

THE JOTTINGS

The Newsletter of Jehovah Lutheran Church

1566 Thomas Ave, Saint Paul MN 55104 • 651-644-1421 • www.jehovahlutheran.org

A Community of Joy . . . Celebrating, Learning & Sharing the Love of God in Christ Jesus



March 2024

Jehovah Lutheran Church

Traditional liturgy and
hymns of the faith
Gospel-centered preaching
Weekly celebration of
Holy Communion



SUNDAYS

Worship 9:30am

Growing in Faith
Sunday School
Following Divine Service

Living in Faith
Bible Study 11:00am

Join us for worship
Stay Connected
and Informed
on our Church Website:
www.jehovahlutheran.org



One Lord, one faith, one baptism
Ephesians 4:5

Repentant Joy in Lent

"With repentant joy, we receive the salvation accomplished by the all-availing sacrifice of His [Jesus'] body and His blood on the cross." (LSB 178)

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each time I read this part of the Prayer of Thanksgiving in our communion liturgy, I am struck by the words "repentant joy." This phrase seems to be something of a paradox. To repent means we turn away from our sins. Repentance even includes mourning over our sins, expressing that we are sorry for them. Joy on the other hand means a gladness that goes beyond happiness (which comes from the word "happenstance"). Joy is a gladness that comes to us from the outside not from our circumstances or our own inner thoughts. In the Christian sense, joy comes to us as a gift from God.

Yet, these two, repentance and joy, can go together. That's true because repentance is not just turning *from* something (our sin). It also is turning *to* something, or rather to *someone*. Repentance is turning to Jesus Christ.

For Christ Jesus is Himself our very joy. Christ is God Himself, who gives Himself to us as our joy. When we repent, we turn from our sins and from sorrowing over them to Christ Jesus who takes our sins away from us and gives us His own peace with God the Father. Martin Luther called this the "Happy Exchange." Jesus trades our sin for His righteousness (His right relationship with the Father). Jesus trades our death for His eternal life. Jesus trades our sorrows for His joy.

This is repentant joy. It is a joy that rejoices in Christ and His gifts to us. It is a joy that rejoices that Jesus takes away our sin. It is a joy that rejoices in the death and resurrection of Jesus for us. And this repentant joy, brothers and sisters, is what Lent is all about.

Lent is not just about sorrow for our sins. That's only half of what Lent is about. Lent is about sorrow for our sins, and then turning from that to the joy Jesus gives to us. If we make Lent only about sorrow for our sins, we turn the focus from Jesus who was crucified for us, and we make Lent all about ourselves. If we do that, then Lent will become nothing but a season of works-righteousness wherein we will just focus on what we do to try to make up for our faults. In reality, we can do nothing but passively receive the gift of salvation that Jesus won for us on the cross and which Jesus gives us freely through His Word and Sacraments.

But when we do receive Jesus who died for us and comes to us in these means of grace, we receive the greatest things we will ever be given. We receive the righteousness, life, and salvation that Jesus won for us at great cost—"not with gold or silver but with His holy and precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death."

In with these benefits, Jesus gives to us His very self. He gives us His abiding presence in our lives. He gives us His eternal peace that this world cannot give. He gives us the promise of resurrection and eternal life. He gives us His joy. This is repentant joy. In turning from our sins, we turn to Christ, who gives Himself to us.

I invite you to join together with us this Lent as we continue to hear what Jesus has done for us. On the following page you will see opportunities for worship throughout the remainder of Lent and in Holy Week as we turn our eyes and our ears to the cross to see and hear what Jesus has done for us. I pray you will be able to gather with us as Jesus gives Himself to us.

