



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ERIE LUTHERAN PARISH

"You belong here."

The Parish Post

Monthly Newsletter

HOLY WEEK @STJOHNSERIE

April 2nd



PALM SUNDAY

8am Contemp.
10am Trad.



MAUNDY
thursday

7pm

GOOD FRIDAY



HOLY SATURDAY

Noon & 7pm



HOLY SATURDAY

5pm

April 9th

easter
SUNDAY



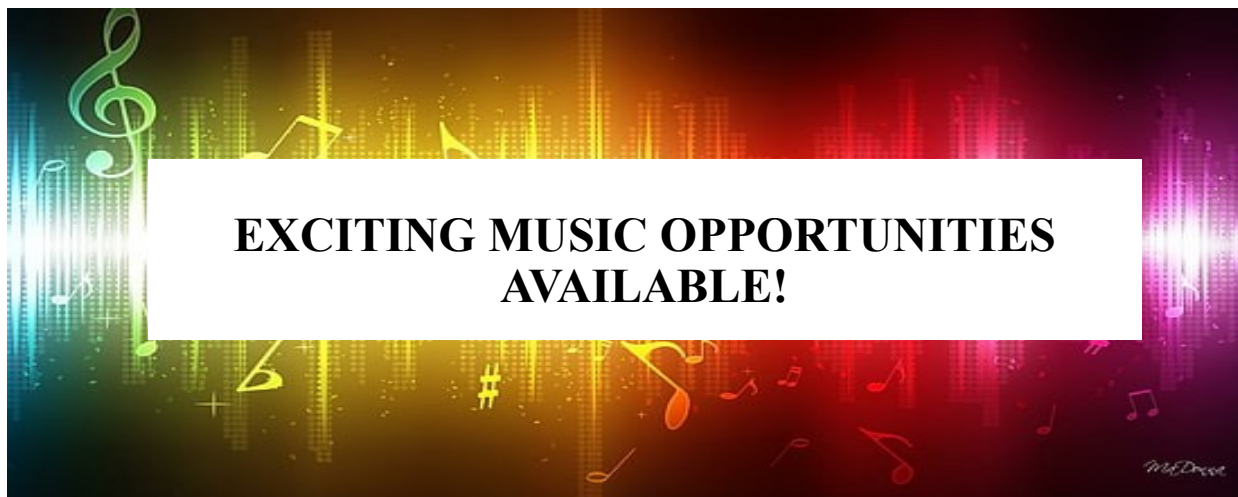
6:50am Sunrise
10am Traditional

YOU BELONG HERE.



#youbelonghere@StJohnsErie

† ST JOHN'S VISION STATEMENT †
 Loved by God, alive in Christ Jesus, and guided by the Holy Spirit, St. John's unconditionally serves God's people and shares Christian love.



ATTENTION: HIGH SCHOOL MUSICIANS

The Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival is being conducted June 25- July 23, 2023 for any student in grades 8- 12 during the 2022-23 school year. Programs are being offered in Choir, Orchestra, Band, Musical Theatre, Jazz, and Handbells. It's an exciting comprehensive program offered at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, IN. Students will be instructed by a nationally renowned faculty and have an amazing pre-college experience. Financial help is available. Brochures are available in the Church Narthex or contact Kathy Swanson.

ORGAN SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The American Guild of Organists is offering Organ Scholarships for anyone interested in learning to play the pipe organ. There is a growing need for organists in America right now. All expenses will be underwritten by the Erie Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Successful applicants will receive a method book and ten lessons with a local organ teacher. Brochures are available in the Church Narthex or contact Kathy Swanson.

MUSICIANS WANTED

St. John's is always looking for musicians to contribute to our 10:00 AM Traditional Worship Service. If you would like to sing or play an instrument, especially during the Easter season, please contact Kathy Swanson or call the church office.

The ELCA parishes of Erie County will celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord on Thursday evening, May 18 at Luther Memorial. Singers are invited to participate in leading worship for that service in two ways.

