

Zion & St. James Lutheran Churches of Martin County, Minnesota



*Pastor John Henry*



## The Fifth Sunday in Lent

*April 6, 2025*

### Regarding Membership and the Holy Communion:

We believe that, in the Holy Communion, the bread is truly Christ's Body and the wine is truly His Blood, given to us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. As we receive this gift individually, we profess that we are truly one body in Christ—that we are united in one faith and teaching (doctrine). Ordinarily, full participation in this Holy Communion is reserved for those who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. *Any visitors or guests who desire to partake of the Body and Blood of Christ are asked to please speak with the Pastor or an Elder before the service.*

*God makes paths through the sea and rivers in the desert.  
Whatever obstacle you face, God will open the way of life for you.  
Welcome to worship.*

Opening Hymn      *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*      425

The Holy Baptism of Lucile Sue Tow (Zion)      *LSB pp. 268-271*

### Invocation, Confession & Absolution

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.  
**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  
**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.  
**P** ... in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

*Psalm 43:1*



*<sup>1</sup>Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause  
against an ungodly | people,\*  
from the deceitful and unjust man  
de- | liver me!*

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son \*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning, \*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.*

## Kyrie

*sung; repeated ten times. LSB pg. 204*

**P** ...let us pray to the Lord:

**C** *Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!*

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with your spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## First Lesson

*Genesis 22:1–14*

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>2</sup>He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”

<sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”

<sup>8</sup>Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

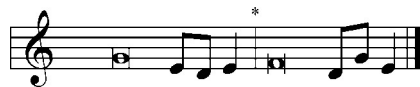
<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>12</sup>He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

## Psalm 6



<sup>1</sup>*O LORD, rebuke me not in your | anger,\*  
nor discipline me | in your wrath.*

<sup>2</sup>*Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am | languishing;\*  
heal me, O LORD, for my bones are | troubled.*

<sup>3</sup>*My soul also is greatly | troubled.\*  
But you, O LORD— | how long?*

<sup>4</sup>*Turn, O LORD, deliv- | er my life;\*  
save me for the sake of your | steadfast love.*

<sup>5</sup>*For in death there is no remem- | brance of you;\*  
in Sheol who will | give you praise?*

<sup>6</sup>*I am weary with my moaning;  
every night I flood my | bed with tears;\*  
I drench my couch with my | weeping.*

<sup>7</sup>*My eye wastes away be- | cause of grief;\*  
it grows weak because of | all my foes.*

<sup>8</sup>*Depart from me, all you workers of | evil,\*  
for the LORD has heard the sound of my | weeping.*

<sup>9</sup>*The LORD has | heard my plea;\*  
the LORD ac- | cepts my prayer.*

<sup>10</sup>*All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly | troubled;\*  
they shall turn back and be put to shame in a | moment.*

## Second Lesson

*Romans 8:31–39*

<sup>31</sup>What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;  
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

“Amazing Grace”

*sung by MLHS choir at St. James*

## Holy Gospel

*John 8:42–59*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. <sup>43</sup>Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. <sup>44</sup>You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. <sup>45</sup>But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. <sup>46</sup>Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? <sup>47</sup>Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

<sup>48</sup>The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” <sup>49</sup>Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup>Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” <sup>52</sup>The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word,



**Sanctus**

*LSB pg. 208*

**C** *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!*

**The Lord's Prayer**

*inside the back cover of the hymnal*

**The Consecration**

**Pax Domini**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

**Agnus Dei**

**C** *O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.*

**Communion Hymns**

<i>Not All the Blood of Beasts</i>	<b>431</b>
<i>A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth</i>	<b>438</b>
<i>The Church's One Foundation</i>	<b>644</b>

**Post-Communion Hymn for Lent**

*LSB pg. 632*

**C** *O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee  
My heartfelt thanks forever be,  
Who hast so lovingly bestowed  
On me Thy body and Thy blood.*

*Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:  
What wealth is come to me this day!  
My Savior dwells within my heart:  
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!*

**Thanksgiving & Benediction**

**P** Let us pray... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with your spirit.

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give ☩ you peace.
- C** Amen.

