ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



EASTER SUNDAY 31 MARCH 2024

WELCOME - TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER!

For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?
- Are you sorry for your sin?
- Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?
- Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?
- Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor

Series Theme

"Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29) That was John the Baptist's powerful witness to Jesus at the Jordan River when the Savior came to be baptized by him. The image of a lamb is used frequently in both the Old and New Testaments to describe the Messiah as well as the sinful people He came to save. This Lenten season we gathered to examine and to meditate on some of these Biblical pictures of...

THE LAMB

As We Gather

Easter Sunday

"The Lamb That Was Slain"

Jesus' revelation to St. John in exile has always fascinated people. It is unusual, it is moving, and it is powerful. And it involves a tremendous reversal. A Lamb that was brutally slain ends up triumphant and in charge. He is sitting on His Father's throne, ruling the nations and loving His blood-bought people for eternity. To Him we sing our glad "Alleluias!" of joy and gratitude.

Stewardship Verse

Psalm 127:1

Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.

★ Preparation ★

Paschal Candle

The light of this candle symbolizes that the Light of Lights, Jesus Christ, who appeared to be extinguished forever on Good Friday, is alive. The candle will burn for the next 40 days to remind us that Jesus was present visibly for 40 days before He ascended into heaven. Following the Ascension celebration, the candle will be re-lighted at every Baptism, symbolizing the new life that comes to us through Baptism, and also at every funeral to remind us that God welcomes His children back to live forever with Him.

stand

Lighting of the Paschal Candle: (From the Back)

- P May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness in our hearts.
- C Light of God, brighten the darkness of our lives with the presence of Your risen Son.

Paschal Candle Procession

As the candle is brought forward, the worshippers turn toward the candle as it is carried to the altar area. Each response grows a little louder.

- P Behold the Light of Christ!
- C Thanks be to God!
- P Behold the Light of Christ!
- C Thanks be to God!
- P Behold the Light of Christ!
- C Thanks be to God!

Easter Announcement

- P The angel told the startled women who came to Jesus' tomb: "Why do look for the living among the dead? He is not here. The Lord is risen!"
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Processional Hymn



- P Brothers and sisters in Christ: On this joyous morning, we celebrate that Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, has defeated sin, death, and the devil. We join our voices with Christians everywhere in praising our risen Lord.
- C "Death has been swallowed up in victory! Where, O death, is your victory? Where O death, is your sting?"
- P "The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is in the law."
- C "But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" (1 Corinthians 15: 54-57)
- P Death, be not proud. Death, thou shalt die!
- C For Christ is risen and reigns upon His throne! Alleluia!

Confession And Absolution

- P Let us confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.
- All O God our Father, like a sheep that has gone astray, I am lost in sin. I sin by what I say and don't say, by what I do and don't do, and even by what I think and don't think. I sin because I am sinful. Already when I was conceived I was spiritually sick and lost and was wandering from You. I beg You, O God, to pour out Your grace and mercy upon me and upon all Your lost people. Search for us in Your love and find us with the salvation earned for us by Your Son, our Good Shepherd Jesus, who died to pay for our sins and then rose again on Easter morning to love us forever.
- P God has forgiven you all your sins! Jesus Christ has taken our sin to the cross and shed His blood for our forgiveness. We have been buried with Him in Baptism and have risen with Him to new life. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I, therefore announce the grace of God to all of you and in the stead and by the command of our Risen Savior, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P This is the day the Lord has made!
- C Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray...

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit,

All through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

* Word *

First Lesson Isaiah 25:6-9

R The First Lesson for Easter Sunday is from the twenty-fifth chapter of Isaiah.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples

a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,

of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷ And he will swallow up on this mountain

the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸ He will swallow up death forever;

and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,

and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,

"Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.

This is the LORD; we have waited for him;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

- R This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Epistle 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

R The Epistle is from the fifteenth chapter of first Corinthians

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

- R This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

stand

Gospel Processional

While the following verse is sung, the pastor will move to the center of the congregation. The people stand and face the center from where the Gospel is read in the midst of the people to symbolize the living message among us



Holy Gospel Mark 16:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.



When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴ And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶ And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸ And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

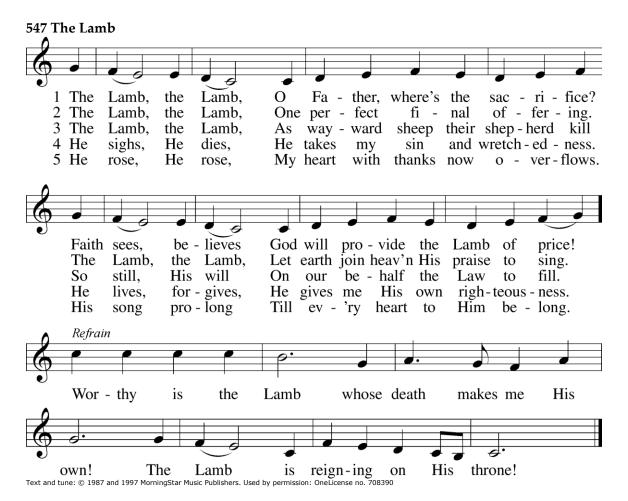
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

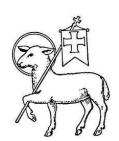


sit

Children's Message

Theme Hymn





Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.



