

THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of March 15, 2026

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

LENT



BY HIS WOUNDS | ISAIAH 53

During this penitential season of Lent, we walk together step by step through Isaiah's great Suffering Servant song (Isaiah 52:13–53:12), hearing God's own prophecy of Christ crucified written hundreds of years beforehand. Come experience how the Lord brings salvation not through visible power or human glory, but through rejection, suffering, and even death. May the Spirit lead us to confess that His wounds are not defeat, but victory in the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

**SCAN QR FOR ONLINE RESOURCES
& PREVIOUS MESSAGES**



JOIN US FOR THIS LENTEN SERIES

UNDERLINED TIMES ARE LIVESTREAMED

Modern Praise - Saturdays at 5:00 PM | Sunday at 10:45 AM

Traditional Praise - Sundays at 8:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 11:00 AM

Midweek - Wednesdays at 4:15 PM | 7:00 PM

February 21-22 | LENT 1
THE SERVANT LIFTED UP

February 25 | Wednesday Midweek 1
KINGS ARE SILENCED

February 28-March 1 | LENT 2
NO BEAUTY WE DESIRED

March 4 | Wednesday Midweek 2
A MAN OF SORROWS

March 7-8 | LENT 3
OUR GRIEFS, OUR PEACE

March 11 | Wednesday Midweek 3
THE LORD HAS LAID ON HIM

▶ March 14-15 | LENT 4
THE SILENT LAMB

March 18 | Wednesday Midweek 4
CUT OFF FROM THE LIVING

March 21-22 | LENT 5
IT WAS THE WILL OF THE LORD

March 25 | Wednesday Midweek 5
HE SHALL JUSTIFY MANY



HOLY BAPTISM

Wednesday, March 11 - Jo'Ann Harrison – 77 year old adult
10:45 AM - Rayden John Gralewski, son of Steven and Murphy Gralewski

*For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off,
everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself. – Acts 2:39*

TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

For your convenience, all hymn & liturgy texts will also be displayed on the screens at the front of the Sanctuary.

PRELUDE: Lord of Feasting, Lord of Hunger	Mixed Choir (9:30)
OPENING HYMN: <i>Jesus, Priceless Treasure</i>	LSB #743 stz. 1, 2, 3, 6
SERVICE OF THE WORD	Screen
Invocation/Confession	
Gloria	Screen
Prayer of the Day	
Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 53:7-9	
Anthem: We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died (8:00/9:30)	Mixed Choir
Epistle Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14	
Gospel Acclamation	LSB #422
Holy Gospel Reading: John 8:2-11	
THE NICENE CREED	Screen
HYMN OF THE DAY: <i>Son of God, Eternal Savior</i>	LSB #842
MESSAGE	Rev. Dr. Randy Duncan
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER	
ORDER OF THE LORD'S SUPPER	Screen
ANTHEM: Lord of Feasting, Lord of Hunger	Mixed Choir (8:00)
HYMN: I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table	LSB #618
NUNC DIMITTIS/POST-COMMUNION PRAYER/BENEDICTION	
CLOSING HYMN: <i>In the Cross of Christ, I Glory</i>	LSB #427

COMMUNION - THE LORD'S SUPPER - WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Bible teaches that along with the bread and wine of Holy Communion we also receive the true body and blood of our Savior. Jesus' own words, "this is my body" and "this is my blood for the forgiveness of sins" reveal His Real Presence in the sacrament (Luke 22, 1 Cor. 10:15-16). The Bible also teaches (1 Cor. 11:23-32) the Lord's Supper, properly received brings great blessings, but improperly received without understanding can actually incur God's judgment. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the Biblical teaching of communion, please feel free to commune today. If you have any questions, please first speak to a pastor.



