



St. John's Lutheran Church Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

May 12, 2024 | 10:30am

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

PRELUDE

O Divine Redeemer

MCKAYLA FERGUSON, MEZZO

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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

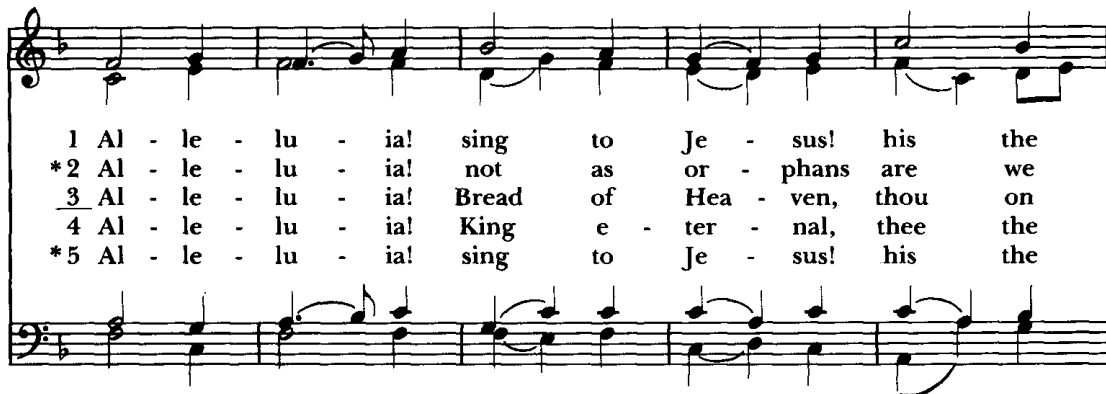
Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive 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.

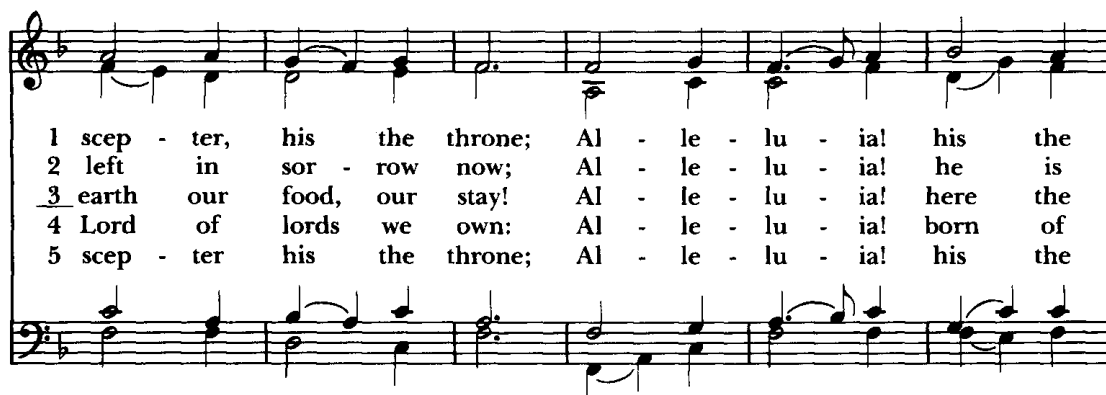
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.



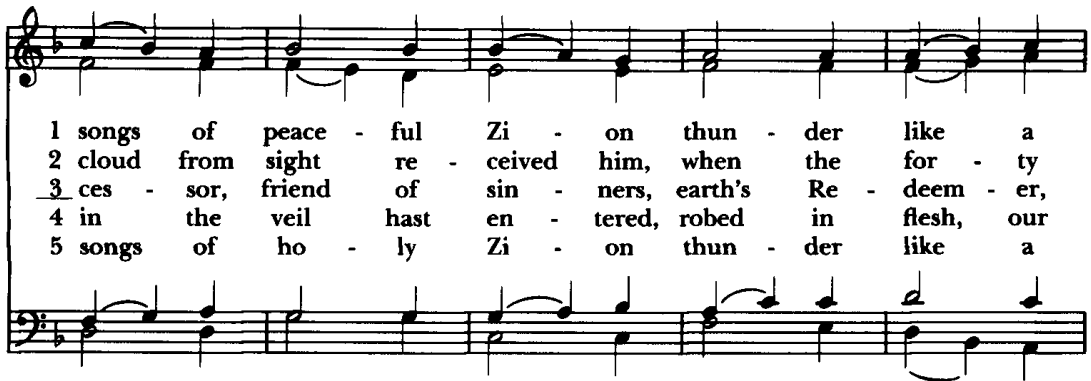
1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
 * 2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of Hea - ven, thou on
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
 * 5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the




