

JANUARY 18, 2026

THE WEEKLY WORD

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



MEDITATION

Matthew 10:24-33

What do we believe about life as Christians? What do we believe about the value of life as Christians? Where do we act in matters of life, and where do we stand back? These are the questions we ponder this Sunday as we look at the sanctity of life. As we wrestle with these questions, it is often easy to get sidetracked into the “what ifs” of various scenarios where life is at stake and also where life is not seen as equally valuable by all people. But in order to even have these conversations, we have to see a larger framework that informs and shapes all of these discussions. It is a basic yet all-important understanding of where life comes from, where authority comes from, and what all of this means for us.

And we dare not shy away from these conversations and create a vacuum for faithful Christians to navigate. Because into this vacuum left by the silence of the church flood all sorts of voices, not all of which are guided by the Word of God and the hope of Jesus. So into this silence that is often deafening, the church courageously speaks, not with opinions or individual preferences, but instead with what the Word of God says to us.

And thankfully, as we dive into the Word of God what we find is a God who creates life, who loves life, and uses His people throughout history right to this very day to care for and preserve life. And from the individual Christian to the congregation, we learn how communities of faith lift up, celebrate, and care for life as the hands and feet of God.

When you get down to it, “Sanctity of Life Sunday” is about celebrating a God who creates life, sustains life, and gives us new life and life eternal through Jesus.

PRAYER

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of life. We thank you that you create life and sustain life and give us new life through Jesus. Move us as individuals and as a congregation to lift up and contend for life from the earliest days to the last day, looking always to the eternity we have in Jesus. Amen.

Pastor Barry

THIS WEEK

Monday - January 19

Men's Bible Study 6:30am

Monday Night Meal 5:15pm

AA 7:00pm

Tuesday - January 20

Executive Council Meeting 6:30pm

Wednesday - January 21

Moms in the Word 9:30am

Messengers of Praise Rehearsal 7:00pm

Thursday - January 22

Women's LifeLight Bible Study 9:30am

Saturday - January 24

Walk Thru the Bible 9:00am

(Doors open at 8:00am for breakfast)

Sunday - January 25

Worship 8:00/9:30/10:45am

Education Hour 9:30am



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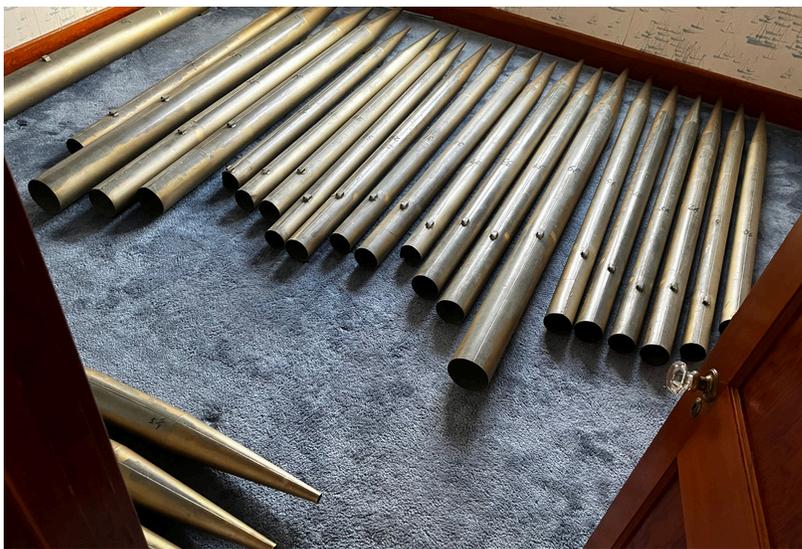
300 E. 4TH ST. CHASKA, MN 55318
952-448-2433

WWW.STJOHNSCHASKA.ORG

Construction Update



The original plaster is being repaired in the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and other adjacent rooms.



The non-speaking facade organ pipes have been removed and are being stored off-site. In several weeks a local organ company will be taking them to their shop where they will remove any dents and repaint them.