As you come forward, gluten free wafers are available by request, as well as individual cup choice of wine or lighter colored non-alcoholic grape juice (located in the center of the trays). Common cup is also offered during Traditional Praise services at the altar only. **During regular worship weekends, the Lord's Supper is celebrated in Traditional Praise on the first and third weekends of the month; and in Modern Praise on the second and fourth weekends of the month. On months with a fifth Sunday, Communion will be served at both Traditional and Modern Praise services.**



GUEST PASTOR | Rev. Dr. Randall Duncan

This weekend we are blessed to hear from Pastor Randy Duncan. Randy joined the staff at University Lutheran Church (ULC) in Ann Arbor in the summer of 2025 as the Pastor of Campus Mission where he, in partnership with the Michigan District of the LCMS, is taking the lead in expanding campus outreach to more colleges and universities throughout the state of Michigan. Before joining ULC, he also served as the Campus Pastor and Adjunct Professor of Theology at Concordia University Ann Arbor for ten years. Prior to receiving the Call to Concordia University Ann Arbor, Randy served as the Senior Pastor of a congregation he planted in Plymouth, Michigan named Living Word Lutheran Church. He grew up in Southwest Detroit, is a graduate of Concordia, Ann Arbor, and received his Master of Divinity degree from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. Randy received his Doctor of Education

terminal degree from Concordia University Wisconsin. We are in the presence of humble greatness this weekend! Praise be to Christ.

BAPTISM | Jo'Ann Harrison

Such a tender moment on campus in our St. John prayer chapel on Wednesday—along with a beautiful reminder to never stop praying for your friends and family to come to know the eternal love of Jesus! Jo'Ann's sister has been faithfully praying for her over the last 70 years! It wasn't until Jo'Ann moved from out of state into a local assisted living facility last year where she was invited by several of our St. John resident women to join them in watching our weekly worship livestreams that the Lord finally had His way! Answered prayer! It's never too late! Welcome to the family Jo'Ann!



BIBLICAL DISCOVERY



GET INTO THE WORD | Winter Bible Studies & LIFEgroups

Members & guests alike, all are invited to take a moment to see what follows in this guide as we seek to make studying and experiencing God's presence through Word as accessible as possible! From children to seniors, men and women, Bible basics to more in-depth studies, there truly is something for everyone no matter your age, life circumstance, or schedule! **Scan the QR Code or visit our website to get the latest edition!**



VOICES FROM THE MARGINS: A STUDY ON THE “MINOR” EPISTLES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Pastor’s Bible Study | Sundays at 9:30 AM | Concordia Hall

Join our Pastors on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in Concordia Hall. We are familiar with Romans, Philippians, 1 and 2 Corinthians, but what about the smaller Epistles? John’s letters, Peter’s letters, or even Philemon? We are covering these three, chapter by chapter, and hearing from the “margins”, the lesser known letters. We can’t wait to see you! For more information, contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.



DAD’S BIBLE STUDY | Wednesdays at 6:00 AM | Luther Hall

This study is intended for dads of all ages and walks of faith as we grow in God's Word together, learn what it means to lead our families well, and receive encouragement in the highest calling God has for men. Join us on Wednesday mornings (even if you have to leave early) as we pick a book of the Bible and read through it with discussion. Coffee and bagels/donuts will be provided, so that we don't miss out on breakfast before work! For more information, contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.

MOM’S BIBLE STUDY | Rooted Together: Moms Growing in Faith

1st & 3rd Fridays at 2:00 PM | Luther Hall

This study creates a welcoming community for moms seeking deeper roots in Christ and stronger connections with one another. Pastor Tyler will be sharing Scripture, prayer, and honest conversation as we grow together in faith while navigating the joys and challenges of motherhood. Whether you’re new to faith or have walked with Jesus for years, you’re invited to come for encouragement and growth alongside other moms. Please join us on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month (MomCo off-weeks) at 2:00 PM in Luther Hall before student pick-up! If you have any questions, please contact Beth Lowell at ealowell1@gmail.com.

SHARED LIFE



SCHEDULE DONATION



INFORMATION FLYER

BLOOD DRIVE | Friday, March 27 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM | Concordia Hall

We are hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. John Lutheran Church & School. Donors must be age 16 and older. Please note: this event is not being promoted to the general public, it is being offered for our church, school, family & friends. To schedule an appointment for a blood donation time or view the flyer, scan the QR codes above. You can also visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter our sponsor code: [stjohnrochester](http://stjohnrochester.org). Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

GRIEF SHARE | Saturdays at 10:00 AM | Church Library

Grief Share is a special weekly support group offering comfort, answers, and hope. It is designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one and is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the days ahead. This group meets Saturdays at 10:00 AM in the Church Library and runs until May 16. For more information, please contact Terry Priestly at tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org.