1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
 4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of
 5 scep - ter his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the



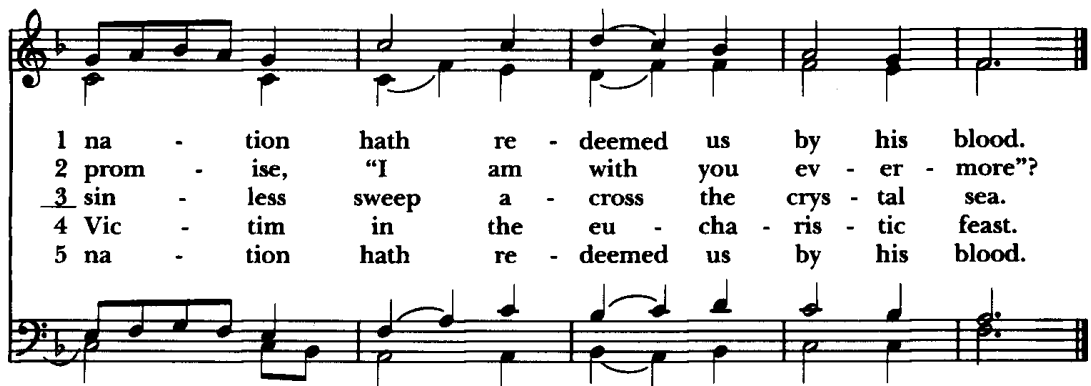
1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the



1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a



1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery



1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

GREETING

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

[Organ] *ff* Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the

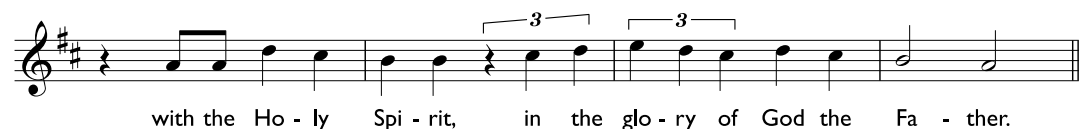
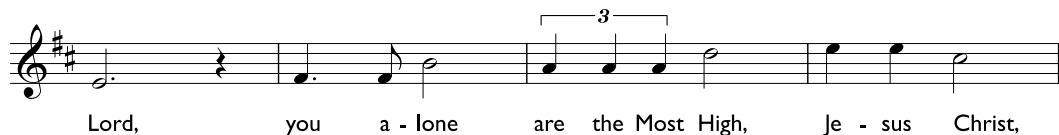
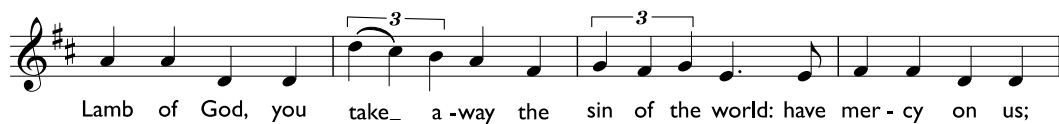
f high - est. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on

earth. Lord God, Heav'n - ly King, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

[ff] *f* Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the high - est. Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the high - est.

mf Lord, Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther. Lord God,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

Life unfolding All children and parents are invited to sing.

WORD

FIRST READING

ACTS 1:1-11

A reading from Acts.

