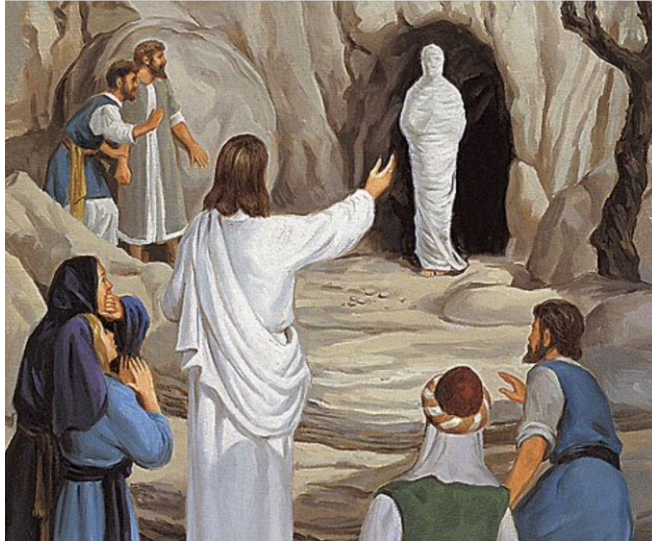




## St. John Lutheran Church

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**March 25, 2023**

# Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Contemporary Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

Today's service includes the Lord's Supper. If you are a first-time visitor and wish to receive Holy Communion, please speak with one of our Elders or myself prior to service .

May God bless your worship with us today,

*Paul Kruse, Pastor*

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***Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live,  
Learn, Share, and Serve'***

5:00 - Contemporary

*Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of  
Christian faith in our community, to all  
generations, wherever they may be'*

## **A Time of Preparation**

### **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

#### **Preludes**

#### **"Hymn Of Heaven"**

How I long to breathe the air of Heaven  
Where pain is gone and mercy fills the streets  
To look upon the one who bled to save me  
And walk with Him for all eternity

There will be a day When all will bow before Him  
There will be a day When death will be no more  
Standing face to face With He who died and rose again  
Holy holy is the Lord

And ev'ry prayer we prayed in desperation  
The songs of faith We sang through doubt and fear  
In the end we'll see that it was worth it  
When He returns to wipe away our tears

There will be a day When all will bow before Him  
There will be a day When death will be no more  
Standing face to face With He who died and rose again  
Holy holy is the Lord

And on that day we join the resurrection  
And stand beside the heroes of the faith  
With one voice a thousand generations  
Sing worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Forever He shall reign

There will be a day When all will bow before Him  
There will be a day When death will be no more

Standing face to face With He who died and rose again  
Holy holy is the Lord

So let it be today We shout the hymn of Heaven  
With angels and the Saints We raise a mighty roar  
Glory to our God Who gave us life beyond the grave  
Holy holy is the Lord Holy holy is the Lord  
Holy holy is the Lord

## **Welcome, Sharing of the Peace and Call To Worship**

### **Opening Song**

### **“Alive & Breathing”**

What holds your heart? What stirs your soul?  
What matters come to mind? The cares you keep,  
The thoughts you think; it's not all wasted time.  
Seek and you will find.

Joy still comes in the morning. Hope still walks with the hurting.  
If you're still alive and breathing, Praise the Lord!  
Don't stop dancing and dreaming.  
There's still good news worth repeating.  
So lift your head and keep singing, “Praise the Lord!”  
The years roll by. We wonder why we lost our way from home.  
Our Father finds the child inside we left for growing old.  
Awake, awake, awake my soul.

Joy still comes in the morning. Hope still walks with the hurting.  
If you're still alive and breathing, Praise the Lord!  
Don't stop dancing and dreaming.  
There's still good news worth repeating.  
So lift your head and keep singing, “Praise the Lord!”

Joy still comes in the morning. Hope still walks with the hurting.  
If you're still alive and breathing, Praise the Lord!  
Don't stop dancing and dreaming.  
There's still good news worth repeating.  
So lift your head and keep singing, “Praise the Lord!”

## Confession and Forgiveness

### Song of Praise

**"Rattle!"**

Saturday was silent Surely it was through  
But since when has impossible Ever stopped You  
Friday's disappointment Is Sunday's empty tomb  
Since when has impossible Ever stopped You

This is the sound of dry bones rattling  
This is the praise make a dead man walk again  
Open the grave I'm coming out I'm gonna live gonna live again

This is the sound of dry bones rattling  
Pentecostal fire Stirring something new  
You're not gonna run out of miracles Anytime soon

Resurrection power Runs in my veins too  
I believe there's another miracle Here in this room

This is the sound of dry bones rattling  
This is the praise make a dead man walk again  
Open the grave I'm coming out I'm gonna live gonna live again  
This is the sound of dry bones rattling

My God is able to save and deliver and heal  
And restore anything that He wants to  
Just ask the man who was thrown On the bones of Elisha  
If there's anything that He can't do  
Just ask the stone that was rolled At the tomb in the garden  
What happens when God says to move  
I feel him moving it now I feel him doing it now  
I feel him doing it now Do it now do it now

This is the sound of dry bones rattling  
This is the praise make a dead man walk again  
Open the grave I'm coming out I'm gonna live gonna live again  
Open the grave I'm coming out I'm gonna live gonna live again  
This is the sound of dry bones rattling

## First Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-10

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones.

