



St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.

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**OUR  
GREATEST  
NEEDS**

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## **Welcome to Worship!**

The more widespread a need is, the more urgent is it to meet that need. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve created a need for all people of all time: the need for salvation. All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; all need a Savior. In his grace, God declared his love for the world and promised to send a Savior who was meant for all people. And all those who receive him by faith—by the free gift of the Holy Spirit—will one day experience this salvation in full through an eternity in heaven.

Our capital campaign emphasis also continues this weekend. In his grace, God has indeed met our deepest need. How can we possibly thank him for this generous gift? By also being generous and making needed adjustments to joyfully and thankfully respond to God's grace. May this generous giving be done to the glory of God!

## **Worship Notes**

It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.

If you need assistance with anything during worship—including large-print service folders and assisted listening devices—please ask one of our ushers. Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area. Small children can be taken into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed during the worship service. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.

During the offering, all worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder or located online at [www.sjtosa.org/Connect](http://www.sjtosa.org/Connect)). Completed cards may be placed in the baskets by the exit.

## **Lord's Supper**

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in our worship today. Scripture tells us that the Lord's Supper is an expression of unity in God's Word and a privilege reserved for those who have publicly confessed their oneness in faith. Therefore, we ask guests who are not members of WELS or ELS congregations to refrain from communion until such oneness can be established. We do not intend to be exclusive and unloving. Rather, we desire to faithfully carry out the teaching of Scripture and further explore God's Word with you in the hope that we may eventually enjoy such "communion fellowship" together. For more information, please speak with one of our pastors.

# The Second Sunday in Lent

March 4 & 5, 2023

Our Greatest Needs: A Gift for the World

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## Prelude

### Opening Hymn

*Please stand to sing the final stanza*

Christ Alone the World's Redeemer

*Christian Worship 878*

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

**Amen.**

### Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

*Please kneel*

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Please stand*

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

Kyrie

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **The Word**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

Genesis 12:1–8

*By faith, Abraham believed God's promise that one of his descendants would be a gift for the world.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

<sup>2</sup>"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you;  
I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

<sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse;  
and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. <sup>5</sup>He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

<sup>6</sup>Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

<sup>8</sup>From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day (Saturday)

Psalm 121 (see pg. 15)

## Psalm of the Day (Sunday)

Adult Choir

Psalm 121

by Hal H. Hopson

*Refrain:* Help comes only from the LORD, the maker of heav'n and earth.

I look high to the hills. From where shall come my help?  
My help comes only from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. *Refrain*

God will not let you fall, the guardian of your life never sleeps.  
No, never sleeps, nor slumbers, the guardian of Israel true. *Refrain*

God is your help and shade, ever near to protect and guide you.  
The sun shall not strike you by day; the moon shall not harm you by night. *Refrain*

God protects your life, yes, guards your body and soul;  
your going out, your coming in, both now and forevermore. *Refrain*

## Second Reading

Romans 4:1–5,13–17

*Abraham did not earn salvation but rather received it through the gift of faith.*

<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? <sup>2</sup>If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. <sup>3</sup>What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

<sup>4</sup>Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. <sup>5</sup>However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. <sup>14</sup>For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, <sup>15</sup>because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. <sup>17</sup>As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

John 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## Gospel

John 3:1–17

*Jesus shared God's love for the world with Nicodemus and gave him the gift of faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

<sup>4</sup>“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

<sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup>You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

<sup>10</sup>"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. <sup>12</sup>I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **Anthem (Sunday)**

*Adult Choir*

God So Loved the World

*by John Stainer*

God so loved the world  
that he gave his only begotten Son,  
that whoso believeth in him  
should not perish but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son  
into the world to condemn the world,  
but that the world through him might be saved.

God so loved the world  
that he gave his only begotten Son,  
that whoso believeth in him  
should not perish but have everlasting life.

God so loved the world.

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## Hymn of the Day

God Loved the World So That He Gave  
*Christian Worship 570*

## Sermon

John 3:1-17

*Jesus Spends and Saves*

*Please stand*

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Church

Heavenly Father, you created this world and everything in it. You formed the seas and the dry land; you set the stars in the heavens; you made us the crown of your creation and formed us in your own image.

**Teach us to use our gifts in service to you as we carry out our callings to be stewards of your creation.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you descended to this world to redeem us from sin and death and hell. You shed your holy, precious blood in our place that we might live with you one day in heaven.

