

Fifth Sunday Of Easter

April 28, 2024



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. An infant room is available in the rear of the church if your child is having a bad day and you need a quiet space. For those with mobility issues, we also have a fully accessible way to join us in the sanctuary, Please see an usher or the Pastor if you need assistance with this. We pray God's blessings upon you in this time, and invite you to continue to join us in the future.

A Guide to the Symbols in the Service

P = Pastor; **L** = Lector; **C** = Congregation

Anywhere the symbol ✝ appears, the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

As We Gather

Fruit cannot be produced apart from something. One cannot lay an apple seed on the kitchen counter and hope that, by summer's end it will produce a tree bearing multiple apples. The seed must be planted and the growing tree bears the fruit. So it is with our life in Christ. Left alone, we do nothing of any eternal good. Connected to Christ, the true vine, we remain tied to him who is the giver of life and who enables us to bear fruit for the glory of God. Thus, we rejoice in being connected to Christ, for through him we have everything, and we have everything to give for his sake to the world.

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: JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT
Variations on *Abide With Me*

setting: J. S. Bach
Dean Chesler

Announcements & Sharing of the Peace

✠ Service of Preparation ✠

*Opening Hymn: Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

LSB 490

Tune: JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT

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.

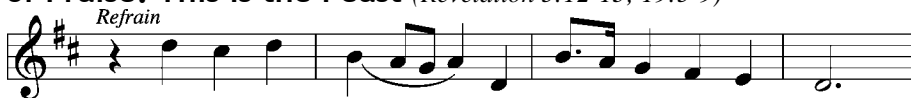
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present 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.

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast *(Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9)*



☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day (2 Timothy 4:22)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray...O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through 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 8:26–40

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

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

*“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.*

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and

he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***Psalm 150** (*The Cantor introduces the antiphon, the Congregation repeats the antiphon and sings the bolded verses and antiphon as indicated*)

Antiphon

Cynthia Holden
© 4/24/2012

LSB Tone D

©1978 LBW

1 Praise the LORD! Praise | God in his sanctuary;*
praise him in his | mighty heavens!

2 **Praise him for his | mighty deeds;***
praise him according to his | excel-lent greatness!

3 Praise him with | trumpet sound;*
praise him with | lute and harp!

4 **Praise him with tambou- | rine and dance;***
praise him with | strings and pipe!

5 Praise him with | sounding cymbals;*
praise him with loud | clashing cymbals!

6 **Let everything that has breath | praise the LORD!***
Praise | thë LORD!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spïrit;
as it was in the be- | gïnning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Ämen.

Antiphon

L The Epistle is from First John, the fourth chapter.

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

*Alleluia and Verse

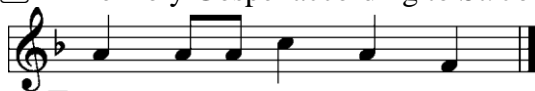


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

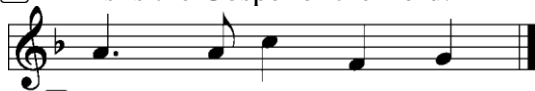
P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

**The term "catholic" means the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.*

Sit

Children's Message & Song

*Hymn of the Day: Abide with Me

LSB 878
Tune: EVENTIDE

Sermon: You can't go it alone

*Offering: I am the Vine

Raymond H. Haan

I am the vine and you are the branches. He who abides in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit. If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and is withered. But if you abide in me, and my word abides in you, ask whatsoever you will, and it shall be done for you. From John 15:5-7

(Please fill out the green Attendance Slip in the pew. Hand the completed slip to the usher on the way forward for communion.)

Stand

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



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)*

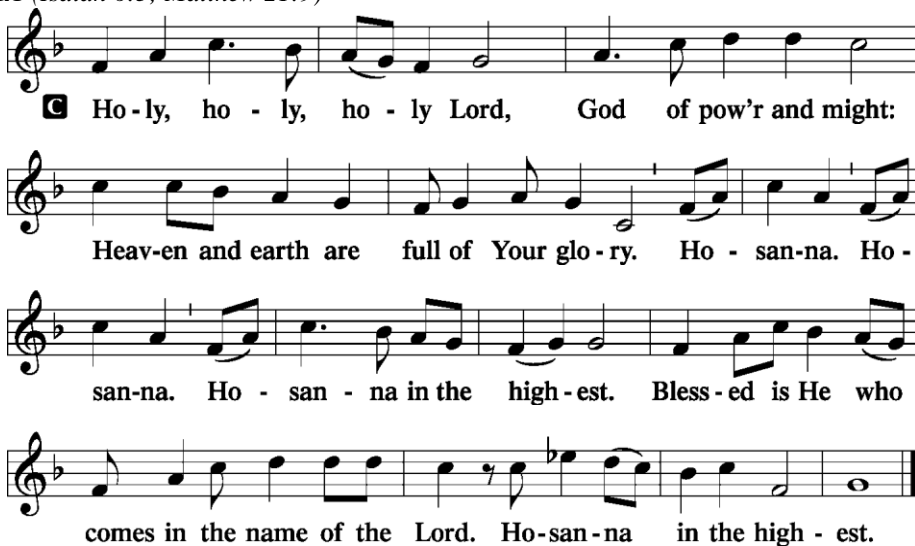
- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
(after each petition)
- P** Lord, in your mercy...
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** ...one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ 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)

© 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.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. A copyright symbol (©) is placed at the beginning of the first line of lyrics.