1. A large choir accompanied by organ and orchestra will lead the singing of the hymns and psalm. Attendance at a single rehearsal to be held immediately before the service will be required.
2. A smaller choir will prepare one of the cantatas written by J. S. Bach for the Ascension. If you wish to learn and sing that cantata, you will need to attend at least two of the rehearsals to be held at noon on the following Sundays: March 19 & 26, April 2 & 16, May 7 and a dress rehearsal on the evening of Wednesday, May 17.

Anyone wanting more detailed information or intending to participate in these choirs should contact Luther Memorial's Cantor at WaltGaber@gmail.com or the Luther Memorial church office at 814.454.0106. Please express your interest at your earliest convenience so that the necessary preparations can be made.





April 1, 2023 marks the end of odd/even parking for the season. After this date, please observe the posted parking regulations of no parking on the north side of 23rd Street on Tuesdays and no parking on the south side of 23rd Street on Thursdays.

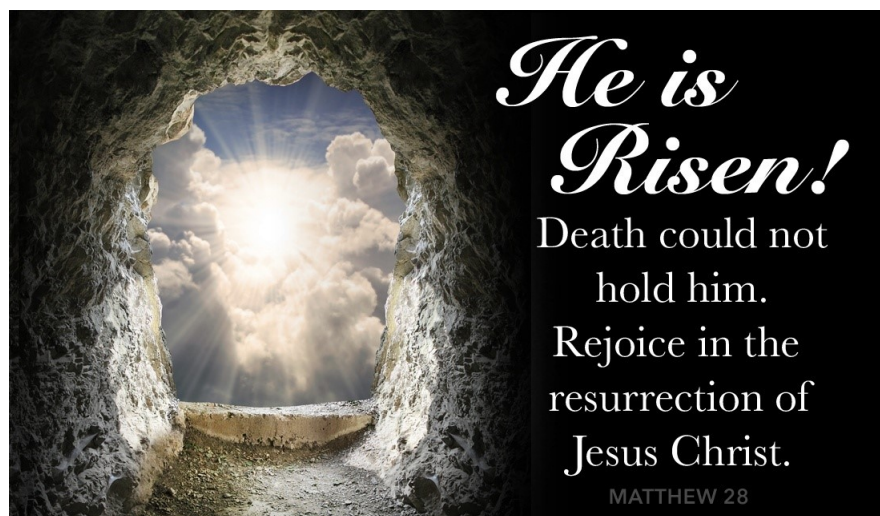
Prayer Requests: Do you have someone or something to pray for? Use the “Prayer Request” link on our church website (<http://stjohnserie.org/prayer-request/>). Enter your request and we will publish it in the Parish Post as well as be able to petition it during the prayers in worship. Prayer Requests/Names will be removed on the 1st of each month unless otherwise requested. If you would like a name on the prayer list, please use the “Prayer Request” link on our church website, email or phone the church office.

Just a Reminder: If you would like anything put in the *Parish Post*, please have it submitted to the church office no later than the 20th of the month prior. The office email is: office@stjohnserie.org or call the office at (814) 456-7596.

Check In for Worship: As you attend worship with us virtually or in person, please remember to check in. Record your attendance through the app on our “Worship With Us” web page. Or you can check in via email, letting us know where you were, who you were with, and what worship you attended, by texting or emailing that information to attendance@stjohnserie.org.



Check in for WORSHIP >



Green Corner NWPASynod Green Team

EARTH DAY SUNDAY, APRIL 23, CELEBRATION IDEAS

Pray and Plan an Earth Day themed worship service

- **Sundays and Seasons – “For the Healing of Creation” from Holden Prayer Around the Cross**
- www.creationjustice.org/educational-resources.
- www.lss-elca.org/resources-for-honoring-earth-day/
- www.earthdaysunday.org

