



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 14, 2024 | 10:30am

Welcome to St. John's. We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God.

PRELUDE

We stand.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✚ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus, Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

GLORIA

Fast and lively




27 Org.



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

32 *f*



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

35



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,

40



with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

44 *ff* *rit.*



A - - - men, a - - - men, a - - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

WORD

FIRST READING

ACTS 13:12-19

A reading from Acts.

PETER addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL PSALM

Sung by the congregation to the tune of CHESTERFIELD.

PSALM 4

1 O God, defender of my cause,
When I call, answer me;
You set me free when most hard pressed;
Have mercy, hear my plea.

2 “How long will you dishonor me,
You creatures of the dust;
And worship gods that cannot speak
And in false idols trust?”

3 God does great wonders for his own;
When I call, he will hear;
Speak to your heart, then, secretly;
Do not sin; stand in fear.

4 Offer the sacrifice required,
And trust in God’s great might;
While many seek for better times,
Lord, let us see your light.

5 You put more gladness in my heart
Than when our crops increase;
You, Lord, alone make me secure;
I fall asleep in peace.

A reading from First John.

SEE what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

SEQUENCE

PUER NOBIS

That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord!

GOSPEL

LUKE 24:36-48

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the twenty-fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

JESUS himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and

the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SEQUENCE

PUER NOBIS

All praise, O risen Lord, we give
To you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
And God the Spirit, now we raise!

We sit.

SERMON

PASTOR GRORUD

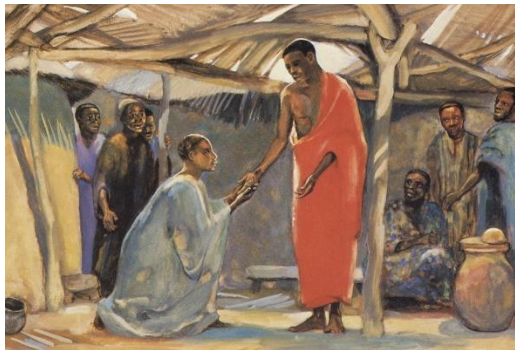
Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

As we gather at your table

HYMN 522



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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.

We kneel or sit for the prayers.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each intercession ends with these words:

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We stand.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We sit.

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

This joyful Eastertide

HYMN 391

We stand.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise Him, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Majestic

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and

might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

Slower

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With all your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with
sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and
forever.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Fa - ther who art in__ hea - ven, Ha - llow'd be thy Name;
Thy king - dom come; thy will be__ done, on earth as it is in hea - ven.
Give us this day our__ dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pass - es as
we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst__ us. And lead us
not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - li - ver us from e - vil. For thine is the

king-dom, the po- wer and the glo- ry, for e - ver and e - ver.
A - men. For e - ver and e - ver. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All who believe that Jesus is present in the bread and wine, forgiving sin and promising eternal life, are welcome to the Table of the Lord. Gluten-free wafers are available if requested.

We sit.

LAMB OF GOD

Slowly and gently

Org. *p*
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
7 *mp*
world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
13 *mf*
sin of the world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you
19 *rit.* *p* *pp* *ppp*
take a-way the sin of the world, grant us peace.

MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

Draw us in the Spirit's tether

HYMN 470

We stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know
and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION Let us talents and tongues employ

HYMN 674

DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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St. Martin's Mass, David Bednall, Oxford Music Press

Lord's Prayer, Traditional Afrikaan's, arr. Marnus Lively-Greyling

Worship Leaders Today

Celebrant	The Rev. Mark Grorud
Organist	Cantor Nathan K. Lively-Greyling
Worship Assistant	Michele Effren
Reader	
Communion Assistant	Roberta Eichler, Shirley Schulz
Acolytes	
Usher	Eric Lane
Altar Committee	Pam Bartlett, Cathy Mahler
Counters	J. Geils, Janet Halpin
Little Free Pantry	Cathy & Mike Mahler
Coffee Hour	Gabe Corredor, Evergreen

Looking Ahead . . .

May 6	New Member Orientation - 6:00 pm
May 19	Last Day of 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday
May 26	9:30 am Summer Worship Schedule
June 2	5:00 pm Third Annual Pride Evensong
June 30	Mass on the Grass Outdoor Worship
July 28	Mass on the Grass & Blessing of the Animals
August 4-11	St. John's Choir in Residence at St. Patrick's Cathedral - Dublin
August 25	Mass on the Grass & Blessing of Backpacks
September 8	Rally Sunday (worship at 8:30 and 10:30 am)

"Just One More" Stewardship Campaign

Members received a letter from Pr. Grorud this week outlining the "what", "why", and "how" of an upcoming stewardship campaign. This campaign is critical to the future ministries of St. John's. Please read the letter carefully and contact Pr. Grorud if you have any questions.

New Member Orientation

On Monday, May 6, 6:00-7:00 pm, a new member orientation session will be held for anyone interested in membership at St. John's Lutheran. This will be a brief overview of our mission and who we are as the people of God at St. John's. Please join us.

New worship assistant and acolyte robes

The Worship and Music Committee has ordered new robes for our acolytes and worship



assistants to replace the current white robes, which are twenty years old. The new robes are due to arrive in April and will match the same color as the current blue choir robes, making them interchangeable for different sizes and will also be fitted with a white scapular that is worn over the robe.

If you would like to help, each robe is \$235, totaling \$3,000. Gifts of any size can be made to the church, marked “robes” in the memo.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Spring is here and it's a busy time for families to begin traveling. It's also a time where sports often seem to take priority from worship. This means that there are many spots to fill, such as readers, assisting ministers, acolytes, Altar guild, communion assistants, fellowship/coffee hour hosts and little free pantry.

It is a great opportunity for you to renew your commitment to assist in leader worship, but it's also an even greater opportunity for you to sign up as a new leader. These are small commitments that have a great impact on our worship.

If you are interested in signing up for one of these slots, email Nancy or Nathan. You can also sign up directly for worship leaders [here](#) and acolytes [here](#). If this is your first time signing up, easy directions and orientation will be provided.

30-minute orientation for acolytes will be Wednesday, May 8, at 5pm

30-minute orientation for Worship Assistants will be Monday, April 29, at 6:30

30-minute orientation for Altar Guild will be Monday, April 29, at 7pm

Participation in leading worship is a perfect way to deepen your faith and your connection within our faith community at St. John's.

KNIT NIGHT

Bring your crochet, knitting, cross stitch, or other craft to work on in the Sweden Room (room next to office) 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Dates: Apr. 26, May 31, Jun. 21, Jul. 19, Aug. 16, Sep. 27, Oct. 25, and Nov. 22. There will be a Christmas party in December with the quilting group. For more information, please contact Cheryl Milukas at ourgang@milukasfamily.com or 203-656- 0269. I look forward to seeing you there.

MISSION STATEMENT

All are welcome! We share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.

INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church Stamford CT is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Munsee Lenape, Schaghticoke, Mohican, and Wappinger peoples. We give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial and wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.