



St. John's Lutheran Church
April 14, 2024

Welcome to St. John's

Thanks for being here today! We feel blessed that you're here and truly pray you find the warmth of our Christian family, the powerful truth of God's Word and the peaceful assurance of His promises. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. To start, everything for our worship is projected on the screens up front and printed here in the service folder. God bless your time with us today. We hope you can worship with us again!

If You're New to St. John's:

You and your kids are welcome. We really love and enjoy having kids in worship and encourage the worshipping family! In fact, our worship often includes a children's message with little ones in mind. And if your children are acting up, please know it's never a bother to our worship service. However, if you do need a quiet place to calm a child, a nursery room is available with screens immediately to the left as you exit the sanctuary. There are also changing stations in each bathroom.

Restrooms are located in the entrance as you came into the building

Make yourself at home. You don't have to rush off after service today. Light refreshments are usually provided in our social hall after worship. If you feel comfortable, please stay and follow up with one of our pastors; we'd be honored if you took a moment to introduce yourself!

Don't feel obligated. Our members give financial offerings to the Lord as an expression of thanks and praise for his amazing love. Please know that you are our guests and we're simply happy you've come to hear about Jesus and His Word today. You're not expected to give an offering; it's your choice.

Cell Phones. To remove as many distractions as possible from worshipping God today, we kindly ask you to silence your phone before the service.

Fill out a Connection Card. We'd love to know you were here and help you take the next step. There are Connection Cards inserted in the worship folders, or they can be completed online. Text "Connect" to 651-401-1400, scan the QR code, or visit www.StJohnsLutheran.com/connection-card to complete the card online.



Welcome to St. John's!

Our Easter Praise: Like the Golden Sun Ascending

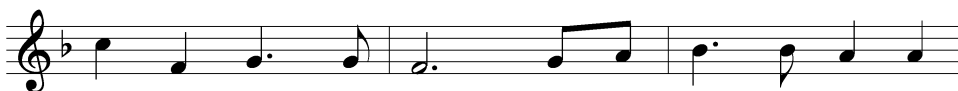
CW 470 sts. 1-2



1 Like the gold - en sun as - cend - ing, break - ing through the
2 Thanks to you, O Christ vic - to - rious! Thanks to you, O



gloom of night, on the earth its glo - ry spend - ing so that
Lord of life! Death has now no pow - er o'er us, you have



dark - ness takes to flight, thus my Je - sus from the
con - quered in the strife. Thanks be - cause you did a -



grave and death's dis - mal, dread - ful cave rose tri -
rise and have o - pened par - a - dise! None can



um - phant Eas - ter morn - ing at the ear - ly pur - ple dawn - ing.
ful - ly sing the glo - ry of the res - ur - rec - tion sto - ry.

(we pray) O Lord, our Heavenly Father, Almighty and Everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day.

According to your undeserved love and mercy, forgive our past sins!

Take all our offenses – those of thought, word and deed – and wash them away forever in the blood of Jesus – your Son – our Living Savior.

Risen Savior, you promise to cleanse those who confess their sins to you; we trust your promise.

With great thanks for your perfect life, innocent death and victorious resurrection, we proudly proclaim as your Baptized children:

You are our God! We are your people!

Holy Spirit, you are our constant Companion and Guide; bless our worship by the light of your Word. Enrich our faith in your truths and strengthen us by your Word today.

Renew our joy and desire to serve you.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit – receive our praise – because Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

3 You have died for my trans-gres-sion, all my sins on
you were laid. You have won for me sal-va-tion, on the
cross my debt was paid. From the grave I shall a -
rise and shall meet you in the skies. Death it -
self is tran-si-to-ry; I shall lift my head in glo-ry.

CW 470 sts. 3

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

Children's Message

God's Word For Us

Acts 3:11–20

¹¹While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. ¹²When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. ¹⁴You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

¹⁷"Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, ²⁰and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Apostle's Creed

In a world that has difficulty believing in the one true God, but is so ready to believe that our universe happened by some unknown accident, what do you believe?

