

2nd Sunday after Easter

April 12, 2026



And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

John 20:22-23

Prelude

Matthais Raffa, Organist

HYMN: “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

LSB 487

Stand

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

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

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 151

- P** 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.**

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **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.**

Absolution

LSB 151

- P** 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.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1

Peter 2:2–3

P Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to sal- | vation—*

if indeed you have tasted that the | Lord is good.

C Oh give thanks to the Lord; call up- | on his name;*
make known his deeds among the | peoples!

P Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him;*
tell of all his | wondrous works!

C Glory in his | holy name;*
let the hearts of those who seek the | Lord rejoice!

P Seek the Lord | and his strength;*
seek his presence con- | tinually!

C Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered.

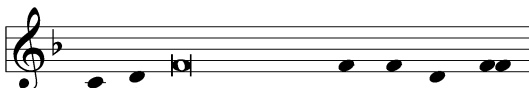
P He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.

ALL Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

C Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to sal- | vation—*
if indeed you have tasted that the | Lord is good.

Kyrie

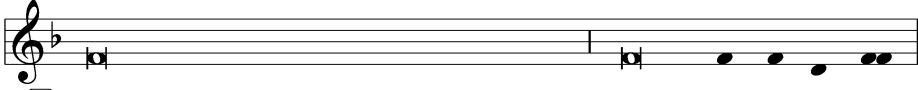
LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



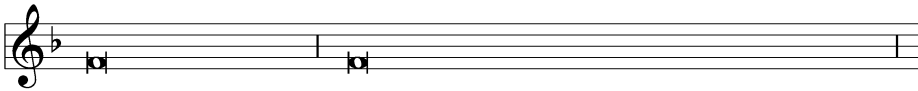
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



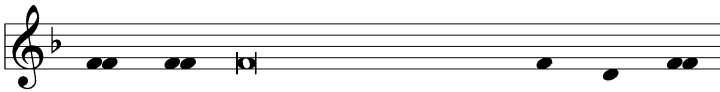
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

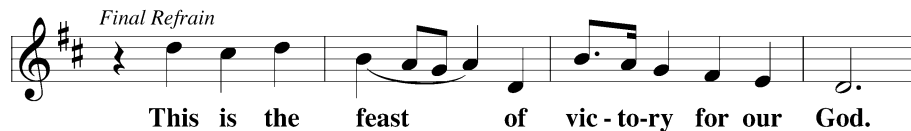
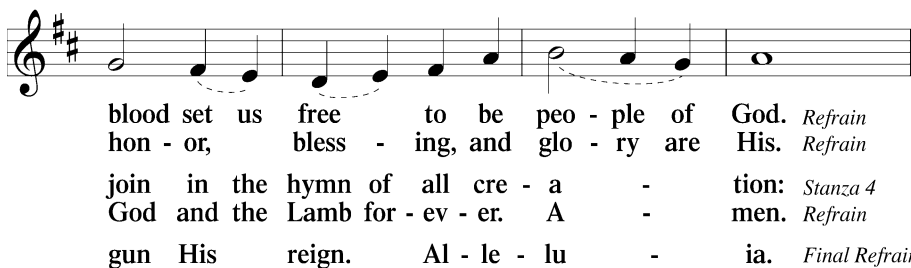
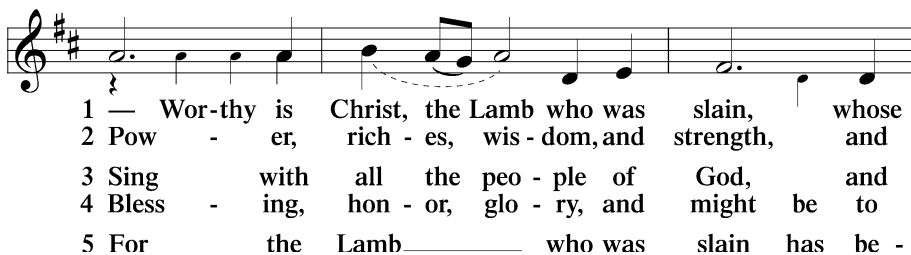


A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



This is the Feast

LSB 155



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 5:29–42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them.

