"The journey leading to Easter ... just never know where it leads us! ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH "Oasis of Joy" USA

Today is ----- SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2018

Welcome to our "humble temple" ---- home of moderately strong coffee, some average preachin' ... and lots of good folks.
We hope your soul is nourished, being with us this morning. We sure do enjoy having kids in church. When they get a bit noisy and goofy ... we ask you PLEASE TO RESPECT the sanctity of our worship experience, and the comfort of your neighbor. We have a fine nursery for kids age 5 and under. Our intensely Lutheran and moderately festive staff is always anxious to care for your kids.
Please accompany your son/daughter to the nursery and introduce yourself to the attendants. Welcome, and "happy Lent" ... is it "ok" to say this???

welcome ... with an announcement or two ... kind words? ... constructive criticism? ... a little something funny?? OPENING PRAYER

Lord, Lord ---- I need to laugh more ... smile more ... just "find some raw joy" more!! It's too easy to get caught-up in stuff --- that so easily can bring us down. I look at Mattie: he dies young ... he spends every day in a wheelchair ... he needs equipment to live what is supposed to be a "normal" life. And what does he do??

He gives thanks. He counts his blessings. He sees the good. He continues to dream. He never loses hope.

It's Lent: 40 days ... the amount of time your son spends in the wilderness. My life feels like a "wilderness" sometimes. My path isn't clear. Not sure which way to turn. The "finish line" is fuzzy. And yet ... this morning ... in the quiet humility of this place ----- I know you are in the wilderness with me. May your spirit nudge me and guide me. May your presence shine light on what I need to do. It will. It does. I am grateful. Amen. opening song "Above the hills of time" 55 (spirit) (a little bit Irish ... as we say good-bye to St. Patrick's Day)

> the liturgy ... page 98 "This is the feast" page 101

readings for the day *1st lesson *a Mattie-moment *2nd lesson please rise for the gospel ----- "alleluia" ... page 102

"will my younger friends come forward?" kids' time ----- an Irish hero??

song "I know that my redeemer lives" 619 (vv. 1,2,3,4)

meditation

the creed ... page 105

offering and offertory "holy, holy, holy" page 108 choir anthem, 11:00 ---- "Comes riding Jesus"

prayers and sharing the Lord's Supper "Lamb of God" page 108 Communion songs: 65, 76, 77, 82, 85 (spirit) "alleluia, he's my savior, alleluia"

closing song "All hail the power of Jesus' name" 634

benediction and three-fold "amen"

Such beautiful flowers today ... gracing our church ...

*from Ed Steele (alias, Mr. "Fix-it") ... in honor of his wife Annie's 80th birthday!@!! ----- wow!!
*from Peggy Sullivan and Don Borling ... in loving memory of Mike Sullivan, on what would have been his 60th birthday.
The eternal light shines with love and spirit this morning ...
*from Rick and Nancy Frothingham ... in loving memory of Rick's parents ... remembering what would have been their 76th wedding anniversary.
*from Vern and Mary Ann Bock, in loving memory of Mary Ann's dad ---- Stan Pietraszak.
*from Jan Mitchell, in honor of her daughter Christine Keim's birthday.
*from the All Saints staff, in honor of Mrs. Fix-it, on her 80th birthday --- happy b-day, Annie!!

Today: "First Communion" class, 12:15 Monday: *Confirmation class, 7:15 – 8:30 Tuesday: *"Stitch and Sew" 6:30 Wednesday: *"Bible study, 7:00 Thursday: *Final Lenten supper, 6:30 *Evening worship, 7:30 Saturday: *Big band evening of pizza & music, 7:00 Next Sunday: PALM SUNDAY (Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt ... service of 1st Communion, 2:00) Also ---- *Easter flower forms ... in narthex *Youth group retreat deposits and registration *Holy Week ---- Thursday, March 29, 7:30 ... Friday the 30th, noon & 7:30 ... Easter, 7:00, 8:30, 11:00 ... with breakfast from 7:30 – 10:30 ----- "love is in the aire" **Men's Club, Wed., March 28, 6:30/Papa Joe's