Walking together with you,
Pastor Joshua Miller



LENT 2024

Sundays: "The Road to the Cross"

March 3, "Destroy this Temple"

March 10, "Love Lifted Up"

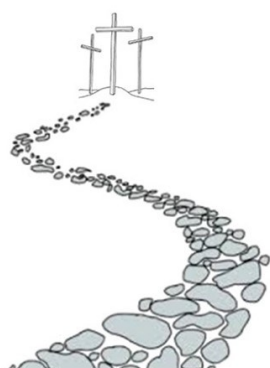
March 17, "The Servant of All"

Wednesdays: "I Am"

March 6, "I Am the Resurrection and the Life"

March 13, "I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life"

March 20, "I Am the True Vine"



The Road
to the Cross

LENTEN SUPPERS

The St. Paul Outreach center is providing Lenten Suppers on Wednesdays at 5:30pm. Sign up on the bulletin board outside the lounge if you can help. See David Mennicke or Janet Fishback if you have questions or need more information.



Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday: March 24, Divine Service

9:30am

Holy Thursday: March 28, Divine Service at

6:30pm

Good Friday: March 29, Service of Word at

6:30pm

Easter Vigil: March 30, Vigil Service with Holy Communion at 6:30pm

Easter Morning: March 31, Divine Service

9:30am



EASTER MUMS NOW ON SALE

Janet Fishback will be selling flowers on Sunday mornings by the church office, cost per plant will be \$15.00. Due to allergies of many members we will only be selling mums. Flowers will be sold through March 17. Any questions please feel free to call Janet at 612-388-5286.

PASTORAL NOTE ON HYMNALS IN WORSHIP

After hearing multiple requests from members of our congregation, we have moved the copies of the *Lutheran Book of Worship* from the pew racks to the cart at the back of the sanctuary. This will help alleviate confusion for friends and visitors during worship. We will also be putting some pew Bibles back into the pew racks. We will continue to use the *LBW* as a supplement in our worship together, as we also use *With One Voice*.

LYDIA'S LIBRARY IS OPEN!



The church library has moved from the basement into the prayer room across from the Pastor's office. There is a notebook located in the white "return books" basket to log books out. This is a multi-purpose room for both Prayers and the Library. There are many devotional booklets available, along with both fiction and non-fiction books.

Take a few minutes to survey the library that was dedicated to Lydia Volz.

FUNERAL COMMITTEE

The Funeral Committee is looking for people to bring desserts when we have funeral services, beginning with the service for Lydia Volz on March 16. For more information, talk to Diane Grandstrand at 651-253-6466 or email dianegrandstrand@gmail.com.



CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The theme for Centennial events is "100 Years of Grace: Walking Together at Jehovah Lutheran."

Our Centennial events have been a great success!

We look forward to seeing you at future Centennial Sundays on these dates:

Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024.

Focus will be on the 1960s-70s.

Rally Sunday, September 8, 2024.

Focus will be on the 1980s-90s.

Reformation Sunday, October 27, 2024.

Focus will be on the 2000s-20s.

LIFE TOGETHER

Saturday, March 23

Meet at Jehovah at 5:30pm

Everyone is welcome on Saturday, March 23 to the next, exciting Life Together fellowship event for members and friends of Jehovah! **We will meet at Jehovah at 5:30pm** and then head out to various restaurants for a Midway neighborhood "food crawl." We will support our neighborhood businesses, meet their workers, and enjoy much tasty food and fellowship.

ROYALS NIGHT UPDATE

The King of Kings Booster Club would like to extend a big thank-you to all who helped make Royals Night 2024 a success through your prayers, volunteer time and donations! Stay tuned for official updates on numbers.

JEHOVAH SERVICE AND EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Divine Service

9:30am Sundays in the Sanctuary

Invite a friend and join us
for a year of connecting and *Walking Together*.



Living by Faith

11:00am on Sundays

Ages 14 - 100+

Join us in person in the lounge

Contact Pastor Miller with questions
at pastorjoshuamiller@gmail.com.



Growing in Faith

Ages Birth - 13 years

Gather with us weekly in the nursery after the
Divine Service.

Parents are welcome to stay with their children.

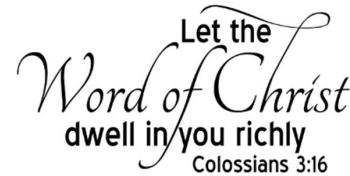
Men's Bible Study

Join us for Bible Study on Wednesday mornings
at 11:00am in the lounge.

