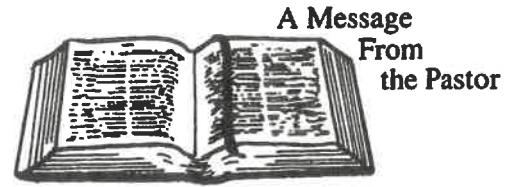




'Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love'



EASTER...FIVE YEARS AGO


The other side of this page is my Easter Letter, e-mailed or mailed to the members of our St. John Family for Easter 2020. Perhaps you may remember that Easter, it is one I will never forget.

Because of the Covid pandemic it was a time of fear and concern; and with little knowledge of this widespread, ruthless disease every attempt was made to try and minimize the vast numbers of people who were getting sick and dying from Covid. Face masks were not readily available, the Covid vaccine was still a year away; but hospitals were overflowing with sick patients, so many that beds were lined up in the halls, as refrigerator trucks were placed in hospital parking lots to keep the bodies of the dead, as mortuaries were filled. And to try and prevent the spread of this disease by exposure to groups of people, various stores and businesses were closed, including churches.

There was no "Easter Joy" in 2020. There were no Easter worship services, including here at St. John. But there was a brief "service" on that Easter Sunday; as on every Sunday during the three-month closure...I did conduct a brief service before our St John altar, and prayed for our Lord's comfort, strength and blessings upon us, so to endure this deadly pandemic.

And now it is five years later and we can come together this Easter 2025 and offer our Savior our thanks and praise and rejoice in the blessings of that first Easter morn. There are no sanctions, St John is open, music and singing will fill the sanctuary, the Easter message will be read, preached and depicted, and communion will be offered!

**YOU COULDN'T BE IN EASTER WORSHIP FIVE YEARS AGO...
YOU CAN BE IN WORSHIP THIS YEAR. – WILL YOU BE IN WORSHIP?**

Blessings,

Pastor Jeff Gavin

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP

This year we will conduct a special service:

**"PASSOVER TO SACRAMENT"
A COMMUNION SERVICE BASED ON
THE HEBREW PASSOVER MEAL"**

Please join us on Thursday April 17 – 7:00 pm



BECAUSE HE LIVES



Luke 24 (NIV)

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵ In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'"

This is quite an Easter this year...with muted celebration not just for us of St John, but for churches and Christians worldwide. The joy of Easter has turned for so many into concern and even fear of the dreaded coronavirus pandemic. Our prayers go out to those who have become infected and to those who have lost loved ones.

There was fear and dread present in the hearts of those who loved Jesus on that first Easter. But faith replaced fear with the good news message of Jesus' resurrection, "Why do you look for the living among the dead. He is not here; He has risen!"

And ever since that first Easter, fear is not stronger than faith. Even more this Easter we can have faith in the joyful Easter message that our Lord Jesus is alive! He lives and His loving presence is with us through all things, now and forever.

Our Savior Jesus lives...and we can still rejoice. As the old hymn lyrics state so appropriately for these times..."Because He lives, I can face tomorrow; Because He lives all fear is gone; Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living just because He lives."

I pray that you and your families will remain healthy.
And despite the circumstances...I WISH FOR YOU A BLESSED EASTER...
BECAUSE HE LIVES!

Pastor Jeff



We hope you will come and join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM** for our **ADULT Sunday Bible Class** in the lower level of the school building . . . ***open question forum.***

Please join us for our **Mid-Week Bible Class** on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the lower level of the school building.

PASTOR . . . has resumed taking Fridays as his "Day Off". Even though he may sometimes be in his office, he is scheduling no work; so Please do not Visit him, or Phone him on Fridays. If there is a true Emergency, call him on his Cell: (630) 776-2382. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS . . . ALTAR FLOWERS CAN COST AS LITTLE AS \$20.

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar, (or confirm your "standing order") please contact please call the **CHURCH OFFICE at (847) 593-7670** or email Pastor at jeffgavin@sbcglobal.net **NO LATER THAN NOON ON THE PRIOR TUESDAY!**



Please Note: When you donate flowers for our worship services, you are welcome to bring the flowers home after the 10:30 service.

OUR WELCOME PICTURES

Each Sunday you are now welcomed with a slide show of pictures on our large screen monitor. We hope you do look at these pictures; as they are not just random images, but carefully selected images that reveal the theme of the day, and are designed to depict and enhance the spoken content of the day's sermon.



EASTER BREAKFAST SET-UP - NEW TIME: 4:00 PM

We do need (and appreciate) your help to come and set up for Easter Breakfast on **Saturday, April 19 at 4:00 PM**. Due to people's availability, the time has been changed to **4:00 PM**.

The Altar Guild is currently looking for additional volunteers who would enjoy preparing and maintaining the altar for worship at St. John. Volunteers are assigned to a rotating team committed to serve 2 months a year to set up for communion, change altar paraments, and to refill the altar candles as needed.





Daniel Schubkegel	April 2	Jacqueline Koeppen	April 19
Kyle Pass	April 3	Lori Smith	April 19
Cassidy Zeuli	April 3	Rebecca Ruwe	April 20
Jaden Routhowski	April 6	Elizabeth Welsch	April 20
Dominick Poremba	April 7	Pastor Jeff Gavin	April 21
Valerie Rainbolt	April 8	Marnie Franz	April 21
Marsha Hernandez	April 10	Kellie Fiorito	April 25
Kaidan Fiorito	April 11	Al Schmidt	April 26
Lisa Gordon	April 16	Alice Mueller	April 30
Erika Schmidt	April 17	Jacob Fiorito	April 30
Geraldine Guanci	April 18		

If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the Church office for a correction... Thank You!