³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



C 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.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN: “O Sons and Daughters of the King”

LSB 470

Sermon “Forgiveness is of God, Alone” *(based on the Gospel reading)*

The Rev. Dr. Mark Nuckols

Stand

Following the Sermon, the Pastor Prays:

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

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.

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Final Petition:

P ... one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Our Offerings to God

The Offering is a part of our Worship life together as God's children gathered here at St. John. This historical practice is more than "helping pay the electric bill". Having received His absolution and cleansing of our sin, the Offering, then, is a part of our worship posture (Psalm 51). As we move from the Service of the Word to the Service of the Sacrament we bring before God, in a communal fashion (Acts 2:42-47), the toils of our hands, the bread of the earth (Gen. 3:19) and give it to God. This, He transforms and provides back to us the Bread of Life in the Sacrament of the Altar! Together, placing our offerings in the plate, the Lord sees and treats all giving hearts the same, whether they can provide much or little (Luke 21:1-4). All of this, then, furthers God's mission and ministry in our flock and into the lives of our community members. May the Lord bless your lives as you entrust your possessions to Him (Phil. 4:10-20)!

Text: Pastor Frisque

(Please place your offering envelope in the collection plates at the entrance to the Sanctuary, thank you!)

Offertory

LSB 159

What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Our Communion Statement

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 to eat and to 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 a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with Pastor or see an usher to assist in speaking with Pastor or an Elder. All are welcome to come forward for a blessing from Pastor by placing your arms in an "X" across your chest.

If you intend to receive the blood of Christ in an individual cup, please place the empty cup in the gold bowls following your table's dismissal. If you intend to receive from the common cup, please raise your hand forward, signaling your preference, and then feel free to guide the chalice to your lips by holding on to the bottom of the chalice. For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB 160



P The Lord be with you.



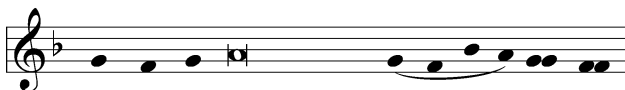
C And also with you.



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.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161



C 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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

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.

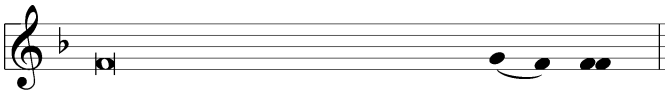
The Words of Our Lord

P 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

LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

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.

Sit

Distribution and Hymns

HYMN: "He's Risen, He's Risen "

LSB 480

HYMN: "Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free "

LSB 473

HYMN: "In Thee Is Gladness "

LSB 818

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

☐ 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.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.
 through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns
 with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Benediction

LSB 166

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.

C A - men.

HYMN: “The Day of Resurrection”

LSB 478

EASTER FLOWERS 2026



Thank you to those who donated flowers this Easter!

Harold Boehlke - *In memory of Carole Boehlke*

Janet Block – *In memory of Wesley Block*

Marlene Bretschneider - *In memory of our parents*

Julie Caswell - *In memory of Mary Lou Johnson, Jeremy Johnson and Cynthia Caswell*

Michele Franklin – *In memory of Tony and Brandon Pereklita*

Hans and Gail Hargens – *In memory of the faithfully departed*

Bill and Roberta Hilgendorf – *In memory of Thomas Hilgendorf*

Steve and Kathy Jagow – *In memory of our parents*

Randy and Ellen Liska - *To the Glory of God!*

Larry and Sandy Mayer - *In memory of our parents*

Tom and Bobbie Paulus – *In memory of loved ones no longer with us*

Renaë Roos – *In memory of William and Dorothy Roos*

Sandy Truebenbach – *In memory of Donald Truebenbach*

Serving Us this Week

Elders (8 AM): Abe Rohde

(1030 AM): Michael Kiener

Finance Team: Parchim and Hempelman

Altar Committee: Angela Keller and
Deborah Paape

Usher Team (#5): Rick Nelson, Captain

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun (4/12/26)

