***Saint John Lutheran Church***

*We trust God and invite you to experience God’s inclusive love!*

A sheep standing in a grassy field

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Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

10:00 AM

**SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF April 21**

**Sunday, April 21 Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**9:00 am Sunday School**

**10:00 am Worship**

**11:30 am Council**

**11:30 am Fellowship**

**5:30 pm AA Primary Purpose**

**Monday, April 22 Office Closed**

**7:00 pm AA Primary Purpose**

**7:00 pm Easy Does It Al-Anon**

**Tuesday, April 23 10:30 am Centering Prayer**

**12:30 pm Theology on Tap**

**6:30 pm Scouts**

**7:00 pm AA Primary Purpose**

**Wednesday, April 24 6:30 pm Worship**

**Thursday, April 25 10:00 am Mat Weaving**

**12:00 pm Al-Anon**

**Saturday,** **April 27 10am-1pm St. John Studio**

**2:30 pm AA Primary Purpose: Kitchen & FH**

**Sunday****, April 28 Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**9:00 am Sunday School**

**10:00 am Worship**

**11:30 am Fellowship**

**5:30 pm AA Primary Purpose**

**Serving Saints today Serving Saints Next Week**

**Crucifer: Vaughn Maples Crucifer: Savannah Harvil**

**Reader: Gary Larson Reader: Jill Roy**

**Altar Guild:** **Don Taylor Altar Guild: Tish Martin**

**Assisting Minister:** **Larry Schultz Assisting Minister: Gwen Taylor**

**Ushers:** **Harry and Sharon Willard Ushers: Charlie and Tish Martin**

**Stewards: Vaughn Maples and Jill Roy Stewards: Vaughn Maples & Frank Dansby**

**Fellowship: Don Taylor Fellowship: Elaine Bell**

**Greeter: Sharon Willard Greeter: Connie Klopfenstein**

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

*Welcome! The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*The assembly stands in body or spirit.*

**Thanksgiving For Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden’s verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom’s land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus’ death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Our mission here at St. John is…

**We trust God and invite you to experience God’s inclusive Love**!

**Gathering Song** *The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing* **ELW #531**

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**Hymn of Praise p. 169**

**The Prayer of the Day**

Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**WORD**

**Acts 4:5-12**

5The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, 6with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. 7When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” 8Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, 9if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, 10let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. 11This Jesus is   
 ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
  it has become the cornerstone.’  
12There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music Gary Larson**

**1 John 3:16-24**

16We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. 17How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?  
 18Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. 19And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him 20whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. 21Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; 22and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.  
 23And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. 24All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God. Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-2112“See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. 13I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”  
  
  14Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.  
  16“It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”  
 17The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”  
 And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”  
 And let everyone who is thirsty come.  
 Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.  
  20The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”   
  Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!  
  21The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.**

**Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21**

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**Gospel Acclamation A sheet of music with notes

Description automatically generatedA black and white image of a musical note

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

**John 10:11-18**

[Jesus said:] 11“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

**John 21:1-19**

**1After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. 2Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. 3Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.  
  4Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” 6He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. 7That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. 8But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.  
  9When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. 10Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” 11So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. 12Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. 13Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. 14This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.  
  15When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” 16A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” 17He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. 18Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” 19(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”**

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

*The assembly is seated.*

**Sermon Vicar Roxann Thompson**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

*The assembly stands in body or spirit.*

**Hymn of the Day** *You, Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd* **Bulletin P.17**

**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**

#### Prayers of Intercession

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen, and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel.  Bless the ministry of Agustinian Lutheran School, Guatemala and St. Johannes, Bavaria. We pray for Grace Missions and Chez Moi Orphanage, Haiti, that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus Christ.  God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems, especially, ***Cathleen*** *Dahl,* ***William*** *Panick,* ***Susan and David*** *Friend,* ***Maureen*** *Caldwell,* ***Andy*** *and* ***June*** *Harnack,* ***John*** *Bennett,* ***Sarah*** *Lanier,* ***Catherine*** *Campbell,* ***Bobbi*** *and* ***Les*** *Windsor,* ***Sandra*** *Harwood,* ***Debbie*** *Sakmar,* ***Beau and******Janet*** *Kindred,* ***Cheryl*** *Maples,* ***Lanny*** *Cox,* ***Leanne*** *Powell,* ***April*** *Kennedy,* ***Betty*** *Panick,* ***Claudia*** *Nicholas,* ***Mary*** *Johnson,* ***Bill*** *Gates,* ***Enid*** *Mswia,* ***Lorelei*** *Kompelien* ***and family****.* God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of celebrations, you celebrate with those who are celebrating birthdays, ***Susan*** *Friend;* those celebrating baptismal birthdays, ***Savannah*** *Harvil*; attending seminary, ***Ethan*** *Miller.* God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We lift up all others we name in our hearts or on our lips….. *(Pause).*