Song of Victory

Stanzas 1, 3 & 4 Women & Girls, Stanza's 2 & 5 Men and Boys



Prayer of the Church

P Risen and reigning Lamb of God, we come before Your throne of grace rejoicing in Your resurrection and praying in confidence for Your mercy upon us and all people as they have need.

Brief Silence

- P Blessed Holy Spirit, You raised up our Lord Jesus from death to prove the fulfillment of Your promises and to assure us that our sins are forgiven and eternal life has been prepared for us and all believers. Keep us in this holy joy, that in all the days of our trials and troubles we may remember His triumph. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Blessed Lord, You have given us hope and established us in the peace of our Savior. Give also to Your Church the boldness to speak without fear the message of the cross and empty tomb. Raise up faithful pastors and layman boldly to serve others in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Blessed Lord, bless those who serve on our behalf in the Armed Forces of our nation, including Bless also those who serve as police, prison guards and chaplains, firefighters and emergency medical personnel. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Blessed Lord, You raised up Christ as Lord of life and of death. Deliver the sick from their illness, give relief to all who suffer, bestow comfort to the grieving and keep the dying in perfect peace [especially those whom we name before You: ______], that wherever people cry to You they may know Your mercy and grace is sufficient for their every need. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Blessed Lord, You give to us this Holy Sacrament as the remembrance of our Lord in His suffering and the foretaste of His feast to come. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and to drink His blood, that we may receive from this Holy Communion every gift and blessing He imparts, especially our unity of faith and life as God's people in this place. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

- P Blessed Lord, You bid us come to You with confidence that You will hear and answer the prayers of Your people who pray through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Grant to us all things needful and keep from us all things harmful to us and to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

sit

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

Choir Anthem

"Christus Resurrexit"

Gordon Young

stand

Offertory Prayer

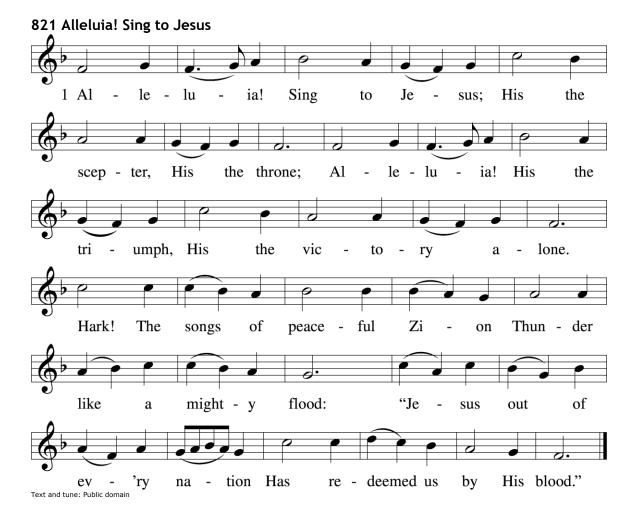
- P Heavenly Father, our living praise is offered...
- C ...to our Living Lord, Jesus Christ, the triumphant Lamb of God.
- P Receive these offerings,
- C with our very lives,
- P as living sacrifices.
- C Use them as You wish,
- P to bring life and light to all the world.
- C Amen.

* Sacrament *

Preface

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
- C for His steadfast love endures forever!
- P Let Israel say,
- C "His steadfast love endures forever."
- P This is the day the Lord has made!
- C Let us rejoice and be glad in it! (Based on Psalm 118: 1-2, 24)

P It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; but chiefly are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world. By His death He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Words of Institution/The New Covenant

Lord's Prayer

All Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

All may share a sign of God's peace.

sit

Music During Communion

"With High Delight, Sing Praise"

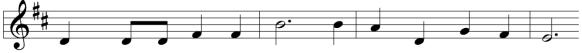
G.F. Handel, arr. Hopson St. John's Senior Choir

"Alleluia"

Ned Rorem Rebecca Hemminger, voice Dana Shinneman, piano



525 Crown Him with Many Crowns



1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;

The God

- 2 Crown Him the vir gin's Son,
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Be hold His hands and side,
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri-umphed o'er the grave
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En-throned in worlds a bove,



Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own. Whose arm those crim-son tro-phies won Which now His brow a-dorn: Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri-fied. And rose vic - to-rious in the strife For those He came to save. Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Fruit of the mys-tic rose, No an - gels in the sky His glo-ries now we sing, Crown Him with man - y crowns Of Him who died for thee, And Yet of that rose the stem. The Can ful - ly bear that sight, But Who died and rose on high, Who As thrones be - fore Him fall; Crown

in - car - nate born,



hail Him as thy match-less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty. root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem. down-ward bend their won-d'ring eyes At mys - ter - ies SO bright. e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die. ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He is king all. Text and tune: Public domain

stand

Hymn of Thanks



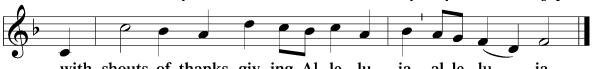
Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

