



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 21, 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

Org. *f*
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

5
peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al -

9
- migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

13 *mp*
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the

18
Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

22
sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the

27 Org.



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

32 *f*



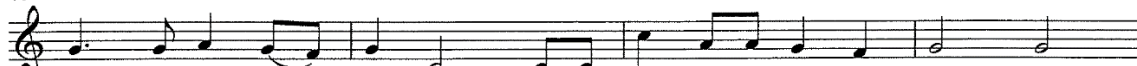
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

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.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

WORD

FIRST READING

ACTS 4:5-12

A reading from Acts.

THE next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’ ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL PSALM *Sung by the choir. Music by Maxine Thevenot (contemporary)*

PSALM 23

- ¹ The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- ² He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- ³ He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name’s sake.
- ⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- ⁵ You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

⁶ Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SECOND READING

1 JOHN 3:16-24

A reading from First John.

WE know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?¹⁸ Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

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

JOHN 10:11-18

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

JESUS said ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches

them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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

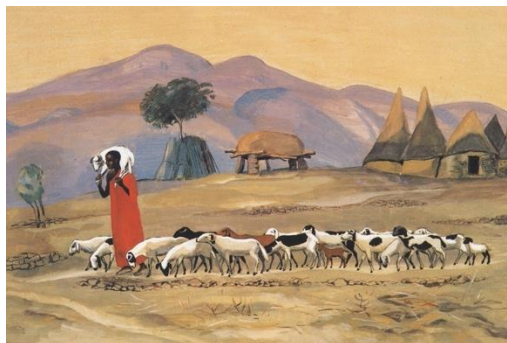
Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!

HYMN 385



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 ANTHEM The Lord is my shepherd RUTTER (*CONTEMPORARY*)

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

6
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

4
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.

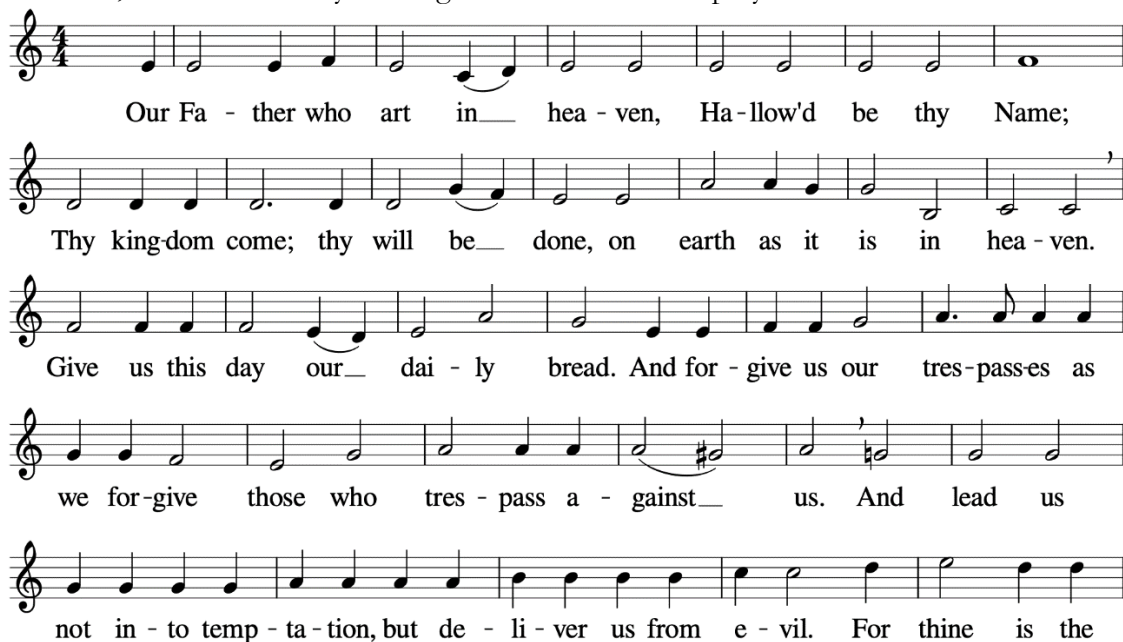
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

7 world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

13 sin of the world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

19 take a-way the sin of the world, grant us peace.

MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

ANTHEM *These are they which follow the lamb* JOHN GOSS

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 Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing

HYMN 544

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 Afrikaans, arr. Marnus Lively-Greyling

Worship Leaders Today

Celebrant	The Rev. Mark Grorud
Organist	Cantor Nathan K. Lively-Greyling
Worship Assistant	Kathy Caraballo
Reader	Connie Feydy
Communion Assistant	Roberta Eichler
Acolytes	
Usher	Eric Lane
Altar Committee	Pam Bartlett and Cathy Mahler
Counters	J. Geils, Janet Halpin
Little Free Pantry	
Coffee Hour	Mary Maitland

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 5:00 pm

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.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, April 22:
Quilting Group -5:30 pm Welcome Room

Tuesday, April 23: Choristers -5:15 pm Choir Room
Exec Committee - 6:15 pm | Council Meeting -7:15 pm

Wednesday, April 24:
Handbells - 6:00 pm Reformation Room
Choir Rehearsal - 7:00 pm Choir Room

Friday, April 26:
Knit Group - 5:30 pm Sweden Room

Sunday, April 28: Worship - 8:30 & 10:30 am
Fellowship Hour - 11:30 am Welcome Room

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.