

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOLY EUCHARIST

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

PRELUDE

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We kneel or stand.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

GREETING

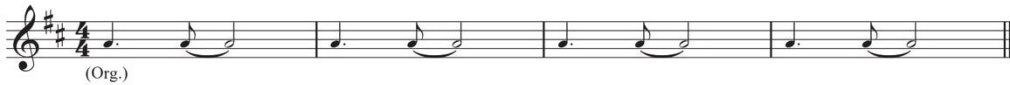
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

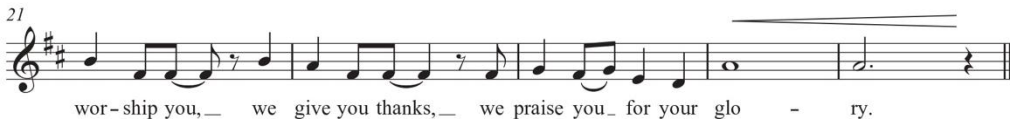
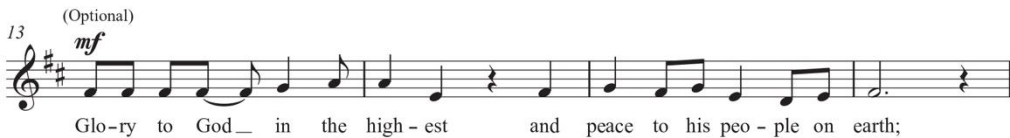
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

GLORIA



Chorus



26 *f*
Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God_ in the high - est,

30
Glo - ry, glo-ry to God,_ glo-ry to God_ in the high - est,

34 *mf*
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son_____ of the__ Fa - ther,

38
Lord God,__ Lamb of God, you take a - way the__ sin of the

41 *mp*
world. Have mer - cy on us; You are seat - ed at__ the right

45
hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive__ our prayer._____

Chorus
CONGREGATION

49 *f*
Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God_ in the high - est,

53 (Optional)
Glo - ry, glo-ry to God,_ glo-ry to God_ in the high - est. For

57 *mf*
you a - lone__ are the Ho - ly One,_ You a - lone_____ are the__ Lord;

61

You a - lone_ are the Most_ High,_ Je - sus_ Christ. With the

65

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

Final Chorus

CONGREGATION

70

Glo - ry, glo-ry to God,_ glo-ry to God_ in the high - est, Glo - ry,

75

glo-ry to God,_ glo-ry to God_ in the high - est. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through 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 LESSON

ACTS 2:42-47

A reading from Acts.

THEY devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods

and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL PSALM

HYMN 778

PSALM 23

SECOND LESSON

I PETER 2:19-25

A reading from I Peter.

FOR it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

HYMN 168

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The holy gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

“**V**ERY truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

PASTOR MARTHA MCCREIGHT

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Dearest Jesus, we are here

HYMN 443

HOLY BAPTISM

The minister and baptismal party gather at the font. The minister addresses each. Following, the congregation joins for the Thanksgiving and the Profession of Faith.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

**Or, He descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Following the baptism, a representative of the congregation says the Welcome.

Through Baptism, God has made this new sister a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.

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 *Christ is risen!*
HYMN 382

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:

mp
(Org.) Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Ho - ly, ho - ly,

5 *cresc. poco a poco*
ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your

8 *mf* *più f* *mf*
glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -

11 *più f*
san - na. ho - san - na in the high - est.

14 *mp*
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,

16 *p* *mf*
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, ho -

19 *più f* *mf*
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho -

21 *più f* *rit.*
san - na, 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

(Org.) *mp*
 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, Lamb of
 4 *p poco*
 God, you take a-way the sin of the world. Have mer-cy on us, have
 7 *mp* *p*
 mer-cy on us, have_ mer - cy. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

10 *p*

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

13 *poco* *mp* *p*

mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy. Lamb of

16 *mp*

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

19 *rit.*

sin of the world, grant us peace, grant us peace,

22 *Slower* *a tempo* *poco rit.*

grant us peace.

MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

Now the green blade rises

HYMN 379

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 *O God, beyond all praising*

HYMN 880

DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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St. Helen's Service, Joanna Forbes-L'Estrange;

Lord's Prayer, trad. Afrikaans, arr/translated by Marnus Lively-Greyling

Worship Leaders Today

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Celebrant | The Rev. Martha McCreight |
| Organist | Cantor Nathan K. Lively-Greyling |
| Worship Assistant | Michele Effren |
| Reader | David Hendrickson |
| Communion Assistant | |
| Acolytes | |
| Usher | Eric Lane |
| Altar Committee | Sheila Koch |
| Counters | J. Geils, Janet Halpin |
| Coffee Hour | Lois Coffin, Shirley Schulz |
| Little Free Pantry | |

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, April 27

4:30 pm Choristers - Choir Room

Tuesday, April 28

7:00 pm Sneak Peek Bible Study

Wednesday, April 29

12:00 pm Weekly Eucharist in the Chapel

4:30 pm Confirmation Class

6:00 pm Handbells – Reformation Room

7:00 pm Choir – Choir Room

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 26** 10:30am Baptism of Rosie Mae Mahler
4:00 pm Evensong for Good Shepherd Sunday
(Live-streamed and in-person worship)

MAY

- 3** 9:30am Sunday School
10 10:30am Mothers' Day - Children Sing in Church
Last Day of Sunday School
17 10:30am Confirmation Sunday and parish picnic
24 Pentecost Sunday
31 Holy Trinity Sunday

JUNE

- 4-6** Synod Assembly - Worcester, MA
6 5:00 pm Pride Eucharist (Live-streamed and in-person worship)
7 9:30 Mass on the Grass - 9:30am Summer Worship begins (No live-stream option this Sunday.)
14 Summer choir begins at 9am
20 Swedish Midsummer Day (Events TBA)



AROUND THE PARISH-

If you're **interested in joining St. John's**, reaching out to the church office is a great first step. The church office can provide information on membership, upcoming events, and the various ministries and programs you can get involved with. Whether you're looking to deepen your faith, find a spiritual community, or volunteer, the church office is there to support and guide you. Don't hesitate to contact them with questions or to schedule a visit to learn more about what St. John's offers.

ACOLYTE SIGN-UP



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, READERS, USHERS, COFFEE HOUR, AND LFP SIGN-UP



PRAYER LIST



Beryl, Charlotte, Diane, Robert, Valerie, Gary, Br. Ian, Pr Harv Weitzel, Trish, Pam, Joe, Robert, Charlotte, Paul, Becky, Margaret, Jack, Cat

If you have someone to add to the prayer list, please email the parish office. Contact Pr Martha for pastoral needs at 406-565-3592.

Choral EVENSONG

SUNDAY, APRIL 26 | 4 PM

My Master from a Garden Rose | Eleanor Daley
Canticles in B-flat | Stanford
Responses | Sarah MacDonald
Psalm 30 | Sarah MacDonald & Margaret Burk
The Lord is my shepherd | Diane Bish



SCAN & SUPPORT
Music @
St John's



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



JOIN US FOR OUR

CHURCH PICNIC

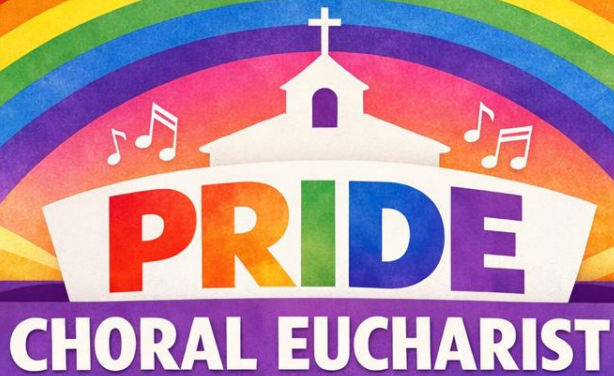
FOLLOWING THE 10:30 SERVICE

Confirmation Sunday

MAY 17



FOOD • GAMES • FUN & FELLOWSHIP!



PRIDE
CHORAL EUCHARIST

Saturday, June 6 | 5:00 PM

St. John's Lutheran Church

Celebrate a joyful and affirming service of Holy Eucharist
with vibrant choral music & inclusive worship.

*Giving thanks for the full inclusion of LGBTQ+ people
in the life of the Church and the world.*



This service is also an option for those who prefer not to attend the outdoor
Mass on the Grass on Sunday, June 7.

All Are Welcome!