

Weekly Announcements

In our Prayers

*Virgil Roecker-medical concerns
Joe Brossia-medical concerns
Wilma Smithers- medical concerns
Ken Fredericksen-medical concerns
Helen Jean Rollins-medical concerns
Clarence Smithers-medical concerns
Ken Gray-medical concerns
Debbie Wehner-medical concerns
Jill Mathews-medical concerns
Violet Campbell-medical concerns
Ruth Diefenthaler-medical concerns
Baby Mia Fillmore (in NICU)
Family and Friends of David Marchall
The Clark Family*

Worship Schedule

All activities and worship services at St. John are suspended through April 5th. We hope to rejoin for worship on Easter weekend (April 11 & 12). Please join us on Facebook or on our YouTube channel for a live stream of worship. The weekly bulletin is available on our website.

Unfortunately, the Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Breakfast have been cancelled.

Office Hours

At this time, Pastor O'Brien and LisaAnne will maintain office hours Mon-Fri from 9 am to 3 pm.

If you need something, please call 419-836-5514 ahead of time.

During business hours (9-3) if the door is locked, there is a bell which is monitored.

*You may also email/text
Pastor O'Brien 419-378-1112
pastorobrien@stjohnwilliston.org*

or

*email the office at
office@stjohnwilliston.org*

Online Giving Option

*Please consider giving online.
There is a link on our website at
www.stjohnwilliston.org.
It is fast, easy and secure!*

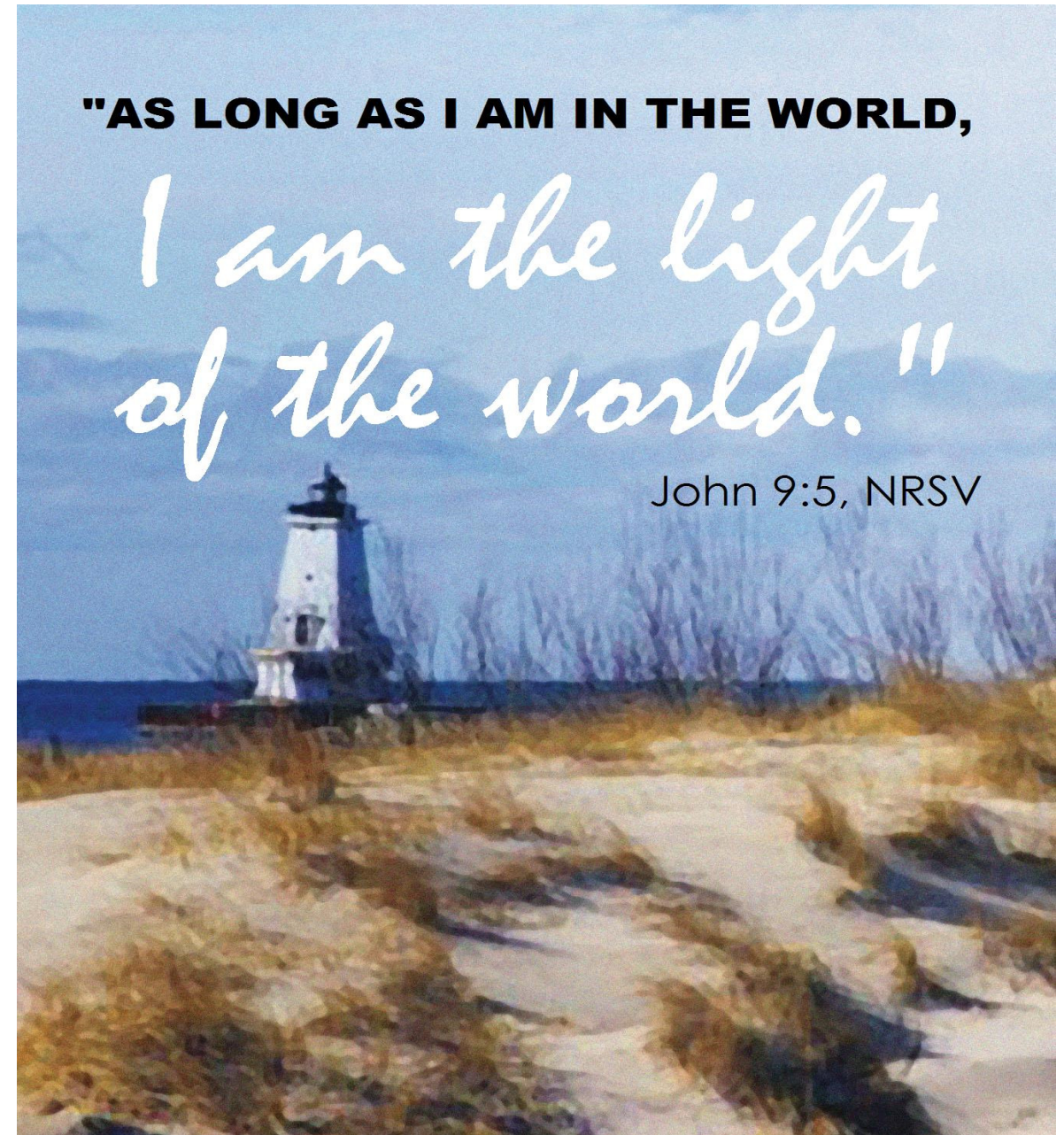
You can call the church office for help getting that set up.