Bring your own Bible and coffee mug, if you like,
or use the ones provided.

No RSVP necessary

Contact Pastor Miller with any questions.



Jehovah Lutheran Church Women

Join us for coffee, conversation, prayer,
and Bible Study

on the first Thursday of the month

March 7 at 1:00pm.

Open to everyone.

Our curriculum comes from
the Lutheran Women's Quarterly
If you have questions or would like
more information, contact Pastor Miller.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

March 3

Exodus 20:1-17

God has saved Israel from slavery in Egypt. The Ten Commandments show how His people are to live toward Him and neighbor.

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

God acts with power and wisdom through the weakness and foolishness of the cross.

John 2:13-22

Standing in the temple Jesus predicts His resurrection and that He will replace the temple as the place of God's presence with His people.

March 10

Numbers 21:4-9

Israel complains against God, then feels His judgment in the snake bites; but God provides a means of healing through the bronze serpent.

Ephesians 2:1-10

Even when we were dead in sin, by grace God made us alive in Christ, created anew in Him to do good works.

John 3:14-21

Just as the Israelites looked upon the bronze serpent and lived, so those who look to Christ on the cross are not condemned but have the life that is eternal.

March 17

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Jeremiah tells that the Lord will make a new covenant with His people, written not on stone tables but in their hearts and kept in obedience to God.

Hebrews 5:1-10

Christ lived, and died, in trusting obedience to God, qualifying Him to save those who are obedient to Him.

Mark 10:32-45

Jesus tells us that true greatness is found not in seeking our own glory, but in seeking His glory through our determination to serve others.

March 24

Zechariah 9:9-12

In this prophecy of hope, Zechariah tells the Judeans to be persistent in rejoicing.
 "Lo, your king comes to you;
 triumphant and victorious is He."

Philippians 2:5-11

This magnificent hymn extols Christ who became powerless as a slave in obedience to God who then exalts Him as Lord over all.
 "Let this mind be in you." (KJV)

John 12:20-43

Jesus enters Jerusalem and His "hour" has come. He teaches that we must die to bear fruit and of His being lifted up to draw all people to Himself.

Mark 14:1-15:47

In his Gospel Mark first portrays Jesus' authority in word and deed, His rejection by the Jewish leaders and even by His disciples, and then in the Passion His crucifixion at the hands of His own people.



March 31

Isaiah 25:6-9

The Lord will make a feast for all peoples, celebrating the destruction of death and the salvation of His people.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Christ died for our sins and was raised in victory. That is the gospel through which we are being saved.

Mark 16:1-8

Mark's gospel ends abruptly. Several women go early to the tomb. There they see a "young man" dressed in white who tells them to go and tell Jesus' disciples and Peter that He would see them in Galilee as He had told them. The women were frightened and said nothing to anyone.

SPOC News

The St. Paul Outreach Center (SPOC) will be helping to host community meals during the season of Lent, as well as neighborhood Easter egg hunt on **Saturday, March 30 at 3pm**. Donations of treats, small prizes, and plastic eggs gladly accepted from SPOC partners. Volunteers will be needed to help with the event. More Lego/Bracelet-making events will be planned for April. We will need help passing out fliers to get the word out in the coming weeks for these events!



Huge THANKS to SPOC partner Concordia Academy whose students were on site recently for a clean-up day, in conjunction with a service day for them. Please continue to pray for those who come to this center and those who serve them.



New! You can now "Like us on Facebook" and "Follow us on Instagram" to keep up with all the exciting things going on at the SPOC!



GLOBAL HUMAN CARE FUND

March begins the months during which we highlight the human care efforts of Lutheran World Relief. "Since 1945, Lutheran World Relief saves and improves lives in the poorest parts of the world. We will persist until your love reaches every neighbor." LWR accomplishes their goals in the areas of rural economics/agricultural livelihoods, environmental conservation to promote sustainable productivity, and direct humanitarian aid. Learn more about this organization by visiting lwr.org or check out the new material on the bulletin board.



