

MARCH 22, 2026

THE WEEKLY WORD

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



MEDITATION

Ezekiel 37:1-14

In my opinion, one of the most iconic movies of all time is The Wizard of Oz. As you are all aware, a young Kansas farm girl faces certain death but somehow endures the storm. She's immediately transported from the world she once knew to a place that seems quite strange at first. She finds companionship in the most unlikely group of friends as she secretly longs to return to her family and friends back home. Life and death, success and failure, emptiness and fulfillment are all wrapped up into a colorful new life that all begins by following the Yellowbrick Road.

One of the most notable prophets in the entirety of scripture is Ezekiel. He prophesies during a time of desperation, hopelessness, and despair in the life of the Israelites. Because of their unfaithfulness, Israel has been exiled to the land of Babylon as they face an almost certain death and complete destruction. In one of the most disturbing prophetic messages, we find ourselves transported to a valley full of lifeless dry bones. As God speaks, there is a rattling and coming together of the bones. Flesh and tendons suddenly appear, but there is no life until God breathes into them.

We often find ourselves in strange and unusual places that are filled with the reality of sin. "All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions, it is by grace you have been saved." (Ephesians 2:3-5) The rattling we hear in the valleys of life is the power of God's word conquering death. The Father speaks life and forgiveness into our lives through Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, the life we live often carries us into places we do not recognize. Valleys filled with the result of our sin lead us to roads we never expected to walk. As You spoke life into the lifeless bones, speak Your word of truth into us. Even though we are dead in our trespasses, You are faithful and just to forgive us all our sins through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

Pastor Snow

THIS WEEK

Sunday - March 22

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

Education Hour 9:30am

Boys BB Nationals Fundraiser 9:00am-Noon

Lenten Family Faith Night 5:00-7:00pm

Monday - March 23

Men's Bible Study 6:30am

Monday Night Meal 5:15pm

AA 7:00pm

Wednesday - March 25

Moms in the Word 9:30am

Midweek Lenten Worship 4:15/6:30pm

Messengers of Praise Rehearsal 7:15pm

Thursday - March 26

Women's LifeLight Bible Study 9:30am

Friday - March 27

AA 6:30pm

Sunday - March 29

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

Education Hour 9:30am



THE WEEKLY WORD

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

WWW.STJOHNSCHASKA.ORG

Construction Update



The installation crew from Berghaus Pipe Organ of Chicago arrived on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 17th with our new organ. The console is shown here, without the pedalboard and bench.



The organ components have been laid out on the Sanctuary floor for now, but will all be installed in their proper location in the organ chamber. A group of St. John's volunteers helped move these parts from the delivery truck to the Sanctuary.



Here are two of the organ's slider chests. Electro magnets open and close valves that allow wind to blow into the pipes. Each magnet is associated with one note for multiple ranks of pipes. Our organ has 26 ranks (sets of pipes), and a total of 1552 pipes.

Monday Night Meal Culver's Fundraiser | April 7th

Join the Monday Night Meal Team at Culver's in Chaska on **Tuesday, April 7 from 5-8pm!** During this time, 10% of the sales will go to support the ministry. Stop by, enjoy a meal, and say hello! If you'd like to support the ministry directly, you can donate by scanning the QR code.



St. John's Boys Basketball Team is Going to Nationals!

The boys basketball team will be traveling to Fort Wayne, Indiana, March 27-29 for the National Lutheran Basketball Tournament. After a strong season, they've earned this opportunity to compete on a national stage. Join us in cheering them on and keeping them in your prayers!

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**

Bountiful Basket
Current Needs - March 2026

- Spices
- Flour
- Sugar
- Cooking Oil
- Brownie/Cake Mixes
- Baby Formula
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Feminine Hygiene Products



We also graciously accept (non-refrigerated) fresh produce!



SPRING FUNDRAISER
 February 26th - April 2nd

Scan the QR code for information on how to place your order!




RAISING CHRISTIANS IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

A 6-Week Parent Study
 Sundays | April 12 – May 17
 9:30 – 10:30 AM | Room B02




Scan for details & to sign up!

Circles of Love

MARY MARTHA GUILD
 LADIES LUNCHEON

Saturday, April 25, 2026, 11:30 AM
 St. John's Lutheran Church, Chaska

Reserve Your Spot
 Tickets: \$20
 Call Karen: 952-448-4875 or
 Email: mmg@stjohns-chaska.org

Event Highlights

- Music by Allen Carlson
- Salad bar lunch
- Beautiful themed tables

Focus for Wednesday, March 25th:
“JESUS, OUR COMFORTER”
Jesus comforts us in our struggles and sorrows so that we may find rest in His promises.

SAVIOR
 SERVOANT
 FRIEND

SERVICES FOR LENT

SERVICES
 WEDNESDAYS
 AT 4:15 & 6:30 PM

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HOLY WEEK at ST. JOHN'S

PALM SUNDAY March 29 8:00 • 9:30 • 10:45 AM	MAUNDY THURSDAY April 2 4:15 • 7:00 PM	GOOD FRIDAY April 3 10:00 AM • 7:00 PM
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EASTER SUNDAY
 April 5 | 7:00 • 8:30 • 10:00 AM

Watch services live at stjohnschaska.org

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.stjohnschaska.org and clicking on "Prayer Request" under "Resources". You can also contact the church office: email: churchoffice@stjohnschaska.org or by phone 952-448-2433

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

3/22
Cameron Frederiksen
Chris Mundahl

3/23
Kevin Knutson
Lizzie Matzke

3/24
Kimberly Marella
Kenley Sandvig

3/24
Paul Sprengeler
Tori Steinert

3/25
Amy Hagen
Josh Kulzer

3/26
Rebecca Anderson
Kelly Becker
Tracy Eickhoff

3/26
Scarlett Goshy
Ryan Gustafson
Marilyn Lenzen

3/27
Ronald Fuller

3/28
Kelsey Steinert
Don Wenz



EXPECTANT MOMS

Clara Crawley-Reid
Brittany Thormodson
Brenda Simpson
Izzy King
Kourtney Vipond

FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

Stephen Wetzell
Anne Dutcher
Izzy King
Brody Miller

Tim Laubach
Sandra Lovan
Lois Wenz
Steve Lenzen

Mary Swanson
Pastor Al Holthus
Jolene Berg

CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES

3/22 - Josh and Amy Peterson
3/23 - Ronald and Teresa Crognali
3/25 - Scott and Barb Ewing

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
Tracy Koepsell
Gretchen Laubach
Marilyn Lenzen

Melinda Meuwissen
Steve Pond
Cliff Waller
Ruth Ziegler