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

In a society that so quickly rejects what God did through His Son, what do you believe?

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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.

While many put their trust in things or people that they make into their gods, what do you believe that Jesus did that proves He has conquered death and is true God just as He said?

He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Those who refuse to trust the Lord are without hope. What do you believe that gives you hope?

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

God's Word For Us

1 John 1:5—2:2

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

¹My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ²He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

CW 713



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of Right - eous - ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Today's Message from Luke 24:36-49

³⁶While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

³⁷They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

⁴⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Message Notes: *Things for me to remember this week...*

Our Confession and Forgiveness

(Psalm 19)

Lord, even with the confidence your Easter gives, we must acknowledge our sin to you.
“Keep [me] from willful sins; may they not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

Who can discern their own errors?

Forgive my hidden faults.”

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, words and actions. Too often, like those fearful disciples, I put my hope in the earthly, the tangible, and the things I can see and touch. But, I often overlook your comforting Word, your promises, your victory over sin, death and hell. When this happens – the world and my flesh fail me, your purpose for my life is blurred, and my joy in you drains away. For these and all other sins, I deserve your punishment; I am truly sorry,

But I trust in my living Savior Jesus to cleanse me of my sin, and take away my guilt!

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all our sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed our guilt forever. We are his own dear children – completely forgiven according to his promise! May God give us the strength to live according to his will.

Amen!

Be seated

Our Offering of Thanks & Love

“Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” - Colossians 3:17

Our offerings are both an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church’s work. Guests need not feel obligated to contribute.

Our Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

Dear Savior, our strength, our song, and our salvation – thank you for rising from the dead! In doing so, you have given us the victory over our own graves. And, because you laid down your life to rescue us – we can praise you for giving us victory over our sins too.

Your resurrection is truly proof of our forgiveness!

Lord Jesus, when you appeared to your disciples in the locked room – you verified FOR US every promise you have ever made to us, your people. Now, with your Word that we have heard today, drive away our skepticism and any doubts we may have that question you. Erase the fears we have of this life's difficulties.

Your resurrection confirms you are the one, true, living God!

Keep before us the vision of your saved people standing before your throne in heaven – where there are no tears or sadness – but only peace and a forever-joy that we are waiting to experience.

Make us instruments of this peace as we bring the good news of your Easter victory and new life to others.

Victorious Savior, you have restored to us the joy of our salvation. With happy hearts, we can say:

Alleluia! Thanks be to God! You give us victory over sin, death and the grave!

We pray all these things in your name, Lord Jesus, in whose name we also join to pray...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

I Love to Tell the Story

CW 746 sts. 1, Ref, 2-3



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 O won - der - ful re - demp - tion! The price for sin is paid,
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
sal - va - tion is ac - com - plished, my heart is un - a - fraid,
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry be - cause I know it's true;
for God has raised Christ Je - sus to show the work was done;
And when in scenes of glo - ry I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
his glo - rious res - ur - rec - tion de - clared the vic - t'ry won!
'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.



Refrain
I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Take the Next Step

If this is your first time with us, we're so glad that you took a big step and came to worship. What's your next step?

Come back next week

Connecting with God at worship is a great way to spend time during your weekend.

Try "God & Me"

God & Me is the place to learn more about God's word in your life, for both long time-members and beginners who want to learn more about God's love, the Bible, and St. John's. A new session of classes will be starting soon. Connect with Pastor and/or check the box on your Connection Card if you'd like to know more.

Join a Grow Group

Grow Groups are small groups that get together in person or online to learn about God's Word. It's a safe, comfortable atmosphere to discuss the way God's love intersects our daily lives. If you are interested in joining or starting a Grow Group or Bible Study, mark the box on your Connection Card and we will reach out to you.

Service Opportunities

There are multiple areas to volunteer each Sunday to make worship happen well for those in person and online: Guest Services & Hospitality Team, Tech Team, & Worship Prep Team. Are you interested in serving? Mark the box on your Connection Card today!

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – WELS