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 baptized member in good standing, not under discipline, at a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or a church body with 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: In Christ There Is No East or West

LSB 653

Tune: MCKEE

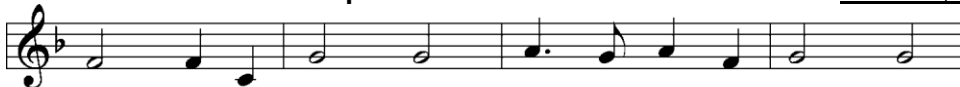
A Prayer after Receiving the Sacrament

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... We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

LSB 474

Tune: EARTH AND ALL STARS

Closing Voluntary: EARTH AND ALL STARS

Keith Kolander

You are invited, and encouraged, to stay and listen to the voluntary as a way to continue to ponder God's love for you, and consider how today's message and music can influence your life over the coming week. This is also a nice way to calm yourself before heading out into the rest of the day's activities.)

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 Sixth Sunday of Easter: Acts 10:34-48; 1 John 5:1-8; John 15:9-17
Daily Devotions for Home and Family are available on the way out

SAINT JOHN'S IN ACTION

Sun 4/28	The Fifth Sunday of Easter	7:45am	Divine Service
		8:30am	Bible Study (in Sanctuary)
		9:30am	Divine Service
			Sunday School
		3:00pm	LI Brass Concert
Mon 4/29		7:00pm	Boy Scouts
Tue 4/30		7:00pm	Strategic Planning Meeting
			Judo/Women's 12-Step
Wed 5/1	12:30pm		Narcotics Anonymous
	7:45pm		SōLI
Thu 5/2	6:30pm		Eagle Eye Ringers
	7:00pm		Judo
	7:30pm		Chancel Choir
Fri 5/3	12:30pm		Narcotics Anonymous
Sun 5/5	The Sixth Sunday of Easter		
		9:00am	Divine Service
			Sunday School
		10:00am	Coffee Hour

Sunday, April 21	\$3,282	110
Contributions Received 4/1-4/23/24	\$15,783	
April Budgeted Expenses	\$36,541	
Contributions Received 1/1-3/31/24	\$75,733	
Budgeted Expenses 1/1-3/31/24	\$124,191	
Monthly Mortgage Payment	\$2,554	
F.O.R. Contributions - April	\$775	



Want to give an offering but forgot cash or a checkbook? Now you can give securely online! Simply scan the QR Code on your mobile device and you will be directed to St. John's Donation page.

Long Island Brass Guild & Organ in Concert - *Today at 3 pm*. Join us this afternoon as one of Long Island's top brass ensembles returns to St. John's & joins instruments & organ. The program featuring music of Gabrieli, Praetorius, Marcello & more is a fundraiser for Mercy Haven, providing housing for the less fortunate. Suggested donation \$15 for general admission; \$10 for students & seniors; \$25 per family.

Ascension Service - On *Thursday, May 9 at 7:30pm*, St. John's is hosting a Divine Service in celebration of the Ascension of our Lord. Please join us for this important feast day, celebrating our Lord's ascended triumph! **If you would like to sing with the choir**, plan to arrive at 6:15 for rehearsal (please wear a white shirt or blouse & dark pants or skirt to blend in with choir vestments). You are also welcome to get a preview of the music on Thursday, May 2 at 7:30 pm.

Tree Planting Day - On *Saturday, May 4th*, volunteers will be gathering to assist in planting trees at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Island in Manorville. A Thrivent Action Team Card has been approved and we are donating two Magnolia trees, one Dogwood tree, and one Spirea. If you have never been to this site, you will be sure to enjoy it. Let's get a group together, plant trees, and help contribute to this beautification process! Contact information for The Shrine is 631-325-0661. Contact Honey Pabst at arthon@aol.com or 631-589-8353 for more information.

Mary Martha Christian Service Award - Each year, the Mary Martha Guild presents a Christian Service Award to a graduating high school senior. We are thankful for the many young people who have received this award in the past and look forward to the many who will be recipients in the future. Applications are now available in the church office. The completed application must be received NO LATER than *Monday, June 3rd*.

Duck's Game - Save the date! On *Wednesday, July 3rd* we are planning a group outing to the Duck's Stadium, sponsored by Thrivent Financial. The tickets are \$16 each. They are giving out "\$10 Duck Bucks" to the first 150 people to spend on food, etc. Following the game is an amazing fireworks display to be enjoyed by all. There is a flyer posted on the Narthex bulletin board with instructions on how to purchase your tickets. Honey Pabst, a Thrivent Champion, is part of the team leading this event and will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

From Annunciation to Incarnation: A Journey with Jesus from the Womb to the Manger



Week 6 - During this week, the neural tube closes, which is where the spinal cord and brain will develop. Also, many of the major organs such as the heart and lungs begin to take shape. You will also notice small bumps forming to the side of the baby, which will grow into the arms, legs, hands, and fingers. Finally, the material which will make up the eyes and ears are also in place and beginning to form. The very life and breath of Christ are taking shape, that he may give us his life and breathe into us the breath of life!

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them. - Psalm 139:15-16

Communion Stewards: Charlie Erb (7:45am), Al Coppola (9:30am); **Ushers:** Steve & Janet Lindfors (7:45am), Barbara Dahlgren & Kevin Paul (9:30am); **Reader:** Pastor Noack (7:45am), Elaine Whitehouse (9:30am); **Music:** Chancel Choir; **Counters:** Gene & Lisa Giacoia

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

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:30am-1:30pm

Bookkeeper Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11am-3pm

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

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