

Palm Sunday

March 25th, 2018–8:30am



St. John's Lutheran Church

67 Litchfield Ave.
Depew, New York 14043
(716) 683-3947
www.sjlcdepew.com

Rev. Galen M. Purpura Jr.
Ms. Lois Will, Music Director
Mr. Brad Lynch, Contemporary Worship Leader
Mrs. Stella Sawyer, Office Administrator

Schedule

Saturday Evenings, 4:30pm

Sunday Mornings, 8:30am (Traditional) and 11:15am (Contemporary)

“Nursery Care” provided downstairs for children ages 1-4 during 11:15am service.

Holy Communion—Celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class—Sunday Mornings, 10am (September-June)

Radio Broadcast WXRL 1300 AM, 11am Sundays

THOSE SERVING AMONG US

Acolytes..... Alex Krupa (8:30am), Katherine Lasky (11:15am)
Altar..... Jon Barber and Dan Herbold
Elders Rod Lorenz (4:30pm), Ken Schabert (8:30am), John Hughey (11:15am)
Lectors Rod Lorenz (4:30pm), Sue Bluhm (8:30am), Arianna Lysiak (11:15am)
Radio Broadcast Karen Dowdall
Saturday Music..... Carol Adragna

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE BROADCAST OVER WXRL IS SPONSORED THIS WEEK BY
Wayne & Mark Deutschlander for their father, Harold Deutschlander’s,
birthday and the many blessings the Lord has given him.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR THIS WEEK ARE GIVEN BY
Michael & Grace Stever in honor of Mike’s dad, Glenn’s, 80th birthday.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN’S



Just a friendly reminder....Worship is sacred time; a time when God comes to us through his Word and Sacraments. In order to maintain reverence during worship we kindly ask that worshipers refrain from “regular conversation” during the service. Please refrain from cell phone use and ensure that ringers on phones turned off before the service begins. **Please keep all food and beverage (with the exception of bottled water) out of the church/pews.** The “mother’s room” in the back of the church is available for parents with young children, should the need arise. The room is equipped with speakers and hymnals in order that those utilizing the room may continue to worship.

HOLY COMMUNION

Members may announce by signing a card in the pew rack and handing it to an Elder as they go forward to receive the Sacrament indicating they have been Baptized and instructed in the meaning of the Sacrament (agreeing with the clear teaching of Christ in the Holy Scriptures that His body and blood are truly present in the Sacrament and distributed to those who eat and drink offering forgiveness, life and Salvation). Those who are visiting St. John’s and wish to participate in the Sacrament are kindly asked to speak to the Pastor or an Elder before the service begins. **PLEASE READ THE FRONT OF THE COMMUNION CARD IN THE PEW** for a clear understanding of our Confession. *(Note: Those who wish to receive the wine from the chalice are asked to cross their arms over their chest after receiving the bread. Please raise the chalice to your lips when the Pastor comes to commune you.)*



THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Palm Sunday Procession

Invocation and Opening Prayer

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Dear Heavenly Father, on this day Jesus entered Jerusalem triumphantly to suffer and to die and was greeted with branches of palm. Let these branches be for us symbols of martyrdom and majesty. May we who carry them follow Christ in the way of the cross which leads to life; through Christ who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Processional Reading

John 12:12-15

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

♪ **Processional Hymn**....."*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*" *LW #102*

All are invited to join in a Palm Sunday Procession around the church.

Palm Sunday Litany

P: The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone. Hosanna!

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

P: The Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Hosanna!

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

P: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Hosanna!

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

P: O Lord, save us. Hosanna!

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna!

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

P: The Lord is God, and he has made his light shine upon us. Hosanna!

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

P: You are my God, and I will give you thanks. Hosanna!

C: **Hosanna in the highest!**

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. Hosanna!

C: Hosanna in the highest!

P: His love endures forever. Hosanna!

C: Hosanna in the highest!

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Gracious Lord, we confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed; by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry for all of our wrong doings. Forgive us according to your boundless mercy.

Absolution

P: Almighty God in his mercy has heard our plea. He knows our weakness, our inadequacies and limitations. He has offered up his only Son as a sacrifice for our sins and iniquities. I by virtue of my office and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ as a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: almighty and everlasting God the Father, who sent your son to take our nature upon him and suffer death on the cross that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility, mercifully grant that we both may follow the example of our Savior Jesus Christ in his patience and also have our portion in the resurrection; through your son Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Choir Anthem “Palms of Praise”

The First Reading

Isaiah 65:1-3, 17-19, 24

¹"I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me. To a nation that did not call on my name, I said, 'Here am I, here am I.' ²All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good,

pursuing their own imaginations ³a people who continually provoke me to my very face, offering sacrifices in gardens and burning incense on altars of brick. ¹⁷"See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. ¹⁹I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more. ²⁴Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-11

¹Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. ⁵In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! ⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

C: Return to the Lord your God. For he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 13:31-35

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you." ³²He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' ³³In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem! ³⁴"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the

prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. ³⁵Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.'"

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

♪ **The Sermon Hymn** *“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!” LW #105*

The Sermon

The Offering

The Offering Prayer

P: Heavenly Father you have given us life.