**“Father, I Adore You”** *sung by MLHS choir at St. James*

**Closing Hymn (Zion)** *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary* **423**

**Acknowledgments**

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.  
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

Lutheran Schools in Martin County  
St James Lutheran School, Martin Luther High School  
All Schools and places of learning



**St James**

*Baptism Birthdays:* Glen Klug, Amelia Mortenson, Victoria Mortenson,  
Diana Gonzalez, Jack Kosbab

*Serving our Country:* Sean McCroskey

*Sick & In Distress:* Rochelle Franzen, Tom Koeritz, Myla Roskop,  
Webb Quade, Ronald Schultz, Dennis Hagen, Bonnie Baarts,  
Larry Becker, Carole Lohmann

*Homebound:* Carl Luhmann, Ardis Osborn

**Zion**

*Baptism Birthdays:* Lucile Tow, Dan Fitzgerald, Brent Oberdieck,  
John Henry IV

*Seminary Student:* Timothy Schleusener

*Serving our Country:* Ben Peymann, Kory Brown, Jesse Peterson,  
Lili Bulfer

*Sick & In Distress:* Greg Wallace, Marsha Peterson, Mike Sandersfeld,  
Duane Behrens, Myrna Behrens

*Homebound:* Norma Patsche, Yonsey Karasek, David Hinz



Today at Zion we welcome through Holy Baptism **Lucile Sue Tow**. Her parents are Timothy & Jaclyn Tow. Alex & Hailey Schliesmann and Thomas Tow are her sponsors. May God continue to bless the Tow family.

**You can sponsor the bulletins** (\$10 per congregation) or **online broadcast** (\$25) anytime throughout the year, in honor of a special event or giving thanks to God. Call the church office with your request.

### **A Guide for Daily Devotions**

*On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, use this bulletin for daily devotions. One these days, pray the Collect of the Day each day, and reread the Lessons as follows: Monday, First Lesson; Tuesday, Second Lesson; Wednesday, Gospel Lesson. You may also want to pray or sing one of the hymns from the previous Sunday.*

*On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, follow this plan to prepare for the coming Sunday.*

#### **Each day, pray:**

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**On Thursday, read**

*Exodus 12:1-13*

**On Friday, read**

*Romans 5:12-21*

**On Saturday, read**

*John 12:12-19*

*You may also want to pray or sing the Hymn of the Day for the coming Sunday:*

**Hymn: 438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth**

**Tuition Angel egg fundraiser:** Look for eggs in the Narthex at SJL most Sundays. Call/text Lynn Becker 507-230-2700 if want direct from the farm...Thanks!

**Large Print Hymnals** are available at SJL on the right side of the bulletin boxes, and at ZION on the back table by the communion cards.

**If you wish to use the fellowship hall at Zion,** please: 1. Contact one of the elders for permission, and 2. Contact Heather in the office to make sure the day and time you want are free. Both of these steps need to be done to complete a reservation. Thank you.

**Parenting Workshop Sundays: March 30, April 6, & 13,** 4:30pm at Dell Church, 47500 97th St., Frost MN. Todd Dube, a certified family and marriage counselor, will be leading our sessions and will be available as a resource to those interested. Limited childcare available. Please reserve your spot by calling 507-526-5000. \$20 per couple for all three sessions which includes a meal each night.



**LWML Zone Spring Mission Rally, Tuesday, April 8th** at St John's Lutheran, 317 S Main St, Sherburn. Light supper starts at 5 with the rally beginning at 6pm. Dr Jeffrey E Burkart will speak on "Five Women Hymn Writers—Everything you wanted to know about hymns, but were afraid to ask." Gifts from the Heart to benefit Healing Hearts Housing in Sherburn.



**The Joint Strategic Planning Financial Committee** is interested in your ideas for fundraisers or ways to increase donations/contributions to help support SJL School. You can talk to one of the committee members, (Alan Wille, Gary Peymann, Isaac Wallace, Bart Johnson, Lynn J Becker, and Jennifer Luhmann) or place your idea in the suggestion box found in the Narthex.