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

**MEAL**

*We receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ’s peace. A collection of material goods for the church’s mission is gathered as a sign of the giving of our whole selves in grateful response for all of God’s gifts. The table is set with bread and wine. A gift of music is offered, and prayers of thanksgiving are sung and spoken.*

**We Share the Peace of the Lord**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated as the music begins to play.*

**Choir**

**Organ Offertory (Gathering of Gifts)**

*At this time, the ushers will pass the offering plates.*

*The assembly stands in body or spirit as we sing the offering hymn and present the gifts.*

**Offering Hymn** *Come to the Table* **#481**

**Offering Prayer**

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here,

be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

*Before the Lord’s Supper is shared, the presiding minister leads us in a prayer of thanksgiving (Eucharist) to God for creation and salvation, remembrance of the crucified and risen Christ, and the Holy Spirit’s presence*

*in this meal. The thanksgiving concludes with the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us.*

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

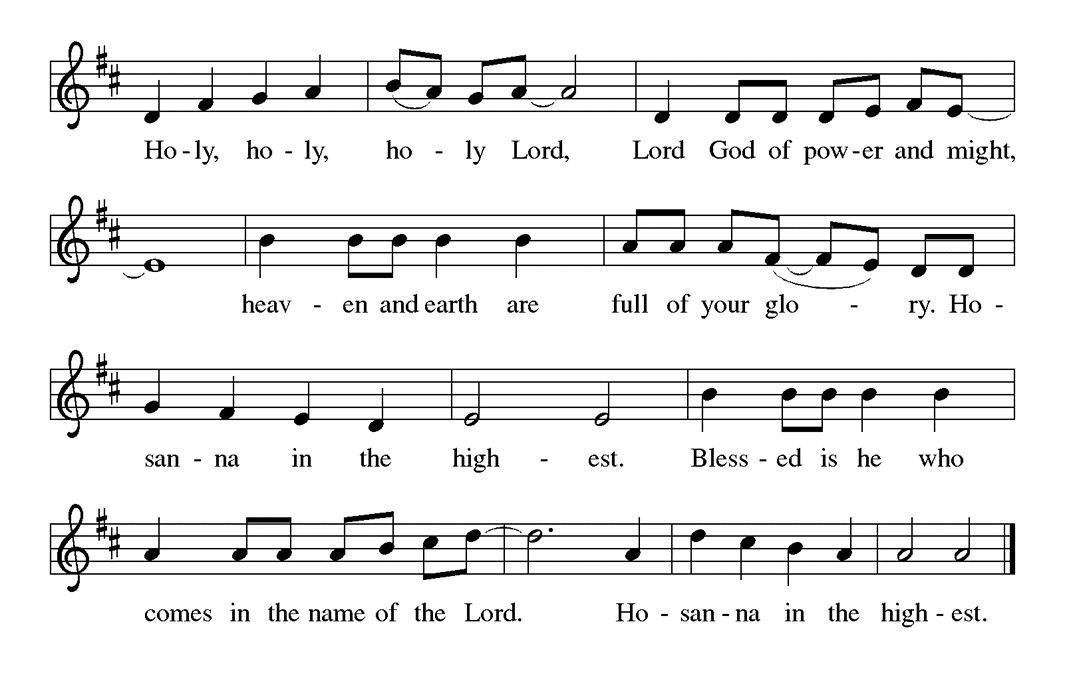
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**Preface for Easter**

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

****

**Eucharistic Prayer for Easter**

Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,

for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,

and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus

who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry,

and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore,

his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,

we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:

carry us in your arms from death to life,

that we may live as your chosen ones,

clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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**

**Invitation to Communion**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God’s table.

*The assembly is seated.*

**Lamb of God**

A sheet music with words and notes

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**The congregation is encouraged to sing during the distribution:**

*You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*  **ELW #484**

*The assembly stands in body or spirit.*

**Prayer after Communion**

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**Benediction**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

*During the sending hymn, please remain facing the cross.*

**Sending Hymn** *Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing*  **ELW #544**

**Dismissal**

As we go on our way, let us remember…

**Through Jesus Christ, we are an equipping and responding church that continues to grow, impact, and transform lives.**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Postlude**

