



The Good News

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

May 2026

Ask rain from the Lord in the season of the spring rain, from the Lord who makes the storm clouds, and he will give them showers of rain, to everyone the vegetation in the field. (Zechariah 10:1).

Spring has sprung. Well, sort of. We have yet to see truly warmer temperatures, and the plants seem to be taking their sweet time to bloom. It is still a touch early for serious planting. But we're getting there, slowly but surely. Before we know it, the pollen will be through the roof, and colors will pop all around as the flowers begin to take off. It really is a great time of year, even with the work that it takes to make our lawns and gardens look the way they do.

Spring has already arrived in the Church, of course...and in full bloom. Easter may have come and gone, but we are still in the Easter season and the celebration of the resurrection goes on. Alleluias are back, and joy is evident in the hymns and scriptures we hear. The signs of new life in Christ are all around. We even see an uptick in baptisms once again. Yes, spring is here!

Yet there are moments in life that hit us with the cold, dark, miserable reality that it doesn't seem like spring has had its full effect just yet. Illness and death strike us on every side. Wars and rumors of wars continue to cause tensions in various places in the world. The truth of our own failing bodies begins to be evident as the soreness from yard work seems to last longer and longer. Maybe there is stress at home and stress in our relationships or stress in our job. All these things, and much more, can make it seem at times like spring has not arrived yet for us, and we are still lingering in the last days of winter.

And yet, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead is all the sign we need to prove that spring has, in fact, sprung for us in the kingdom of God. While we may still encounter the effects of sin and the devastation that it sometimes brings to us, it does not mean that the victory of Christ is elusive for us. Just the opposite. It is in the midst of such things that we look once again to the cross of Jesus and find in the suffering of Jesus a God who identifies with us and walks with us in our times of suffering. Because of this, we then can live in hope of what our Lord supplies for us, and what he has won for us, namely, the assurance that just as death could not hold him in the grave, so it will not hold us either. Baptized into Christ we are buried with him so that we may also be raised with him. As such, when the wintertime of life hits us hard, when sin deeply impacts us and we are on the brink of losing hope, we can look to Christ and be reminded that spring will come, and has, as Christ lives.

As the prophet Zechariah says, all we need to do is ask our Lord for that spring rain to come us, and he will supply it. That rain is a reminder of our baptism, of the new life that Christ is working in us, and a reminder that he will make all things new in the end as he gives us the fruits of his death and resurrection from his holy altar. Spring is here. The signs are everywhere: an empty tomb, alleluias, and the hope of life in the kingdom of God forever.

'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst His prison
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has risen;
All the winter of our sins, Long and dark is flying
From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise undying (LSB #487, st. 2).

~ Pastor Noack

Ascension service – On **Thursday, May 14 at 7:30pm**, St. John’s will host its annual Ascension Day Divine Service. This is a joint service that invites participation from all the Lutheran churches in Suffolk County. It will feature special music from our voice and handbell choirs, as well as participation from other clergy in the area. A light reception will follow in the gym. Please make every effort to attend this service, not only for the special feast day that it is, but also as a chance to meet other Lutherans from our area. Hope to see you there!

Congregational Meeting – Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, May 17 between the services (starting at about 8:30am). On the agenda is the election of new Council members, and updates on a few projects that will happen over the spring and summer months. If you are interested in serving on Council, please speak to Pastor or Kevin Paul. Please make plans to attend the meeting and hear about all the exciting things happening in YOUR church.

Golf Outing – Save **August 19, 2026 at 2pm** for our annual golf outing at St. John’s. We will once again be at the Timber Point Golf Course in Great River, prayerfully without the absolute deluge we had last year. More information will be forthcoming, so stay tuned for registration and sponsorship opportunities.

Official Acts at Saint John’s (thru April 30):

Baptisms:

Zaydan David Farrouq Apr 12

First Communion (April 12):

Brooke Bartick
Aiden Lundquist
Timothy Morris
Brooke Spreckels
Bridget Spreckels
Brady Spreckels
Evan Stagg

Funerals:

Van Allen Milana Mar 24
Audrey Scheibe April 14

We are His witnesses

As many of you are aware, my mother was quite ill in March and recovery at 96 years of age takes time. The question comes up, “why am I still here?” especially as strength, health, eyesight and hearing are slipping away, frustrating many previously normal daily activities.

“I suppose I can still pray ... maybe that’s my purpose now,” she said last week. Yes, perhaps that is it – and that is huge, not only for her, but for everyone she encounters and those for whom she prays. It is a purpose - and a witness to Christ and her faith in Him.

May 14 we gather to celebrate Christ’s ascension. We, like the disciples are now witnesses to Christ, his birth, death, resurrection and, forty days after Easter, ascension. As the promised Holy Spirit is poured out on Pentecost, prophecy was, is, and continues to be unfolded and revealed.