**LWML Save the Date** for the annual LWML Mn South District retreat at Camp Omega on September 12-13th. Topic by Rebecca Curtis, author of "Ladylike: Living Biblically".

**Choir practice** for Easter services will be held Wednesdays, after Lenten worship at Zion. All voices are welcome to join us as we prepare for the Easter celebration.



**Easter Flowers available through Dee's Floral & Designs 235-9856. Last day to order is April 7th.**

Easter Lily - \$18

Cyclamen - \$18

Calendula - \$18

Hydrangea - \$40

**A special page** will be reserved in the bulletin for anyone wanting to give Easter flowers in memory of a loved one or in recognition of a special event. **Bulletin deadline is no later than, Monday, April 7th;** call the church office (436-5289) or email your information to [sjlnorthrop@gmail.com](mailto:sjlnorthrop@gmail.com).

**Lent V, April 9th**, offerings will go to Martin Luther Junior/Senior High School.

	<p><b>LENT V: April 9th @ Zion Lutheran</b></p> <p><b>6:00-6:45pm Supper</b>  <b>PTL will be serving</b>  Pulled Pork, Coleslaw, Chips,  Desserts and Beverages</p> <p><b>7:00pm Vesper Service</b></p>
--	---



## MARTIN LUTHER JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

SJL & Zion are full association members

**Enrollment** for students in grades 7-12 for 2025-2026 at Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School is open. All students are welcome to enroll no matter what religion they are. [www.martinlutherhs.com](http://www.martinlutherhs.com). Principal David Stuckwisch is available any time to answer any questions. Call 507-436-5249.

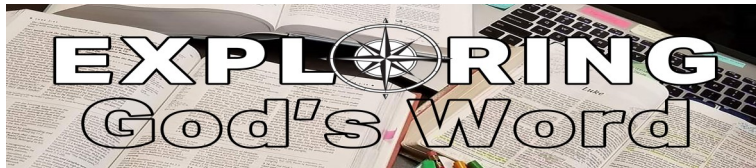
The Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School **Knights4Life** Group is putting together **Personal Care Kits** to be distributed to shelters in our community. They would appreciate donations of travel size toiletries or cash to purchase those items. They are collecting until April 15.

**St. John's Lutheran Church, Willow Creek, are having a Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser**, Sunday, April 27 with serving from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to pay for a new furnace. The menu includes: Chili, Hamburger Vegetable Soup, Broccoli Cheese Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, and Vegetable Beef Soup. We will also be serving hot ham and cheese sandwiches and grilled cheese sandwiches, bars and a beverage. The cost is a free will donation. We will also be selling \$10 raffle tickets to win a hand crocheted afghan. All are invited to attend.

**Thrivent Shredding Event** on April 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Hours will be, Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 6 pm and Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> from 9am to Noon. This will be at the Fairmont Office at 301 Downtown Plaza. If you need help carrying your shredding in, call our office when you get here, 507-235-9877, and we will come out to help. Please limit your papers to be shredded to 2 paper grocery bags or 1 bankers box. Also, no envelopes or junk mail. This limits the space we have for important papers to be shredded.

"Friend, you have a good word to speak to your neighbor. You have God's Word of life to share—with your spouse, your children or grandchildren, your co-worker or friend. You can tell them that their life is sacred, a gift of God, and that their life matters to you." Rev. Robert Mohns, Lutheran Church—Canada — A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

*Online giving is an easy and reliable method to contribute to your church while you are out of town, or if you are interested in eliminating the need to remember your envelope on Sunday morning. You can make a one time donation or save time and schedule recurring contributions. This option is available for either congregation through the website; [sjlnorthop.com](http://sjlnorthop.com) or [zionfraser.com](http://zionfraser.com), or through the [tithe.ly](http://tithe.ly) church app.*



### Adult Bible Study Opportunities

#### Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class.

