

East St. Olaf Lutheran Church

6200 County Road 3 SW – Byron, MN

March 8, 2026: Third Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Rev. Paul Thompson

Organist: Pat Nelson

WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE VISITING:

If you're visiting, please sign our guestbook (in the narthex).

Worship times rotate monthly between East & West St. Olaf.

WEATHER-RELATED CANCELATIONS



To verify if there is a cancellation for a church service or church activity, **please check: KTTC TV (channel 10 news); or online at www.kttc.com and click on the tab for WEATHER - then click on Closings and Delays.** Decisions are made by council presidents with the pastor.

SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

>> BOTH now have Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays



WEST EARLY at 8:30 am for Mar. (coffee 9:30 am)

JAM at 9:30 am at West for all students, also West coffee

EAST LATE at 10:30 am for Mar. (coffee follows)

>> Lenten schedule shown in "This Week" or "Upcoming Events"

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

Note: Anyone interested may join Altar Guild

Altar Guild: Mar. – Darlene Myhre & Sonya Mansfield

Deacon: Mar. - Terry Zieman

Reader: Mar. 8 – Jen Briske

Acolytes: Ushers cover, if no acolyte listed

Coffee Servers: 2nd Sun. – Sarah Circle

READINGS: Sunday, March 8, 2026: Third Sunday in Lent

INTRODUCTION: *In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The*

early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal – offering us the life-giving water of God’s mercy and forgiveness.

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7: *Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question – “Is the Lord among us or not?” – received a very positive answer.*

PSALM: Psalm 95

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11: *Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus’ death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.*

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42: *Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.*

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

EAST SERVERS FOR EAST LENTEN SUPPERS:

March 11: Sarah Circle serving Lenten meal.

March 25: Council Members serving Lenten meal.

BOTH: run during March

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER OFFERING ON MARCH 18



The **free-will offering on March 18** (*at the soup supper at West church*), **will go to the Hayfield Community Food Pantry** to help those less fortunate - the need is great.

This meal is co-sponsored by Thrivent.

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES & CHURCH LEADER LIST

Copies of the “draft” annual meeting minutes and the 2026 ballots (*for list of church leaders*), are available to pick up on the

table in the back, at church. *The minutes will be approved at the next annual meeting.*

LUTHER LEAGUE: PIZZA & SLEEPOVER AT CHAPEL!!!



Luther Leaguers: Join us Friday, March 27 at 6:00 pm. Pizza supper provided.

>Please bring: 1.) your own bedding (sleeping bag, blankets, pillow 2.) a snack to share.

Breakfast provided in the morning as well.

Pick up time between 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.

RSVP to Alli at 507-398-7769 if you would like to attend.

JAM EASTER EGG HUNT ON PALM SUNDAY (March 29)



Palm Sunday at 9:30 am JAM kid's will enjoy an Easter Egg Hunt - so bring your basket or a bag!! NOTE: *Luther League teens are needed to hide eggs & help hold palm fronds that day.*

SPRING DINNER: EAST & WEST BOTH WELCOME!!! **ON PALM SUNDAY (March 29)**



**10:30 Worship at East,
then at 11:30 Dinner Starts**

East & West are both welcome!!

**MENU: Ham and Scalloped Potatoes ,
Veggies, Fruit, & Dessert**

Cost: \$10.00 per person, \$6 for 12 and under

Hosted by Circle 4 at East St Olaf

LILIES TO BEAUTIFY OUR ALTAR FOR EASTER



If anyone wishes to donate/share their Easter lily/lilies at church "*in-memory of*" and/or "*in-honor of*" someone... please email Gina Moser, (or at West: Sheryl Wohlers: 507-259-5974) by **March 20**, if you would like them listed in the Easter bulletin. ***Please***

drop-off lilies at your church the day before Easter.

THRIVENT DESIGNATIONS:

Thrivent "Choice Dollars" from 2025 can still be directed until March 31, by calling **800-847-4836**. When prompted, say "Thrivent Choice". Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars. A representative will work with you to direct Choice Dollars.

HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

Deadline for bulletin information – Wednesdays by 7:30 pm.

Deadline for the newsletter info by the 19th each month.