Educate

- Have bulletin inserts or handouts for congregation members. www.northwesternpasynodelca.org/the-green-corner.html
nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com
- Invite a guest speaker for after worship to talk about your Earth Day theme with a local focus. <https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/creation-care-ambassador-program>
- Educational Resources - www.creationjustice.org/educational-resources.html
- 52 Ways To Care for Creation - www.creationjustice.org/blog/52-ways-to-care-for-creation
- www.ecoamerica.org
- www.blessedtomorrow.org/resources
- www.earthday.org/earth-day-2023/
- www.interfaithpowerandlight.org

Lead by Example

- Host a special "Creation Justice Fellowship Time." Serve organic, fair-trade coffee and treats from a local organic bakery; use re-useable plates, cups, silverware, and napkins, or recycled or biodegradable disposables; and post easy-to-read signs to educate people about what makes your fellowship oriented toward "Creation Justice."
- Have a Creation Justice Church workday to set up rain barrels, install faucet aerators, do native landscaping, replace light bulbs with energy efficient bulbs.
- Examine your church's energy use by performing an energy audit and present your findings on Earth Day Sunday. Hold a "town hall" discussion about how your church can reduce energy use.
- Plan to officially join your denomination, fellowship, or communion's ecological ministry and announce/celebrate it on Earth Day Sunday. nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com

Serve Your Community

- Plan a community service project like a Clean-Up in a local park, along a local body of water, or near a highway.

Revel in – and Celebrate – God's Good Creation

- Organize a hike at a local trail, park, or natural area. Make sure you organize carpools for transportation to and from the site. If you're not sure where to go, check www.findyourpark.com for ideas.
- Plan an Earth Day festival. Ask local environmental groups to set up informational booths. Invite local growers/food producers and artisans to set up booths to showcase and/or sell their products. Arrange for a variety of brief informational or practical workshops where people can go to learn about Eco-Justice issues (especially your Earth Day theme) or learn how to do something (like make an effective call to an elected official, adopt sustainable office practices, or start a compost pile at home).

Bishop Eaton Issues Statement on Anti-Transgender Legislation

3/20/2023 11:20:00 AM

As we approach March 31, many people are preparing to recognize Transgender Day of Visibility, an international day to celebrate the contributions of transgender people and raise awareness about the deadly injustices they face.

As bishop of this church, I am concerned that the rights of transgender and nonbinary Americans have been targeted all over this nation. Nearly 400 anti-LGBTQIA+ bills were introduced across the United States in 2022, most of them targeting trans youth. That is twice the number from 2021 and almost eight times the total from 2020. The language in many of these bills attacks the humanity of trans and nonbinary people, often erasing the dignity that should be afforded to everyone.

While members of our church hold various convictions regarding gender, the teaching of our church supports legislation and policies to protect every person's human dignity and civil rights. (Human Sexuality, p. 19) As Christians we believe every human being is created in God's image, and we must honor and celebrate God's creation. Our church teaches that we affirm transgender and nonbinary siblings as God's children, who are loved unconditionally. Our social statement *Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action* (2019) also declares that this church commits itself to "advocate for and support laws, policies, and practices that respect diverse bodies rather than discriminating against, objectifying, or devaluing them" (p. 60).

I urge us, as people of faith, to love our neighbors, care for the vulnerable and marginalized, and work for justice and equality. We may have differing opinions on "matters related to sexual orientation and gender identity," (FSJ, p. 61) but we must always uphold the dignity and humanity of everyone. These disagreements do not allow us to accept actions that dehumanize, discriminate against or objectify any individual or group.

We must stand together, dear church, faithfully advocating for the full humanity and dignity of all people. Let us recognize and affirm the humanity of our transgender and nonbinary siblings. Let us advocate for their dignity. Let us continue to be guided by God's love and compassion as we seek justice and equality for everyone.

