

Fourth Sunday of Easter



April 26, 2026



Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
48 Greene Avenue
Sayville, New York 11782
SUNDAY 9:30 AM

Welcome to Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rejoice in God's grace. Live as disciples. Love one another.

Our Purpose

The family of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, gathered around Word and Sacrament, enhanced by liturgy and music, exists to encourage its members in a life of discipleship in Christ Jesus and fellowship with one another.

Utilizing the gifts that God has entrusted to us, we engage in acts of mercy, attending to the spiritual and physical needs within our congregation and community.

We bear witness to the Grace of God through living in His Word thus demonstrating the love Christ has shown us.

To Those Visiting with Us Today

We welcome you among us as we gather in God's presence to receive his benefits towards us. If this is your first time visiting, please introduce yourself to the Pastor on the way out. We pray God's blessings upon you in this time, and invite you to continue to join us in the future. Please contact the Pastor if you have any needs or questions about St. John's and the work for which he has called us.

A Guide to the Symbols in the Service

A = Assistant; **L** = Lector; **C** = Congregation

Anywhere the symbol ✠ appears, the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism. Please move in and out of the sanctuary at places marked with an asterisk (*).

As We Gather

A growing tendency at the funerals of loved ones is to have a "celebration of life," which seems a bit odd considering our theology. People today spend a great deal of time trying to avoid death that when the inevitable occurs, we still deny it by having celebrations of what that person's life meant. But as the people of God, we know that death is nothing to fear, for it has been defeated. And, we know that the only life that is truly worth celebrating is the life of Christ, and our life in Christ eternally. As such, the abundant life Jesus comes to bring is not about remembering all of the great things we have done, but of the abundant life that he has given us eternally. That is a life we can celebrate!

Today in the Church Year

This is what we are all about as Christians. The season of Easter is the time where we recall that all the promises of what the Messiah would do find their fulfillment. Sin is gone. Death is defeated. Satan is crushed under foot. New and everlasting life is given to us and all creation. For the next 50 days, we will bask in the glory of Easter morning, singing our Alleluias, rejoicing in the resurrection of our bodies, remembering our baptism into Christ, and partaking of the unending feast. The color for the season is white and gold as a symbol of the new life, of the purity of Christ, and of the riches of heaven. This is indeed a sacred, holy, and blessed season. Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

✠ IN NOMINE JESU - IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

A Prayer upon Entering Church

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Voluntary

Announcements & Sharing of the Peace

✠ Service of Preparation ✠

Opening Hymn: Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

LSB 711

Tune: BRADBURY

Invocation, Confession and Absolution *(Matt. 28:19b)*

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *(1 John 1:8-9)*

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(John 20:19-23)*

C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray...Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

L The First Reading for The Fourth Sunday of Easter is taken from Acts, the second chapter.

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 (The Cantor introduces the antiphon, the Congregation repeats the antiphon and sings the bolded verses and antiphon as indicated)

Antiphon vs 1



The Lord is my shep-herd; I shall not want.

LSB Tone B



©1998 CPH

¹ The | Lord is my shepherd;*
I | shall not want.

² **He makes me lie | down in green pastures.***
He leads me be- | side still waters.

³ He re- | stores my soul.*
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his | nāme's sake. **Antiphon**

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no
evil, for | you are with me;*
your rod and your | staff, they comfort me.

⁵ **You prepare a table before me in the | presence of my enemies;*
you anoint my head with oil; my | cup o-verflows.**

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the | days of my life,*
and I shall dwell in the house of the | Lord forever.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spīrit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Ä-men.

Antiphon

Epistle

1 Peter 2:19-25

L The Epistle is from First Peter, the second chapter.

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia (John 6:68)

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 10:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads

Stand

Offertory *(Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19)*



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Prayer of the Church *(1 Timothy 2:1-4)*

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
(after each petition)
- P** Lord, in Your mercy...
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** ...one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface *(2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord *(Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25)*

P *Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *(1 Corinthians 11:26)*

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *(Revelation 22:20)*

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer (*Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4*)

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Pax Domini (*John 20:19*)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei (*John 1:29*)

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

Please read what Saint John's believes concerning the Sacrament of the Altar:

As Lutherans, we believe, teach, and confess that in the Holy Supper all receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ with their mouth. Believers feed on Christ for the assurance of salvation and the strengthening of their faith.

To assure that our Lord's great gifts are received in a beneficial way, Holy Scripture says in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29 ***"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."*** Self examination includes:

- 1) The confession that we are sinful and in need of God's forgiveness. (Ps 51; Romans 3: 9-28)
 - 2) The faith that Jesus Christ is truly and actually present in the Sacrament, offering His very Body and Blood for all to eat, so that our sins are forgiven. (Mt 26: 26-28; 1 Cor 10: 16-21)
 - 3) The sincere resolve, with the Holy Spirit's help, to amend what is sinful in our life by actively belonging to a body of believers where these Scriptural truths are preached and taught. (Acts 2: 42; Ephesians 2: 8-10)
- If this reflects your belief and you are a member in good standing at a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or a church body in which we are in fellowship, we welcome you to the Lord's Table and pray that His Body and Blood will be for your soul the highest good. If you are not sure, or do not understand, we ask that you speak with the Pastor, at your earliest convenience, prior to communing. If you would like to come to the altar and receive a personal blessing instead of the Eucharist, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign to the pastor.

