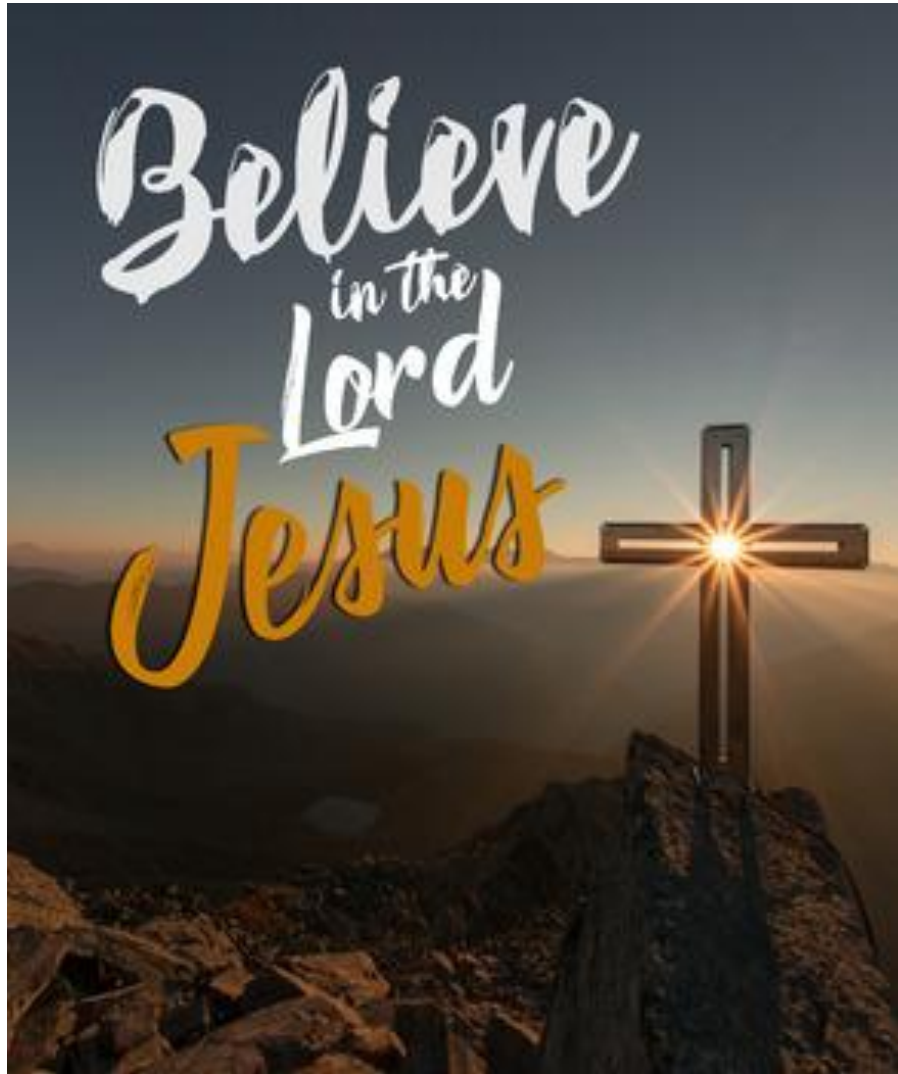


Second Sunday in Lent



**Saint John Lutheran Church
March 1, 2026**

Welcome!

"How great is the Love the Father has lavished on us!" (1 John 3:1).

We are thankful that you are joining in the worship with the people of God this day. We are glad to assist you at any time.

To better your experience while at St. John:

- Please check that cell phones are silent.
- Restrooms are located on the right in the lobby and down the bell tower hallway to the right towards the fellowship hall.
- Prayer requests may be written on the white cards in the pew rack and given to an usher or the Pastor before worship begins, or as you leave.
- A nursery is available to parents as needed, past the double wooden doors on the left.
- Activity bags to help keep young children occupied during the message are provided in the back right corner of the sanctuary.
- If this is your first visit, please sign our Guest Book located in the lobby near the Sanctuary.

Notice to Worshipers: Today's service is livestreamed and recorded. It is available for public viewing and playback at www.SaintJohnHattiesburg.com by clicking on the 'Watch Live' button.

About the Offering

An offering is gathered at the entrance of the Sanctuary. Here the people of God bring their tithes and sacrificial offerings as an expression of their discipleship, and for the continuation of Jesus' mission work, both in this community and to the ends of the earth. Guests are not expected to bring financial gifts but are welcome to join the congregation in offering their prayers and praises.

About Holy Communion

Today we celebrate Holy Communion. In this, we remember that the Divine is united with the created as one in the person of Jesus.