- **Zion:** 8:45am, Narthex. Please join us as we study topics in The Lutheran Witness. Please bring your Lutheran Witness magazine if possible. Extra copies are available.
- **SJL:** 9:45am, Sanctuary. "Being a follower of Jesus does not mean staying away from evil. It means confronting it– face to face - just like Jesus". Bring your coffee and join us as we "learn how controlling evil can be loudly proclaiming the name of Jesus or quietly caring for someone in need."

Thursday Adult Bible Class will not meet in March and April.

Friday Morning Bible Study at 8am in the Fellowship Hall at SJL. We are studying the book of Hebrews.



### Issues, Etc.

Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 9 am



#### THE LUTHERAN HOUR TODAY

Sundays on KSUM AM 1370 or FM 97.1 @ 11 am

Guest Speaker: Rev. Keith Haberstoch

"Better Than I Deserve!" Jesus didn't deserve to die on a cross, but He died and rose again in order to give us better than we deserve. (John 12:1-11)

Those Serving our Lord		
	Greeters	Acolyte
<b>SJL 4-6</b>	Lonny & Lynn Becker	Alex Egeness
<b>4-13</b>	Levi & Luke Becker	Kimi Hansen
<b>ZION 4-6</b>	Daryl & Carol Bartz	Luke Henry
<b>4-13</b>	Kevin & Lori Behrens	Lydia Murphy
<b>SJL Ushers:</b> Dereck Bartz, Nathan Denn, Dan Petrowiak, Josh Howe		
<b>Elders:</b> Lon (Z), Jason (SJ) <b>SJL AG:</b> Sherri Roforth, Cindi Tomlinson		

**THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD: April 6 - April 13, 2025**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - Noon**

**Office phone: 436-5289 Pastor phone: 219-713-1604**

**Email: sjlnorthrop@gmail.com Website: sjlnorthrop.com or zionfraser.com**

<b>Sunday</b>	Divine Worship	(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM
	Sunday School/Bible Class	(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM
<b>Tuesday</b>	Chapel	(SJ) 8:40 AM
	LWML Mission Rally @ St Johns Sherburn	5:00 PM
<b>Wednesday</b>	Chapel	(SJ) 8:40 AM
	Confirmation Class (6th & 7th grades)	(SJ) 4:00 PM
	Confirmation Class (8th grade)	(SJ) 5:00 PM
	Lent V Supper	(Z) 6:00 - 6:45PM
	Lent V Vespers	(Z) 7:00 PM
	Joint Choir Practice	(Z) 8:00 PM
<b>Thursday</b>	Chapel	(SJ) 8:40 AM
<b>Friday</b>	Joint Morning Bible Study	(SJ) 8:00 AM
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	
	Divine Worship	(SJ) 8:30 AM, (Z) 10:00 AM
	Sunday School/Bible Class	(Z) 8:45 AM, (SJ) 9:45 AM
	NFL	(SJ) 7:00 PM

**Lent III 3/26**

**Jt Attend. 54 (HC 45)**



<b>Reflecting our Stewardship – Zion</b>			<b>March 30, 2025</b>
Attendance	113 (HC 77)	Home	\$3,112.26
Loose Plate	\$170.00	MN South	\$950.00
Windows	\$400.00	Lent III-Camp O	\$479.00
<b>Parsonage Window Total Donations: \$50,552.00</b>			

<b>Reflecting our Stewardship – St James</b>			<b>March 30, 2025</b>
Attendance	96 (HC 70)	Home	\$3,910.00
Loose Plate	\$357.00	Missions	\$225.00
Online	\$615.00	Memorials	\$35.00
Lent I– KSUM	\$25.00	Zion Support	\$7,025.52
Lent II-LBT	\$45.00	Rental	\$375.00
Lent III-Camp O	\$180.00		
<b>Annual Operating Expense: \$580,000.00</b>			
<b>Average Weekly Need: \$11,154.00</b>			
<b>Giving to date: \$134,472.65 Projected Shortfall: (\$42,109.40)</b>			