C: **What can we give in return for our lives?**

P: We return them back to you.

C: **Accept these tokens. Accept our lives.**

P: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

The Rite of First Communion

*Alexandra Jean Irvine
Emma Elizabeth Kabel
Alex Krupa
Katherine Grace Lasky*



*Joseph Anthony Manna
Lauren Riley Payne
Aleigha Helen Sharpe*

The Prayers of the Church

P: Humble King, with palms and praises, we welcome you into our midst as you travel down the road to the cross and the empty tomb. Help us to continue to welcome you into our midst in our homes and into our neighborhoods, when we go to work and when we go to school. O Lord, who enters in to save us,

C: **may we receive you willingly.**

P: Serving King, prepare our hearts this week for the transition from praise to persecution, and ready us to witness the ultimate sacrifice you made on the cross for us and for those who shouted for your crucifixion. Help us to recognize the pain that you endured but also the lasting joy that your death and resurrection won for us. O Lord, who enters in to save us,

C: **may we receive you willingly.**

P: Caring Christ, so often we have wandered away from your embrace and turned away from your extension of love toward us. Return us from our wandering ways, restore us in a right relationship with you through your forgiveness, and grant us the peace and rest found only in your grace and mercy. O Lord, who enters in to save us,

C: may we receive you willingly.

P: Empowering Christ, so many in this world are not willing to listen to you, O Lord. Forgive them and open their ears to hear the good news of your love for them. Help us to be your messengers of hope and help to those who are lost and hurting. Give us the courage to do all we can to bring them into your fold and share our lives with them. O Lord, who enters in to save us,

C: may we receive you willingly.

P: Ever-present Christ, reveal to us ways in which we can gather together more and more often as brothers and sisters in the faith. Make us faithful in worship together. Bind us together in our prayer life. Speak to us in our sharing of your Word with one another. O Lord, who enters in to save us,

C: may we receive you willingly.

P: Healing Christ, be with those who are sick, grieving, dying or in other kind of need. Surround them with the love and support of loved ones, grant them recovery and comfort according to your will, especially... O Lord, who enters in to save us,

C: may we receive you willingly.

P: All these petitions we offer in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, who did the will of God and lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up 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 that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. On the tree of the cross you gave salvation to mankind that, whence death arose, thence life also might rise again and that he who by a tree once overcame likewise by a tree might be overcome, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of

Your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

P: Blessed are you Lord of heaven and earth, in mercy for our fallen world you gave your only begotten Son that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as He comes to us in his Holy Supper.

C: Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

The Lord's Prayer

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 Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

SPECIAL NOTE

During the winter months/ flu season we will refrain from exchanging the peace in a handshake. Instead, Please take a moment to share a word of peace to your neighbor and those around you.

♪ **Distribution and Distribution Hymns "Chief of Sinners Though I Be" LW #285**
..... **"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" LW #198**
..... **"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" LW #115**

Post Communion Prayer

P: Merciful God, renew us in the gift of baptism, that repentant and forgiven we might live new lives trusting in your presence and promises finding our only treasure in your Son Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirt, one God now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord make His face to shine upon you and

be gracious to you! The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace!
In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Silent Prayer

♪ **Closing Hymn** *“Hosanna Loud, Hosanna” LW #106*



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IN OUR PRAYERS: Carol Adragna; Sylvia Andolina; Joe, Joelle & baby Baird; Jerry Bernfield; Jim Brennan; Evelyn Camarano; the Cavaleri Family; the Collins Family; Shirley Connors; Harold Deutschlander; the Erickson & Pleban Families; Ruth Dowd; Karen Durning; Janet Erickson; Tom Grzankowski; The Hillman Family; Nate, Sarah & baby Hoffman; Marlene Hutter; Cari Irvine; Marie Karl; Mike, Jen & baby Keating; Don, Gail Kelm; Marge Kelm; Kori Kent; Rose Kirch; Nina Kyle, Deann Lorenz; Ron & Brittany Lorenz; Don Lynch; Marsha McKinney; Lola Meyer; Donna Murawski; Carolyn Nosky; Phyllis O'Rourke; Elgene Peck; Carole Pleban; Barb Podisadlo; Ernie & Sue Reitzel; Larry Rindfuss; Pat Schlebus; Sam, Randy & baby Surface; Kim Theil, Jordan & Ryan Thurnherr; Norma VanDerwark; Betty Wilson.