*In addition, you can also mail your offering to the church
(PO Box 235, Williston 43468)
or stop by during the week
between 9 and 3 to drop it off.*

"AS LONG AS I AM IN THE WORLD,

*I am the light
of the world."*

John 9:5, NRSV



WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourth Saturday of Lent

March 21, 2020 * 5:00 PM



www.stjohnwilliston.org

419-836-5514

Fourth Saturday of Lent

March 21, 2020

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG

Saturday Singers

CONFESSION and FOREGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who is present, who gives life,
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

ALL: Amen.

Leader: If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: Gracious God,

ALL: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

Leader: Receive good news: God turns to you in love.
"I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God.
All your sin is forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ,
who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.

ALL: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive
those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver
us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

HOLY COMMUNION

**ALL: Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Holy Meal. I love you
above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot
now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my
heart. I embrace you as if you have already come, and unite myself
wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen."**

BLESSING

Leader: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,
and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey through
these uncertain and changing times. The Lord bless you and keep you. The
Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with
favor and give you peace .

All: Amen

SONG

We are the Church

Refrain:

**We are the church, the body of our Lord;
We are all God's children, we have been restored.**

The church is not a building, where people go to pray,
It's not made out of sticks and stones, it's not made out of clay. **Refrain**

You can go to worship, but you cannot go to church,
You can't find a building that's alive, no matter how you search. **Refrain**

The church is not a business, a committee or a board,
It's not a corporation for the business of the Lord. **Refrain**

The church, it is the people, living out their lives,
Called, enlightened, sanctified, For the work of Jesus Christ. **Refrain**

DISMISSAL

Leader: Depart in peace-Call a neighbor -Be the church wherever you are.

ALL: Thanks be to God

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

ALL: Jesus Christ, heal us. Amen

COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: Holy and generous God, you set a table where we feast as friends. Even if we can only receive you spiritually not physically, prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

Leader: Our Lord, on the night when he was betrayed took bread, gave thanks to God, broke it and said: "Take this bread and eat it, do this to remember me." And in a similar manner he took a cup filled with fruit of the vine and after giving thanks to God, he shared it with his disciples saying: "Drink of it, all of you, for this cup is the new covenant of life between us. Do this to remember me!"

ALL: Following our Lord's command and responding to our need for forgiveness, we come!

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light

becomes visible,¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

GOSPEL (On Video)

John 9:1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him,

"Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

SERMON

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

PRAYERS -A Prayer for Healing by Kerry Weber

Leader: Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.