TODAY	8:30 am	West worship
	9:30 am	JAM classes, <i>also West coffee</i>
	10:30 am	East worship
Monday:	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
Tuesday:	9:00 am	West quilting/sack lunch
	10:00 am	East quilting/sack lunch
Wednesday:	9:00 am	West quilting/sack lunch
	1:00 pm	West WELCA meeting
	6:00 pm	<u>BOTH: Lenten supper @ EAST</u> <i>(supper by Sarah Circle)</i>
	7:00 pm	<u>BOTH: Lenten Worship @ EAST</u>
Thursday:	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
Friday:	_____	Pastor's day off-work
Saturday:	10am	<u>East Women's meeting at church</u>
Sun. (03/15)	8:30 am	West worship, <u>Communion</u>
	9:30 am	JAM classes, <i>also West coffee</i>
	10:30 am	East worship, <u>Communion</u>

COMING UP AT EAST & WEST

Mar. 16 (Mon.):	9am-Noon	Pastor at office
Mar. 17 (Tue.):	10:00 am	East quilting/sack lunch
Mar. 18 (Wed.):	6:00 pm	<u>BOTH: Lenten supper @ WEST</u> <i>(supper by West WELCA) Free will offering for the supper will go to <u>Hayfield Comm. Food Pantry</u></i>
	7:00 pm	<u>BOTH: Lenten Worship @ WEST</u>

Mar. 19 (Thur.): 9am-Noon Pastor at office
 7:00 pm *DEADLINE to submit info/reports for next newsletter (April edition)*
Mar. 20 (Fri.): _____ *First Day of Spring!!!*
 Pastor's day off-work
Mar. 22 (Sun.): 8:30 am West worship
 9:30 am JAM classes, *also West coffee*
 10:30 am East worship
Mar. 23 (Mon.): 9am-Noon Pastor at office
Mar. 24 (Tue.): 9:00 am West quilting/sack lunch
 10:00 am East quilting/sack lunch
Mar. 25 (Wed.): 9:00 am West quilting/sack lunch
 6:00 pm **BOTH: Lenten supper @ EAST**
(supper by East Council members)
 7:00 pm **BOTH: Lenten Worship @ EAST**
Mar. 26 (Thur.): 9am-Noon Pastor at office
 >>>> **NEWSLETTER DAY at OFFICE**
(9:10-print, 9:25-fold, 9:40-collate)
Mar. 27 (Fri.): _____ Pastor's day off-work
 6:00 pm **LUTHER LEAGUE SLEEPOVER**
& PIZZA @ CHAPEL – bring a snack to share & bedding items
Mar. 29 (Sun.): **PALM SUNDAY**
 8:30 am WEST worship (NOT comm.)
 9:30 am **JAM Easter Egg Hunt at WEST...**
(LL teens deeded to help with egg hunt & hold palm fronds)
 10:00 am EAST worship, (NOT comm.)
Mar. 30 (Mon.): 9am-Noon Pastor at office
Mar. 31 (Tue.): 10:00 am East quilting/sack lunch
 >>>> **Deadline to designate Thrivent**
“Choice Dollars”

SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

EAST EARLY at 8:30 am for Apr. (coffee follows)

JAM at 9:30 am at West for all students, also West coffee

WEST LATE at 10:30 am for Apr. (coffee 9:30 am)

April 2: BOTH at EAST: 7pm **MAUNDY THURSDAY** service
with Holy Communion

April 3: BOTH at WEST: 7 pm **GOOD FRIDAY** service

April 5: EASTER DAY - HE IS RISEN!!!

>> No JAM/SS classes, No coffee hour at either church

8:30 am EAST worship, communion

10:00 am WEST worship, communion

TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

East Prayers: Linda K., (*friend of Pat Nelson*), Keith Roeder (*friend of Audrey Carlson*), Salem (*cousin of Keaton DeCook*), Pat Raasch (*friend of Becky Brakke*), Todd Pyfferoen, Kathy B., Orillie Iverson, Kaysie Peterson, Dawn Hugeback, Debra Moekel (*daughter of Audrey Carlson*), Dalton Mansfield (*in military*), John (*cousin of Pat Nelson*), Sylvia Torstenson, and John Heydt (*brother of Pat Nelson*).

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTOR Paul Thompson: (*Call before driving to office*)

Cell Phone: 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday and Thursday 9am-Noon

OR by appointment (*Day off-work is Friday*)

SECRETARY: Gina Moser: (*Call before driving to office*)

Office Phone: 507-365-8222 **Cell Phone:** 507-951-4964

Emails: eastwest@kmtel.com **Office Hours:** Tues. & Thursdays

OUR WEBSITES: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org

JANITORIAL SVC EAST: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

President: Randy Robinson: 507-923-0479

Gary Kearns: 507-206-3158 or 507-254-5285

Bryan DeCook: 507-208-1590