QUILTING GROUP | 2nd and 4th Monday/Month in Room 128

Are you looking for a meaningful way to share your time and enjoy fellowship with other women? The St. John Quilting Group invites you to join their mission of bringing warmth and comfort to those in need. Together, they create handmade quilts that are distributed globally to the poor and displaced. No sewing skills are required. If you can pin, thread a needle, or tie a knot, that's all that is needed! We would love to see you there. For more information, please contact Susan Walker at susanwalker749@yahoo.com.

ESTHER CIRCLE | Thursday, March 12 at 1:00 PM | Luther Hall

The group is reading "Waiting" by Sharla Fritz. This week's devotion will focus on Chapter Seven - Martha's Story. For more information or questions, please contact Ruth Leucht at 248-651-3584.

EASTER PLANT DONATIONS | Order by March 22

We will once again be decorating our worship areas with beautiful, colorful plants for our Easter celebrations. You have the opportunity to purchase flowers (azaleas, hydrangeas, mums, and/or tulips) that will adorn our Easter services. The plant(s) can then be picked up after the last services on Easter Sunday and taken home with you. You can designate the flowers in memory or honor of a loved one, as thanksgiving for God's blessings, or for a special occasion. Flowers are available in the price range of \$15-\$25. Please visit <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/easterflowers/> or scan the QR code to order your flowers. Orders are due by March 22.



DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY CALL PROCESS

The call committee is accepting names of potential candidates. You can help the call process by prayerfully submitting names of candidates to church@stjohnrochester.com. Qualified candidates include those rostered in the LCMS as callable with a DCE (Director of Christian Education) or Family Life degree, and background and experience serving in a church and school context.



VESTRY, ELDERS, AND FOUNDATION NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

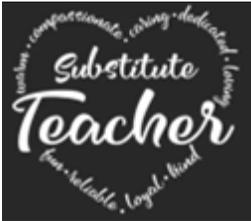
"The greatest among you is the one who serves." Matthew 23:11 These humble words of Jesus set the tone for what it means to be great in the Kingdom of God. Taking on a leadership role at St. John as a member of the Vestry, Elders, or Foundation is about humble service to Jesus and others. Nominations are now being accepted for individuals to serve on Vestry, Elders, and Foundation. Please pray for those whom you know that may be a blessing to Christ's ministry at St. John and if He leads you to do so, complete a nomination form (in the pastoral office or main office) and submit it to

the pastoral office no later than Monday, April 8. What an incredible opportunity to use the talents that the Lord has blessed us with, to make a difference in furthering His work!

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year is underway!

For application and enrollment information, if you missed our Open Houses, or to schedule a personal campus tour, visit school.stjohnrochester.org/admissions/, or contact Beth Dameron, Director of Admissions, at 248-402-8012 or bdameron@stjohnrochester.org.



SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS | Now Accepting Applications

Applications are being accepted for substitute teachers for the current school year. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree and be able to pass a background check. Prior teaching experience is helpful but not required. Candidates should have a love for Jesus and a love for children. Interested candidates should email their resume to Interim Principal Elizabeth Leinberger at eleinberger@stjohnrochester.org.



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Our middle school choirs and bands participated in the Lutheran Schools Music Festival this week at Lutheran Westland. Congratulations to all of our groups, especially our Chamber Choir who received a perfect score!



SPECIAL PERSON'S DAY

Kindergarten through 2nd Grade celebrated special people in their lives by inviting them to Chapel and their classrooms for the morning on Tuesday.



Sunday School learned all about Joseph and his coat last weekend! Mrs. Deck asked her 2nd-6th graders to make colorful "coats" out of crepe paper in grade-level teams. Here are their coats!

