



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE

EASTER
SUNDAY

CHRIST IS RISEN!
HE IS RISEN INDEED!
ALLELUIA!

WELCOME! TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER!



For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- *Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?*
- *Are you sorry for your sin?*
- *Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?*
- *Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?*
- *Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?*

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

AS WE GATHER



Easter is a feast for us, and it is a festival. One of the traditional distinctions between the two words in church usage is that a feast is a time-limited commemorative event, usually completed within a day; a festival is a longer time of celebration, often spread over a number of days. Our hymns of the season use both terms with the ancient hymn text, "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" poetically stating: "Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor, with the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render" (*LSB* 487:3), while in Martin Luther's hymn "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands" the sixth stanza begins: "So let us keep the festival to which the Lord invites us" (*LSB* 458:6). Supporting the extended Easter celebration are lectionary readings for the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday after Easter (see *LSB* xv, xvi, xviii, and xxi). Today is just a beginning as we rejoice in the light of the resurrection and joyfully exclaim, "Hail thee, festival day!" (*LSB* 489:1).

PRELUDE

III - Allamande

Antony Holborne (1584-1602)

TOLLING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

EASTER GREETING

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Stand

INVOCATION HYMN

457 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which He en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
△ 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Kneel | Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us confess our sins before God our Father, and Christ, our risen King!

C Resurrected Lord and Savior, we confess before You that our Easter faith is meager; we have not acted decisively in sharing Your love. Our forgiveness for others is tepid. We fail to be gracious in conflict and forget that all believers belong to You—the crucified and risen Lord. Although we are undeserving, You have crowned us with resurrection certainty by Your life-changing grace and mercy. Death is destroyed. Easter life flourishes, now and forever!

P Christ has died. We, too, shall die. Christ has risen. We, too, shall rise, because we are more than conquerors in and through Christ Jesus. Our eternal confidence and unwavering faith are in Him alone! Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

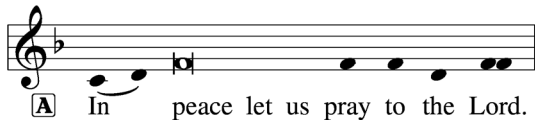
C Amen. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.

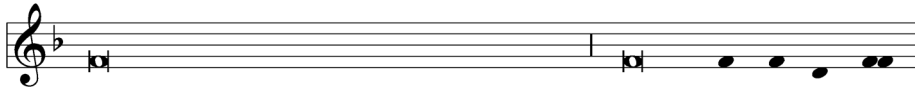
Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE

Mark 10:47





A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



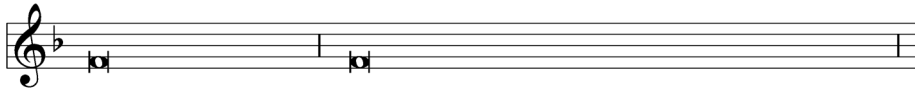
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



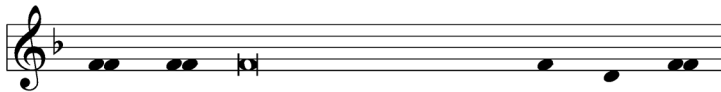
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.




A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.




C A - men.

FESTIVAL CANTICLE: This is the Feast


Refrain




C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

A The Old Testament Reading is from Job, chapter 19.

²³“Oh that my words were written!

Oh that they were inscribed in a book!

²⁴Oh that with an iron pen and lead

they were engraved in the rock forever!

²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives,

and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed,

yet in my flesh I shall see God,

²⁷whom I shall see for myself,

and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

My heart faints within me!”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Acts 10:34–43

A The Epistle is from Acts, chapter 10.

³⁴Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

⁴³To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

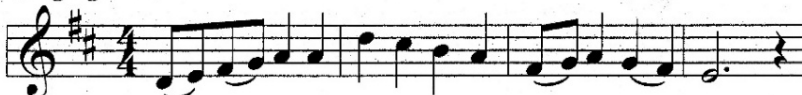
- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA & VERSE

Cantor: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Congregation:



Al - le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al - le-lu - ia!