**Teach us to use our gifts in service to you as we carry out our callings to share the good news of your life, death, and resurrection.**

Holy Spirit, you came to us through Word and Sacrament and worked faith in our hearts. You call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify your Church on earth and keep us with all believers in the one true faith.

**Teach us to use our gifts in service to you as we carry out our callings to live sanctified lives and daily grow in our knowledge of you and your Word.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow*

Triune God, in you we live and move and have our being. We praise and thank you for forgiving our sins and remembering them no more.

**Teach us to use our gifts in service to you that many more may also be brought into the family of believers. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Offering

*Members of St. John's give offerings to support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors are welcome but not obligated to give an offering. All worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder). Physical offerings and Connection Cards can be left in the basket on your way out of church. To submit your offering electronically or fill out a Connection Card online, scan the QR code or visit [www.sjtosa.org/offering](http://www.sjtosa.org/offering).*



*Please stand*

# The Sacrament

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,



heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## Lamb of God

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us.



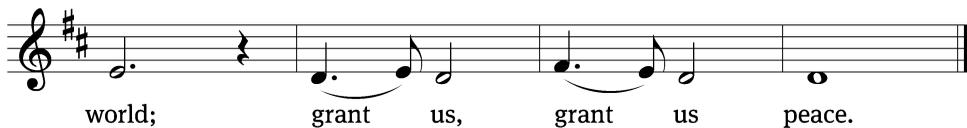
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



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*Be seated*

*The Scriptures teach us that receiving the Lord’s Supper is a public declaration of shared belief. Therefore, we ask our guests who are not members of a WELS or ELS congregation to refrain from receiving the Lord’s Supper until they have had the opportunity to talk with one of our pastors about our beliefs and practice.*

*To receive communion, please proceed down the center aisle and exit via the side aisles. Grape juice is available in the center of the individual cup tray for those unable to receive wine. Personal prayers for communion can be found on pg. 17 of the service folder.*

## **Distribution Hymns**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending  
*Christian Worship 749*

There Is a Redeemer  
*Christian Worship 519*

I Come, O Savior, to Your Table  
*Christian Worship 670*

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.  
Go † in peace.

*Please stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.**

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **Closing Hymn**

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice (st. 5)

*Christian Worship 557*

## **Announcements**

## **Postlude**

## **Acknowledgments**

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## Psalm 121

### Refrain



Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.



Hide me, hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.

### Tone



I lift up my eyes to the / mountains—  
where does my help / come from?  
My help comes / from the LORD,  
the maker of heav- / en and earth.  
He will not let your / foot slip—  
he who watches over you will not / slumber;  
indeed, he who watches over / Israel  
will neither slum- / ber nor sleep. *Refrain*

The LORD watches / over you—  
the LORD is your shade at / your right hand;  
the sun will not harm / you by day,  
nor the / moon by night.  
The LORD will keep you / from all harm—  
he will watch o- / ver your life;  
the LORD will watch over your coming and / going  
both now and for- / evermore.

**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. *Refrain***

## Serving at Worship

<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Eric Schroeder
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Seminary Student Christian Willick (Saturday) Pastor Joel Leyrer (Sunday)
<b>Musicians</b>	Rachel Wendland, piano (Saturday) Lynn Kozlowski, organ (Sunday)
<b>Adult Choir Director</b>	Adam Sipe
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Jon Johnson & Greg Martin (8:00 a.m.) Adam Goede & Mike Swenson (10:30 a.m.)

