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# The Good News

A Publication of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – Sayville, NY  
March 2025

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***“Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments (Joel 2:12-13).”***

*“Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope. Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.”*

With these words the service for Ash Wednesday will begin on March 5. It is a wonderful, succinct explanation of what the season of Lent is all about. This is an important time in the Church, and it is important for you and your life in Christ. During this time we have a chance to reflect upon our sinfulness and our need for a Savior. We also have a chance to hear again all of the things that God has done for us in Christ to show us grace, to forgive us of our sin, and to bring us life.

This is also a chance for us to consider once again what our life looks like as we follow our Lord. As is suggested, it is one that ought to reflect devotion where we follow Christ and his Word rather than the ways of this world or the desires of our heart. It is a life of self-denial that seeks to have God first in all things. And it is a time of repentance, recognizing that we have become too comfortable in our sins at times, that we have ignored God's Law thinking that our way is better than God's, and we have thought too narrowly about what God has to say to us. Thus, we see a chance to turn around and change our mind, to pursue the things of God and to recognize that in his Word, God is supplying us with every good thing we need for true life and salvation.

It is with these things in mind that the Church undergoes all that it does in this holy season. I encourage you to be part of all it. Yes, it will mean sacrificing some of your time. It may mean your DVR stays full until after Easter. It may mean letting go of those things that you know are no good for you but you consume them or do them anyway. And it does mean spending more time in the Word and prayer that the inscription of Christ crucified for you may be imprinted upon your heart more deeply, and so that, as will be said on Ash Wednesday, we may come to Easter with a glad heart and truly celebrate the resurrection and the eternal life that Christ has won for us. Have a blessed Lententide!

On my heart imprint Your image, Blessed Jesus, King of grace,  
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures Never may Your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation (LSB #422)!

~Pastor Noack

**Wednesday Midday Bible Study** – Our study continues with the next topic, Death, Resurrection, and the Life Everlasting. The first class on this new topic will be ***Wednesday, March 5***, at which time we will continue to meet every first and third Wednesday for study and discussion. Please join us!

**Festival of Workshops** – On ***Saturday, March 15***, the LCMS Atlantic District will hold a series of workshops on a variety of topics related to faith and life in the Church. The event is once again being held on the beautiful campus of SUNY – Maritime. This is a great event with numerous breakout sessions to pique the interest of just about everyone, bringing together people and ideas from around the district. The cost is just \$35 and refreshments and lunch are included. More information and registration is available at <https://ad-lcms.org/now/district-events/fow/fow-25-catalog>. If you would like to attend and money is an issue, please speak to Pastor. If you would like to arrange a carpool with other members attending, please let Pastor know that as well. I hope you will consider attending this event and bringing some ideas back to St. John's for consideration. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars Meeting** – On ***Sunday, March 16 following the 9:30am service***, there will be a Thrivent Choice Dollar meeting, and I hope you can make it. You have made St. John's the recipient of your Choice Dollar funds, so it is important for you to be included in the decision-making process of how that money might be spent. Please RSVP to Honey at arthon@aol.com so we know who many to plan for. Or sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex. There will be refreshments. If you know others who are Thrivent members, please let them know. Hope to see you there!

**Official Acts at Saint John's (thru February 15):**

**Baptisms:**

Layla Katherine Marghoob                      Feb 16

**Funerals:**

Doreen A. Rizzo                                      Feb 7

## Music Notes:

Cindy Holden, Director of Music

*Create in me a clean heart* – the congregation and choir sings these words from the Divine Service every week and will do so again on Ash Wednesday. The choir also sings the text in its larger context as we pause the liturgy that day to remember that we are dust and will return to the dust. As one by one, people come to receive ashes, the silence, the starkness, the chanted singing of the Psalm may allow more focused attention on the text than might happen with its frequent repetition at the offertory as part of the Divine Service. Pray it, together with King David as we begin the Lenten Journey and make our way toward Holy Week and Easter.