Al - le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al - le-lu - ia!

Cantor/Choir: [Insert appropriate Verse for the day.]

Congregation: [Repeat Alleluia.]

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HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1–10

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” ⁸So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold

of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Mark Stapleton

SERMON HYMN

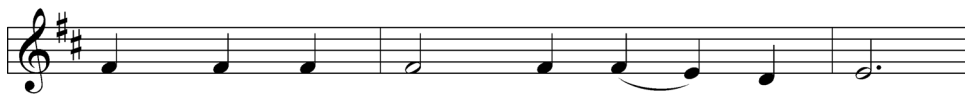
464 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;
But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.

The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.



Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!

THE SERMON

THE SURPRISE OF EASTER

Pastor Mark Stapleton

Stand

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Kneel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- ☐ Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.




O Gracious Father, help us believe that because Jesus lives, we, too, are made alive by faith and shall live with Him eternally.

- ☑ **Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.**

- P** Lift our vision from sin and death that we not despair nor grow weary of well-doing as we await the completion of all that our Lord began and give us the will and desire to use our days to proclaim His victory to the ends of the earth.
- C** **Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.**
- P** Consider those whose lives are burdened by afflictions of the body, mind, or spirit, and who seek Your healing and strength. Deliver them according to Your merciful will, and sustain them in faith until their troubles and trials give way to the blessings of the resurrection and eternal life
- C** **Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.**
- P** Remembering those who came to the tomb in sorrow and returned to their homes with the fear of the Lord in their hearts, receive our thanksgiving for the faithful who have gone before us. Give Your comfort to those who grieve the loss of those they love, and bring us with them into Your nearer presence, where sorrow and tears are no more.
- C** **Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.**
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Sit

OFFERING

Ways to Give	IN-PERSON 	MAIL 505 S Park Road La Grange IL 60525	ONLINE VANCO 	Zelle  directpay@stjohnslagrang.org
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EASTER ANTHEM

TO THE LAMB ON THE THRONE Phillip Stopford (b.1977)



*Worthy is the Lamb. Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish a broad His wonderful name: the name all victorious of Jesus extol,
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.*

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

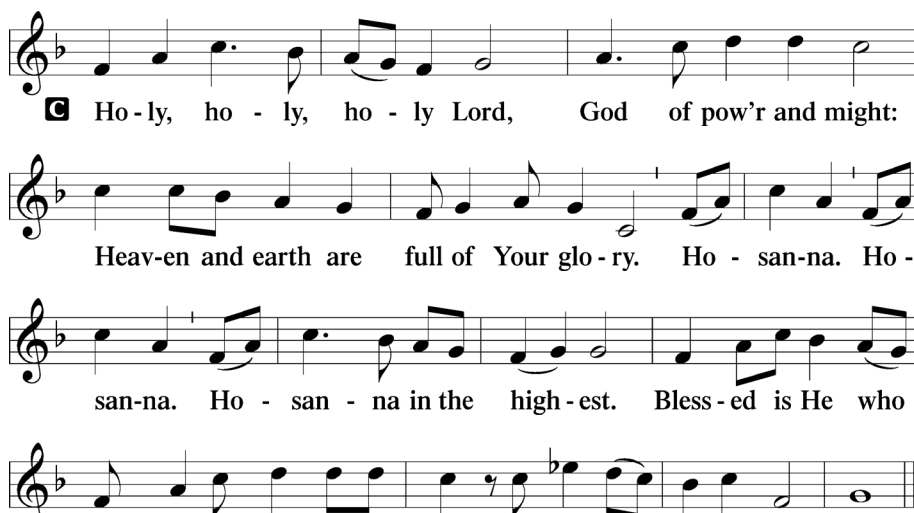
Stand

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them 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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also, He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

AGNUS DEI

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

MUSIC AT DISTRIBUTION

JESUS SHALL REIGN

arr. Jason W. Krug

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

arr. Patricia Cota



The Jubilation Ringers





1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
 3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
 4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
 plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
 guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
 in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
 soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
 me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
 He lives to wipe away my tears;
 He lives to calm my troubled heart;
 He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
 He lives and loves me to the end;
 He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
 He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 He lives, and I shall conquer death;
 He lives my mansion to prepare;
 He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!
 He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
 Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

