

# On Eagle's Wings

## St. John's Monthly Newsletter – April 2024

### Pastor's Paragraphs

I think I can safely assume that you've never gone into a restaurant, ordered, and when the food arrives exclaimed, "Yummy! A plate full of vegetables!"

While our tastes regarding vegetables probably varies from "yuck" to "good" I doubt any of us would choose a plate full of vegetables if we knew it was to be our last meal. We'd want to end our life on something much more luscious.

Yet we eat our vegetables anyway. They're good for us. We may not eat as many servings per day as nutritionists would suggest, but we do know their importance. I admit that I don't really like vegetables at all. For me they vary from yuck to tolerably satisfying. But none excite me. Yet over the years I've learned that if I was to feel satisfied I have to eat them. If I fill up on the things I crave most – things that are fatty, salty, or sweet – my taste buds are happy. But my overall body is never really satisfied. If I want true satisfaction from eating I need to include the healthy stuff.

With Holy Week just a few days ahead of us, I think it is a lot like eating vegetables. It is easy to go from the sweetness of Jesus' triumphal entry on Palm Sunday to the sweetness of Easter Sunday. But are our spirits really fed? Do we get a lasting satisfaction? No. We've gone from dessert to dessert. We've skipped the wholesome nutrients we need.

I know that for many of us Holy Week is just one more week that is too busy. Our jobs, our kids' activities, and our doctors' appointments keep us going and going and going. We don't need to cram in something else. When the church wants to throw in the suggestion of long daily Bible readings, plus a couple mid-week worship services, we just don't have the energy for it.

Plus, let's face it. The topics of Holy Week are depressing. Jesus is being stalked by the religious leaders, who are looking for a way to catch him and get rid of him. The disciple Judas does eventually sell him out. The disciple Peter, perhaps Jesus' closest follower, denies that he even knows Jesus. And Jesus himself gets arrested, tried, and executed. Who wants that meal of vegetables?!? And yet we need them if we are to be satisfied. The joy of the resurrection cannot come if you skip over the fact of Jesus' death.

I encourage you to prioritize Holy Week so that it can give you the spiritual nutrients that you need. Elsewhere in the newsletter are suggested Bible readings for each day of Holy Week. We've been reading them in worship, but I suggest reading them day by day during Holy Week as well. Feel the journey Jesus is on. Understand the tension he is facing. See how it all falls apart. Of course consider coming to the special worship services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. They are the days when things really start to happen.

That'll put you in a good place to enjoy the dessert of Easter. For Easter is more joyous when we've had a meal of spiritual satisfaction leading up to it!

Blessings,  
Pastor Jon



### Holy Week Schedule at a Glance

March 24 – Palm Sunday, procession with palms at 10:30, Easter egg hunt

March 28 – Maundy Thursday, seder meal with Holy Communion, 6pm

March 29 – Good Friday, 7:00 Worship

March 31 – Easter

6:00 Sunrise service of Holy Communion

9:00 Pancake Breakfast

10:30 Holy Communion

## April Worship Assistants

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Greeters & Ushers	Bruce and Connie Stevenson	Mary and Greg Zuege	John and Linda Thompson	Sue Kaufmann
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle	Alyssa Young	Thomas Bullwinkle	Alyssa Young
Altar Care (10:30)	Sue Kaufmann		Sue Kaufmann	
Communion Assistants	Mary Zuege		Greg Zuege	
Counters				
Coffee Hour				



### Mark's Gospel Worship Series

We begin April by looking at the multiple endings that conclude Mark's gospel. We'll then return to chapters 6 and 7, which we skipped over in February. Here's what's planned:

April 7 – Mark 16:9-20  
 April 14 – Mark 6:45-56  
 April 21 – Mark 7:1-23  
 April 28 – Mark 7:24-30



### Worship In-person and Zoom

10:30 is in-person worship in the sanctuary and also by Zoom. The Zoom link for 10:30 is emailed weekly. If you cannot connect to the 10:30 service with a computer you can still hear and participate in the service with any phone.

Meeting ID: 882 0747 6838  
 Passcode: 855326

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)



## Academy

### Adult Sunday School

The adult Sunday school is using the course Masks of God... the Lutheran Doctrine of Vocation. All are welcome to join the class. You can join in any week. The class meets in the first classroom on the left in the Sunday school wing.



March 28, 6pm

Maundy Thursday

### Seder Meal, A Salvation History

Join us for a very special Seder Meal for Maundy Thursday. Those gathered will engage in the rituals associated with the Passover meal Jesus shared with his disciples, the traditional foods and the meanings behind them will be presented, and an ancient song of deliverance will be sung. The meal will end with Holy Communion, pointing to the Lamb who has slain for us on the cross. (We will be substituting chicken for the traditional lamb dish.)



March 29, 7pm  
Good Friday

### Day of Victory Over Sin

Join us for a special Good Friday service. We will read from Mark's gospel what happens to Jesus on Good Friday. This service will be done by candlelight in darkness.



### Give Up Lint for Lent

This bizarre collection is an annual tradition in our congregation's Lenten journey. This is the easiest thing to give up for Lent you will ever find! There is a collection box in the Gathering Area for you to put your **dryer lint, used dryer sheets, old crayons and stubs of candles**. This worthless stuff (and somewhat gross) will be melted together and burnt on the fire at the sunrise service on Easter. This Lent, once again give up your most worthless stuff so that God can turn it into heat and light!