This altar is the Lord's table. Here all are welcome who acknowledge their need for a Savior and look to Jesus. We believe what he simply says about the bread – "This is my body, given for you." – and about the wine – "This is my blood, shed for you." Thus, the Lord Jesus is truly present for his redeemed people in this holy meal. In this we retain the divine mystery in the midst of his ordinary creation.

Young children are welcome to this altar to receive a blessing, as are those who have not been instructed in the Christian faith. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest or by simply asking for a blessing.

The individual communion cups in the center of the tray have white grape juice for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.

We are imperfect people, and we live in an imperfect world. We are all in this together. So when we believe or act wrongly towards someone, or when we feel that another has wronged us, we commit ourselves to the humble teaching and forgiving pattern of Jesus in Matthew 18.

Second Sunday in Lent

+ GATHERING +

Prayer As We Begin — *Please stand.*

C Heavenly Father, as we come before you this morning in Jesus' name, we pray all that we say and do in our worship will give you glory. Help us, Lord, to focus our thoughts on you, so your Word will find fertile ground in our minds and hearts. May the worship service today accomplish in us the purpose you desire. Amen.

The Invocation, Confession, and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Apostles' Creed

P This is the faith into which we have been baptized and by which we live:

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The LORD be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P We pray together...

C **O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**



+ WORD +

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 121; antiphon: v. 8

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

²My help comes from the LORD,

who made heaven and earth.

³He will not let your foot be moved;

he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴Behold, he who keeps Israel

will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵The LORD is your keeper;

the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

⁶The sun shall not strike you by day,

nor the moon by night.

⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil;

he will keep your life.

⁸The LORD will keep

**your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.**

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-9

¹The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent,

with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

L This is the Word of the LORD

C Thanks be to God

Choir Anthem—
Goodness of God



Epistle

Romans 4:1–8, 13–17

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;

⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” . . .

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L This is the Word of the LORD

C Thanks be to God

Alleluia Verse — *Please stand.*

LSB 173

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 3:1-18

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." ¹⁸Whoever

believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

L This is the Gospel of the LORD.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message



761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de-mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun - tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

The Message ~ Rev. Chet Scherbarth ~ John 3:1-18

~ Takeaways that God has put on my heart. ~

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to write their takeaways.

The Preface and Hymn of Praise

P The LORD be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the LORD.

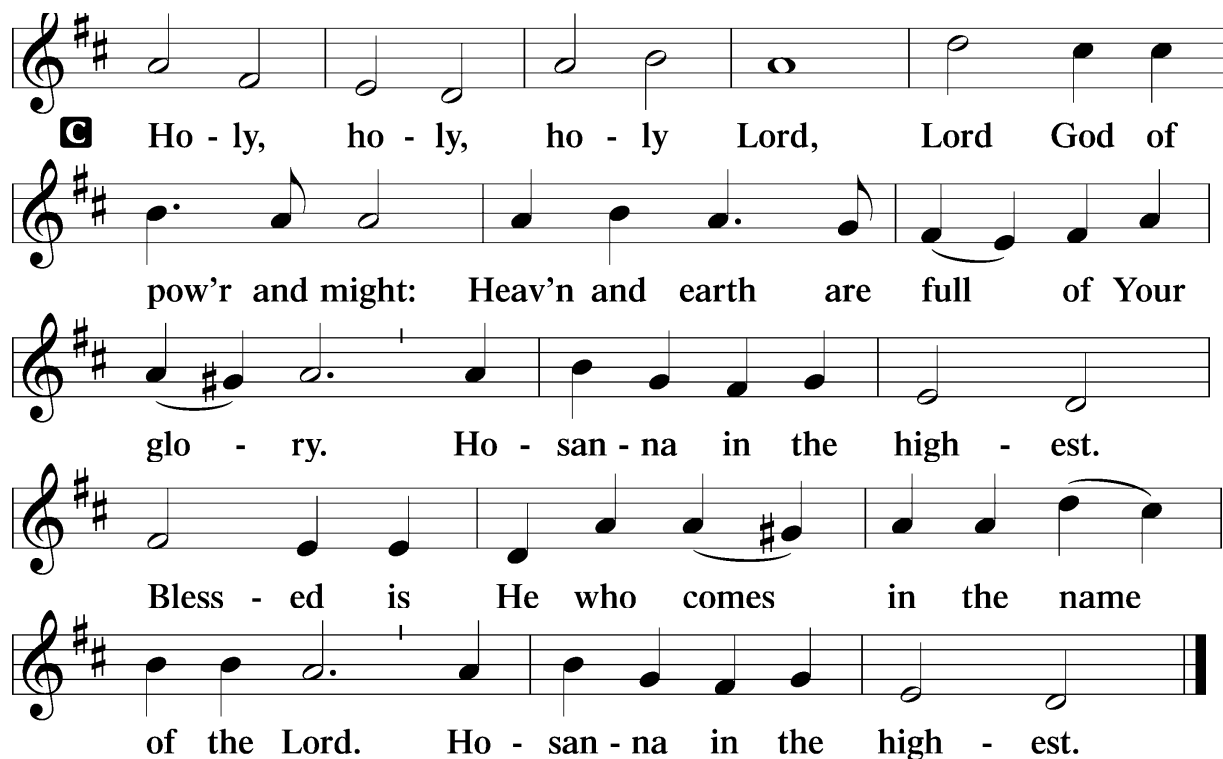
P Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Our Father

C 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.