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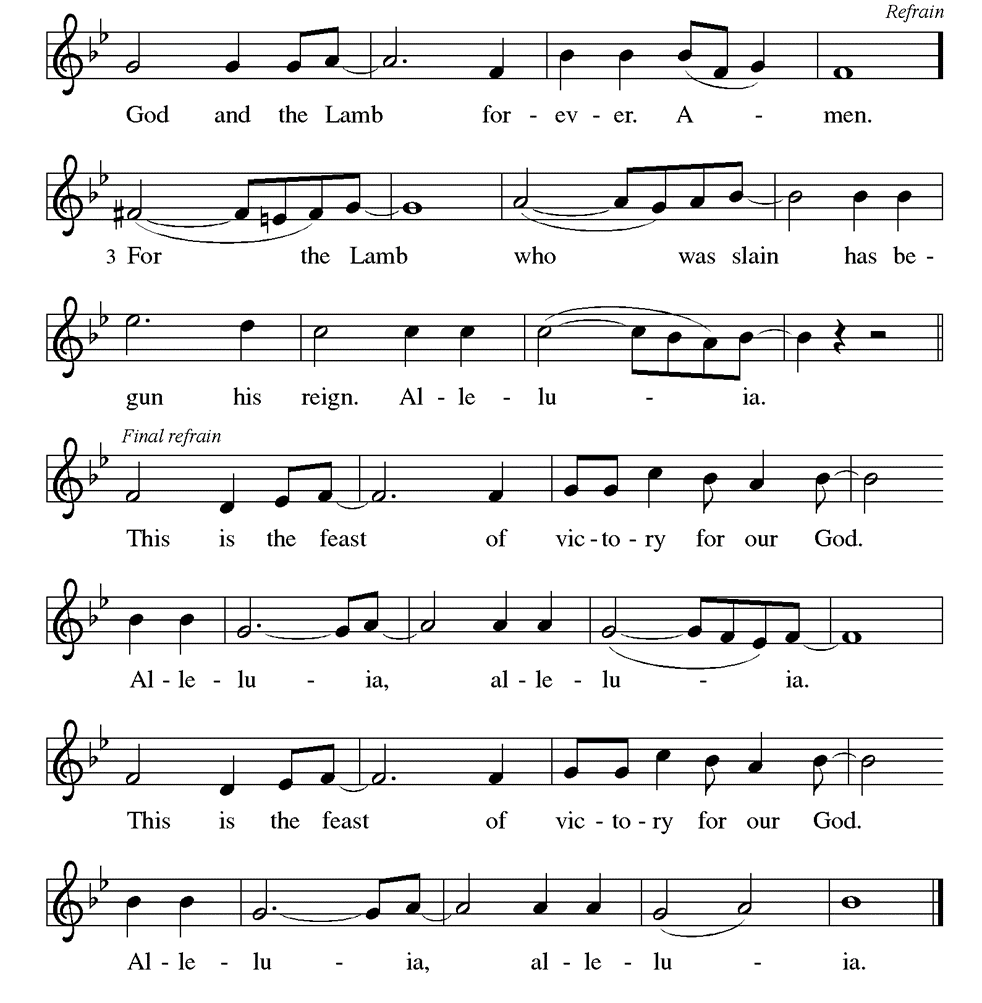
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**544**

**IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK – APRIL 21, 2024**

**ELW**

**36**

**Cathleen Dahl, William Panick, Susan and David Friend, Maureen Caldwell, Andy and June Harnack, John Bennett, Sarah Lanier, Catherine Campbell, Bobbi and Les Windsor, Debbie Sakmar, Beau and Janet Kindred, Cheryl Maples, Lanny Cox, Leanne Powell, April Kennedy, Betty Panick, Claudia Nicholas, Mary Johnson, Bill Gates, Enid Mswia, Lorelei Kompelien and Family.**

**Family and Friends**: **Leonard** Rhyne, **Liz and Bob** Sherliza (friends of Saint John); **Margaret** Thompson (friend of Elaine Bell and Donna Milam); **Charles** Spurgeon (brother of Vickie Cash); **Dawn** Jacobs, **Ray** Long (friends and family of Terry Emlet and Mary Johnson); **Cathy** Westmoreland (friend of Gates); **Patricia** Freeman (grandmother of Savannah Harvil and Bailey Harvil-Sevier), **Tim** Kennedy (son of April Kennedy); **Patsy** Slagle (friend of Janet Kindred, Marilyn Droegmiller), **Susan** St. John, **Scott** Lanier (family and friends of Sarah Lanier); **Barbara** Shockley, **Rick** Thacker, **Brenda** Evans, **Janet** Kannady, **Ramona** Landreth (friends and sister of Cheryl Maples); **Sue** Tomsovic (Aunt of Tish Martin); **Nilsa** Scott (friend of Laura Miller); **John** Burger (son in law of Bonnie Nichols), **Nancy** Whilden, **Patricia** Wilson, **Melissa** Roy, (friend and family of Jill Roy); **Michael** Robinson and family, **Doug** Maxwell, **Mallory** DeLise and family (family of Debbie Sakmar); **Lisa** Maples (Daughter in Law of Debbie Sakmar and Vaughn and Cheryl Maples); **Whitney** O’Connor Hawk (granddaughter of Larry Schultz); **Lisa** Cesnik Ferguson (friend of Larry Stoermer); **Julie** Pate, **Ricky** Bradford (family of Peggy Thomas), **Jeanie Tidwell** (mother of Bill Tidwell); **Jennifer and Bobby** Mooneyham (parents of Tina Venus).

