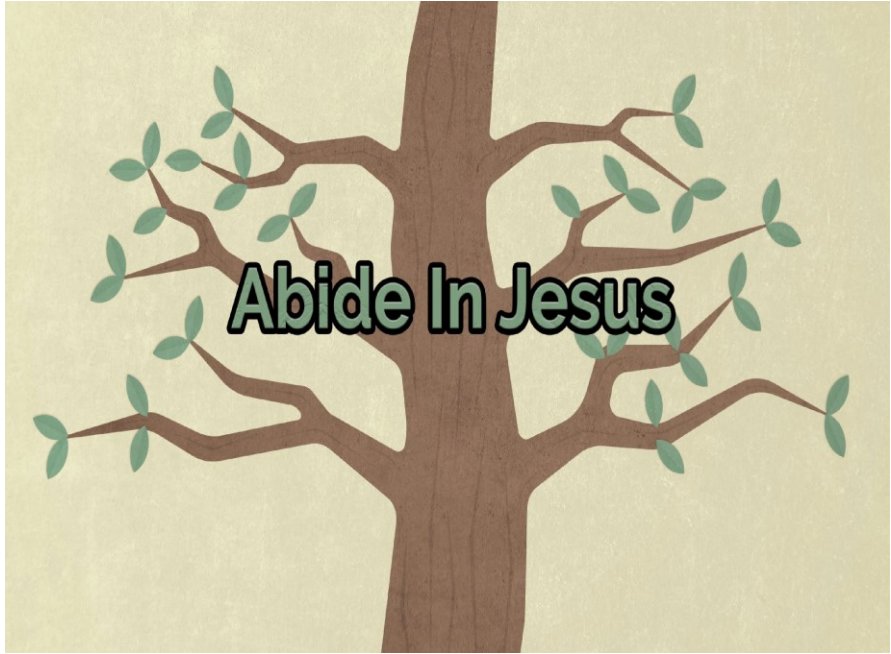




## St. John Lutheran Church

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***April 28, 2024***

# ***Welcome***

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional 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.

May God bless your worship with us today,  
*Paul Kruse, Pastor*

E-mail: [paul@stjohnhl.com](mailto:paul@stjohnhl.com)

Mobile: 989-992-6030

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

**9:00 - Traditional**

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

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

***Divine Service Three (pp 184ff)***

**Prelude**

**Sharing of the Peace and Welcome**

**Opening Song**      **“Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way”** *LSB 857*

Lord, help us walk Your servant way  
Wherever love may lead  
And, bending low, forgetting self,  
Each serve the other's need.

You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord,  
But pow'r You laid aside.  
You lived Your years in servanthood;  
In lowliness You died.

No golden scepter but a towel  
You place within the hands  
Of those who seek to follow You  
And live by Your commands.

You bid us bend our human pride  
Nor count ourselves above  
The lowest place, the meanest task  
That waits the gift of love.

Lord, help us walk Your servant way  
Wherever love may lead  
And, bending low, forgetting self,  
Each serve the other's need.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002579

## Invocation

LSB 184

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.

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

## Confession and Forgiveness

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**G** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**G** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

**P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**G** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**G** Amen.

## Service of the Word

**P** A little while, and you will see me no longer;

**G** **and again a little while, and you will see me.**

**P** I will extol you, my God and King,

**G** **and bless your name forever and ever.**

- P** Every day I will bless you
- C** **and praise your name forever and ever.**
- P** The Lord is gracious and merciful,
- C** **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**
- P** All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
- C** **and all your saints shall bless you!**
- P** My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,
- C** **and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.**

### **Glory be to the Father** *(Sung)*

*LSB 186*

- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

### **Lord, Have Mercy** *(Sung)*

*LSB 186*

- C** **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### **Song of Praise** *(Sung)*

*LSB 187*

- P** Glory be to God on High,
- C** **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**
- P** Let us pray together...
- C** **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. Amen.**

## First Reading

1 John 4:7-12

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In 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. <sup>10</sup> In 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. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia *(Sung)*

LSB 190

**C** **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## Gospel Reading

John 15:1-8

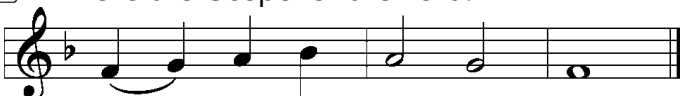
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John the fifteenth chapter.



**C** **Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide 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. <sup>5</sup> I 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. <sup>6</sup> If 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. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By 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.



**C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## Apostles' Creed

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

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☒ everlasting. Amen.

## Children's Message

### Message Song

### "Jesus Loves Me" *LSB 588*

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong;  
They are weak, but He is strong. **Refrain**

**ref** Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died  
Heaven's gates to open wide.  
He has washed away my sin,  
Lets His little child come in. **Refrain**

Jesus loves me! He will stay  
Close beside me on my way,  
He's prepared a home for me,  
And someday His face I'll see. **Refrain**

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.

Text: Public domain

## Message

## "Very Black and White"

## Offering

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



## Offering Song - Sung

LSB 192

- G** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- 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.

## Blessing

LSB 202

- 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** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Closing Song

### “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” LSB 924

Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,  
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
Let us each, Your love possessing,  
Triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us; O refresh us,  
Trav'ling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration  
For Your Gospel's joyful sound.  
May the fruits of Your salvation  
In our hearts and lives abound.  
    Ever faithful, ever faithful  
To Your truth may we be found.

Savior, when Your love shall call us  
From our struggling pilgrim way,  
Let not fear of death appall us,  
Glad Your summons to obey.  
    May we ever, may we ever  
Reign with You in endless day.

Text (sts. 1–2): attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.  
Text: Public domain

#### **Acknowledgments**

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