The Psalm reminds us that, while a physical offering is often received & presented as we sing those words, God's desire is that we humbly and willingly offer, not sacrifices, but ourselves; that we ask for mercy, we ask to be washed, made clean - even whiter than snow - on the inside, as ashes blacken our foreheads and our failings remind us of our constant need for God. Cleansed and unburdened we can experience the joy of God's salvation, walking alongside our Lord.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.  
Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.  
O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. Psalm 51:10–17

*...Then will I teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will be converted unto thee...* Blessed to receive Christ's forgiveness, to have sins and guilt removed, to be delivered from death and have joy restored, what follows is to live in God's love; to teach by showing that love to others (so they, too, will be converted) and to sing of God's righteousness – mighty, and fulfilling tasks undertaken by the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

If you would like to do that in a tangible way – to show love and sing of God's righteousness - with others in preparation for our weekly worship, St. John's has a choir that gathers on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm. There is room in the chancel for more singers to surround the altar and help lead the song in our liturgies. We welcome new faces and new voices – or familiar faces willing to share their voices! Speak to me if you would like to know more about putting your faith and voice into action in this servant ministry at St. John's.

## Choir news:

Who is that new guy in the Chancel Choir? Meet singer, Hunter Reineking. Hunter is the grandson of Jim Park, joining his Ópa in the choir where, together, they now comprise half of the bass section, together with Bob Cummings (who is celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday at the end of the month!) & his son-in-law, Ken Donaldson. If you (and perhaps a "kin", too) are interested in joining us in singing psalms, hymns & spiritual songs, let me know! We also have a mother & daughter team, Flo & Samantha Wagner, and would welcome more!



### Do you love singing hymns?

A **Festival of Hymns** with massed choir (including some of St John's singers) takes place **3 pm Sunday, March 2** at **The Church of St. Patrick, 400 Main Street, Huntington.** The community event co-sponsored by Nassau & Suffolk Chapters of the *American Guild of Organists* features congregational hymns and massed choir performance with organ and brass. All are welcome to attend; a free-will offering will be received.

**The Long Island Brass Guild & Company Concert** takes place 3pm Sunday, March 23 here at St John's in our annual benefit program for Mercy Haven, Inc. Organist, Cindy Holden joins the brass for part of the program that includes music by Gabrielli, Strauss, Bedford, Haydn and more.

Mercy Haven's mission is to acknowledge the dignity and potential of people who are homeless, living with mental illness, or living in poverty in our community by providing housing, advocacy, education and life skills development.

Please join us for an afternoon of music and in support of this mission for the less fortunate in our midst. Suggested donation: \$20, \$15 for Students & Seniors.

## *Lent, Holy Week, & Easter Service Schedule 2025*

### Disciples for Life

<b>The Ten Commandments</b> (3/12)	noon & 7pm
<b>The Apostles' Creed</b> (3/19)	noon & 7pm
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b> (3/26)	noon & 7pm
<b>The Sacrament of Holy Baptism</b> (4/2)	noon & 7pm
<b>Confession &amp; The Office of the Keys</b> (4/9)	noon & 7pm
<b>The Sacrament of the Altar</b> (4/16)	noon & 7pm
<b>Palm/Passion Sunday</b> (4/13)	7:45am & 9:30am
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> (4/17)	noon & 7pm
<b>Stations of the Cross</b> (@ St. Ann's Cemetery; 4/17)	3pm
<b>Good Friday</b> (4/18)	noon & 7pm
<b>Easter Vigil</b> (4/19)	7pm
<b>Easter Sunrise</b> (4/20) @ Sayville Marina Beach Park	6:00am
<b>Easter Divine Service</b> (4/20)	7:45am & 9:30am



**Growing**  
IN GOD'S  
**grace**  
2 PETER 3:18

Lutheran Women *in Mission*

41<sup>ST</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION  
Omaha, Nebraska

.....  
**June 26–29, 2025**

## Lutheran Women in Mission News

Save the Date for these great events coming up!

