



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 2025 | 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

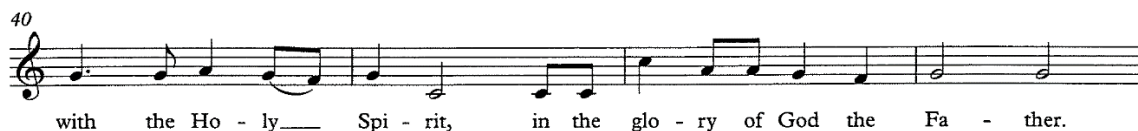
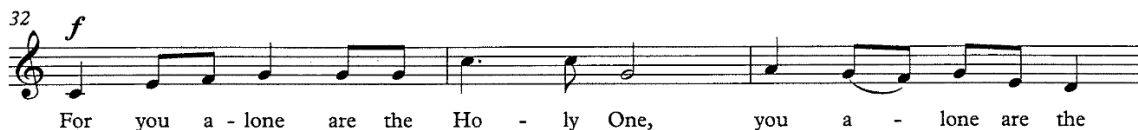
5 peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al -

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, 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 READING

ACTS 9:36-43

A reading from Acts.

NOW in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

REVELATION 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation

AFTER this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

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!

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

AT that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter,²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.”²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me;²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep.²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand.³⁰ The Father and I are one.”

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.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

PASTOR MCCREIGHT

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

At the Lamb’s high feast

HYMN 362

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.

GREETINGS

MEAL

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and
gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

And lo, a great multitude

C V STANFORD

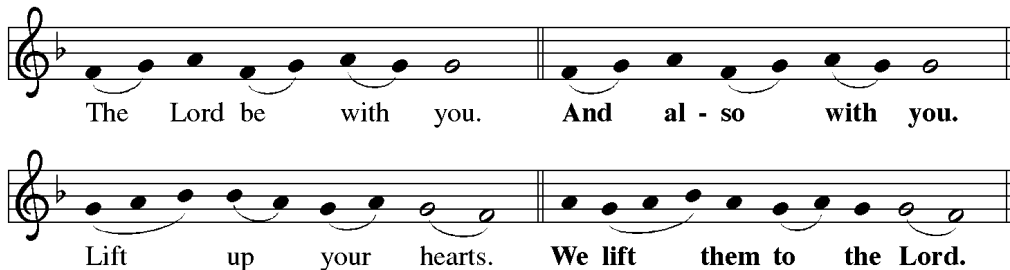
We stand.

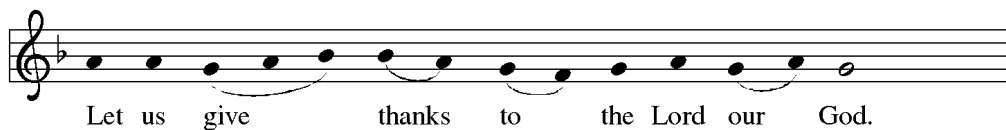
HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

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!

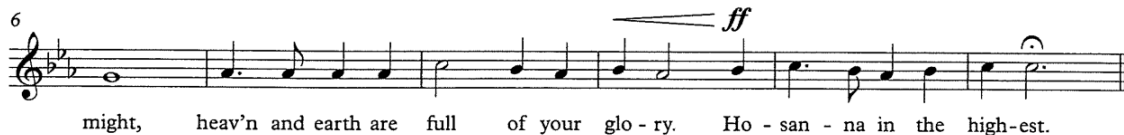
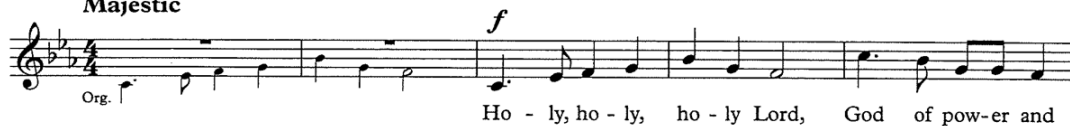
GREAT THANKSGIVING



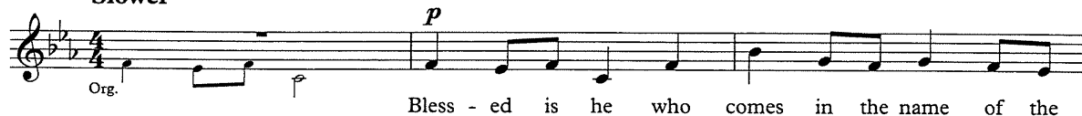


It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Majestic



Slower



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.

