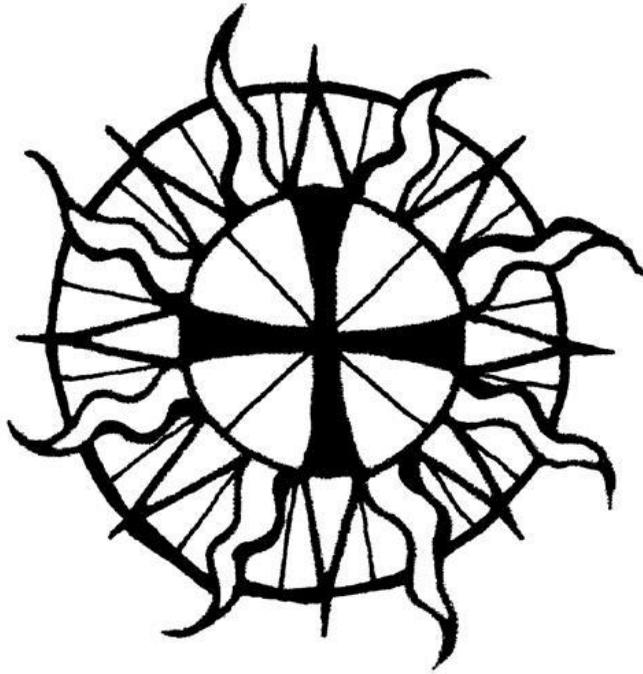


Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

9 am



Saint John Lutheran Church
Fairfield, Pennsylvania
Rev. Wayne Gallipo, Interim Pastor
Carol Garman, Organist/ Music Director

St. John Lutheran Church
13 East Main St.
Fairfield Pa 17320
717-642-5822

Reverend Wayne Gallipo, Interim Pastor
Cell: 605-214-6828
Pastor's Office Hours – Mon. & Tues. 8:30am – 4:30pm

Carol Garman, Director of Music Ministries

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Like us on Facebook

Office Hours
Monday – Thursday 8:30am-12:00pm

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday - March 29th - 9 a.m. - Worship & Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday - Apr. 2nd - 7 p.m. - Service of Holy Communion,
Stripping of Altar
Good Friday - Apr. 3rd - 3 p.m. – Scripture and prayer service
Easter Sunday - Apr. 5th - 9 a.m. – **The Resurrection of Our Lord** -
Worship Service followed by Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt

We welcome all guests this morning. We are very pleased to have you worship with us. All are welcome to receive communion.

Sunday School for all ages meets at 10:15.
Everyone is welcome! Grab some refreshments and join us!

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARING CONVERSATION: "What Brings You Peace"

PRELUDE: Holy is the Lord (Schubert, McChesney)

Hand Bells

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of Almighty God, the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, 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. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage 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

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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 entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN In the Cross of Christ I Glory

ELW 324

INVOCATION

P: May 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

P: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

P: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (arr. Larson)**Hand Bells****FIRST READING****1 Samuel 16:1-13**

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah." *The Word of the Lord...Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 23 (Read Responsively)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING:

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."
"The Word of the Lord... Thanks be to God."

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ *please stand if able* (2 Times)



P: The Holy Gospel according to John....**Glory to you O Lord**

GOSPEL John 9:1-41 (See insert)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Wayne Gallipo

HYMN Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

ELW 779

APOSTLES CREED

(inside back cover of hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH Response: Hear Us O God... **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERING PRAYER

C: 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. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them unto the Lord.**

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

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

P: It is indeed right....

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
heav - en 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: On the night in which he was betrayed ... for as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes again.

LORD'S PRAYER

THE FRACTION AND INVITATION

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

We practice “open communion” at St. John. ALL are invited to come forward as ushered to receive this life-giving sacrament. Those not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing. As you are given the bread and wine an appropriate response is “Amen.” Please be respectful of this meditative time within our worship.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Lead Me, Guide Me

ELW 768

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ELW 502

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: 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. **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

ELW 325

1 I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

3 When I’m in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I’m in trouble Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: If You But Trust in God to Guide You

Neumark, Andrews