† 2nd Sunday after Easter

- **Divine Service - 8am**
- Bible Study or Sunday School hour -
915am-1015am
- **Divine Service - 10:30am**
- Potluck after 2nd service and before
Voter's Meeting
- Voter's meeting – 1230pm *Sanctuary*

Tues (4/14/26)

- Women's Bible Study – 1pm
Church Library

Wed (4/15/26)

- UGT - 11am-3pm
- Youth Catechesis 5th-7th
530pm-630pm
- **Divine Service - 7pm**

Thurs (4/16/26)

- Men's Bible Study – 615am *Fredonia
Family Restaurant*

Sun (4/19/26)

† 3rd Sunday after Easter

- **Divine Service 8am**
- Bible Study or Sunday School hour -
915am-1015am
- **Divine Service 10:30am**
- Board of Education meets after 2nd
service

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

- ✠ Rose Bottesi
- ✠ Jane Kultgen (Eric Kultgen's mother)
- ✠ Tim Monahan (Debbie Paape's brother)
- ✠ Judy Fischer
- ✠ Keith Johnson
- ✠ Susan Kloppmann (Alisyn Bell's aunt)
- ✠ Randy Fairbert (Betty Fairbert's son)
- ✠ Lou Anne (Grace Bonjean's friend)
- ✠ Mildred Rosso
- ✠ Nico Lawver (Lisa McGuire's cousin's son)
- ✠ Pam Anschuetz (Renae Roos's friend)
- ✠ Paul Voight (Sandy Jacque's father)
- ✠ Amelia (Mass family friend)
- ✠ Joni Heilgendorf (Rose Bottesi's sister-in-law)
- ✠ John Diehl (Mike Czysh's uncle)
- ✠ Alvin Czysh (Mike Czysh's father)
- ✠ Mike Czysh
- ✠ Jeff Ader
- ✠ Don Dohrwardt
- ✠ Ron Parchim
- ✠ James Blecha (Mike Berry's Grandson)
- ✠ Ellen Heildendorf (cousin of Rose Bottesi)

Special Voter's Meeting – TODAY

**** Voter's Meeting for Candidate Call
Process is
TODAY
Sunday, April 12th.
There will be a potluck first in the
fellowship hall and then the meeting will
be held in the sanctuary starting
at 1230pm. ****

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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GIFTS FROM THE HEART

The LWML is looking for help from local churches to support the Orphan Grain Train with Layette Kits as part of the LWML's *Gifts from the Heart* program.

Items needed include:

- Cloth Diapers
- Diaper Pins
- Rubber or Reusable Pants
- Washcloths
- Sleeper
- Onesies
- Receiving Blankets
- Blanket



Collection will take place from March 15th until May 24th. Kits will be taken to the LWML 80th year celebration in June.

A collection basket/box will be in the Narthex by March 15th.

Thanks for your support!

PLAY BALL!

The 2026 Men's Christian Softball season is just around the corner.

If you are interested in joining the St. John Lutheran Church team to play softball and enjoy the Christian fellowship, please call or text Matt Winker at 262.689.8994.

Games are played on Mondays at 7:15pm or 8:30pm. Local game fields include Belgium, Grafton, and Port Washington. Opening pitch is May 4, 2026. Can't play? No problem. The stands need a cheering section too! Hope to see you there!



LWML Zone Rally

The LWML Zone 7 Spring Rally will be held Tuesday, April 28, at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, West Bend, from 4:30-5:30pm.

All women are invited to attend. The speaker will be from the Washington County Foster Care program.



The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Since 1942, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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Rev. Dr. Mark Nuckols, Vacancy Pastor

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