In Christ,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

CREATED
TO BE

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

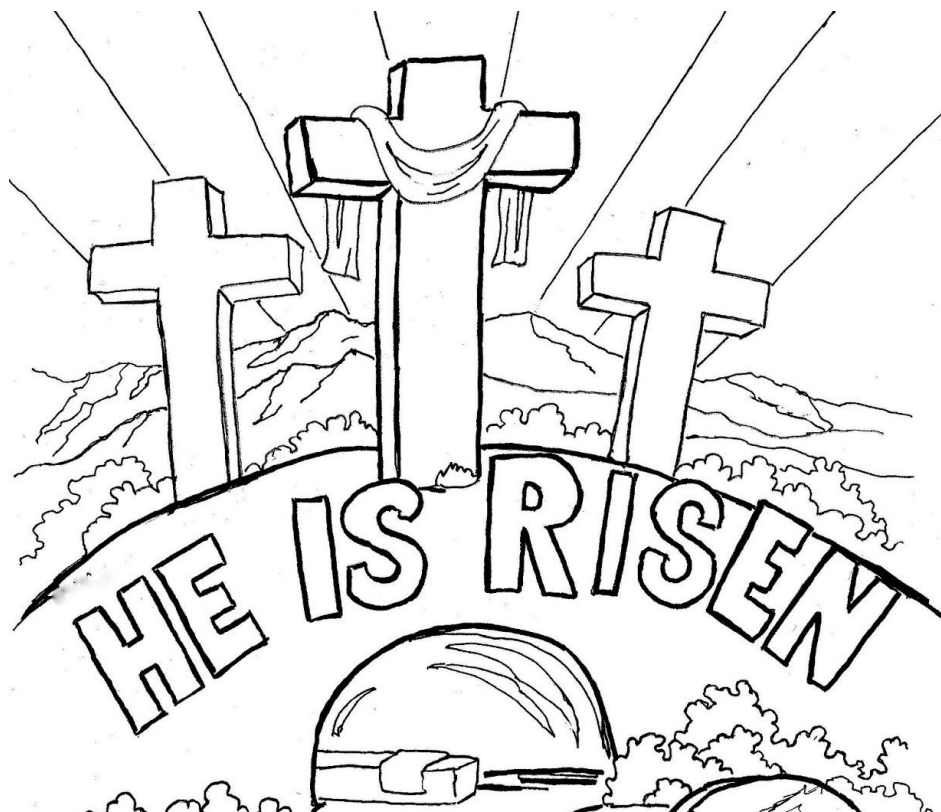
including **MYLE** **the tAble**
Young Adult Gathering

UPDATE REGARDING MYLE & THE TABLE:

It's with great excitement that we announce the registration fees for the first 1,000 registrants for the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) and the first 200 registrants for the tAble will be waived by the Gathering for the 2024 cycle.

"As crucial parts of the ministry of the Gathering, we are thrilled to be able to support MYLE and the tAble in this way. Our hope is that more young people will get to experience these important ministries which we know creates a lifelong impact. We're thankful to a generous donor that makes this opportunity possible for the young people of this church." -Deacon Tammy Jones West, 2024 Gathering Director

More details will be added and/or updated on our website in the coming weeks.



April 2023 St. John's Lutheran Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Fri.	Saturday
						1 5PM WORSHIP
2 8 AM WORSHIP 10AM WORSHIP 11AM Bell Choir Rehearsal PALM SUNDAY	3	4	5	6 7 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP	7 12PM & 7PM GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP	8 5PM HOLY SATURDAY-WORSHIP
9 6:50AM SUNRISE WORSHIP 10AM WORSHIP 11AM Bell Choir Rehearsal HAPPY EASTER!	10	11	12 7PM CONG. COUNCIL	13 11:30AM WELCA	14	15 5PM WORSHIP
16 8AM WORSHIP 9 AM Bell Choir Rehearsal 10 AM WORSHIP 12PM Brew Crew	17	18 7:00PM Dufford Terrace Board	19	20	21	22 5PM WORSHIP
23 8AM WORSHIP 10AM WORSHIP 11AM Bell Choir Rehearsal	24	25	26	27	28	29 5PM WORSHIP
30 8AM WORSHIP 10AM WORSHIP 11AM Bell Choir Rehearsal						

St. John's Lutheran Church

2216 Peach St., Erie PA 16502

(814) 456-7596 www.StJohnsErie.org

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