**March 1** – Registration for the LWML National Convention Opens! Go to [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org) for information.

**March 29** – Women's Life Day at Grace – Mastic Beach with keynote speaker Deaconess Raquel Rojas. Starts at 8am.

**April 5** – Spring event at St. John, Holbrook; 9am.

**May 3** – LWML Atlantic District Mission Festival to be held at the Atlantic District Offices in Hastings-On-Hudson.

**May 16-17** – Women's Retreat at Immaculate Conception Seminary.

**June 26-29** – LWML National Convention in Omaha, Nebraska!



THE ATLANTIC DISTRICT  
of THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD (LCMS)

## LCMS Atlantic District News

Save the Date:

District Convention – July 10-11 @ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Colonie, NY

# DAILY BIBLE READING



## March 2025

	1	Zechariah 11:4-17; 2 Timothy 4:1-18
Sun	2	Zechariah 12:1—13:9; Titus 1:1—2:6
	3	Zechariah 14:1—21; Titus 2:7—3:15
	4	Job 1:1-22; John 1:1-18
	5	Job 2:1—3:10; John 1:19-34
	6	Job 3:11-26; John 1:35-51
	7	Job 4:1-21; John 2:1-12
	8	Job 5:1-27; John 2:13-25
Sun	9	Job 6:1-13; John 3:1-21
	10	Job 6:14-30; John 3:22—4:6
	11	Job 7:1-21; John 4:7—26
	12	Job 8:1-22; John 4:27-45
	13	Job 9:1-35; John 4:46-54
	14	Job 10:1-22; John 5:1-18
	15	Job 11:1-20; John 5:19-29
Sun	16	Job 12:1-6, 12-25; John 5:30-47
	17	Job 13:1-12; John 6:1-21
	18	Job 13:13-28; John 6:22-40
	19	Job 14:1-22; John 6:41-59
	20	Job 15:1-23, 30-35; John 6:60-71
	21	Job 16:1-22; John 7:1-13
	22	Job 17:1-16; John 7:14-31
Sun	23	Job 18:1-21; John 7:32-53
	24	Job 19:1-12, 21-27; John 8:1-20
	25	Job 20:1-23, 29; John 8:21-38
	26	Job 21:1-21; John 8:39-59
	27	Job 30:16-31; John 9:1-23
	28	Job 31:1-12, 33-40; John 9:24-41
	29	Job 32:1-22; John 10:1-21
Sun	30	Job 32:1-22; John 10:1-21
	31	Job 32:1-22; John 10:1-21
	27	Job 30:16-31; John 9:1-23
	28	Job 31:1-12, 33-40; John 9:24-41





# **Stay Balanced for Life**

## *Fall Prevention Workshop*

Falls are a significant concern for older adults, but they are often preventable! Come learn how to improve your balance and strength in this informative session.

### **Program Highlights:**

- Understanding & Preventing Falls
- Benefits of Exercise
- Home Safety Tips
- Balance & Strength Exercises
- Q&A Session

### **Who Should Attend?**

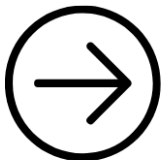
Perfect for older adults, caregivers and family members looking to improve balance, strength, and overall well-being.



**Friday, March 21st**

**1:30pm-2:30pm**

**St. John's Lutheran Church  
48 Greene Ave, Sayville, NY**



**Kindly sign up via the registration sheet located on the bulletin board in the Narthex.**

MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S PRESENTS

# THE LONG ISLAND BRASS GUILD & COMPANY

IN A BENEFIT CONCERT  
FOR MERCY HAVEN, INC.

SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025 • 3PM  
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
48 GREENE AVENUE, SAYVILLE, NY

Organist, Cindy Holden joins the brass in a program  
of music by Gabrieli, Strauss, Joplin, Ewald, Reiche & more.