Timothy Dudley-Smith gives voice to that which we witness in his hymn text *Christ High-Ascended, Now in Glory Seated* (LSB 840). Christ commissions his present and future disciples in his final words before departing, saying, “but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

The hymn looks forward from the ascension. Christ is named the firstborn of the new creation, victoriously reigning and growing his church. In stanza 5 we pray and affirm:

*As at His parting, joy shall banish grieving,
Faith in His presence strengthen our believing;
Filled with His Spirit, love and power receiving.
We are His witnesses.*



presents two concerts this spring – not at St. John’s, but open to all!

Saturday, May 2 at 2:30pm - Rosary Hall Chapel, 555 Albany Ave. Amityville

Sunday, May 3 at 2:30pm - St. Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church, Main Street, Bay Shore

The program includes R. Vaughan Williams’ Mass in G minor, and music by Billings, Hagenberg, Runestad, Virgil Thomson and more, with guest conductor, Dr. Timothy Mount.

The Ascension of
OUR LORD
Divine Service



THURSDAY, MAY 14TH AT 7:30PM

The congregations and clergy of LCMS Atlantic District Circuits 8 & 9 are cordially invited to a joint service celebrating the Ascension of our Lord. Members of the clergy are welcome to process and participate in the service. You may also participate in the massed choir bringing together singers from our various churches. Reception to follow.

Join us as we celebrate Christ's ascended triumph!

SAINT JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH | 48 GREENE AVENUE | SAYVILLE, NY 11782

Mary Martha Guild Mite Box Sunday - On *Sunday, May 17*, we are celebrating Mite Box Sunday, and we will be collecting a donation in our large mite box as you leave the sanctuary. We also have some smaller mite boxes for your personal use that you can return to the church when filled. We are collecting “mites” to support the Atlantic District LWML Mission Grants listed on the bulletin board in the Church Narthex. These were voted on at our last convention in May 2026. The AD LWML is an organization that encourages women to live in a Christian way in active mission through the gifts God has given them. Here at St. John’s, our Mary Martha Guild is always active, helping where we can and sharing the love of Jesus as we go. We appreciate any support you can give. If you are donating by check, make it out to Mary Martha Guild. For more information, contact Pam Kennard, President of the Guild.

Pot Luck - On *Sunday, May 31*, we will be having a Brunch/Lunch Potluck here at the church following the late service. It will be a time to have fellowship with each other and feast on all the delicious food that will be brought for us to enjoy. And of course, have some fun at the same time. So now is the time to make your favorite recipe to share with everyone. Look for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the church Narthex. Hope to see you all there.

Tag Sale Chairperson Needed: A Message From Honey - I know this is thinking ahead to August 8; however, planning always needs to be taken care of way before August rolls around. To make the necessary plans, please consider taking the lead as the event organizer. I am no longer going to be the chairperson of this event, so I am seeking a volunteer and others to step up to the plate and take this on. I have all the information that you will need to do this, and we have always had a great team working together. Pray on it to see if this is what you feel you can do. Thank you for all your past support. Honey Pabst arthon@aol.com

SOLES4SOULS Shoe & Sneaker Collection Drive

Dates: April 19 – May 24, 2026

Location: St. John's Lutheran Church (48 Greene Avenue)

Drop-off Hours: Tuesday–Friday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Contact Info: Honey Pabst – 631-897-5193

What to Donate

- Gently used or new shoes & sneakers
- For adults and children
- Please rubber band each pair together

About the Mission

This drive supports Soles4Souls, a nonprofit founded in 2006 that helps provide footwear to people in need around the world. In 2024 alone, they distributed 5.8 million pairs of shoes.

Why Participate?

Most of us have extra shoes sitting in closets—this is a simple way to:

- Declutter your home
- Help individuals and families in need
- Support a meaningful global cause

Take a few minutes to check your closets—you might make a big difference with a small donation.