<sup>2</sup> And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

<sup>8</sup> And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Reading

John 11:17-44

<sup>17</sup> Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup> So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know

that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,<sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”<sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”<sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him.<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him.<sup>31</sup> When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.<sup>32</sup> Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.<sup>34</sup> And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.<sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.”<sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me.<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup> When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.”<sup>44</sup> The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Children's Message

### Message Song

### "New Creation"

I thought I knew what I was talking about  
When I testified of your great love  
Well I was a soul on fire there was no doubt  
Bible believing saved and washed in the blood  
But it wasn't 'til I stumbled and made my mistakes  
That I could know in my soul how amazing was grace

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy  
You turned my old song into a symphony  
And with your spirit living inside of me  
I'm a new creation I'm a new creation

And now I know what you were talking about  
Went from my head into my heart  
When I was broken at the bottom I found  
You're my healer and redeemer  
Jesus that's who you are

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy  
You turned my old song into a symphony  
And with your spirit living inside of me  
I'm a new creation I'm a new creation  
Oh oh. Oh oh.

But it wasn't 'til I stumbled and made my mistakes  
That I could know in my soul how amazing was grace

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy  
You turned my old song into a symphony  
And with your spirit living inside of me  
I'm a new creation

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy  
You turned my old song into a symphony

And with your spirit living inside of me  
I'm a new creation I'm a new creation  
Oh oh. Oh oh

And with your spirit living inside of me  
I'm a new creation I'm a new creation

## Message

***“Walking in New Life”***

## Offering

*Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.*



## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**G** **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.**

## Sacrament

### The Words of Our Lord

### Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

*The Lord gave this Holy Sacrament to His Church so that His followers might receive His love and forgiveness in a visible, tangible way. When the Church celebrates this Sacrament, believers are also making a public declaration of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 11:26). Holy Communion is offered every Sunday at St. John Lutheran, but because it is possible to receive the Lord's Supper to one's detriment (1 Cor. 11:27-29), we ask all who wish to partake of it to examine themselves as follows:*

- 1. Do I believe that I am a sinner and therefore deserve God's punishment?*
- 2. Am I truly sorry that by my sins I have offended God?*
- 3. Do I believe that God accepts the death of Jesus as payment for my sins and therefore forgives my sins for Jesus' sake alone and not because of any goodness or effort on my part?*



4. *Do I intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to turn from my sins?*
5. *Do I seek to forgive others as God has forgiven me?*
6. *Do I believe Christ's own Word that His body and blood are truly given and received in and with the bread and wine (Matt. 26:26-28)?*

*If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and can answer "yes" to the above questions, you are invited to receive Holy Communion with the assurance of all the blessings Scripture promises.*

## **Distribution Song**

## **"No Longer Slaves"**

You unravel me with a melody.  
 You surround me with a song of deliverance from my enemies  
 'til all my fears are gone.

I'm no longer a slave to fear; I am a child of God.  
 I'm no longer a slave to fear; I am a child of God

From my mother's womb You have chosen me;  
 Love has called my name. I've been born again to Your family;  
 Your blood flows through my veins.

I'm no longer a slave to fear; I am a child of God.  
 I'm no longer a slave to fear; I am a child of God

You split the sea so I could walk right through it.  
 My fears were drowned in perfect love.

You rescued me so I could stand and sing: I am a child of God.  
 You split the sea so I could walk right through it.

My fears were drowned in perfect love.

You rescued me so I could stand and sing: I am a child of God.  
 I am a child of God. Yes, I am a child of God.

## **Blessing**

**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.

**G** **Amen.**

## Sending Song

## *"Graves Into Gardens"*

I searched the world but it couldn't fill me  
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade  
Are never enough

Then You came along and put me back together  
And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love

Oh there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You  
Lord there's nothing Nothing is better than You

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness  
My failures and flaws Lord You've seen them all  
And You still call me friend 'Cause the God of the mountain  
Is the God of the valley There's not a place  
Your mercy and grace won't find me again

Oh there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You  
Lord there's nothing Nothing is better than You

Oh there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You  
Lord there's nothing Nothing is better than You

You turn mourning to dancing You give beauty for ashes  
You turn shame into glory You're the only one who can  
You turn graves into gardens You turn bones into armies  
You turn seas into highways You're the only one who can  
You're the only one who can

Oh there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You  
Lord there's nothing Nothing is better than You

You turn graves into gardens You turn bones into armies  
You turn seas into highways You're the only one who can  
You're the only one who can You're the only one who can

### **Acknowledgments**

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