



St. John's Lutheran Church
 Welcoming Everyone
 Making Disciples
 Trusting Jesus
 Empowering Leaders

March 8th, 2026 3rd Sunday of Lent

St. John's Office Hours: 8-5 Tues.-Fri. Building Hours: 8-5 Mon.-Fri.

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St. John's Lutheran Church of Le Mars, IA.

Senior Pastor: Steven Broers

Minister of Music: Mike Rathke

Office Manager: Kim Lang

Part-time Office Assistant: Connie Kellen

Facilities Manager: Todd Oetken

Sunday School Superintendent: Beth Larson

FORTRESS OF FAITH and **RADIO ADS** are sponsored in appreciation by Joyce Brownmiller.

LOST & FOUND/FREE TABLE Please check the table in the lobby for any items that may be yours. And, help yourself to the free items.

CAMPERSHIPS Now is the time to sign up for summer camp!!! A flyer can be found on the bulletin board in the lobby for details on how to get your child signed up for camp and receive a campership from St. John's.

PIZZA RANCH TIP NIGHTS The St. John's High School Mission Trip team will be holding another tip night at Pizza Ranch to fundraise for their trip to Chicago this upcoming summer. We will be working **Tuesday night, March 10th**. Remember that Tuesday night is always kids night at Pizza Ranch when they eat for free with one paying adult! Last week we raised \$395.31. Thank you for supporting our youth!

LENTEN MEAL will be Egg Bakes, Rolls and Dessert on Wednesday, March 11th. A freewill offering will be collected and has been designated to Then Feed Just One.

THEN FEED JUST ONE EVENT The St. John's catechism youth and High School students will be participating in a Then Feed Just One event on March 25. Other St. John's members are also encouraged to join us. Donations for this project will be collected throughout the month of March and can be left in the offering plate or dropped off at the office. Please notate your gift for "Then Feed Just One." Please sign up on the bulletin board in the lobby if you would like to help. Thank you for your attendance and generosity!

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES have begun. Join us at 6 pm in the sanctuary. This will include the Holden Evening Prayer Service, a traditional setting of evening prayer set to music. These services will continue through March 25th.

WHAT THE WOMEN SAW a new Thursday in the Word small group study has begun. Study guide in in RightNow Media. Here is the link: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/content/details/388292>

WALKING BAREFOOT WITH GOD A new Men's Small Group Study will begin Tuesday, March 24th at 7 pm. This is a 5 week study. Sign up on the bulletin board, so we can be sure to have enough books for everyone.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Help us save a life! Monday, March 30th from 12-6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Julie Albert (540-1455) or visit www.redcross.org to schedule a time.

EASTER BRASS PLAYERS WANTED If you are interested in playing with the St. John's Brass on Easter Sunday, April 5th at the 8 am service, please contact Mike Rathke. Adult and high school brass players are welcome to participate!

ENDOWMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS for 2026 are available on the bulletin board. Students attending higher education, service groups, church groups, or if you know of a special need in the community, fill out an application. Applications are due April 15th.

SAFE PLACE SPECIAL COLLECTION Some of the church women are supporting the gathering of items to donate to Safe Place. We have received \$250 from Thrivent to kickstart the project and invite you to donate items from the list on p. 22 in the church newsletter. There is a box labeled Safe Place in the church lobby. Please have items at church by March 18 so we can begin to assist people in our area who are victims of domestic violence. Contact Janet Wiener if you have questions.

RADIO AD AND FORTRESS OF FAITH sponsors are needed for this year. Please contact Kim if you would like to honor/memorialize someone. Radio Ads are \$10 a week and Fortress of Faith spots are \$25.00. Thank you!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS for 2025 should be directed by March 31st. Please consider choosing St. John's as a recipient of your Thrivent Choice Dollars. This is a gift that helps our ministries throughout the year. Thank you.

CAMP COUNSELOR STIPENDS St. John's will again be offering a \$1000.00 stipend for St. John's members working at Ingham Okoboji Bible Camp this summer. Talk to Pastor or Kim to find out more about this great opportunity.

LIFEWISE EVENING OF IMPACT Thursday, March 26th at the Le Mars Bible Church. Dinner, silent auction, and program beginning at 5:30 pm. Message 712-546-4416 to RSVP.

MID-SIOUX OPPORTUNITY The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) offered through **Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc.** may be able to help you pay your winter heating bill. This program is funded through the Iowa Department of Health & Human Services and has been established to help qualified low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay a portion of their primary heating costs. Your local Mid-Sioux office will be taking applications through April 30, 2026. Call 546-6603 Mon-Tues-Thurs from 8-4:30. See the bulletin board for more information.