LUKE writes: ¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¹ Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.
² For the Lord Most High is to be feared;
he is the great King over all the earth.
³ He subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.
⁴ He chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
⁵ God has gone up with a shout, *
the Lord with the sound of the
ram's-horn.
⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises; *

sing praises to our King, sing praises.
⁷ For God is King of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.
⁸ God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon his holy throne.
⁹ The nobles of the peoples have gathered
together *
with the people of the God of
Abraham.
¹⁰ The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
and he is highly exalted.

SECOND READING

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

A reading from Ephesians.

I HAVE heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

SEQUENCE

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
And with his faithful followers see their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia! X5

GOSPEL

LUKE 24:44-53

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

JESUS said: to the eleven and those with 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, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”
⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SEQUENCE

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

“You see him now, ascending high
up to the portals of the sky.”
Alleluia! Alleluia!
“Hereafter Jesus you shall see
returning in great majesty.”
Alleluia! X5

We sit.

SERMON

PASTOR GRORUD

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

At the name of Jesus

CAMBERWELL



1. At the name of Je - sus ev' - ry knee shall bow,
2. Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a Name
3. bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,
4. Name him, Chris - tians, name him, with love strong as death,
5. In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
6. Chris-tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



ev' - ry tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;
from the lips of sin - ners, un - to whom he came,
through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,
name with awe and won - der and with ba - ted breath;
all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true;
with His Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;



'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord, who from the be -
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last, brought it back vic -
to the throne of God-head, to the Fa - ther's breast; filled it with the
he is God the Sa - viour, he is Christ the Lord, ev - er to be
crown Him as your Cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour; let His will en -
for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow, and our hearts con -



gin - ning was the migh - ty Word. (organ)
to - rious, when from death he passed.
glo - ry of that per - fect rest.
wor - ship'd, trus - ted, and a - dored.
fold you in its light and power.
fess him King of glo - ry now.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

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

God is gone up!

GERALD FINZI

To support the mission and ministry of St. John's, you can give online at www.stjohnelca.org or see announcements for other ways to give.

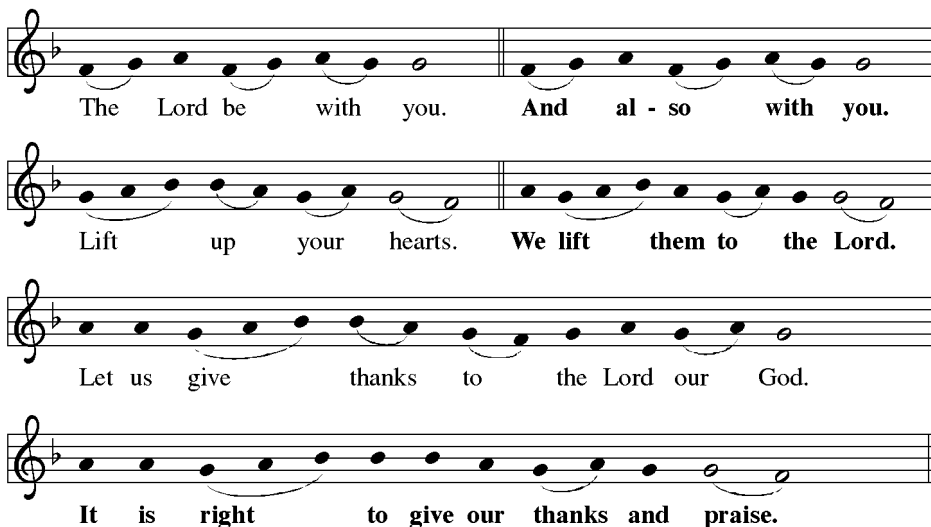
We stand.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
all praise to you let earth accord:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
You are, while endless ages rune,
with Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia! X5

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:

[Organ] *mf* Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and

might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. *f* Ho - san - na,

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

Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

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

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all glory and honor, 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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore, let us keep the feast.

