25
Capital Fund	\$892.10	\$3,603.80
Sharing Pantry—Utilities	\$175.00	\$525.00
Easter Lillies	\$80.00	\$160.00
Men's Breakfasts	\$222.00	\$382.00
Sunday School	\$376.00	\$610.99
Lenten Meals	\$478.00	\$638.95
Habitat for Humanity	\$70.00	\$270.00
LWR Personal Care Kits	\$100.00	\$354.11
Bruce Wold Memorial	\$50.00	\$200.00
Men's Brkfst Book Reimb.	\$31.00	\$31.00



There will be an Easter sunrise service at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery at 6:30am. The cemetery is located just south of Lake Holiday on Hoxsey Road. Please enter the north driveway and exit the south driveway.

You may leave your car on the drive.

Prayer Requests

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

Mary Ann Hulon
Rhea Lumsden
Linda Martin
Doris Miller's
brother, Curt
James Moris
Becky Morphey
Lonnie Murray

Kay Nelson
Matt Potter
Roger & Helen
Larry Rogers
Shelly
Lynn Skryzpiec
Lois Spizziri
Rosemary Underwood
Jackie Wendland
Cindy Westbrook
Susan White

Dates to Remember

Month	Date	Occasion
APRIL	19	SUNDAY SURPRISE SOCIAL HOUR

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.**

Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

Entrance into the final days

Congregation wave palms

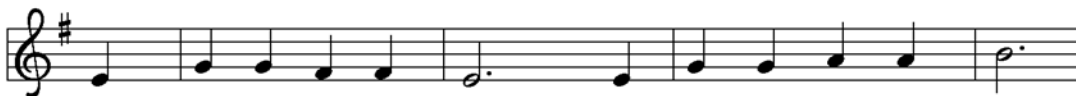
Gathering Hymn ELW 344 All Glory, Laud and Honor

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: Everlasting God,

C: in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, 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 Isaiah Chapter 50 verses 4-9a

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16

⁹ Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰ **For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹ I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹² **Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

¹³ For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴ **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. I have said, "You are my God.**

¹⁵ My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ **Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."**

A: The **Second Reading** comes from Philippians Chapter 2 verses 5-11

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism Presentation

Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font. The assembly is seated. The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words:

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Parents for each candidate, in turn, present the candidates:

Parents Response: We present our son, Oliver Michael Judge and our daughter, Ella Joyce Judge for baptism.

P: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Parent's Response: We do.

P: As you bring Oliver and Ella to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

P: Do you promise to help Oliver and Ella grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parent's Response: I do.

P: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Oliver and Ella in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsor's Response: We do.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Oliver and Ella and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

C: **We do.**

The assembly stands.

Profession of Faith

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: **I renounce them.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: **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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: **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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

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

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

The assembly may be seated.

Baptism

P: Oliver Michael/Ella Joyce, I baptize you in the name of the Father,* and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen. You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized.**

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays for each:

P: Sustain Oliver/Ella with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

P: Oliver Michael/Ella Joyce, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C: Amen.

Welcome

A lighted candle may be given to each of the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a representative of the congregation says:

P: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly.

A representative of the congregation leads the assembly in the welcome.

P: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C: **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

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

P: The **Holy Gospel** according to St. Matthew the 26th Chapter

C: **Glory to you O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 353 Were You There

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.**

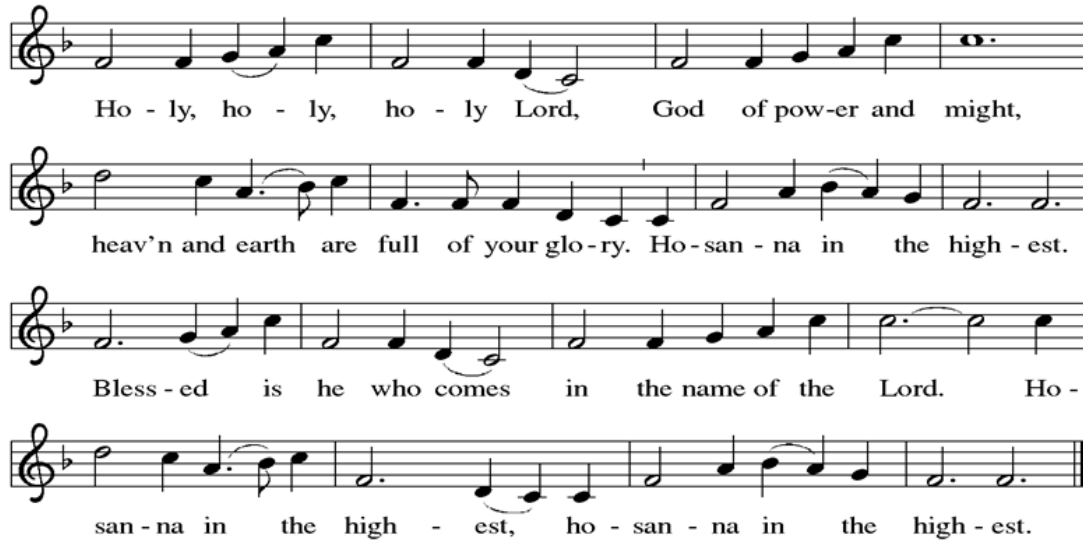
P: Lift up your hearts.

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 W&P 136 The King of Glory

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.

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #28510

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.