The Sunday School team is looking for 1-2 specific adult volunteers to help some of God's children with the highest-needs. If you are called to work with kids who have unique sets of needs, while providing them with an opportunity to share in God's at Sunday School in diverse ways, please contact Terry Priestley at tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org or Beth Grillo at bethmgrillo@gmail.com to learn more!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL | Sundays at 9:30 AM | NO SUNDAY SCHOOL MARCH 29 & APRIL 5



Children ages 4 years to 6th grade are welcome and encouraged to join us every Sunday in the school wing for Sunday School! There are no attendance requirements! If you have any questions regarding Sunday School, please contact the Pastoral Office at church@stjohnrochester.org.

Sign up for our Sunday School email list to get updates! Sign up at the Sunday School kiosk or on our website at stjohnrochester.org/groups/childrens-sunday-school

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA | Saturday, March 21 | 1:00 – 3:00 PM

This family-friendly event shares the Easter message in a fun and engaging way with various activities including an Easter skit, cookie decorating, crafts, games, and other activities.



Easter Eggstravaganza is designed for children age 2 to 5th grade and is open to our church, school, and community. Please invite your family, neighbors, and friends! Parents are asked to stay with their children throughout the event.

For more information contact our Director of Admissions, Beth Dameron, at bdameron@stjohnrochester.org. **Registration is required for participants and volunteers.** Scan the QR code or visit: <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/2025-easter-eggstravaganza/>.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL | June 22-26 | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION IS FULL | Join the waitlist

This year's theme is Rainforest Falls. Children will explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, who is a safe place in life's storms. This event is geared toward children age 4 through those entering 6th grade. Scan the QR Code or visit <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/2026vbs/>

There are many VOLUNTEER opportunities. Sign up today!



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 12:30 - 2:30 PM

Meets most Sundays at 12:30 PM in the Youth Room. Check your weekly emails for meeting locations and details. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 6:00 - 8:00 PM | NO SUNDAY MEETING THIS WEEK

Meets most Sundays at 6:00 PM in the Youth Room. Check your weekly emails for meeting locations and details. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org



SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE

Your continued financial support and partnership in the ministry and mission of St. John Lutheran Church & School is so important and is making a huge difference in changing lives for eternity in Jesus' name! If you are worshipping onsite, offerings can be placed in the designated areas outside the sanctuary. You can also scan the provided QR code to give online or visit our website stjohnrochester.org/give/. If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Operations, Steve Gauss, at sgauss@stjohnrochester.org.



Fiscal Year-to-Date July 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026

St. John Fiscal Year is July 1 – June 30

	<u>Budgeted YTD</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>
Income	\$3,403,076	\$3,679,862
Expenses	\$3,531,850	\$3,575,854



There will be a “Noisy” change drive for Crossroads Pregnancy Center at services next week at church entrances.

CONSTANT PRAYER

LET US PRAY FOR WHATEVER IS ON YOUR HEAR

To submit a prayer request, please email prayer@stjohnrochester.org at any time or visit our website and click on the prayer link toward the bottom of the homepage. These requests are received by our pastors and are passed along (or kept confidential when requested) to our prayer warriors and are also included in our weekend worship.



Healing & Peace: Sharon Cronkright (grandmother of Pastor Tyler) / Lucas Tate - hospitalized / Leah Wysokinski – shoulder surgery / Roman Thompson – premature baby hospitalized / Kendall Masters-Palmerlee – recently deployed / Walt Brown – recovery and rehab / Ella Balent – 5 y/o (daughter of Billy and Bailee) / Leanne Rios – traveling from Jerusalem (daughter-in-law of Walt and Donna Brown) / Daryl Novack - cancer and surgery (father of Erica Boutorwick)

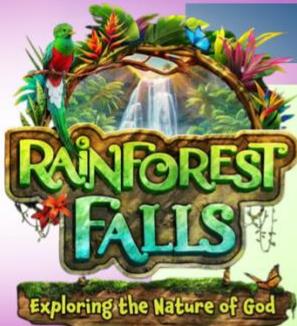
Bereavement (for the families of): John Zimmerman / Barbara Sass (mother of Linda Mehlenbacher)

Strength & Guidance: Call Team for our Child & Family Ministry Director

Gospel Impact: Eggstravaganza Outreach

Thanksgiving: Baptisms of Jo’Ann Harrison – 77 y/o adult, Rayden John Gralewski, son of Steven and Murphy Gralewski

Community Nation World: Turmoil in the Middle East / Those serving and families directly affected from the conflict



COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

VBS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY | June 22-26

To support the 450 children expected at VBS, we are looking for many volunteers to help share the love of Jesus with our kids!

