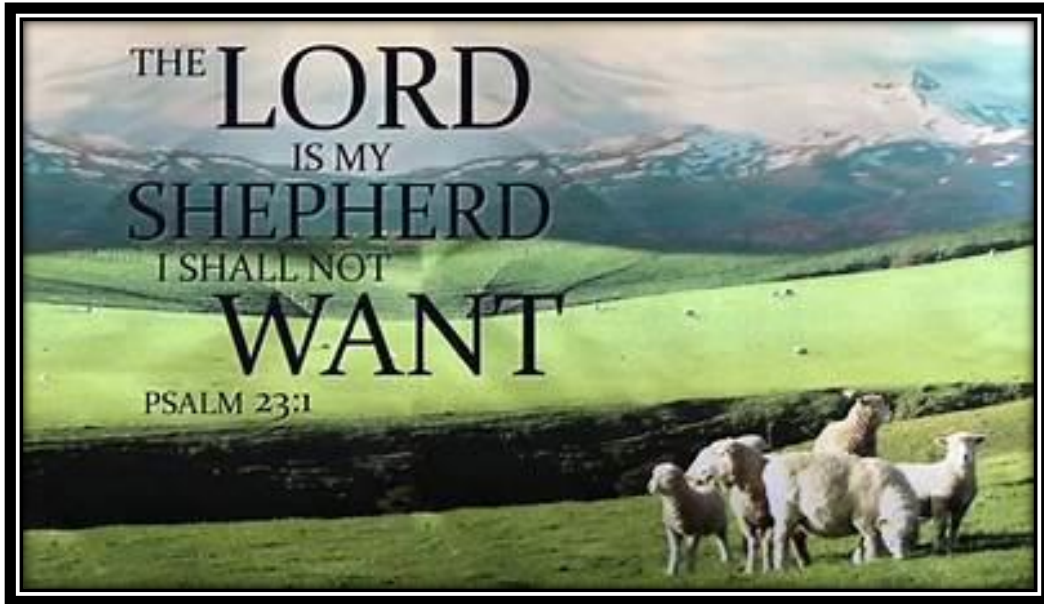


The Fourth Sunday of Easter



Saint John Lutheran Church

Hattiesburg, Mississippi

April 21, 2024

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 of the people of God this day. Ushers at the door are glad to assist you at any time.

- Please check that cell phones are silenced.
- Restrooms are located on the left 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 before worship begins, or as you leave.
- A self-staffed nursery is available to parents as needed, past the wooden double 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.

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 today during the worship service. 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. From the many seeds of wheat come one loaf. From the many grapes are pressed one cup. His many diverse people constitute one body and community of faith.

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.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

+ GATHERING +

Prayer As We Begin — *Please remain seated.*

G 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.

Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

LSB 902



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in
2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, "O ho - ly,
△ 4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly



true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with
hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and
ho - ly Lord Most High!" And in the light of
Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed



light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.
light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.
that blest place We then shall see You face to face.
Trin - i - ty, Be praise through - out e - ter - ni - ty!

The Invocation, Confession, and Absolution — *Please stand*

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

G Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection on God's word and for self-examination. Then the confession.

P I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers, and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

☩ The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

☩ Amen.

☩ I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers, and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

☩ The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

☩ Amen.

Salutation and Collect Prayer

☩ The Lord be with you.

☩ And also with you.

☩ We pray together:

☩ Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit, that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd, we may know Him who calls us each by name, and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

+ WORD +

First Reading

Acts 4:1-12

℣ *The First Reading for the Fourth Sunday of Easter is from Acts, Chapter Four, Verses 1-12. The resurrection power is revealed in the name of Jesus, "the one who saves," in whom alone is salvation.*

¹ As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.

¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

L This is the Word of the LORD.

G Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem ~ *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll not Want*

Epistle Reading

1 John 3:16-24

L *The Epistle is from First John, Chapter Three, Verses 16-24. Jesus not only speaks the truth but demonstrates his love by his actions. So, too, with those who are loved by him.*

¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

L This is the Word of the LORD.

G 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 10:11-18

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 10th Chapter, Verses 11-18.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Jesus says: ¹¹I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So, there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

P This is the Gospel of the LORD.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Childrens Message

Hymn of the Day

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

LSB 709



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
6 And so through all the length of days Thy good - ness



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
love He sought me And on His shoul - der
fail - eth nev - er; Good Shep - herd, may I



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
sing Thy praise With - in Thy house for - ev - er!

The Message – Rev. Chet Scherbarth ~ on *John, Chapter 10*

The Prayers of the Church— *Please stand.*

Apostles' Creed

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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.

+ 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.

The individual communion cups in the center of the tray contain white grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.

The Preface, Proper Preface, and Sanctus

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

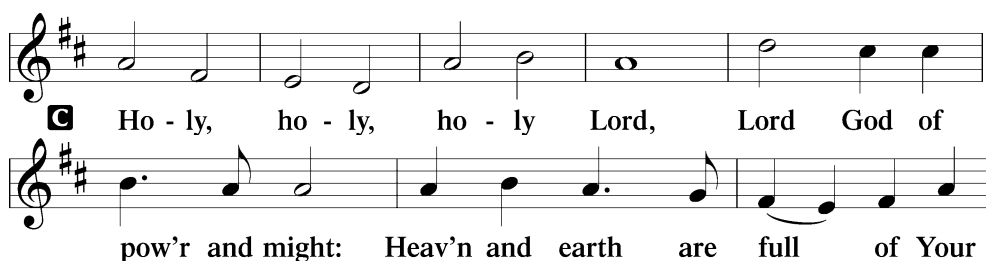
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

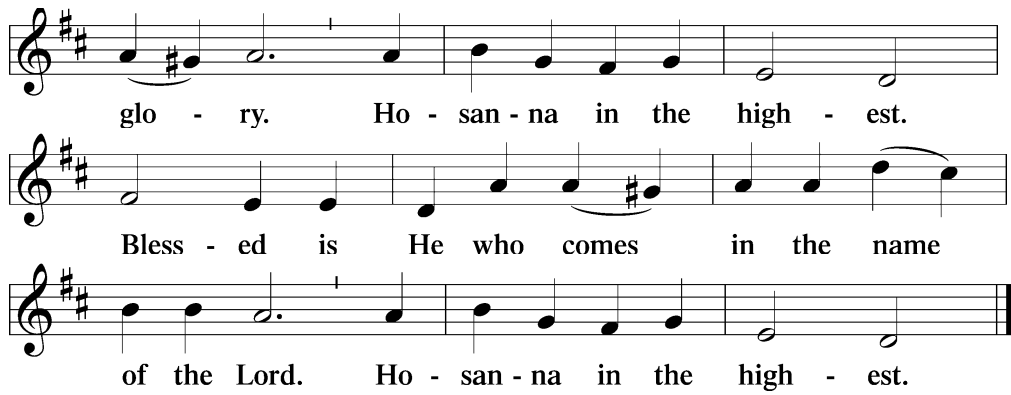
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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