OUR SERVICE MEMBERS: Tracy Thurnherr, William Borowski. **FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S:** Sandy (Ruth Haungs' niece); Angela (Jay & Phyllis Hanson's daughter); Kyle, Rea, & Gloria (Kathy Ponosny's loved ones); Helen, Emily, Stanley (Ceil Rowell's friends); Delores Schad (Betty Cavaleri's sister-in-law); Meg (Carol Coffed's daughter-in-law); Mike & Gus (friends of Carol Coffed); Mary Dziejman (Jenn Purpura's grandmother); Brella (Betty Cavaleri's great granddaughter); Bill McIlhagga (Scott's father); Janie Jazwiecki (Dawn Smith's mother); Jackie & Steve Rogers (friends of Nina Kyle); Tom Fowler (friend of Ed & Deann Lorenz); Ray Helmicki (Christine Bluhm's brother); Beverly (Betty Cavaleri's daughter in law); Michael (Sam Surface's father); Chris Martino (Tony's son); Mark & Charlie (Sylvia's friends); Karen Plewik & Julie Reid (Linda Plewik's sister and niece); Katrina (Don & Barb Loney's daughter-in-law); Ray Nieman (RJ's dad); Russ (Heather Holtz's father); Warren (Rick Thurnherr's friend); Carole (Fragale family friend); Deb (John Hughey's mom); Tony Manna (Katie & Joey's grandfather); Robert Power (Barb Perry's daughter-in-law's brother); Joe Bernacki (Barb Perry's friend & neighbor's father); Gary Kent, Sr.; Danny (Colleen Hurley's brother); Alaina (Corine Lorenz's friend); Marvin (friend of Karen & Bob Zielen); Marge Blum (Jim Kless' cousin's mother in law); Dave (Wayne Dziejilewski's brother); Kristine (Irmgard's daughter); Jim (Barb Perry's niece's father in law) Gary Stango (Betty Cavaleri's cousin) Gabe (Pam Bluhm's friend); Pastor David Walsh; Tom Sellers (Ceil Rowell's nephew).

Friends of St. John's" will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks without further notification. If you would like to keep a prayer listed after 4 weeks, please contact us at that time by phone or email (683-3947 / stjohndlutheran.office@gmail.com).

Thank you!

The **Mystery Dinner** event originally scheduled for Friday, March 9th has been rescheduled:

Friday, April 20th.

Where: St. John's

When: 6- 9pm

Cost: \$8 per person



Join us for a fun-filled dinner and reserve your table now.

EVERYONE HAS A STORY ... *We all know that God is always there, but there are times when God steps into our lives in such a powerful way that he changes the landscape of our lives. We would like to document your stories and compile a booklet that would be made in-house and distributed to the congregation to lift us all. We invite you to submit your stories, art work, poems, etc. to put into this project. We hope to have this ready for Pentecost.*

What's your story?



Seder Meal, Wednesday, March 28th, 6:30pm
RSVP sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex, or send an email to the office.



Maundy Thursday, March 29th
7:30pm, Worship Service with Holy Communion

Good Friday, March 30th,
7:30pm, Worship Service



Easter Vigil, March 31st
4:30pm
Worship Service with Holy Communion

Easter Sunday, April 1st
6am, 8:30am, 11:15am
Worship Services with Holy Communion

The **ST. JOHN'S MEN'S GROUP** meets at 8am on the 1st and 3rd Saturday (*April 7th & 21st*) of each month.

CAFÉ every month on the 3rd Thursday (*April 19th*).

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY
Anyone interested in participating should contact Karen Dowdall (716-391-1171).

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDERS:

Parents: Please return your **VBS survey** by **April 1st**. These surveys will enable us to work toward a program that will best fit the needs of our families. Your participation is very much appreciated.

YOUTH GROUP **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Young Hearts (from Birth to Grade 5):
Text Remind
Text # 81010
Text
Box @little gift

An updated rough draft Directory can be found in the Narthex. Please take a minute or two to verify your address, phone numbers, and other information before copies are printed.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S ...						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
26	27	28	29	30	31	Easter, April 1
	7pm Praise Band	6:30pm Sedar Meal, RSVP 7pm Choir 8pm AA	10am Erie County Home (meet at church at 9:15am) 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service w/HC	Pastor's Day Off 7:30pm Good Friday Worship Service	9:30am Hang Butterflies 1pm Easter Egg Hunt 4:30pm Easter Vigil Worship Service w/HC 8pm AA	6am Sunrise Worship Service w/HC 8:30am Worship Service w/HC 10am NO Sunday School 11:15am Worship Service w/HC

OUR CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is a way of life ... Acts 20:35
"Tis more blessed to give, than to receive."

Thank you for helping to carry out our ministry through St. John's.

Baptized Believers644
 Confirmed Believers403
 Prior Week Total Attendance203
 Sunday School.....42
 Adult Bible Class18
 Month to Date Offering.....\$ 18,304.80
 Monthly Budget Goal\$ 20,190.00
 Mission 2018, Year-to-Date.....\$ 630.25
(Plymouth Crossroads & St. Luke's Pantry)

*John and I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards during John's recent surgery—Thank You!
 John & Jane Marone*

Radio Broadcast Ministry

Radio Broadcast WXRL 1300 AM, 11am Sundays
 \$180/Full Sponsorship—\$45/Partial Sponsorship

Through February 2018:

Income \$ 795
 Expenses \$ 1,080
 Difference (\$ 285)
 4/1 Rick Thurnherr
 4/8 Lorenz/Martino Family
 4/16 Ross & Rose Contella
 4/22 Mike & Jan Brown
 4/29 Open

*It is more blessed
 to give than to receive.*
Acts 20:35

*The Seder Meal
 Wednesday
 March 28th, 6pm*

*\$12 Per Person
 Please see Pastor Galen for
 your tickets.*