## In Our Prayers

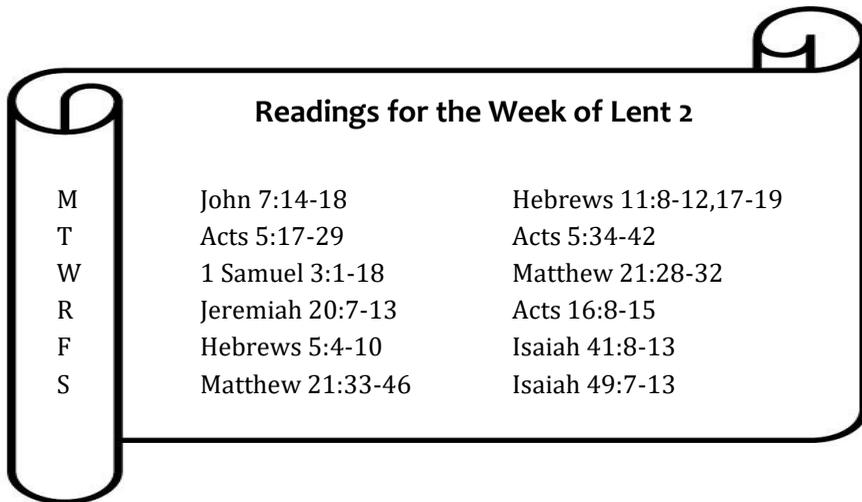
- Family and friends of Tony Konkol, whom the Lord called to his side last Friday at the age of 56 and whose Christian Victory Service will be held at St. John's on Saturday, March 11, at 2:00 p.m.

### Personal Prayer for Before Communion

May the receiving of your body and blood, Lord Jesus Christ, not bring me to judgment and condemnation, but through your loving mercy be for me forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Amen.

### Personal Prayer for After Communion

I thank you, O Lord my God, that you have not rejected me – a sinner – but have made me worthy to partake of your body and blood in this sacrament. Through the gifts I have received here, cause me to always remember your grace and not live for myself alone, but for you. Amen.



Readings for the Week of Lent 2		
M	John 7:14-18	Hebrews 11:8-12,17-19
T	Acts 5:17-29	Acts 5:34-42
W	1 Samuel 3:1-18	Matthew 21:28-32
R	Jeremiah 20:7-13	Acts 16:8-15
F	Hebrews 5:4-10	Isaiah 41:8-13
S	Matthew 21:33-46	Isaiah 49:7-13

## Parents' Preview for March 12

The Parents' Preview highlights an aspect of next week's service: a liturgical song, a Psalm refrain, or a hymn stanza. Our hope and prayer is that parents will teach this portion of the service to their children at home during the week so that children can participate more fully in the worship service.

### Take the World, But Give Me Jesus (*Christian Worship 699*, refrain)

*Refrain*

Oh, the height and depth of mer - cy! Oh, the  
length and breadth of love! Oh, the full - ness of re -  
demp - tion, pledge of end - less life a - bove!

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a single staff with lyrics underneath. The second and third staves continue the melody and lyrics. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together. There are several slurs over phrases like 'height and depth' and 'full - ness of re - demp - tion'. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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# Lent Worship Opportunities

With the exception of March 22, midweek Lent services are held on Wednesdays at 3:30 (broadcast online) and 6:45 p.m.

**March 8: Midweek Lent 3**

His Final Steps Led to His Father's House

**March 15: Midweek Lent 4**

His Final Steps Led to His Enemies

**March 22: Midweek Lent 5  
(single service at 6:30 p.m.)**

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary choir

**March 29: Midweek Lent 6**

His Final Steps Led to Some Greeks

**April 6: Maundy Thursday**

3:30 & 6:45 p.m. worship with Holy Communion

**April 7: Good Friday**

1:00 p.m. worship with Holy Communion  
6:45 p.m. Tenebrae worship

**April 9: Easter Sunday**

6:00 a.m. sunrise worship  
8:30 & 10:30 a.m. festival worship



# The Mission of our Church

As God's people gathered together at St. John's, we live to declare the praises of our Savior God who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of his grace.

As 21<sup>st</sup> century disciples of Jesus, we reflect the light of God's love by:



Making worship of our Savior the top priority in our lives



Growing in our faith through daily contact with God's Word



Fostering Christian friendships for mutual encouragement and support



Using our unique gifts to glorify God and serve God's people



Sharing the good news of God's forgiving love with others

## Worship Services

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

## Worship in Chinese

Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.

## Pastors

*Pastor Joel Leyrer*  
[joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org](mailto:joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org)

*Pastor Eric Schroeder*  
[eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org](mailto:eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org)

*Pastor Joel Schwartz*  
[joel.schwartz@sjtosa.org](mailto:joel.schwartz@sjtosa.org)

## Chinese Outreach

### Pastor

*Pastor Joshua Yu*  
[joshua.yu@sjtosa.org](mailto:joshua.yu@sjtosa.org)

## School Principal

*Mr. Dan Markgraf*  
[dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org](mailto:dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org)

## Church Office

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**[sjtosa.org](http://sjtosa.org)**