

**April 19, 2026 8:00/9:30/10:45am**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

**OPENING HYMN      "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"      LSB 469, vv. 1-5**

"Christ the Lord is ris'n today!"  
Saints on earth and angels say;  
Raise your joys and triumphs high;  
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply.

Love's redeeming work is done,  
Fought the fight, the battle won;  
Lo! Our Sun's eclipse is o'er;  
Lo! He sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;  
Christ hath burst the gates of hell.  
Death in vain forbids His rise;  
Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Once He died our souls to save;  
Where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led;  
Foll'wing our exalted Head.  
Made like Him, like Him we rise;  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Text: Public domain

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**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.**

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.

**Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” LSB 633, vv. 1, 5-8**

At the Lamb’s high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide  
Flowing from His piercèd side.  
Alleluia!

Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!

Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise.  
Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!

Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

Text: Public domain

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST LESSON**

**Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them...

"Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 1:17-25

If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever." And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 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.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and contains the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second staff continues the melody for the second line of lyrics. The music is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes.

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**Luke 24:13-35**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.

And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY "Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow" LSB 476, vv. 1-3**

Who are you who walk in sorrow  
Down Emmaus' barren road,  
Hearts distraught and hope defeated,  
Bent beneath grief's crushing load?  
Nameless mourners, we will join you,  
We who also mourn our dead;  
We have stood by graves unyielding,  
Eaten death's bare, bitter bread.

Who are You? Our hearts are opened  
In the breaking of the bread—  
Christ the victim, now the victor  
Living, risen from the dead!  
Great companion on our journey,  
Still surprise us with Your grace!  
Make each day a new Emmaus;  
On our hearts Your image trace!

Who is this who joins our journey,  
Walking with us stride by stride?  
Unknown Stranger, can You fathom  
Depths of grief for one who died?  
Then the wonder! When we told You  
How our dreams to dust have turned,  
Then You opened wide the Scriptures  
Till our hearts within us burned.

Text: © 2000 National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Used by permission: OneLicense no. A-710094

**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 Christian 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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

We pray for the whole Church, that the message of salvation may joyfully be proclaimed throughout all the world and the feast of victory may be celebrated around the globe. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for ourselves in this season of our Lord's great victory, that we may truly be an Easter people all year long, radiating the light of Christ in our homes, workplaces, and communities. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized, those who grieve, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill and shut-in, and all others whose needs are known to us at this time... Bless them with Your presence, gracious Father, that they may have a sense of victory in their lives and find strength, hope, and consolation for each day. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Strengthen our faith, that, with the disciples of Emmaus, our hearts may burn within us as we study the Word and gather for the breaking of the bread. Keep us strong in the faith, so that we may share it with the people around us, that they, too, may rejoice in the salvation our risen Lord offers to all. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

(Tune: LSB 477)

“Alleluia! Alleluia!”

Is the Easter hymn we sing!  
Take our life, our joy, our worship  
As the gift of love we bring.  
You have formed us all one people  
Called from ev’ry land and race.  
Make the Church Your servant body,  
Sent to share Your healing grace!

### PREFACE

LSB 160

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

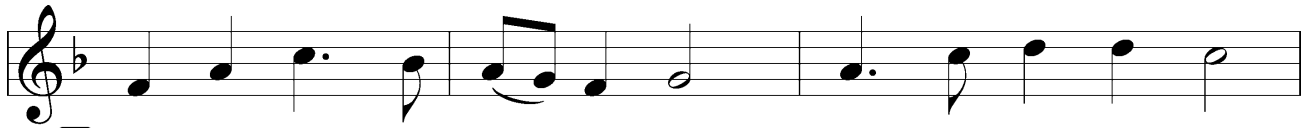
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

# SANCTUS

LSB 161



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

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.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## **THE WORD'S OF OUR LORD**

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."

## **PAX DOMINI**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

**LSB 163**

**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.

*Please be seated.*

**COMMUNION AT ST. JOHN'S**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood. This we eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm, and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold to a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the pastor or an elder. For further readings in Scripture, we suggest Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

- **Communicants will receive elements in a continuous fashion.**
- **If you would like the pastor to bring communion to you, please inform an usher anytime during the service.**
- **Children of all ages may join their parents and receive a special blessing.**
- **For those who desire it, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center ring of the tray of individual cups.**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**HYMN****“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”****LSB 919**

Abide, O dearest Jesus,  
Among us with Your grace  
That Satan may not harm us  
Nor we to sin give place.

Abide, O dear Redeemer,  
Among us with Your Word,  
And thus now and hereafter  
True peace and joy afford.

Abide with heav'nly brightness  
Among us, precious Light;  
Your truth direct and keep us  
From error's gloomy night.

Abide with richest blessings  
Among us, bounteous Lord;  
Let us in grace and wisdom  
Grow daily through Your Word.

Abide with Your protection  
Among us, Lord, our strength,  
Lest world and Satan fell us  
And overcome at length.

Abide, O faithful Savior,  
Among us with Your love;  
Grant steadfastness and help us  
To reach our home above.

Text: Public domain

Christ has arisen, alleluia.  
Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.  
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,  
Even from death, dispelling its gloom. **Refrain**

**Refrain**

Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy;  
Death's fearful sting He has come to destroy.  
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!  
Jesus is living, alleluia!