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

[Organ] *mp* Lamb of God, you

mf 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, have mer - cy on us.

mf Lamb of God, *Lamb of*

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

God. *non rall.* *p* 2

world, grant us peace.

MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

ANTHEM

God the omnipotent reigneth

CHARLES WOOD

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

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION *Lord, you give the great commission*

HYMN 579

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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St. Thomas Mass, Thorne

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

Worship Leaders Today

Celebrant	The Rev. Mark A. Grorud
Organist	Cantor Nathan K. Lively-Greyling
Worship Assistant	Peter Bartels
Reader	Susan Ylitalo
Communion Assistant	Anita Gallo, Susan Ylitalo
Acolytes	Charlotte Dianis, Liz Ylitalo
Usher	Eric Lane
Altar Committee	Janet Segerdell
Counters	Lois Coffin, Gary Esposito, Pat Fisher
Little Free Pantry	Shirley Schulz
Coffee Hour	Greta & Mark Schneider

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, May 13

Quilting Group - 5:30 pm Welcome Room

Tuesday, May 14

Choristers - 5:15 pm Choir Room

Sneak Peak - 7:00 pm via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88521189521>

Passcode: 355925

Wednesday, May 15

Choir Rehearsal - 7:00 pm Choir Room

Sunday, May 19

Worship - 8:30 & 10:30 am

Sunday School - 9:30 am Last Day

Confirmation - 10:30 am

Fellowship Hour - 11:30 am Welcome Room

Looking Ahead . . .

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 3-12	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)

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 here and 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.



Third Annual Pride Evensong

Sunday, June 2, 2024 | 5pm

*Celebrating our 31st anniversary
As a Reconciling in Christ congregation!*

*St. John's Lutheran Church | 884 Newfield Avenue, Stamford
All are welcome. We share Christ's love, grow in faith and serve others.*

HOW TO GIVE DIGITALLY TO SUPPORT ST. JOHN'S

(www.stjohnelca.org), texting, or mobile app.

Mobile App Gift – Download the [GivePlus Mobile App](#) on the [App Store](#) or on [Google Play](#), search for St. John's by name or enter the zip code for our church [06905] and give.

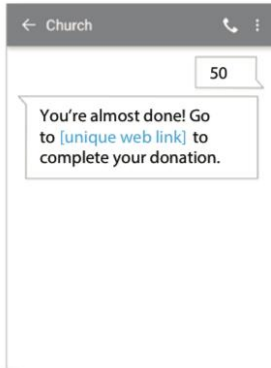
Text Gift – [844-972-2314] – [GivePlus Text](#) makes giving as simple as sending a text message.

How to Use GivePlus Text

Giving is as easy as sending a text with GivePlus.

1. Get Started

Enter your 10-digit GivePlus Text number and the amount you wish donate, then press send.



Church Name

10-Digit GivePlus Text #

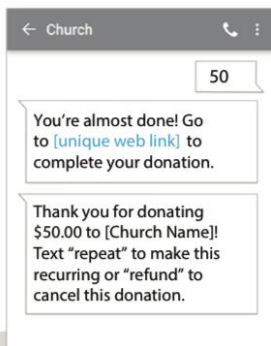
2. Register

You will receive a registration link. Click the link and enter your contact and payment information. Tap "Process."

A screenshot of a registration form. At the top, there are logos for VISA, Mastercard, DISCOVER, and AMERICAN EXPRESS. Below the logos are four input fields: 'Name Of Cardholder', 'Card number', 'MM / YY', and 'CVV'. At the bottom, there is a large orange button with the text 'Process \$50.00'.

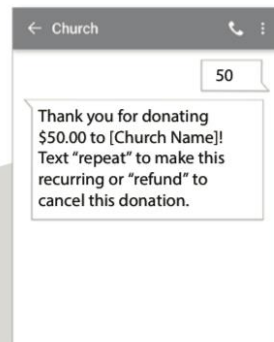
3. Give

After registration is complete, you will receive a verification text as well as a receipt via email.



4. Repeat

For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically.



VANCO

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.