*Mercy Haven's mission: to acknowledge the dignity and potential of people who are homeless, living with mental illness, or living in poverty in our community by providing housing, advocacy, education and life skills development.*

**Suggested donation:**

\$20 General Admission; \$15 Seniors & Students

*For more information, please call 631-589-3202*

With support from Thrivent Financial



E A S T E R L I L I E S

ORDER  
FORM

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

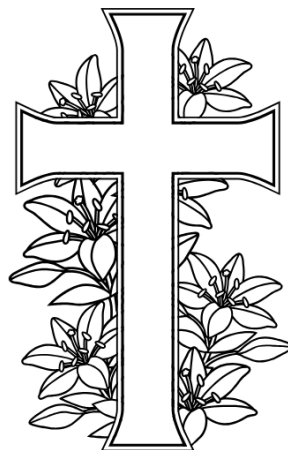
Yes, I wish to place a plant at the altar for Easter:

- To the Glory of God
- In memory of \_\_\_\_\_
- In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Plants are \$15.00 each. Please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church.

**Please return this form to the church office by Wednesday, April 9th.**

St. John's Lutheran Church  
48 Greene Avenue, Sayville, NY 11782  
631-589-3202





Suffolk Zone  
Spring 2025 Event

# Knit together in Love

April 5, 2025

9:30 a.m. registration,  
10 a.m. service with brunch and brief meeting following

St. John's Lutheran Church  
1675 Coates Avenue  
Holbrook, NY 11741  
631/588-6050

Come and learn how to knit  
and crochet  
while enjoying great  
fellowship and refreshments!

To RSVP text  
Marilyn at 631-355-6585

To support St. John's Food  
Pantry, please bring one or two  
of the following: canned soups,  
vegetables, pasta, cereal,  
hygiene items such as  
shampoo, soap, toiletries,  
toilet paper, etc.



# Women's Life Day

a day of prayer, praise and worship

Saturday, March 29, 2025

Grace Lutheran Church  
240 Mastic Road  
Mastic Beach, NY 11951  
631/281-8196, Fax 631/281-7871

Doors open: 8:30 am  
Program time 9:30 am to 3:30 pm  
Includes continental breakfast and sit down lunch  
suggested donation: \$20.00

Guest Speaker:

## Deaconess Raquel Rojas

of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
Bronx, New York

# Message from God: Tell them what I asked you to do!

Registration due by March 22, 2025

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# March 2025

March 2025						April 2025							
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1			1	2	3	4	5
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
30	31												

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 23	24	25	26	27	28	Mar 1
2 Quinquagesima 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service	3 7:00pm Basketball 7:00pm Boy Scouts	4 7:00pm Judo/12 Step	5 11:00am Bible Study 12:00pm Ash Wednesday Service 12:30pm N/A 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:45pm SoLI	6 7:00pm Judo	7 12:30pm N/A	8
9 First Sunday in Lent 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service	10 7:00pm Boy Scouts	11 7:00pm Basketball 7:00pm Elders Meeting 7:00pm Judo/12 Step	12 12:00pm Lent Service 12:30pm N/A 6:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm Lent Service 7:45pm SoLI	13 6:30pm Eagle Eye Ringers 7:00pm Judo 7:30pm Chancel Choir	14 12:30pm N/A	15 9:30am AD Festival of Workshops
16 Second Sunday in Lent 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service 11:00am Thrivent Choice Dollar Meeting	17 4:00pm LI Brass Rehearsal 7:00pm Boy Scouts	18 7:00pm Basketball 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm Judo/12 Step	19 11:00am Bible Study 12:00pm Lent Service 12:30pm N/A 6:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm Lent Service 7:45pm SoLI	20 6:30pm Eagle Eye Ringers 7:00pm Judo 7:30pm Chancel Choir	21 12:30pm N/A 1:30pm Fall Prevention Workshop	22
23 Third Sunday in Lent 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service 3:00pm LI Brass Guild Concert	24 7:00pm Basketball 7:00pm Boy Scouts	25 7:00pm Judo/12 Step	26 11:00am Bible Study 12:00pm Lent Service 12:30pm N/A 6:00pm Confirmation 7:00pm Lent Service 7:45pm SoLI	27 6:30pm Eagle Eye Ringers 7:00pm Judo 7:30pm Chancel Choir	28 12:30pm N/A	29
30 Fourth Sunday in Lent 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service	31 7:00pm Basketball 7:00pm Boy Scouts	Apr 1	2	3	4	5