For three long days the grave did its worst  
Until its strength by God was dispersed.  
He who gives life did death undergo;  
And in its conquest His might did show. **Refrain**

The angel said to them, "Do not fear!  
You look for Jesus who is not here.  
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare;  
Only the grave cloths are lying there." **Refrain**

"Go spread the news: He's not in the grave;  
He has arisen this world to save.  
Jesus' redeeming labors are done;  
Even the battle with sin is won." **Refrain**

Christ has arisen; He sets us free;  
Alleluia, to Him praises be.  
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;  
He reigns triumphant, heavenly King. **Refrain**

Text: © 1977 Howard S. Olson. Used by permission: OneLicense no. A-710094

**HYMN****“What Is This Bread”****LSB 629**

What is this bread?  
Christ’s body risen from the dead:  
This bread we break,  
This life we take,  
Was crushed to pay for our release.  
O taste and see—the Lord is peace.

What is this wine?  
The blood of Jesus shed for mine;  
The cup of grace  
Brings His embrace  
Of life and love until I sing!  
O taste and see—the Lord is King.

So who am I,  
That I should live and He should die  
Under the rod?  
My God, my God,  
Why have You not forsaken me?  
O taste and see—the Lord is free.

Text: © 1991 Fred and Jean Baue. Used by permission: OneLicense A-710094

Yet is God here?  
Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,  
In mouth and soul  
He makes us whole—  
Christ, truly present in this meal.  
O taste and see—the Lord is real.

Is this for me?  
I am forgiven and set free!  
I do believe  
That I receive  
His very body and His blood.  
O taste and see—the Lord is good.

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

**“Thank the Lord”**

**LSB 164**



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

**DISMISSAL**

**BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” LSB 477, vv. 1-2**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:

Sing to God a hymn of gladness,

Sing to God a hymn of praise;

He who on the cross a victim

For the world's salvation bled—

Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,

Now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

Death at last has met defeat:

See the ancient pow'rs of evil

In confusion and retreat;

Once He died, and once was buried:

Now He lives forevermore,

Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,

Whom we worship and adore.

Text (st. 1): Public domain. Text (st. 2): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: CCLI no. 491876

**SENDING**

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH ST. JOHN'S TODAY!**  
**If this is your first time at St. John's, we invite you to fill out a**  
**CONNECTCard located at the Welcome Desk or by using the**  
**QR code. We look forward to CONNECT-ing with you.**



## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**Acolytes:** 8:00 Evelyn Bates/10:45 Nicolas Marella  
**Communion Asst:** 8:00 Scott McCarty, Chris Mundahl, Marcus Simpson  
9:30 Tim Goltz, Thomas Leier, Bob Panning  
10:45 Paul Dolan, Nathan Messer, Ben Wiegert  
**Elders:** 8:00 Paul DeRocher, Jeff Matzke  
9:30 Lyle Hilk, Josh Peterson  
10:45 Brian Honebrink, Josh Peterson  
**Usher Team:** 8:00 Josh Kulzer/9:30 Mike Bennes/10:45 Andy Tesch  
**Welcome Team:** 8:00 Gayle Degler/9:30 Laura Stender/10:45 Chris Ries  
**Tech Crew:** 8:00 Hunter Krueger, Dante Langmade  
9:30 Adam Breczinski/10:45 Bennett McGlothlin  
**Coffee Hour:** 9:00 Kim Marella

*Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.*

<b>UPCOMING WEEK</b>	
Monday, April 20	Men's Bible Study 6:30am
	Monday Night Meal 5:15pm
	AA 7:00pm
Tuesday, April 21	Executive Council Meeting 6:30pm
Wednesday, April 22	Moms in the Word 9:30am
Thursday, April 23	Women's LifeLight Bible Study 9:30am
Friday, April 24	Circles of Love Luncheon 1:15pm-7:00pm
	AA 6:30pm
Saturday, April 25	Colson Fellows Cohort Meeting 8:30am
Sunday, April 26	Worship 8:00/9:30/10:45am
	Education Hour 9:30am
	Youth Night 6:00pm

### **Prayers for Healing and Strength**

Rick Ellingson  
 Jenna Anderson  
 Roger Forner  
 Mary Snorek  
 Angeline Rannow

Ruth Anderson  
 Elizabeth Wysocki  
 Emily Pagelkopf  
 Stephen Wetzel  
 Anne Dutcher

Tim Laubach  
 Brody Miller  
 Lois Wenz  
 Pastor Al Holthus

### **Ongoing Prayers**

Carol Affeldt  
 John Barney  
 Merlin Bentz  
 Jack Boman  
 Jimann Campbell  
 Julie Carver  
 Marguerite Craighead  
 Sunnie Deis

Anita Doss  
 Sid & Merna Fjelstad  
 Dennis Gaarder  
 Ruth Harms  
 Eugene Henke  
 Carol Jones  
 Len Kallsen  
 Tracy Koepsell

Gretchen Laubach  
 Marilyn Lenzen  
 Melinda Meuwissen  
 Steve Pond  
 Cliff Waller  
 Ruth Ziegler

## **In Thanksgiving**

The birth of a son, Reid Richard Vipond, to Jacob and Kourtney Vipond.

## **Expectant Moms**

Clara Crawley-Reid  
Christina Krueger

Brenda Simpson  
Brittany Thormodson

## **Celebrating Birthdays**

4/19

Alan Bates  
Steve Ische  
Cheryl Kullish  
Marcus Simpson

4/20

Caleb Henderson  
Deanne Hofer  
Donnamae Kubes  
Tracy Schwardt

4/21

Charlie Bahl

4/21

Owen Bahl

4/22

John Gates  
David Hagen  
Darren Jeurissen  
David Ladner  
Everett Peterson

4/24

Sandra Beulke  
Lori Dahms  
Kristen Kuznia

4/24

Anja Lizardo  
Nolan Wiegert  
4/25  
Mike DuToit  
Jack Hendrickson  
Caleb Lainhart  
Karson Robb

## **Celebrating Anniversaries**

4/19 Allen and Mary Giernett

4/22 Kathryn Dederichs and Phillip Mann

4/24 Erik and Kristin Johnson