**BIRTHDAYS Baptisms**

4/26 Susan Friend 4/25 Savannah Harvil

**Saint John Studio**

The next class will be on April 27, 10am to 1 pm. In preparation of the spring holidays, we will be making cards. Everyone is welcome to join us, no matter your creative abilities! There will be light refreshments, good community, and great fun! We hope to see you there!

**BIBLE STUDY, SUNDAY, APRIL 7 AT 3:30 PM VIA ZOOM**

Please find the links for our Bible study guides for The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis.

**Primary Bible Study Guide**

<https://www.cslewisinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/Screwtape_StudyGuideWeb_cor.pdf>

**Second Free Bible Study Guide**

<https://www.ashtoncatholic.org/screwtape>

**YOUTH GATHERING FUNDRAISER, MAY 5, 11:30AM**

Come support our youth’s National Youth Gathering fundraiser! We will be having Gayle Harvil’s “famous” spaghetti immediately following worship. The kids are excited to share their artistic skills in a silent auction. You can bid on your favorite pieces for two Sundays! We hope to see you there!

**Centering Prayer and theology on tap, tuesdays**

Centering prayer will meet in the Adult Sunday School room at 10:30 am.

Theology on Tap will meet at Margo’s on Taylor Street at 12:30 pm. We are reading *Jesus’ Alternative Plan: the Sermon on the Mount* by Richard Rohr.

**Mat Weaving: Thursdays at 10:00 am**

We meet every Thursday at 10:00 am in the room across from the office. We need grocery bags, especially colorful bags. We encourage everyone to prayerfully consider joining us in this important ministry.

**DAILY READINGS**

*Monday: Psalm 95, 1 Samuel 16:1-13, 1 Peter 5:1-5*

*Tuesday: Psalm 95, 1 Chronicles 11:1-9, Revelation 7:13-17*

*Wednesday: Psalm 95, Micah 7:8-20, Mark 14:26-31*

*Thursday: Psalm 22:25-31, Amos 8:1-7, Acts 8:1b-8*

*Friday: Psalm 22:25-31, Amos 8:11-13, Acts 8:9-25*

*Saturday: Psalm 22:25-31, Amos 9:7-15, Mark 4:30-32*

*Fifth Sunday of Easter: Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8*

**Saint John Lutheran Church**

**1689 Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway, Griffin, GA 30224**

**Church Phone: 770-228-0662**

**Email:** [**stjohnelca@bellsouth.net**](mailto:stjohnelca@bellsouth.net)

**Website:** [**www.stjohngriffin.org**](http://www.stjohngriffin.org)

**Facebook: Saint John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Pastor Larry Boudon Roxann Thompson, Vicar**

[**Pastor\_st.john@yahoo.com**](mailto:Pastor_st.john@yahoo.com)[**Vicar.stjohn@yahoo.com**](mailto:Vicar.stjohn@yahoo.com)

[**larryboudon@gmail.com**](mailto:larryboudon@gmail.com) **678-485-0430**

**786-383-8087 Office Hours:**

**Office Hours: Wednesday: 1pm-8pm**

**Tuesday &** **Wednesday, 9am-4pm**

**Church Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-3pm**

**Support Staff**

Lynn Jones, Administrative Assistant Larry Stoermer, Worship Broadcast Technician

Marilyn Droegmiller, Organist Savannah Harvil, Victoria Schuette. Youth Directors

**Congregation Council**

Phyllis Hutchings, President Connie Klopfenstein

Enid Mswia, Vice-President Donna Milam

Vaughn Maples, Secretary Gwen Parks

Tish Martin, Treasurer Gwen Flowers-Taylor

Steve Harwood, Financial Secretary

**Ministry Contacts**

Altar Guild Sandra Harwood 770-229-2071

Education

Fellowship Laura Miller, co-chair 770-468-5722

Martha Dansby, co-chair 770-719-8409

Finance Committee Tish Martin 678-378-0551

Steve Harwood 770-229-1204

Gifts and Memorials Tish Martin, chair  678-378-0551

Glocal Mission Larry Schultz, chair 404-304-9127

Member Care Sarah Lanier, chair 814-558-3152

Property Ministry Tish Martin, Chair 678-378-0551

Social Ministry

Stewardship

Children and Youth Ministry Savannah Harvil 678-603-6287

Victoria Schuette 762-832-0289

Worship Sandra Harwood, chair 404-993-7955