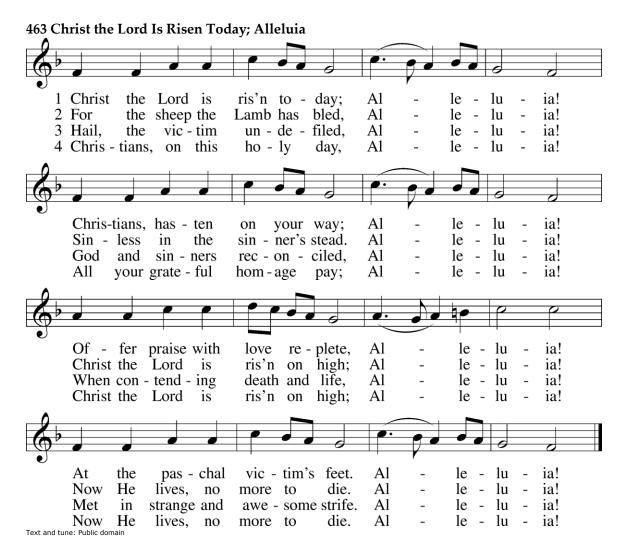
Post-Communion Prayer

- P Your death is proclaimed in this meal.
- C Christ has died!
- P Fortified with these gifts, let us proclaim Your resurrection to this dying world.
- C Christ is risen!
- P Until the day You come again as victorious Lord of all.
- C Christ will come again! Amen.

Benediction

- P May the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good so that you may be doing His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory forever and ever.
- C Amen.
- P Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Closing Hymn



Announcements

Postlude

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Serving in Worship

Rev. Ronald Weidler, Presiding
The Senior Choir of St. John 's Lutheran Church
Mrs. Rebecca Hemminger, Voice
Mr. Dana Shinneman, Piano
Mr. Hardin Butcher, Trumpet
Mr. Gregory Ceurvorst, Director of Music

Mission Notes

SUNDAY SCHOOL
TRUTH TRAVELERS (JR HIGH)
ADULT BIBLE STUDY
BIBLE STUDY/SMALL GROUP
BIBLE STUDY/SMALL GROUP
WOMENS' SMALL GROUP
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
CHOIR PRACTICE
CONFIRMATION CLASS
PICKLEBALL
TRIP ORDER

Sundays, 9:25, Music Rm (Second Floor)
Sundays, 9:25AM, Youth Rm (Basement)
Sundays, 9:25AM, Heritage Rm
Sundays, 6PM, Offsite
Mondays, 7PM, Zoom
Tuesdays, 8:45AM, Heritage Rm
Wednesdays, 9AM, Heritage Rm
Wednesdays, 7pm, 2nd Floor, Music/Choir Rm
Wednesdays, 6:30PM, Heritage Rm
Thursdays, 6:30PM, Gym
April 8 & 22

Looking for an easy way to contribute to the Mission of St. John's Lutheran Church and School? Use this QR Code to be able to give a one-time or recurring donation to the fund of your choice, by credit/debit card, or checking account.



The **altar flowers** are given by Kary Tosch-Higgins to the Glory of God and in honor of her father Don Tosch's 83rd birthday, as well as by the Fukar and Mannes families in loving memory of Kenneth W. Fukar, who went to heaven 7 years ago today and is celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord in heaven.

The Altar Guild would like to thank all who purchased lilies to beautify the Sanctuary in celebration of our Risen Lord this Easter morning!

Given to the Glory of God for Blessings Received:

Tom and Lynne Braun	Mary and Tom Demski	Ralph and Chris Kirchenberg
Sharon Broz	Marie A. Fukar	Jack and Jeannette Nord
Amy Buonassisi	Ron and Ruth Gallman	Kathleen Pacini

Given To the Glory of God:

Sharon Broz	Harlan and Judy Hirt	Mary and Bill Newren
Ron and Ruth Gallman	The Hubacek Family	Marjorie Newpher
Mary Grether	Renee Hull	Art Schroeder

In Honor of Someone or Occasion:

In honor of our 49th anniversary from Jeannette and Jack Nord

Given to the Glory of God in memory of loved ones:

In memory of Brian Przyzycki	

In memory of my parents, Vernon and Alida Millsap, on what would have been their 71st wedding anniversary on April 1, from Margery Bobysud

from Iulie Barnstable

In memory of Ray and Betty Heger from Karen Ciango In memory of Donald Long from Cheryl Haugen

In memory of Ann Hubacek from The Hubacek Family

In loving memory of my dad, David Pilarczyk, from Benjamin Pilarczyk



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In memory of my parents, Robert and Shirley Pyritz, and my brother, William Pyritz, from Joann Pyritz

In memory of my mom, Pamela Kresmery, from The Shilney Family

In loving memory of Pastor David Smith from Marnie Smith