May God Bless You on your Birthday

HE IS RISEN



HOW TO HAVE A LIVING CHURCH

1. Always attend worship.
2. Always come well ahead of starting time and spend time in prayer.
3. Come with a glow, a radiant countenance, a happy mood.
4. Come expectantly, expecting to offer yourself to God in worship.
5. Accept an office when called to serve faithfully, accepting the decisions of the officers, even though they may not always be your personal judgments.
6. When you visit other churches, observe helpful suggestions for your own church. So treasure your own church that to be absent from its service of worship is a minus factor in any week.



7. Do the work of a good lay-person so that the pastor need not do all the work but is free to do all the work of a faithful pastor.
8. Sit up as near the front as may be possible and sing out praises to the Lord on all the hymns.
9. Always tithe, giving generously, and -- if you are to be absent -- remember that the church's expenses continue.
10. Always encourage your pastor. He will have enough discouragements from other sources.
11. Speak up for the fine things about your church. The weak points are conspicuous enough.
12. Win all the people you can to Christ, and to the church, invite and bring them to worship.

13. Last but not least --

PRAY DAILY FOR YOUR CHURCH AND ITS GROWTH AND FOR THE MINISTRY OF YOUR PASTOR.

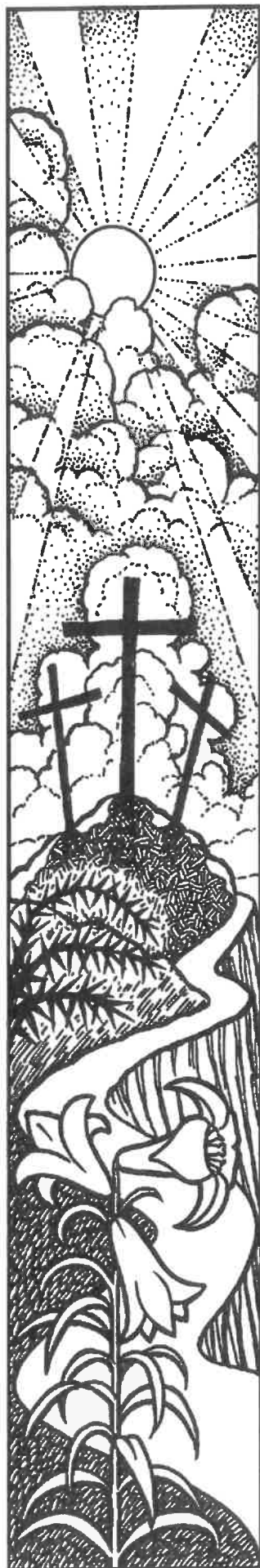


WORSHIP
THIS WEEK

See you in
Church ^{Every} Sunday



SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH



MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 17, 2025

7:00 PM

Worship with Holy Communion

GOOD FRIDAY

April 18, 2025

7:00 PM

*He is Risen!
Share the Joy!*

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20, 2025

EASTER BREAKFAST

8:00 - 9:15 AM

EASTER SERVICE

9:30 AM

with Holy Communion

The Contact NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
1101 LINNEMAN ROAD
MOUNT PROSPECT IL 60056

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

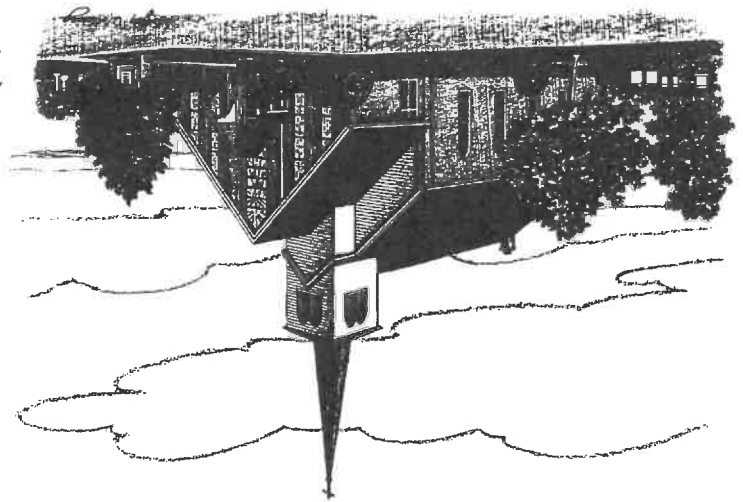
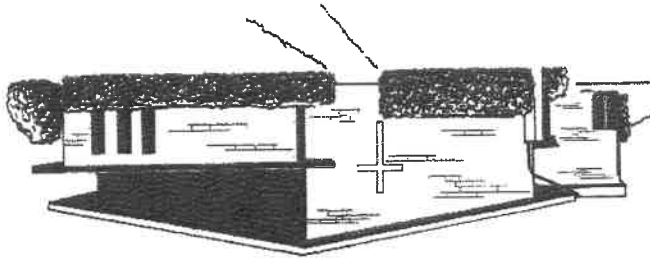
FIRST CLASS
MAIL

APRIL 2025

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
1100 South Linneman Road
Mount Prospect, IL 60056

Sunday Services: 8 & 10:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes: 9:15 AM
Mid-Week Bible Class: Wed. at 10 AM

Telephone: (847) 593-7670
www.stjohn-mpil.org



"Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love"

St. John Lutheran Church