



## St. John Lutheran Church

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9:00 - Traditional



***May 4, 2025***

# ***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.

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'***

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

## **Third Sunday of Easter**

**Divine Service One** (pp 151ff)

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome and Sharing of the Peace**

### **Opening Song                    "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" LSB 790**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear  
Now to His temple draw near,  
Joining in glad adoration!  
Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen  
All that is needful has been  
Sent by His gracious ordaining?  
Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,  
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.  
What need or grief  
Ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of His mercy did shade you.  
Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do  
As with His love He befriends you.  
Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen  
Sound from His people again;  
Gladly forever adore Him!

## Invocation

LSB 151

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

**C** Amen.

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

## Confession and Forgiveness

**L** 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.**

**L** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

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

**L** Most merciful God,

**C** **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.**

**L** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

**L** All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,

**C** **and all your saints shall bless you!**

**L** One generation shall commend your works to another,

**C** **and shall declare your mighty acts.**

**L** On the glorious splendor of your majesty,

**C** **and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.**

**L** They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,

**C** **and I will declare you greatness.**

- L** They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
- C** **and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.**
- L** The Lord is good to all,
- C** **and his mercy is over all that he has made.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy - Sung**

*LSB 152*

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

## **Hymn of Praise Sung**

*LSB 155*

- C** **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- L** Let us pray together...

**© 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 Reading

## Acts 9:1-9

<sup>1</sup> But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. <sup>4</sup> And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" <sup>5</sup> And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup> The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup> Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

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

**© Thanks be to God.**

# Alleluia *Sung*

LSB 156

**✪ Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## Gospel Reading

## Matthew 6:5-13

**L** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>5</sup> "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>7</sup> "And when you pray, do not heap

up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. <sup>9</sup> Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread, <sup>12</sup> and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. <sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

**C** 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.

## Children's Message

### Message Song

**"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" LSB 709**

The King of love my shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His  
And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,  
My ransomed soul He leadeth  
And, where the verdant pastures grow,  
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love He sought me  
And on His shoulder gently laid  
And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77 Text: Public domain

## Message

## “Nice House, But Nobody’s Home”

## 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 159

- ☐ What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

## Prayer of the Church

### Service of the Sacrament

- 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 proper ... Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### Holy, Holy, Holy Lord – *(Sung)*

LSB 161

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

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

### The Words of Our Lord

LSB 162

### The Peace of the Lord

LSB 163

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

### Lamb of God - *Sung*

LSB 163

- C** **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

### 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**

## **"My Faith Looks Up to Thee" LSB 702**

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine.

Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;  
O let me from this day  
Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart;  
My zeal inspire!

As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee  
Pure, warm, and changeless be,  
A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread,  
Be Thou my guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray  
From Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream  
Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above,  
A ransomed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–87 Text: Public domain

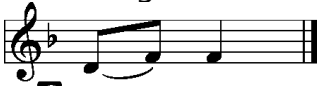
## Post-Communion Song *Sung*

LSB 164

- C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls  
His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of  
thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Post-Communion Prayer

- P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed  
us through this beneficial 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** A - men.

## Blessing

LSB 166

- L** 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** A - men.

## Closing Song

**" I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"** *LSB 729 vs 1, 4, 5, 6*

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,  
Trusting only Thee;  
Trusting Thee for full salvation,  
Great and free.

I am trusting Thee to guide me;  
Thou alone shalt lead,  
Ev'ry day and hour supplying  
All my need.

I am trusting Thee for power;  
Thine can never fail.  
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me

Must prevail.  
I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;  
Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever  
And for all.  
Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79 Text: Public domain

#### **Acknowledgments**

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