



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 10, 2026

AS WE GATHER



Throughout our lives, we look for a helper. Maybe that's a parent who can hold our hand to cross the street, a spouse who can open the pickle jar, or an expert who delivers wisdom we don't have. Our Lord Jesus Christ sends us a helper, the promised Holy Spirit. The Spirit opens our heart to faith and then fills it with heavenly wisdom. Present in our Baptism and present today in worship, the Spirit keeps our hand firmly in our Savior's, so that linked by love, we can walk confidently in His promises.

THE PRELUDE

THE TOLLING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION HYMN

821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on



scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the
left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is
earth our food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the



tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.
near us; Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.
sin - ful Flee to You from day to day.



Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der
Though the cloud from sight re - ceived Him When the
In - ter - ces - sor, Friend of sin - ners, Earth's Re -

like a might - y flood: “Je - sus out of
for - ty days were o’er, Shall our hearts for -
deem - er, hear our plea Where the songs of

ev - ’ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood.”
get His prom - ise: “I am with you ev - er - more”?
all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Our help is in the name of the LORD,
C who made heaven and earth.
P Jesus said, “I will not leave you as orphans;
C I will come to you.”
P So we can confidently say,
C “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?”

CONFESSION OF SINS

Kneel. Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **+** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

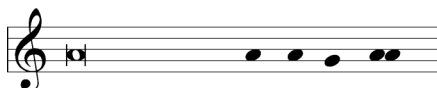
C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE

Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



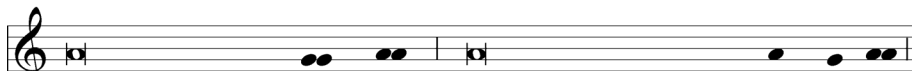
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



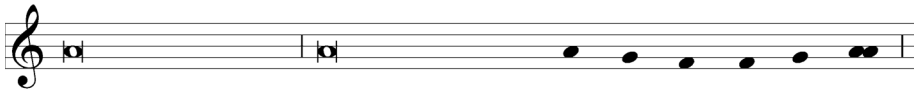
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



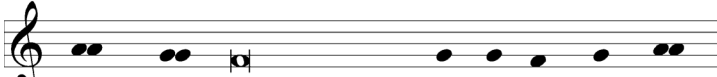
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer-cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



G A - men.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE: This is the Feast



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



G Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and strength and



hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-

lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

A The First Reading is from Acts, chapter 17.

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities” —because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for

*“In him we live and move and have our being’;
as even some of your own poets have said, “For we are indeed his offspring.”*

²⁹Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

- A** Bless our God, O peoples;
let the sound of his praise be heard,
- C** **who has kept our soul among the living
and has not let our feet slip.**
- A** For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.
- C** **You brought us into the net;
you laid a crushing burden on our backs;**
- A** you let men ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.
- C** **I will come into your house with burnt offerings;
I will perform my vows to you,**
- A** that which my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.
- C** **I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals,
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**
- A** Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for my soul.
- C** **I cried to him with my mouth,
and high praise was on my tongue.**
- A** If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.
- C** **But truly God has listened;
he has attended to the voice of my prayer**
- A** Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me!

EPISTLE

1 Peter 3:13–22

- A** The Epistle is from 1 Peter, chapter 3.

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is

18⁴I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

21Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON HYMN

556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joi-ce, With ex - ul - ta - tion
2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death brood-ed dark - ly
3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer - it
4 But God had seen my wretch-ed state Be - fore the world's foun -



spring-ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly
o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; In sin - ly
gain - ing; Free will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, Dead to all
da - tion, And mind - ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for



rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How
moth-er bore me. But dai - ly deep - er still I fell; My
good re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair Left
my sal - va - tion. He turned to me a fa - ther's heart; He



His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!
life be - came a liv - ing hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
on - ly death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suf - fered.
did not choose the eas - y part But gave His dear - est trea - sure.

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Kneel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, we give You thanks and praise for the new life and salvation with which You have brought beauty into our lives and our world again through the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray that You open the ears of all who hear Your Word, that this salvation come to many in true repentance and faith, the gift of Your own Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.




- P** Send Your Spirit mightily, especially upon those called to preach, proclaim, and teach Your life-giving Word. Guide all pastors, teachers, and servants of the Church to be faithful in word and deed. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** To all who bear the authority of government in our land, give Your blessing, that tranquility and peace rule our days. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord God, we thank you for the gift of our mothers. We pray for their strength, comfort, and joy today. Bless them for their sacrificial love and guide them with wisdom. May they feel loved, appreciated, and supported, not just today, but every day. Fill their hearts with your peace and presence. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Visit with Your peace and healing all who suffer illness, injury, or any painful difficulty, [*especially* . . .]. Let not their hearts be troubled or weighed down with any fear but lift their eyes to Your sure and certain promises of eternal life and joy. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** With reverence and affection, we remember before You, O everlasting God, all our departed family and friends who have followed Christ and now are with Him in glory. By Your grace, keep us faithful and steadfast, that we see the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Sit

OFFERING

Ways to Give	IN-PERSON 	MAIL 505 S Park Road La Grange IL 60525	ONLINE VANCO 	zelle  directpay@stjohnslagrange.org
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WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

arr. Robert Scholz (1902-1986)



*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul.
What wondrous love us this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.*

Stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C** 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.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

501 Come Down, O Love Divine



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; Seek Thou this soul of mine,
2 O let it free - ly burn, Till world - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty Mine out - ward ves - ture be
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, With which the soul will long,



And vis - it it with Thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
To dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
And low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
Shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; With - in my heart ap - pear,
And let Thy glo - rious light Shine ev - er on my sight,
True low - li - ness of heart, Which takes the hum - bler part,
No soul can guess His grace Till it be - come the place



And kin - dle it, Thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
And clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
And o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
Where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes His dwell - ing.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE



SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist & Liturgist

Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist

The Cantata Choir | 8:00am

Dana Shinneman, Piano

TBD, Lector | 8:00am

Chad Hemminger, Lector | 10:45am

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers at the Altar today are given to the Glory of God by Paul and Jessica Connor.

Happy heavenly birthday Christopher Beste Connor.

It would be your 31st birthday today. Love and miss you, Mom and Dad.

MUSIC FUND OF ST. JOHN'S

The Music Ministry at St. John's is entirely supported by the generosity of our congregation through contributions to the Music Fund. This fund enables us to offer uplifting and inspirational sacred vocal and instrumental music that enriches our worship and glorifies God.

The three pillars of Christian stewardship—time, talent, and treasure—are essential for any music program to flourish and grow. In that spirit, the Board of Worship invites you to prayerfully consider supporting the Music Fund. White contribution envelopes are available in the pews, and online donations may also be made.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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