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



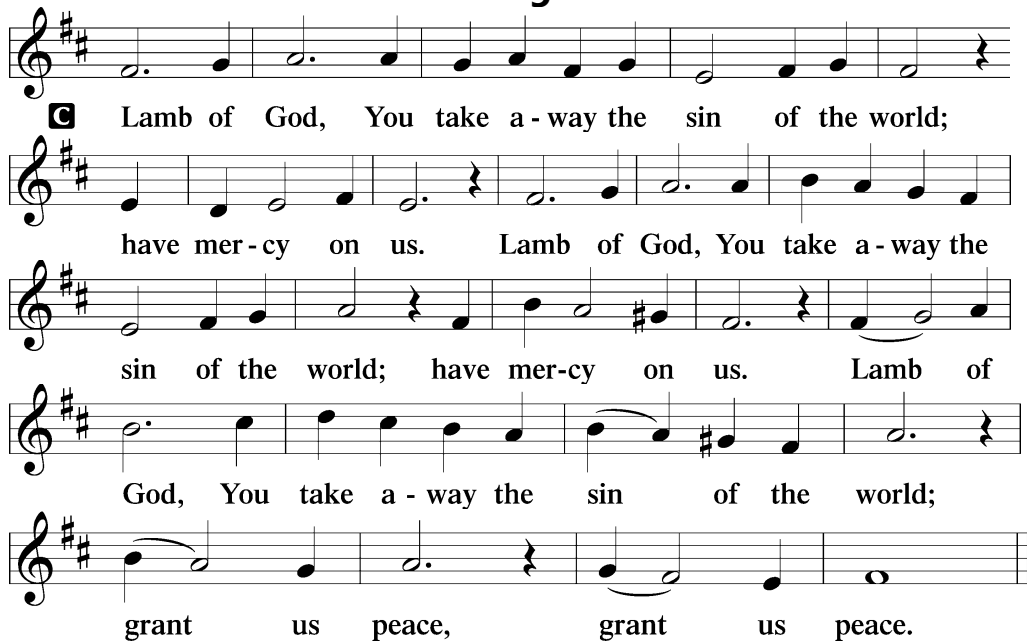
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Our Father

☐ 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 and Agnus Dei

LSB 180



☐ 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.

Distribution Hymns


There Is a Balm in Gilead

LSB 749


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.

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me


LSB 683



1 Je-sus, Thy bound-less love to me No thought can reach, no
2 O grant that noth-ing in my soul May dwell, but Thy pure
3 This love un-wea-ried I pur-sue And daunt-less-ly to
4 In suf-f'ring be Thy love my peace, In weak-ness be Thy



tongue de-clare; U-nite my thank-ful heart to Thee,
love a-lone; Oh, may Thy love pos-sess me whole,
Thee as-pire. Oh, may Thy love my hope re-new,
love my pow'r; And when the storms of life shall cease,



And reign with-out a ri-val there! Thine whol-ly, Thine a-
My joy, my trea-sure, and my crown! All cold-ness from my
Burn in my soul like heav'n-ly fire! And day and night, be
O Je-sus, in that fi-nal hour, Be Thou my rod and



lone I am; Be Thou a-lone my con-stant flame.
heart re-move; My ev-'ry act, word, thought be love.
all my care To guard this sa-cred trea-sure there.
staff and guide, And draw me safe-ly to Thy side!

+ SENDING +

Dismissal, Concluding Prayer, Benedicamus and Blessing

P Let us bless the LORD.

C Thanks be to God.

P 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.**

P 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

Jesus Loves Me

LSB 588

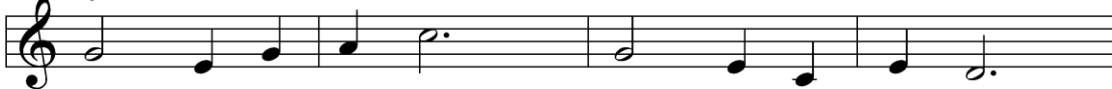


1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, For the Bi - ble tells me so.
2 Je - sus loves me! He who died Heav-en's gates to o - pen wide.



Lit - tle ones to Him be-long; They are weak, but He is strong.
He has washed a - way my sin, Lets His lit - tle child come in.

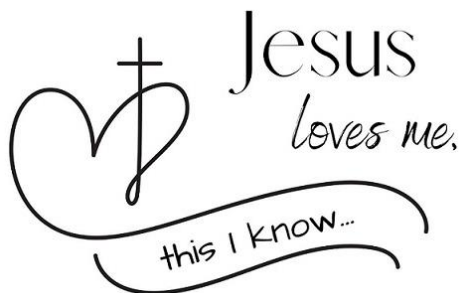
Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.



