



St. John's Lutheran Church
April 28, 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.



We Worship under God's banner of love

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

(*We pray*) Oh Triune God, to you and you alone belong all glory, honor and majesty:
Therefore, may the words of our mouths...

**...and the meditation of our hearts be pleasing in your sight as we worship
you today!**

Our Prayer & Praise: Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening CW 631 sts. 1-2



1 Speak, O Sav - ior, I am lis - t'ning, as a ser - vant
2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near you and to lis - ten



to his lord. Let me show re - spect and hon - or
to your voice; let me ev - er love and fear you,



to your ho - ly, pre - cious Word, that each day, my whole life
let your Word still be my choice! Man - y hard - ened sin - ners,



through, I may serve and fol - low you. Let your Word e'er
Lord, flee in ter - ror at your Word; but to all who



be my plea - sure and my heart's most pre - cious trea - sure.
feel sin's bur - den you give peace and words of par - don.

Dear friends, God's good news awakens two responses in a human heart: an intense longing for him and an equally intense resentment. On the one hand we want forgiveness from our merciful God. But, on the other hand, our pride resists the truth that every one of us are helpless to right the wrongs we have committed against our Holy God and each other. The truth that we cannot earn or win anything from God is impossible to accept on our own. Either we must receive his grace as a gift or do without it. His powerful promises will do nothing for us if we think we are sufficient in ourselves. So, we come before Him and confess that we are destitute and approach him with empty hands.

(We confess) Lord Jesus, you told us to be perfect as God the Father is perfect.

We confess that we, like all people, sin and fall short of that standard.

We have not even perfectly loved those who love us.

And we have neglected to do so many other things you command.

So with humble hearts and empty hands we can only plead:

Father, we have sinned against others and you; forgive us for Jesus' sake.

We sing to the tune of "Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening" CW 631

**All (♪) Lord, forgive all my transgressions, all your paths from which I've strayed.
Let my eyes see your salvation, where your cross my debt was paid.
Thanks because you did arise and have opened paradise!
Through your resurrection story, I will live with you in glory!**

After King David confessed his guilt, the prophet Nathan eagerly shared this life-changing truth, "*The Lord has taken away your sins!*" Jesus once comforted a sinful woman by reassuring her of the same, "*Your sins are forgiven.*" And after his resurrection he announced to his disciples, "As the Father sent me, I am sending YOU... *If you forgive anyone their sins, they are forgiven.*" My friends, you've confessed your own sins today; now believe God's good news of forgiveness for you. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, *YOUR sins are forgiven!*

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

- 3 Lord, your words are waters living
where I quench my thirsty needs.
Lord, your words are bread life-giving;
on your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, your words will be my light
thro' death's cold and dreary night;
yes, they are my sword prevailing
and my cup of joy unfailing.
- 4 As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;
let your words in me take root.
May your Spirit e'er be near me
that I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing your praise,
from my heart glad anthems raise,
till my highest praise is given
in the endless joy of heaven.

CW 631 sts. 3-4

10:30AM - Reception of New Members

Steve & Christina Klebe

8AM - Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Children's Message

God's Word for Our Hearts

1 John 4:7-11, 19-21

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Our Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed

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

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. 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.

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.

The Gospel Reading

John 15:9–17

⁹“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise be to you, O Christ.

This Is My Will

CW 728



1 This is my will, my one com - mand, that love should
2 No great - er love can be than this; to choose to
3 I call you now no long - er slaves; no slave knows
4 You chose not me, but I chose you, that you should
5 All that you ask my Fa - ther dear for my name's



dwel a - mong you all. This is my will, that you should
die to save one's friends. You are my friends if you o -
all his mas - ter does. I call you friends, for all I
go and bear much fruit. I chose you out that you in
sake you shall re - ceive. This is my will, my one com -



love as I have shown that I love you.
bey what I com - mand that you should do.
hear my Fa - ther say you hear from me.
me should bear much fruit that will a - bide.
mand, that love should dwell in each, in all.

Today's Message based on Acts 9:36–42

³⁶In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, “Please come at once!”

³⁹Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, “Tabitha, get up.” She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴²This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

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

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. If you’d like to leave an offering, you may place it in the designated location in the back of the sanctuary or use one of the electronic means listed below.

Ways to Give Electronically

Choose one of 3 Simple, Safe Options for Offering Thanks



- Text “give” to 651-401-1400
 - Go to www.StJohnsLutheran.com/give
 - Scan the QR code
-

Stand

Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, 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.

Be seated

May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

CW 697



1 May we your pre - cepts, Lord, ful - fill and do on
2 So may we join your name to bless, your grace a -
3 Spir - it of life, of love, and peace, u - nite our



earth our Fa - ther's will as an - gels do a - bove;
dore, your pow'r con - fess, to flee from sin and strife.
hearts, our joy in - crease, your gra - cious help sup - ply.



still walk in Christ, the liv - ing way, with all your
One is our call - ing, one our name, the end of
To each of us the bless - ing give in Chris - tian



chil - dren, and o - bey the law of Chris - tian love.
all our hopes the same: a glo - rious crown of life.
fel - low - ship to live, in joy - ful hope to die.

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!

Staff

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church –