

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

THE WEEKLY WORD

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



MEDITATION

Matthew 4:1-11

As we enter the season of Lent, we become painfully aware of our sinfulness and deep need for a savior. Lent reminds us that these sins do not just appear, they are the result of real thoughts and actions which we have committed over our entire lifetime. They are sins which, despite our best efforts, we cannot stop or stem due to our fallen nature. And every sin we commit begins first with a temptation. So how do we deal with temptation today? What insights and examples can we use from the Bible to help us identify temptations for what they really are and resist them?

Today we find Jesus in the desert, being tempted by Satan. Satan comes to Jesus when He is alone and weak in His body. How Jesus responds to these temptations and ultimately sends Satan away provides a powerful example of how we are to handle the same in our own lives. Seeing the example of Jesus not only serves as an example to us, but makes us that much more focus on all Jesus did for us.

Hebrews 4:15-16 tells us about Jesus, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." And so, as we enter into Lent we draw close to Jesus who endured trial and temptation yet remained without sin in order to be the perfect and unblemished sacrifice for our sins. And by following His example, we are better equipped to resist temptation and that much more filled with grace when we stumble yet again.

PRAYER

Almighty God, during this Lenten season we give you thanks for the person and work of Jesus, who endured temptations, suffering, and death on the cross for us. Help us, when we face temptations in our own lives, that we may look to Jesus not only as an example to follow, but a sure and certain hope for sinners such as us. Let us boldly draw near to the forgiveness of Jesus as we come to God as sinners in need. Amen.

Pastor Barry

THIS WEEK

Monday - February 23

Men's Bible Study 6:30am

Monday Night Meal 5:15pm

AA 7:00pm

Wednesday - February 25

Moms in the Word 9:30am

Midweek Lenten Worship 4:15/6:30pm

Women's Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm

Thursday - February 26

Women's LifeLight Bible Study 9:30am

Friday - February 27

Middle School Activity Night 6:00pm

AA 6:30pm

Saturday - February 28

Chaska Skate Club Photos 10:30am

Sunday - March 1

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

Education Hour 9:30am

Youth Night 6:00pm



THE WEEKLY WORD

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

WWW.STJOHNSCHASKA.ORG

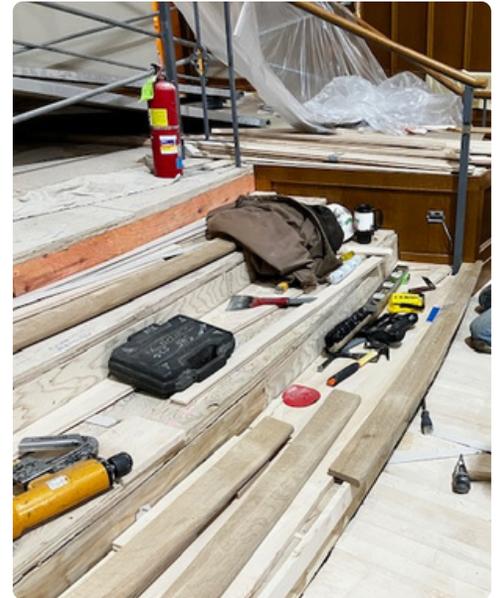
Construction Update



The new wood paneling is being installed at the face of the raised Chancel. This location is where the new organ console will be located. The oak “quarter sawn” to match the cut of the original woodwork.



St. John’s volunteers are installing the new wood baseboards and restoring the existing concrete baseboards in the Fellowship Hall.



Workers are installing the nosings on the new Chancel steps. For better visibility and safety, the nosings and risers will be stained oak, to contrast with the clear finished maple treads and flooring.

Update Your Church Directory Photo

Help us keep our church directory up to date! Take a moment to review your profile and upload a current photo so our church family can stay connected. **Simply scan the QR code to access our online directory and sign in.** If you need help setting up your profile or updating your information, please contact the church office, we’re happy to assist!



Join the Welcome Team Greeting Ministry!

We’re looking for additional greeters to serve in our Welcome Team Greeting Ministry! A friendly smile and warm hello can make a meaningful difference for members and visitors alike. If you’re interested in serving, please call the church office at 952-448-2433 or reach out via email to churchoffice@stjohns-chaska.org to learn more. We’d love to have you join the team!

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

Join us Sundays at 9:30 AM for Education Hour at St. John’s—something for every age!

- **Sunday School (Age 1–6th Grade):** Bible stories and age-appropriate faith-building activities
- **High School Bible Study:** Grow in faith and community
- **Adult Bible Study (“A Look Ahead,” Room 205/Library):** Preview the upcoming Sunday’s readings

Join Us for Youth Nights (Grades 7–12)

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

Join us for our upcoming Youth Nights on: **March 1 & 15, April 12 & 26, and May 10 & 31.**

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

Ladies Aid Scholarship Program

St. John's Lutheran Chaska Ladies Aid is offering scholarships for members preparing for full-time church work at a LCMS Concordia Lutheran University. The scholarship is renewable for up to four years at \$250 per year (\$1,000 maximum). Applications for the 2026–2027 school year are due by April 1, 2026. **Scan the QR code to learn more and apply.**



Nominations Open for 2026–27 Leadership

The Nominating Committee is currently accepting nominations from the congregation for officers and board chairs for the 2026-27 fiscal year. Elections will be held at the June Voters' Assembly. Nominations are currently being accepted for the Board of Personnel, Board of Outreach, Board of Stewardship, Board of Youth, and Board of Social Ministry. Nominations for Elders are also being accepted. Forms are available in the Church Office and may be submitted to Todd Degler or dropped off at the office. **Deadline: April 15, 2026**

This week's Focus:
"JESUS, OUR FORGIVER"
Wednesday, February 25

SAVIOR
SERVANT
FRIEND

SERVICES
WEDNESDAYS
AT 4:15 & 6:30 PM

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Join Us for Lenten Worship

Wednesdays at 4:15 & 6:30 PM

This Lenten season, we reflect on Jesus as our **Savior, Servant, and Friend**. Through His sacrifice and victory over death, we are reminded of His love and grace. Each service highlights a different aspect of who He is and what it means for us as His followers.

February 25th: Jesus, Our Forgiver

Jesus forgives us again and again, even when we do not deserve it.

Please note: No Lenten meals will be served this year due to the ongoing renovation.

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

2/22

Carol Affeldt

2/23

Bob Loomis

Hanna Stewart

2/24

Carissa Dysterheft

Jacob Knutson

Nadia Leier

2/24

Melanie Pandolfo

Larry Quanrud

2/25

Natalie Griep

Greg Marshall

2/26

Kim Wetzal

Jay Wikstrom

2/27

Paige Dolan

Zach Lewis

Malinda Meuwissen

2/28

Matt Fick

Gary Herber

Mary Mierow

Jon Mierow

EXPECTANT MOMS

Clara Crawley-Reid

Brittany Thormodson

Brenda Simpson

Izzy King

Nicole Stockey

Kourtney Vipond



FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

Steve Lenzen

Nancy Van Sloun

Shelley Bartizal

Mary Swanson

Pastor Al Holthus

JoAnn Schesso

Patti Oelfke

Allan Panning

Janet Macenthun

Jolene Berg

CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES

2/22 Garrett and Cortney Engelhardt

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

Steve Pond

Austin Rannow

Cliff Waller

Ruth Ziegler