YOUR MITES IN ACTION

2023–2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 8

EXPANDING GOSPEL PROCLAMATION WORLDWIDE

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri
\$100,000

Concordia Seminary is committed to addressing the concern of educating international students from countries that are unable to handle the significant financial obligation. This education will help to ensure that those living in every region of their nations will hear and learn the message of salvation through Christ. An LWML Mission Grant will provide scholarship aid for international students. To learn more, see the bulletin board in the hallway or look up this mission grant at www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-8.

Serve

The Lord with gladness
Psalm 100:2



MAIN STREET LIVING
SUNDAYS 9:00–10:00am
WFTC CHANNEL 29/9-2



Main Street Living is an LCMS program that features pastors from the WFTC, channel 29/9-2, viewer area. The first half hour is a reproduction of *This is the Life*. The second half hour is a modified Lutheran worship service, which is produced locally. Program information for January is below. To watch, go to mainstreetliving.com and select the “Twin Cities” tab.

March 3: “Betrayed” – A man struggles to do what is right after a reporter uncovers shady dealings in his business.

March 10: “Aftermath” – A father tries to make things right with his daughter after a life of bad choices.

March 17: “Holy Land Tour pt. 1” – A video tour of locations in Jesus’ earthly ministry, led by SD pastor Nabil Nour, who grew up in Israel.

March 24: “Holy Land Tour pt. 2” – A video tour of locations in Jesus’ earthly ministry, led by SD pastor Nabil Nour, who grew up in Israel.

March 31: “Three Days” – The disciples’ reactions and interaction in the days between Jesus’ death and resurrection.

JOIN US
FOR OUR TALKATIVE THURSDAY
CALL - IN CHAT



We chat at **11:10am each Thursday**. All you need is your phone. Dial: 978-990-5000. If you are using a land line please dial 1 and then the number. When prompted enter the JELC code:

796345#

After the beep just say hello and your name. We can visit about how our days are going, silver linings, concerns, etc. We also will have a short devotion and prayer.

Join us on Thursdays at 11:10am

*Therefore encourage one another
 and build each other up,
 as indeed you are doing.
 1 Thessalonians 5:11*





ACTIVITY CALENDAR

March 2024



April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



*O death,
where is your victory?
O death,
where is your sting?*
1 Corinthians 15:55

3 9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary Growing in Faith 11:00am Nursery Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge	4	5 Lay Ministry Meeting 5:00pm	6 Men's Bible Study 11:00am Rooted in Faith 6:30pm	7 Talkative Thursday Chat 11:10am LWML Bible Study 1:00pm Open to all Mission & Ministry Meeting 6:00pm	8	9  Set your clocks ahead 1 hour at bedtime tonight
10 9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary Growing in Faith 11:00am Nursery NO Living in Faith	11	12	13 Men's Bible Study 11:00am Lenten Wednesday Dinner 5:30pm Service 6:30pm Rooted in Faith 7:00pm A & T 7:00pm	14 Talkative Thursday Chat 11:10am	15	16
17 9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary Growing in Faith 11:00am Nursery Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge	18 Church Council Meeting 6:00pm	19	20 Men's Bible Study 11:00am Lenten Wednesday Dinner 5:30pm Service 6:30pm Rooted in Faith 7:00pm A & T 7:00pm	21 Talkative Thursday Chat 11:10am	22	23 Life Together Meet at Jehovah at 5:30pm
24 9:30am Palm Sunday Worship Growing in Faith 11:00am Nursery Living in Faith 11:00am Lounge	31 Easter Worship 9:30am in the Sanctuary	25	26 March Jottings Articles due	27 NO Men's Bible Study	28 Holy Thursday 6:30pm	29 Good Friday 6:30pm
						30 Easter Egg Hunt 3:00pm at Jehovah Easter Vigil with Holy Communion 6:30pm



OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR HOURS

TUESDAY - THURSDAY

8:30AM - 1:30PM

FRIDAY

8:30AM - 12:30PM

**Email submissions deadline for the APRIL issue of *The Jottings*
IS MARCH 26TH.**

Please email your articles to office@jehovahlutheran.org

Contact us!

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*Jehovah Lutheran Church Is a congregation of
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*