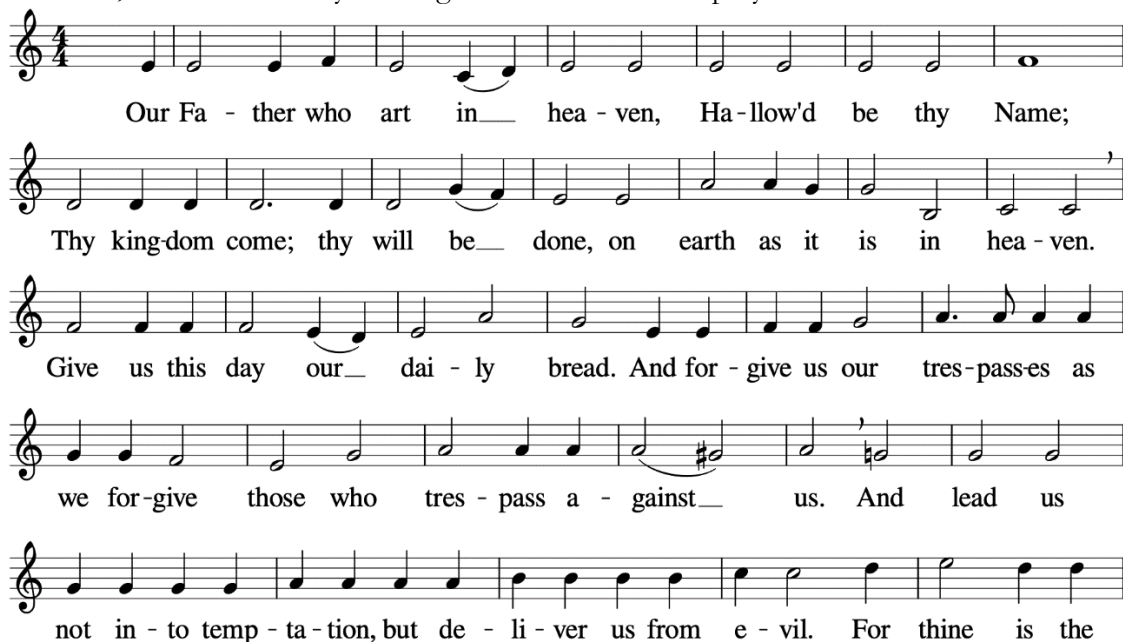
In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

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



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

MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

ANTHEM

Psalm 23

DIANE BISH (CONTEMPORARY)

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

Love divine

BLAENWERN

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2. Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee,
without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Unison 3. Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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. Martha McCreight

Organist Cantor Nathan K. Lively-Greyling

Worship Assistant

Reader

Communion Assistant

Acolytes Charlotte Dianis

Usher

Altar Committee Janet Segerdell

Counters Lois Coffin, Gary Esposito, Pat Fisher

Little Free Pantry Cathy & Mike Mahler

Coffee Hour

This week we pray for . . . Pastor Denis and Carol Albrecht, Andrew, Beryl, Collette, Diane, Don, Jeanette, Joan, Lee, Marie, Nicolette, Sandra, and Shirley.

If you have pastoral needs, please reach out to Pastor Martha by email MMcCreight@sjlcstamford.com or on her cell phone (406)565-3592.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Tuesday, May 13

5:15 pm Choristers Choir Room

7:00 pm Sneak Peak via Zoom

Wednesday, May 14

4:30pm Confirmation Sweden Room

6:00 pm Handbells | 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 16

5:30 pm Quilting Welcome Room

Sunday, May 17

8:30 & 10:30 am Worship

Looking Ahead . . .

May 11	9:30 am Last Day of Sunday School
May 25	9:30 am Summer Worship Schedule Begins
June 1	5:00 pm Fourth Annual Pride Evensong
June 8	9:30 am Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday
June 15	3:00 pm Pastor Martha's Installation Service
June 19	Movie Night Outside 6:30 pm Social 8:30 pm Movie Begins
June 29	Mass on the Grass
July 27	Mass on the Grass
August 7 - 11	Choir trip to Bruton Parish, Williamsburg, VA
August 24	Mass on the Grass & Blessing of Backpacks
September 7	Rally Sunday 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am God's Work Our Hands Service Project 11:30 am Church Picnic
September 14	Return to 8:30 & 10:30 am Worship

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.

WE NEED YOU!

ACOLYTE SIGN-UP



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