DAILY BIBLE READING



May 2026

	1	Leviticus 18:1-7, 20—19:8; Luke 11:1-13
	2	Leviticus 19:9-18, 26-37; Luke 11:14-36
Sun	3	Leviticus 20:1-16, 22-27; Luke 11:37-54
	4	Leviticus 21:1-24; Luke 12:1-12
	5	Leviticus 23:1-22; Luke 12:13-34
	6	Leviticus 23:23-44; Luke 12:35-53
	7	Leviticus 24:1-23; Luke 12:54—13:7
	8	Leviticus 26:1-20; Luke 13:18-35
	9	Leviticus 26:21-33, 39-44; Luke 14:1-24
Sun	10	Num. 3:1-16, 39-48; Luke 14:25—15:10
	11	Num. 8:5-26; Luke 15:11-32
	12	Num. 9:1-23; Luke 16:1-18
	13	Num. 10:11-36; Luke 16:19-31
	14	Num. 11:1-23, 31-35; Luke 17:1-19
	15	Num. 11:24-29; 12:1-16; Luke 17:20-37
	16	Num. 13:1-3, 17-33; Luke 18:1-17
Sun	17	Num. 14:1-25; Luke 18:18-34
	18	Num. 14:26-45; Luke 18:35—19:10
	19	Num. 16:1-22; Luke 19:11-28
	20	Num. 16:23-40; Luke 19:29-48
	21	Num. 16:41—17:13; Luke 20:1-18
	22	Num. 20:1-21; Luke 20:19-44
	23	Num. 20:22—21:9; Luke 20:45—21:19
Sun	24	Num. 21:10-35; Luke 21:20-38
	25	Num. 22:1-20; Luke 22:1-23
	26	Num. 22:21—23:3; Luke 22:24-46
	27	Num. 23:4-28; Luke 22:47-71
	28	Num. 24:1-25; Luke 23:1-25
	29	Num. 27:12-23; Luke 23:26-56
	30	Num. 32:1-6, 16-27; Luke 24:1-27
Sun	31	Num. 35:9-30; Luke 24:28-53



LWML ATLANTIC DISTRICT 27TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

MAY 1 - 2, 2026

Crowne Plaza Hotel
3 Executive Blvd, Suffern, NY 10901

[Click Here for More Information or to Register](#)

A graphic celebrating a mission goal. It features a central logo with a cross and the text "GOD IS GOOD say so". The main text reads "Mission Goal of \$90,000 Reached" and "God is good- Say So!". Below that, it says "By God's grace and your support we have reached our \$90,000 Mission Goal for 2024-2026!". The LWML logo is in the bottom right corner, and the website "adlwml.org" is at the bottom center. The graphic is framed by colorful wavy borders on the left and right sides.

Mission Goal of \$90,000 Reached

God is good- Say So!

By God's grace and your support we have reached our \$90,000 Mission Goal for 2024-2026!

adlwml.org

Lutheran Women in Mission ATLANTIC DISTRICT

May 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 26	27	28	29	30	May 1	2 LWML Convention
3 Fifth Sunday of Easter 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service	4 7:00pm Boy Scouts	5 7:00pm Elders Meeting 7:00pm Judo/12 Step	6 11:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Divine Service 7:45pm SoLI	7 6:00pm Thunder Girls Basketball Practice 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Chancel Choir	8	9
10 Sixth Sunday of Easter 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service	11 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm LIT Class	12 7:00pm Judo/12 Step	13 7:00pm Divine Service	14 6:00pm Thunder Girls Basketball Practice 6:30pm Massed Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Ascension Service	15	16
17 Seventh Sunday of Easter 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Congregational Meeting 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service	18 7:00pm Boy Scouts	19 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm Judo/12 Step	20 11:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Divine Service	21 6:00pm Thunder Girls Basketball Practice	22	23
24 Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 9:30am Divine Service	25 Memorial Day	26 7:00pm Judo/12 Step	27 7:00pm Divine Service	28 6:00pm Thunder Girls Basketball Practice 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Chancel Choir	29	30
31 Holy Trinity 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Divine Service 11:00am Potluck	Jun 1	2	3	4	5	6

May Divine Service Assistant Schedule

May 3	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Bill Audia	Leo Rigaud
Ushers	Charlie Erb Jim Farrell	Jane Emmel & Kristin Noack
Reader	Jim Farrell	Leo Rigaud
May 10	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Robert Bayley	Al Coppola
Ushers	Brian & Christine Kirschenheiter	Chuck & Judy Scott
Reader	Christine Kirschenheiter	Al Coppola
May 17	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Greg Calvano	Paul Erath
Ushers	Marcus & Annie Habeeb	Lloyd & Pam Arrasate
Reader	Jim Farrell	Paul Erath
May 24	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Charlie Erb	Al Coppola
Ushers	Steve & Janet Lindfors	Kevin Paul & Barbara Dahlgren
Reader	Pastor	Jenn Rooney
May 31	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Robert Bayley	Leo Rigaud
Ushers	Brian & Christine Kirschenheiter	Lloyd & Pam Arrasate
Reader	Christine Kirschenheiter	Annie Habeeb

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.

May Readings

<p>May 3: Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60; 1 Peter 2:2–10 May 10: Acts 17:16–31; 1 Peter 3:13–22 May 17: Acts 1:12–26; 1 Peter 4:12–19; 5:6–11 May 24: Numbers 11:24–30; Acts 2:1–21 May 31: Genesis 1:1–2:4a; Acts 2:14a, 22–36</p>
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Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Carolyn Holtz, Bookkeeper
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Tom Keller & Steve Lindfors, Facilities Management

Saint John's Divine Service Schedule

Sunday 7:45am & 9:30am
Wednesday 7:00pm

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 June 2026 issue will be May 15th.