Volunteers: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Cleaning Crew: 12:30 - 1:30 PM



If you can spend the week or even one day helping, please scan the QR Code to register or visit <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/2026vbs/>. Information or questions? email vbs@stjohnrochester.org.

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA VOLUNTEERS

March 21 | 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Come join the fun and help make Easter unforgettable for over 300 children as a station leader or assistant. Scan the QR or visit <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/2025-easter-eggstravaganza/>



COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE DONATIONS

This is a unique opportunity to uplift the hearts & spirits of our college students! The care packages we send aren't just boxes of snacks; they're tangible expressions of God's love and our unwavering prayers, designed to offer comfort, remind them of their faith, and encourage their walk with Christ amidst academic demands.

Please prayerfully consider **donating an item from our Amazon Wishlist** and help us send a powerful message of faith, hope, and love directly to students' dorm rooms. Scan the QR code or visit <https://a.co/b9nair1> to contribute and have items sent directly to St. John!



FAMILY OF GOD | April 5, 2026 | Easter Sunday

The first Sunday of each month our St. John family provides a meal to Family of God Church in Detroit. Our next serve event is April 5. There are several ways you can help:

- 1. Donate Food:** Sign up to donate specific items by visiting the link below. Donations can be dropped off to the St. John church kitchen (downstairs).
- 2. Meal Prep Team:** Help prepare food (at St. John) after worship on April 5.
- 3. Greet & Serve:** Travel to Family of God (carpool leaves St. John at 2:00 PM) to greet and serve the meal.

SIGN UP NOW AT:

www.stjohnrochester.org/FOG2026 or scan the QR code!
For more information, please contact our Mission Liaison Coordinator, Jennie Eller, at jeller@stjohnrochester.org.



WEEK AT A GLANCE: MARCH 16 - 22

Here is a highlight of activities happening on campus this week.

MON

9:00 AM The Five Books of Moses - Men's Bible Study (Church Library)
6:00 PM Foundation Meeting (Church Library)
7:00 PM The ONE Class (Luther Hall)

16

TUE

8:45 AM Women of Prayer (Church Library)
1:00 PM ESL (Mary Martha)
6:30 PM AHG Meeting (Youth Room)

17

WED

6:00 AM Dad's Bible Study (Luther Hall)
8:40 AM Mom's Morning Prayer Group (Nursery)
8:45 AM Chapel (Sanctuary)
2:00 PM The Way of Wisdom - Ladies Bible Study (Concordia)
4:15 PM MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE (Sanctuary & livestream)
5:00 PM Bell Choir Practice (Choir Loft)
5:30 PM Adult Bible Study (Concordia)
7:00 PM The Chosen - Women of Faith & Friendship LIFEgroup (Church Library)
7:00 PM MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE - (Sanctuary)

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THR

8:30 AM MomCo Leadership Meeting (Luther Hall)
10:00 AM The Lutheran Witness - Men's Bible Study (Church Library)
1:00 PM International Bible Study (Mary Martha)
7:00 PM Choir Practice (Choir Loft)

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FRI

HALF DAY OF SCHOOL

9:30 AM ESL (Mary Martha)
10:00 AM Mom's Bible Study (Luther Hall)

20

SAT

1-3:00 PM EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA
8:00 AM Bibles and Basketball (Gymnasium)
10:00 AM Griefshare (Church Library)

21

SUN

9:30 AM Sunday School (School Wing)
9:30 AM 1st Communion Class (Luther Hall)
9:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study (Concordia Hall)
12:30 PM Middle School Youth (Youth Room/Gym)
6:00 PM High School Youth (Youth Room)

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LEN

BY HIS WOUNDS | ISAIAH 53





Worship Schedule

Traditional Praise: Sundays at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM (also online), and 11:00 AM

Modern Praise: Saturdays at 5:00 PM | Sundays at 10:45 AM (also online)

Midweek Lenten Praise: Wednesdays at 4:15 PM (also online) and 7:00 PM

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