Distribution will take place around the altar. Both sides of the church will be ushered forward up the center aisle at the same time with the first person in line starting at the center, and the rest fanning out along the sides. Once everyone has come forward, you will be invited to kneel, if able, to receive the Sacrament. Once all have received, and the pastor announces the dismissal, you may stand and the two people in the middle will turn and start back to their seats, with both sides following and returning via the side aisles.

A Prayer before Communing

O Lord, we pray for ourselves and for all who confess the name of Christ, that we may show forth the praises of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. Grant that we, who do now celebrate the feast of love, may at the last be clothed with the white robes of those who shall join in the marriage supper of the Lamb; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Distribution Hymn: I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

LSB 740

Tune: WEIL ICH JESU SCHAFLEIN BIN

Distribution Anthem: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

William Bradley Roberts

*Distribution Hymn: Have No Fear, Little Flock

LSB 735

Tune: LITTLE FLOCK

A Prayer after Receiving the Sacrament

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.

Stand

Post-Communion Canticle: Splendor and Honor

LSB 950 (sts. 1 & 3)



1 Splen - dor and hon - or, maj - es - ty and pow - er
3 To the Al - might - y, throned in heav'n - ly splen - dor,



Are Yours, O Lord God, fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing,
And to the Sav - ior, Christ our Lamb and Shep - herd,



For by Your bid - ding was the whole cre -
Be ad - o - ra - tion, praise, and glo - ry



a - tion Called in - to be - ing.
giv - en, Now and for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray...Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

LSB 490

Tune: JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT

Closing Voluntary

A Prayer for Departure

Thanks be unto You, Lord Jesus, for Your bitter sufferings, Your shameful death, and Your joyous resurrection. Enlighten our eyes to see in You the way unto life. Uphold us by Your truth, so we may not fall into idolatry and false worship, and preserve us in the true faith unto eternal life. Amen.

✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA - TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY ✠

† Look Ahead for next week:

The 5th Sunday of Easter: Acts 6: 1-9; 7:2a, 51-60; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

Daily Devotions for Home and Family are available on the way out

Offerings will be received on the way out

SAINT JOHN'S IN ACTION

Sun 4/26	The 4th Sunday of Easter <i>Coffee Hour hosted by Thrivent</i> 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Divine Service 9:30am Sunday School
Mon 4/27	7:00pm Boy Scouts LIT
Tue 4/28	7:00pm Council Meeting Judo/Women's 12-Step
Wed 4/29	12:30pm Narcotics Anonymous 7:00pm Divine Service 7:45pm SoLI
Thu 4/30	6:00pm Thunder Girls Basketball 6:30pm Eagle Eye Ringers 7:00pm Judo 7:30pm Chancel Choir
Fri 5/1	12:30pm Narcotics Anonymous
Sun 5/3	The 5th Sunday of Easter 7:45am Divine Service 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Divine Service 9:30am Sunday School

Communion Stewards: Charlie Erb (7:45am), Al Coppola (9:30am); **Ushers:** Steve & Janet Lindfors (7:45am), Kevin Paul & Barbara Dahlgren (9:30am); **Readers:** Pastor (7:45am), Jenn Rooney (9:30am); **Musicians:** Kristen Johnson, Violin; Chancel Choir (9:30am); **Counters:** Gene & Lisa Giacocia

Help Wanted - One of our church members is looking for help at her home in Sayville. She requires assistance once a week, dusting and vacuuming. Please call Judy Smith if interested at 631-589-0105.

Honor Our Volunteers - The Thrivent Financial Group here at St. John's invites you to join the coffee hour on ***Sunday, April 26th***, to say "thank you" to the many volunteers here at our church. There will be a special gift for all volunteers, treats to enjoy, and information of interest about Thrivent and how to direct your Choice Dollars. Stop by and enjoy fellowship with everyone!

LIT - The *Lutheran Institute of Theology* is here! Beginning ***Monday, April 27 at 7pm***, we will we begin the first class, The Art of Biblical Reading featuring our former vicar, The Rev. Dr. Adam Koontz. Classes will run the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7pm.

SOLES4SOULS Shoe & Sneaker Collection Drive

Dates: April 19 - May 24, 2026

Location: St. John's Lutheran Church Office (48 Greene Avenue)

Drop-off Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Contact Info: Honey Pabst - 631-897-5193

What to Donate

- Gently used or new shoes & sneakers
- For adults and children
- Please rubber band each pair together

About the Mission

This drive supports Soles4Souls, a nonprofit founded in 2006 that helps provide footwear to people in need around the world. In 2024 alone, they distributed 5.8 million pairs of shoes.

Take a few minutes to check your closets—you might make a big difference with a small donation.

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**Tom Keller & Steve Lindfors
Facilities Management**

Saint John's Divine Service Schedule:

Sunday 7:45am & 9:30am

Wednesday 7:00pm

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am-2:30pm

Bookkeeper Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11am-3pm

**A congregation of
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod**

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