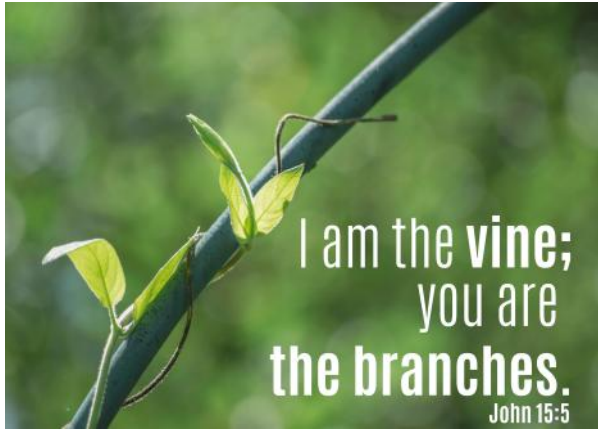
Thank you to our worship assistants!

	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Greeter	Joel Johnson	Jean Heeren
Lector	Dick Milne	Karol Holton
Comm Serv	Joel Johnson Elvira Nielsen Janys Schroeder	Anne Jeneary Chris Knapp Rex Knapp
Crucifer	Cameron Pauling	Rylan Schmidt
Acolytes	Kylee Den Ouden Kasen Niehus	Aynslee Schmidt
ProPresenter	Tim Larson	Megan Jeneary
Video/Sound	Micah Broers	Jacob Jeneary
Altar Guild	Janet Lohafer Arlene Wiener	Kay Powell Tammy Lee
Coffee Bar	Ginny Freyermuth	Bryce Tingwald, Chr., Nathan P., Joey P., Jeremy F., Graham F.
Ushers	Tracy Wingert, Chr., Greg M., Doug S., Rob S., Jay D.	

Remember These People in Prayer: Tim Lohafer, Jae'cion, Nancy H., Bellamy, Hanna Francksen-Small, Hallie Bunkers, Grace Galles, Brielle Schorg, Nash, Diane K., Denise, Angie, Nancy & Bob P., Bryan Utesch, Dorothy Luschen; **Ongoing Prayers:** Mason Sitzmann, Missy Rarrat, Alex Hines, Taelynn Ortmann, Kendra, Sherry Jo Wittkop, Shirley, Jen, and Kathy; **Deployed:** Jaime Koopman, Kylee Britt, Brent Jarvis, Mitch Lang; **Care Facility Residents:** Good Samaritan - Russ Martfeld, Lorraine Luksan, Dennis Asche; Accura Health - Patty Lubben; Stonebridge Suites - Joanne Klohs, Lynne Bogh, Roger Athens, Dorothy Luschen; Floyd Senior Living - Diane Utesch; Heartland Care Center - Le Ann Hurlbut; Prime Living - Wade & Betty Thompson; Happy Siesta - Eleanor Westhoff
Sympathies to the family of Michael Brennan. St. John's families include Randy & Evelyn Stream and Dave Brennan family.

Sun March 8	Mon March 9	Tues March 10	Wed March 11	Thurs March 12	Fri March 13	Sat March 14	Sun Mar 15
8 & 10:30 am Worship w/ Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 9:15 am Property Mtg	LifeWise 6 pm Spiritual Growth Meeting L/L 6:30 pm New Council Members Mtg. F/H 7 pm Council Meeting F/H	LifeWise 9 am Do-Day 10 am Staff Meeting 2 pm 40 Day Sugar Fast L/L 5:30 pm P.o.P. 6:30 pm Messengers of the Gospel Study L/L	LifeWise/Chapel Services at Care Fac. 5 pm Bells/Lenten Meal 6 pm Holden Evening Service/Comm 6:30 pm Catechism/ Grow 6:45 pm Sr. Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Grp	9 am Prayer Time 5:30 pm Thursday in the Word Small Group L/L	2 pm Hearts of Fire 2 L/L		8 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 3:30 pm HS Ingham Okoboji Outreach

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First Reading: Exodus 9:33-35, 10:1-2 ³³ Then Moses left Pharaoh and went out of the city. He spread out his hands toward the Lord; the thunder and hail stopped, and the rain no longer poured down on the land. ³⁴ When Pharaoh saw that the rain and hail and thunder had stopped, he sinned again: He and his officials hardened their hearts. ³⁵ So Pharaoh's heart was hard and he would not let the Israelites go, just as the Lord had said through Moses. ^{10:1} Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the hearts of his officials so that I may perform these signs of mine among them ² that you may tell your children and grandchildren how I dealt harshly with the Egyptians and how I performed my signs among them, and that you may know that I am the Lord."

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please join in a responsive reading of Psalm 40:1-8

¹ I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.

² **He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.**

³ He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him.

⁴ **Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.**

⁵ Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare.

⁶ Sacrifice and offering you did not desire - but my ears you have opened -
burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.

⁷ Then I said, "Here I am, I have come - it is written about me in the scroll.

⁸ **I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart."**

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-13 ¹ Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for. ³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. ⁴ By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead. ⁵ By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was

commended as one who pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. ⁷ By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith. ⁸ By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹ By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹² And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore. ¹³ All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please rise for the reading of the holy Gospel.

The holy Gospel according to St. John the 15th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 15:1-5 ¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

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.

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.

\$16.00 per Easter Lily # of Lilies _____

Deadline: **March 20th**

In memory/honor of: _____

By: _____

Drop this this form w/payment in the offering plate OR call the office-546-8855

