

Welcome to Worship

at

*St. John's Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

a reconciling in Christ congregation



Resurrection of Our Lord
Easter Day

April 4, 2021

10:30 am

Pastor: The Reverend Susan D. Ruggles

Director of Music: Jessica Madow

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Easter Day - Alleluia!

Welcome to Worship on this Holy Day! “This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Alleluia!

Statement of Welcome

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.—Galatians 3:28

As a community of God striving to be open to all people, we at St. John’s Lutheran Congregation believe that the gospel is God’s gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We welcome all to join us as we struggle to better understand the mysteries of God’s teachings. We are challenged by Christ to care for, to love, to understand, and to listen to each other, regardless of race, age, gender, marital status, physical and mental abilities, sexual/affectional orientation, national origin or economic status. We celebrate together our unity as God’s people. St. John’s Lutheran Congregation is a place for each person to shine in their own unique gifts.

Statement of Mission

St. John’s Lutheran Church is a downtown, community-oriented, congregation of Christians. We worship God, strive to welcome and wholly accept everyone, and reach out with and in God’s love.

Communion is a time we invite all baptized Christians who believe that our Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament. If this is your belief, there are instructions to follow at the time of Communion later in the bulletin.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Announcements

Prelude

“This Joyful Eastertide”
(Tune: “*Vruechten*”, Dutch folk tune)

** Thanksgiving for Baptism*

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.)

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

(Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.)

P: We give you thanks, O God, O Living One, for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly. All life is sustained by you, our Source. We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life. Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God. Here, death is washed away forever. Here, we are grafted into the tree of life, with leaves for the healing of the world. Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly, into this community, and throughout all creation. Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions. Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Solo:

"That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright"

Melissa VanAllen, voice and piano

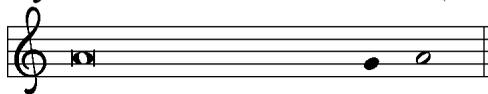
***Greeting**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

***Kyrie**

(Please quietly sing.)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



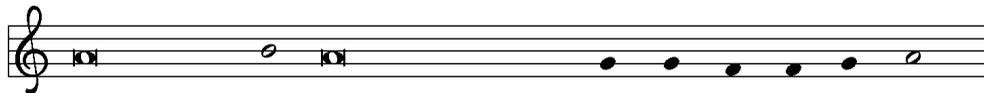
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

**Canticle of Praise*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



All
1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Prayer of the Day*

A: Let us pray. O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God’s mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare,
“God’s mercy endures forever.”**

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
“The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
“The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰“This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter.”

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the | LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you — unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at

one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them — though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Gospel*

Mark 16:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 16th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: The Reverend Susan D. Ruggles

***Hymn of the Day** - ELW # 365 “*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*”

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

- 3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4

(Please quietly sing.)

****Nicene Creed***

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

****Prayers of Intercession***

A: Let us Pray. Praise to you Lord, for your power revealed today! Fill your church with your love that is stronger than death. Send us to tell the good news everywhere. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Praise to you Lord, for your life at work! Fill all of creation with your life. Bring it to blossom and flourish; use it to remind us of your persistent grace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Praise to you Lord, for the hope you show every day everywhere! Fill all in need with hope: those who are afraid or confused, those who are sick or suffering, those who are dying, and those who grieve including . . . those we mention on our prayer list, and those we name aloud or in our hearts . . . Assure them of your promises. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Praise to you Lord for the joy today! Fill this assembly with joy as we are called your beloved in baptism. Multiply that joy so that we share it at home, at work, and in our community. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

A: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*** *The Sharing of the Peace***

P: Peace be with you.