After the new organ has been installed in the refurbished organ chamber, the repaired and repainted facade pipes will be returned to their original location.

Walk Thru the Bible | Saturday, January 24th

Experience the story of redemption like never before as this unforgettable event brings the New Testament to life. Join us on **Saturday, January 24, from 9:00am to noon** at St. John's Lutheran Church. Doors open at 8:00am for a continental breakfast and coffee. **Cost is \$25 per person**, payable at the door by cash or check.



Scan to register for
Walk Thru the Bible!

Questions? Call 952-448-2433 or email pastor.barry@stjohns-chaska.org

Lutheran Hour Broadcast on KGLB Radio

Hear the Good News of the Gospel on the Lutheran Hour each Sunday at 7:00am on KGLB 1310 AM and 96.1 FM Radio.

You will hear the following topic on Sunday, January 25th:

January 25, 2026 "Cross Words—Words of Power" with guest speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola
A crossword puzzle uses an answer only once, but Christ is the answer for all people in every place and time.
1 Corinthians 1:17-18

Join Us for Youth Nights (Grades 7–12)

Youth Nights are starting up twice a month for all students in 7th–12th grade. We'll meet in the Youth Room from 6:00–8:00 PM for devotions, group games, and snacks. We'd love to see you there!

Our first Youth Night is Sunday, February 1, 6:00–8:00 PM in the Youth Room.

Questions? Contact Justin Weber at justin.weber@stjohns-chaska.org

Join Us for Education Hour | Sundays at 9:30 AM

Join us for Education Hour at 9:30 AM on Sundays at St. John's. There's something for every age!

- Sunday School (Age 1–6th Grade): Kids will learn Bible stories and grow in faith through age-appropriate lessons and activities.
- High School Youth Bible Study: A place for high school students to connect, grow in faith, and build community together.
- Adult Bible Study: "A Look Ahead" (Room 205/Library). A weekly study that previews the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday and helps you dive deeper before worship.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 8:00/9:30/10:45am in the Gymnasium
(Livestream at the 8:00am Service)

Education Hour 9:30am

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

Want to receive the Weekly Word and church communications by email?

Contact churchoffice@stjohns-chaska.org or call the church office.



PRAYER LIST

Please continue to share your prayer requests by filling out the back of a Connect Card located on the information desks in the upper gathering and main level common areas or by going to www.stjohns-chaska.org and clicking on "How can we pray for you?" You can also contact the church office: email: churchoffice@stjohns-chaska.org or by phone 952-448-2433

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1/18

Penny Eastlund
Shirley Hammons
Nicholas Tudor-Griffin

1/19

Michele Kelly
Isabelle Kohls
Kristin Stohl-Carlson

1/20

Rio Schaekel
1/21
Julie Bruce
Kevin Pevestorf
Kristen Schmitz
1/22
Steven Hirsch
Colleen Moldenhauer
Quinn Rasmussen
James Schmidt

1/23

Clara Crawley-Reid
Kylie Fick
Kristina Knudsen
Maddie Lamers
1/24
Jenna Colehour
Lena Groboski
Dana Lane



EXPECTANT MOMS

Brittany Thormodson
Brenda Simpson
Izzy King
Nicole Stockey
Kourtney Vipond
Amy Peterson

FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

Tracy Koepsell
JoAnn Schesso
Barb Frey

Patti Oelfke
Allan Panning
Janet Macenthun
Jon Thom

Joel Landskroener
Sandy Sprengeler
Jolene Berg

ONGOING PRAYERS

Carol Affeldt
John Barney
Merlin Bentz
Jack Boman
Jimann Campbell
Julie Carver

Marguerite Craighead
Sunnie Deis
Anita Doss
Sid & Merna Fjelstad
Dennis Gaarder
Ruth Harms

Eugene Henke
Carol Jones
Len Kallsen
Tim & Gretchen Laubach
Marilyn Lenzen
Melinda Meuwissen

Gina Niesche
Steve Pond
Austin Rannow
Val Schlefsky
Betty Shimmin
Cliff Waller
Ruth Ziegler