The Words of Institution

The Agnus Dei

LSB 180

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of
God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated.

+ MEAL +

This is Christ's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast which he has prepared. In this meal we truly receive the body and blood of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. This is a great and divine mystery! Here we are joined with God and all the saints, and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Young children and those who would prefer to receive a blessing are welcome to come forward.

Alcohol Removed Communion Wine — The individual communion cups in the center of the tray contain denatured wine, which contains less than ½% alcohol. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.



Distribution Hymns

611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

749 There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil - e - ad To make the wound - ed whole;



There is a balm in Gil - e - ad To heal the sin - sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged And think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, If you can - not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, For Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



But then the Ho - ly Spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
You can tell the love of Je - sus And say He died for all.
And if you lack for knowl - edge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

+ SENDING +

Dismissal, Concluding Prayer, Benedicamus, and Blessing

L Let us bless the LORD.

C **Thanks be to God.**

L We speak the Romans 15 blessing to one another:

**May the God of HOPE
fill you with all JOY and PEACE
as you TRUST in him,
so that YOU may overflow with HOPE
by the POWER of the Holy Spirit.**

L The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen**

Please remain standing as you are able.

739 Precious Lord, Take My Hand



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
When my life is al - most gone,
And the day is al - most gone,



Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,



Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.



Take the word of God with you as you go

Take Home Announcements — Sunday, March 1, 2026

Serving the Lord Today

Pastor Rev. Chet Scherbarth
(office) 601-583-4898
(Cell) 619.385.2094
pastorscherbarth@gmail.com

Organist: Yinghan Zhang

Altar Guild Team: Debbie Frederick,
Brenda & Thomas
Hesselgrave

Acolyte: Micheal

Birthday

Glen Stengrim March 3
Diahn Lee March 5

Baptisms

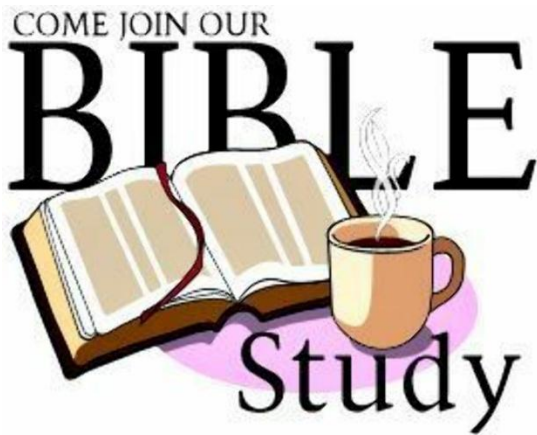
Bob Cubley March 1
Helga Herrington March 1

Altar Flowers

Eternal Candle To the Glory of God!



**Kaffee Klatsch will be
Tuesday, March 3rd at 1:30 pm**



Avenue Bible Study

Wed, March 11th & 23rd at 10:00 a.m.

Pastor's Bible Study

Thurs, March 5th & 19th at 1:30 p.m.

Adult Confirmation Class

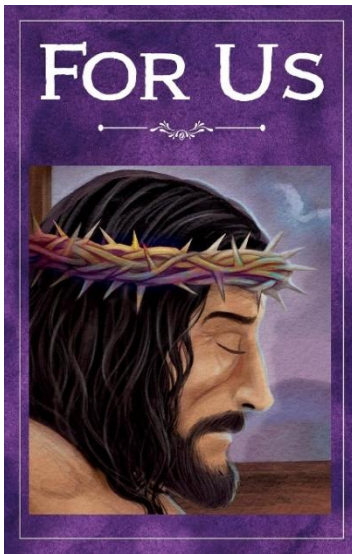
Wed, March 4th at 1:00 p.m.

Woman's Bible Study

March 12th & 26th at 4:30 p.m.



A huge thank you to everyone
that made Macy's shower such a beautiful event.
All of the time and energy is so appreciated.
God bless you all.
Darlene & Dawn



Lenten Services
Wednesdays, February 25th - March 25, 2026
4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

In Between the services LWML will host a "Soup/Salad" and "Cookies" Supper. If you would like to help, a sign-Up list is posted by the mailboxes in the church narthex. Please plan to come and share in the fellowship as we begin the season of Lent to prepare for Easter Sunday and the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!