## March Divine Service Assistant Schedule

March 2	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Bill Audia	Leo Rigaud
Ushers	Charlie Erb Jim Farrell	Jane Emmel & Kristin Noack
Reader	Jim Farrell	Dorothy Bauer
March 9	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Robert Bayley	Al Coppola
Ushers	<i>*Need Sub*</i>	Chuck & Judy Scott
Reader	<i>*Need Sub*</i>	Al Coppola
March 16	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Greg Calvano	Paul Erath
Ushers	<i>*Need Permanent Team*</i>	Nicole Hanisch & Pat Arrigo
Reader	Jim Farrell	Paul Erath
March 23	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Charlie Erb	Al Coppola
Ushers	Steve & Janet Lindfors	Kevin Paul & Barbara Dahlgren
Reader	Pastor	Elaine Whitehouse
March 30	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Robert Bayley	Paul Erath
Ushers	Brian & Christine Kirschenheiter	Lloyd & Pam Arrasate
Reader	Christine Kirschenheiter	Paul Erath

If you are unable to serve where assigned, please find someone you can switch with or someone who can take your place. Please let the Church Office know of any changes you make. Thank you.

### March Readings

<p>Mar 2: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13          Mar 9: Genesis 3:1-21; 2 Corinthians 6:1-10          Mar 16: Genesis 32:22-32; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7          Mar 23: Exodus 8:16-24; Ephesians 5:1-9          Mar 30: Exodus 16:2-21; Galatians 4:21-31</p>
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## ***Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church***

48 Greene Avenue  
Sayville, NY 11782  
(631) 589-3202 – office  
[www.stjohnsayville.org](http://www.stjohnsayville.org)

Facebook: Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – Sayville NY

**Rev. Brian Noack, Pastor**  
Cell Phone: (631) 806-7119  
E-mail: [pastor@stjohnsayville.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnsayville.org)

**Cindy Holden, Director of Music**  
E-mail: [music@stjohnsayville.org](mailto:music@stjohnsayville.org)

**Whitney Dale, Office Administrator**  
E-mail: [admin@stjohnsayville.org](mailto:admin@stjohnsayville.org)

**Carolyn Holtz, Bookkeeper**  
E-mail: [bookkeeper@stjohnsayville.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stjohnsayville.org)

**Tom Keller & Steve Lindfors, Facilities Management**

### **Saint John's Divine Service Schedule**

**Sunday 7:45am & 9:30am**

**Church Office Hours:  
Tuesday - Friday, 9:30am-2:30pm  
Bookkeeper Hours:  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 11am-3pm**

### **Our Mission**

**Rejoice in God's grace. Live as disciples. Love one another.**

### **Our Purpose**

The family of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, gathered around Word and Sacrament, enhanced by liturgy and music, exists to encourage its members in a life of discipleship in Christ Jesus and fellowship with one another. Utilizing the gifts that God has entrusted to us, we engage in acts of mercy, attending to the spiritual and physical needs within our congregation and community. We bear witness to the Grace of God through living in His Word thus demonstrating the love Christ has shown us.

**A Congregation of  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**

**The *Good News* is published by the church office of Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church to keep its members and friends informed of church news and activities. Newsletter deadline for the April 2025 issue will be March 15th.**