Take Home Announcements — Sunday, April 21, 2024

Serving the Lord Today

Pastor Rev. Chet Scherbarth
619.385.2094
pastorscherbarth@gmail.com
Pastor's Office hours: Tue-Thu 9-1,
Fri-Sun, by appt; Mon-off
Pianist Lewei He
Altar Guild Patricia Davenport
Christina Keiper
Lector Wayland Johnson
Acolyte Paul Scherbarth

Altar Flowers: Wayland and Jane Johnson — In celebration of family birthdays.

Eternal Candle: In Memory of Rochelle Kemnitz and Sharon Andrews

Today's Theme

The Good Shepherd, Jesus, lays down His life for the sheep. It is Christ alone who has the loving authority to own us, care for us, and redeem us. Christ—crucified by men, resurrected by God—begets healing, life, and salvation. He has done it all for us. Just as Christ acts on our behalf, we, too, are to love one another; not merely by speaking about love, but by engaging thoroughly in acts of truth and mercy.

Birthdays

Art Kersh April 23
Eric Martin April 25

Scriptures for Next Sunday

Acts 8:26-40

1 John 4:1-21

John 15:1-8

Live Streaming of Worship Services — www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com

Oktoberfest Meeting — TODAY immediately following worship.

Community Event – The City of Hattiesburg Concert Band will be in concert today at 3:00pm in the Mannoni Performing Arts Center on USM's campus. This is a free concert for the public.

Financial Statements – Your First Quarter statements are now available in your mailbox

Avenue Bible Study – meets April 24th at 10:00am

Next Sunday – Elders meeting following the worship service

Vacation Bible School – There will be a meeting on May 5th after the worship service.

LWML — is collecting ALL BABY ITEMS in the "Pack 'N Play" placed in the narthex for the Autauga Interfaith Center in Prattville, AL. These Gifts from the Heart will be collected for the next three Sundays beginning on April 7, 2024. Also, Gift Cards will be collected and will be delivered at the Gulf States Districts Convention.



Prayers Needed			
Elizabeth Thiel	Deployed to Jordan	Wife of Kelly Thiel	4/14/24
Chris Thiel	Serving stateside (NC)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	4/14/24
Kelly Thiel	Serving stateside (NC)	Son of Norbert and Trenia Thiel	4/14/24
Cory Thiel	Serving overseas (Germany)	Father of Cheyenne Thiel	4/14/24
Vanessa Ajayi	Breast cancer	Friend of Lillian Smith	9/10/23
Lisa Boswell	Colon cancer	Friend of Lillian Smith	9/10/23
Warner Boortz	Health and Strength	Member	2/25/24
Mini Jasper & Family	Serious burns		1/28/24
Ruby Ezell	Mobility difficulties	Mother of LaToursha Ezell	1/28/24
Kiri	Deliverance from Islam	Daughter of Josie Nwachuku	2/18/24
Bob Glascon	Congestion-4th round of antibiotics		3/24/24
W.F. Perkins	Complications from COVID	Husband of Susan Perkins	3/13/24
Jim Thone	Stage 4 Cancer	Father of Debbie Geroux	3/14/24
Van Lowry	Prostate Cancer	Member	3/17/24
Skip Lambert	Healing-pulmonary embolism	Relative of the Scherbarth's	3/24/24
Joy Reagan	Multiple health issues		3/31/24
Keisa Warren	Surgery & recovery		3/31/24
Lisa Case	Multiple health issues	Member	4/15/24
Dewey Case	Ongoing issues with West Nile Virus	Member	4/15/24
Cindy Landry	Health & strength	Member	3/7/24
Gracie Scherbarth	Concerns with medications	Member	3/7/24



Saint John Lutheran Church

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Church Office Hours: 8:00am – 12:00pm, Monday – Thursday

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