### Prayer Requests

- The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester.
- Rev. Karen Anderson for her missionary work in Chile.
- David Storch as he lives in a memory care facility.
- Rev. Jennifer Phelps, former member of St. John's, as she slowly recovers from neck and back injuries.
- Kelly Carlson, friend of the CiPollinas, whose liver function is failing.
- Becca (Boisseau) DeCann as she is again having heart rhythm issues.
- Jacob Sussan, friend of the Boisseaus, who is 24 years old and is receiving treatments for Stage 3 colon cancer.
- Amy Farr, friend of the Boisseaus, who lives in North Carolina and is awaiting a lung transplant.



### Eclipse Party

The long anticipated total solar eclipse takes place on the afternoon of April 8, 2024. The eclipse itself begins at 2:07 and ends at 4:33. The period of "totality" is 3:20 to 3:23. We're planning a special lunch and mystery event starting at 1:00. Participants will be separated into four teams who will play a biblical version of the game Clue. The mystery to be solved will be who stole what supplies from Matthew the Tax Collector. You can then view the eclipse from the church property. Eclipse glasses are available. Please sign up in the Gathering Area.

### March Council Highlights

Church council held its regular monthly meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Major items on the agenda were:

- Plans for the eclipse
- Expanding the apple orchard
- Reviewing 2023 use of allocated funds
- Receiving a small bequest from the estate of Knute Halvorson





- Thank you to everyone who helped with plowing snow in March.
- Thank you to Beth Schroeder for organizing the Euchre night.
- Thank you to everyone who provided coffee hour treats.
- Thank you to Wendy Sackett and the Sunday school children for leading worship on February 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Thank you to Gary Boisseau for making French toast for the Fat Tuesday supper.

From the Christmas Mitten Tree:

Dear St. Johns,

Thank you for the donation of hats and gloves to School #19. Many students were in need of them and put them to good use!

-Beth Cross



## Apple Orchard Expansion

Our apple orchard is expanding. We are adding five more Liberty trees and seven more Jonafree trees. Both varieties do not require spraying to produce good apples. The new trees will begin producing in 3-4 years. You are invited to have a tree planted in honor or memory of someone, or to note a special life event. Trees are \$50 each. If you would like to donate a new tree please see Pastor Jon.



## Pancake Breakfast

End Lent the same way it began, or a very similar way. Indulge in our annual Easter pancake breakfast! We'll have pancakes, sausage, and all sorts of rich toppings including whipped cream, pie fillings and syrup. We'll start serving at 9:00 and go until about 10:00.



### March Bible Trivia Answers

1. What two disciples ask to sit at Jesus' right and left when he is in glory? Answer: James and John (Mark 10:35-57)
2. Only one person who is healed in Mark's gospel is named. His name is? Answer: Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46)
3. On what does Jesus ride into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday? Answer: a colt, presumably a donkey colt (Mark 11:2)
4. How many coins does Jesus see the poor widow put into the treasury? Answer: two (Mark 12:42)

### April Bible Trivia Questions

Hint: All the answers may be found in the Bible readings chosen for Sunday worship in April.

1. According to one of the alternate endings to Mark's gospel people will be able to do what deadly thing without hurting them?
2. When Jesus' says to the Syrophoenician woman, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." what has she asked him to do?
3. How many baskets of leftovers are there from the Feeding of the 4000? (different from the feeding of the 5000)
4. After Jesus' first attempt to cure the blind man from Bethsaida, the man says he sees people but they look like what?

# April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> <u>Anunciation of Our Lord</u> 3-7 Violin Lessons	<b>2</b> Primary Election Polling Place 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>3</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>4</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 10:00 Bible Study in Lyons	<b>5</b> 3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <u>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Service of the Word 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 11:45 Worship and Music Committee	<b>8</b> 1:00 Eclipse Party	<b>9</b> 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>10</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>11</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 10:00 Bible Study in Lyons	<b>12</b> 3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>13</b> 8:00 Church Council retreat at Canandaigua American Legion 1-3 DeLucia Family
<b>14</b> <u>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Service of the Word	<b>15</b> 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>16</b> 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>17</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>18</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 10:00 Bible Study in Lyons	<b>19</b> 3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>20</b> 9:00-12:00 Spring Conference Assembly
<b>21</b> <u>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Service of the Word 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	<b>22</b> 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>23</b> 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Property Committee 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>24</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>25</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 10:00 Bible Study in Lyons	<b>26</b> 7:00 Worship	<b>27</b> Spring Work Day at LCLC
<b>28</b> <u>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Service of the Word	<b>29</b> 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>30</b> 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-7 Violin Lessons				



# **St. John's Lutheran Church**

## **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

**Grace for Everyone  
-Always-**

*We are a community of faith  
committed to living and sharing the love of God.*

### **St. John's Lutheran Church**

888 County Rd. 9

Victor, NY 14564

The Reverend Jonathan Deibler, Pastor

(585) 924-5192

[www.stjohnsvictor.com](http://www.stjohnsvictor.com)

*Address Service Requested*

**April Newsletter**

8 Eclipse Party