Today, the LWML will hold a Business meeting immediately following the worship service in the Community Room. All women are welcome and invited - especially if you are new to Saint John Lutheran! Please make plans to come and share your ""gifts" of "Serving the Lord". You are needed!!!

LWML "MITES" will be collected today. If you are unable to attend worship you may make your check out to Saint John Lutheran LWML and mail it directly to Christina Noffke at 108 Ramblewood Drive, Hattiesburg, MS 39402.



Saturday, March 7, 2026
Starting at 9:30 a.m.
LWML Magnolia Zone Spring Rally
Here at St. John!



Men and Young Men

You are invited to:

**Men's Breakfast, Saturday, March 7th, 2026
at 9:00 a.m.**

Come and Enjoy Devotion, Food and Fellowship!

**At: Chesterfields 4646 Hardy Street
Hattiesburg, MS.**



Kristi Fimiano	Breast cancer	Jane & Wayland's daughter	8/18/24
Sean Drummond	Affected by California fires	Son of Josie Nwachuku	1/17/25
Kiki	Stage 4 Cancer, Healing and Strength	Chloe Powell's friend	1/30/25
Brigette	That she would know the LORD.	Friend of Beth Scherbarth's	3/3/25
Jonathan Noffke	Type 4 Lymphoma	Will Noffke's brother	3/27/25
Jim Davies	Cancer	Uncle of Beth Scherbarth	5/22/25
Joyce Coll	Healing	Member	9/14/25
Elaine Woodyard	Strength, comfort, and peace.	Chris Weiss's co-worker's wife.	10/5/25
Irene	Has Cancer.	Relative of Ellen Heck	11/2/25
Jimmy	Has cancer	Requested by Beth	11/25/25
Jennifer Alexander	Her health is in bad condition	Request from Diahn	11.23.25
Vanessa	Continue prayers	Requested by Diahn	11.30.25

Rhonda	Diagnosed with lupus and prayers for the new of possible breast cancer.	Requested by Diahn	11.30.25
Debbie	Prayers for treatable lung cancer	Requested by Dian	11.30.25
Percy Howard	Cancer	Requested by LaToursha	12.17.25
Marie	Broken Hip	Ellen's Sister-in-law	12.21.25
Debbie Lowery	Surgery for breast cancer	Requested by Wayland	12.30.25
Clyde Brisendine	Prayers for healing after amputation.	Requested by Mark Keyl	1.4.26
Family of James Wilson	Passed away in the LORD	Member	1.19.25
Barbara Kerner	Health concerns & healing		1.24.26
Julie Kringas	Cancer	Requested by Brenda Hesselgrave	1.24.26
Dawn	Health Concerns	Requested by Pastor & Beth	1.24.26
Judy Woodham	Surgery on Monday	Member	1.24.25
Kendall	Heart surgery to check valve		1.18.25
Jill Martins	Waiting for heart transplant		1.18.25
Chris & Kristina Boleware	Prayers for circumstances would improve.	Requested by Pastor Beth	1.24.25
John Traugott	Healing from falling	Requested by Lillian	1.27.25
Susan Perkins	Recovery from surgery	Member	1.27.26
Enoch Johnson	Health Concerns	Requested by LaTorsha	1.28.26
Family of Baby Reagan	Baby Reagan passed in the LORD.	Requested by Holly Schimmelpfennig	1.30.26
Brian Dossett	Health Issues	Requested by Diane and Al Rymarz	2.1.26
Al Rymarz	Healing & Recovery	Member	2.11.26
Chloe Powell	Prayers that a cyst in the brain would shrink.	Prayers requested by Pastor & Beth Scherbarth	2.12.26
Nancy Jones	Health Issues		2.12.26

Ginger Eberling	cancer		2.12.26
Margaret Klelkamp	Terminal Cancer	Requested by Al & Diane Rymarz	2.17.26
Debbie	Prayers that her hearing would return	Anna requesting for her sister.	2.15.26
Anna & Elijah	Prayers for a healthy pregnancy	Member	2.15.26
Haley	Health Issues	Member	2.18.26
Niles	Prayers concerning his hearing.	Member	2.18.26
Susan Thorton	Health issues		2.19.26
Matthew Powell	Transition in changing employers.	Requested by Pastor & Beth	2.19.26
Kemp Landry	Medical Issues	Requested by Cindy Landry	2.22.26
Lucas	In the hospital with RSV		2.22.26



Saint John Lutheran Church

2001 Hardy Street
Hattiesburg MS 39401

Telephone: 601.583.4898 Website:

Email: stjohnlutheranchurch@gmail.com

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Like Us on Facebook: Saint John Church Hattiesburg



Church Office Hours: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Tuesday – Friday;
After 1p.m. by appt.

Pastor's Office Hours: Tue-Thu: 9:00am – 1:00pm; after
1p.m. by appt. Also Fri – Sun by appointment.