THE DISMISSAL

P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Please remain standing

CLOSING ANTHEM

HALLELUJAH CHORUS *from Messiah*

George Fredric Handel (1685-1759)



SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist & Liturgist

Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist

The Cantata Choir of St. John's

The Jubilation Ringers

Katie Pece, Lector | 8:00am

Bonnie Kane, Lector | 10:45am

Noah Dunn, Avery Campagna, Acolyte | 8:00am

Sofie Hemminger, Holly Hemminger, Acolyte | 10:45am

The Royal Trumpet Brass Ensemble

James Sobacki, Benjamin Siff, *Trumpet*

Dana Solt, Noah Harstad, *Trombone*

Chris Crisanti, *Timpani*

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL NEWS

*"Train a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old he will not turn from it." Proverbs 22:6*

Enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year is well underway here at St. John's. We are so grateful to God for continuing to send us families that want their children to be at a Christ-centered school. We hope you enjoyed the video of our adorable preschoolers singing to their Very Important People on VIP day during Lutheran Schools Week.

The Board of Education is thankful for all our faithful volunteers already working with Special Events, Preschool chapel, music classes and library time. To support our growing school, please consider one or more of the following:

- 1) Recommend our Preschool and Kindergarten to your family, friends and neighbors.
- 2) Give or continue to give to the Annual Fund (goes directly to support the school.)
- 3) Participate in TRIP program (goes toward school scholarship fund.)
- 4) Assist with delivery of flyers to local churches and families.
- 5) Pray for the school staff and Board of Education members, as well as more students and families that need to hear the Good News about Jesus.
- 6) Volunteer to help at a Special Event - look for information coming soon about an outdoor Petting Zoo and Spring Break VBS.

The day school here at St. John's has always been a big outreach ministry of our church. Our school is smaller, but our mission remains the same - teaching children and their families about the love of Jesus while providing excellent academic education with a Christian worldview.

EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Guild would like to thank everyone who purchased the Spring plants that beautify the Sanctuary in celebration of our Risen Lord this Easter morning!

Given to the Glory of God For Blessings Received:

John Babirak
Jeff Baker and Beth Zeiter
Mark and Jennifer Behnke
Kathy Bezek
Lynne Braun
Amy Buonassisi
Marie A. Fukar
Ron and Ruth Gallman
Mary Grether
Cindy Hackbush
The Hubacek Family
Andy and Sue Kunz
Jack and Jeannette Nord
Carol Skow

Given To the Glory of God:

Sharon Broz
Marie A. Fukar
Richard and Karen Herman
Harlan and Judy Hirt
Rick Lange
Gary and Nancy Mayor
Mary Newren
Marjorie Newpher
Shirley Ruck
Art Schroeder
Greg and Linda Sensmeier
Pastor Mark and Kristen Stapleton
Marilyn Strombom – for the continued success of the
early childhood program at St. John's

Given to the Glory of God in memory of loved ones:

In memory of David Vesely and Brian Przyzycki from Julie Barnstable

In loving memory of my parents, Vernon and Alida Millsap from Margery Bobysud

In memory of Adeline and Walter Frey from Lynn Frey and Marilyn Lewallen

In memory of our son, Ron, Jr., parents Karl and Ethel Stodden, and Henry and Duean
Gallman from Ron and Ruth Gallman

In memory of Ann Hubacek, who loved Easter, from The Hubacek Family

In memory of Fred Kahl from Lynn Kahl

In memory of parents, Henry and Maxine Paulsen and William and Zelma Brunner
from Barb and Jim Paulsen

In memory of loving husband and father, David J. Pilarczyk,
from Nancy Pilarczyk and son, Benjamin

In memory of Bob and Shirley Pyritz from Joann Pyritz

In memory of Bill Rudolph from Clarice Rudolph

In memory of Pastor David Smith and Evie Chizzo from Marnie Smith

In memory of Pam Campagnolo from Sarah Vitek



EASTER I SPY