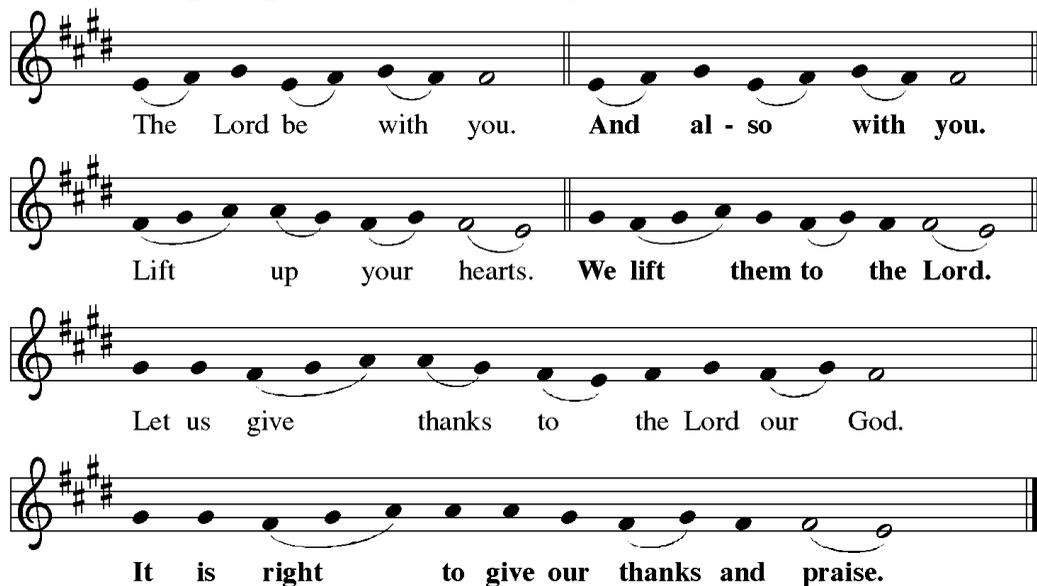
C: And also with you

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***Great Thanksgiving**

(Please quietly sing.)



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

***Preface**

(Pastor continues . . .)

P: It is indeed right, and salutary that we should at all time and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by this death has destroyed death and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Communion Form

(Pastor continues ...)

****Lord's Prayer***

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.

Holy Communion - *If you are baptized and believe that it is the real blood and body of Christ, we welcome you at the Lord's table here at St. John's.*

**Please remain seated, communion
will be offered to you in your pew.
(Please ask for gluten free or grape juice if necessary.)*

Communion Music *"Easter Hymn Medley"*

**** Prayer after Communion***

A: Let us pray. Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts, Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

****Blessing***

P: Let us pray. May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of Life, Father, ☩ Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

****Dismissal***

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen,

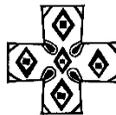
C: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

A: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

“Thine Is the Glory” by G.F. Handel



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All other music is from the public domain. “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright” was arranged by Melissa VanAllen and the remaining music was arranged by Jesssica Madow.

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant – Chris Orem

Ushers – Michelle Fritzo / Bob Black

Reader – Ian Heck

Altar Guild – Barb Horinko / Judy Kalapay

Mark your Calendars:

Today – Worship, 10:30 am, Sanctuary

4/5/21 – Church Office Closed for Easter Monday

4/6/21 – Bible Study, Chapel or “Zoom”, 5:30 pm

4/7/21 – Council Reports Due

4/7/21 – Outreach Committee “Zoom” – Blessing of the Pets, 7:00 pm

4/8/21 – Prayer Group, 9:30 am – Chapel

4/8/21 – Prayer Group, Chapel or “Zoom”, 5:30 pm

4/9/21 – Newsletter Deadline

4/10/21 – Vicar Matthew Ordination – “Live Streamed” (Details to Come)

4/11/21 - Worship, 10:30 am, Sanctuary

4/11/21 – Membership Meeting – Following Worship

4/11/21 – Finance Meeting – Following Worship

*Altar Flowers are presented in loving memory of Catherine & Calvin
Aennie by Helene Sirotrak & Family and Robert Aennie & Family*

