

Divine Service
for the
**Second Sunday
of
Easter**

10:00 a.m.
April 12, 2026 A.D.



Saint John's Lutheran Church

---- Missouri Synod ----

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Radio Broadcast at 7:30 AM on WHYN 560 AM

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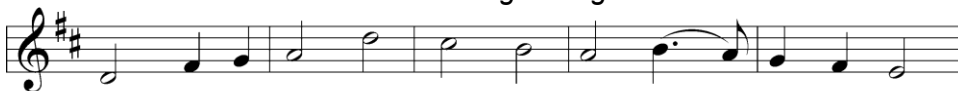
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WELCOME IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD and SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST!

It is a great joy to have you with us today. If you are visiting, we invite you to sign our guest book located in the narthex at the back of the sanctuary. Should you wish to include a prayer request in the Prayers of the Church this morning, please speak with one of our pastors before Divine Service. For those with little ones, a nursery for infants and toddlers is available in Room 4 on this level.

AS WE GATHER: The crucified and risen Lord Jesus establishes the ministry of the Gospel in order to bestow His life-giving Holy Spirit and His peace upon the Church. To those who are called and ordained to this office, and to those they serve in His name, He grants the Holy Absolution of all sins. By the fruits of His cross, He replaces fear and doubt with peace and joy and thus gives repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. Through the preaching of His sent ones, He calls us to believe that He is the Christ, the Son of God, so that by such faith we may have life in his name. In His resurrection, we have the “living hope” to which we have been “born again” and by which we are guarded for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Until then, though you have not seen him, you love him, and by the mercies of God you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory.

✠ OPENING HYMN NO. **483**: *“With High Delight Let Us Unite”*



1 With high de-light Let us u - nite In songs of great
 2 True God, He first From death has burst Forth in - to life,
 3 Let prais-es ring; Give thanks, and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. Ye pure in heart, All bear your part,
 all sub-du - ing. His en - e - my Doth van - quished lie;
 ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us
 His death has been death's un - do - ing. “And yours shall
 To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall His



free For - ev - er, He Is ris'n and sends To all earth's
 be Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave,” Saith He, who
 love Give us a - bove, From mis - er - y And death set



ends Good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
 gave His life for us, life re - new - ing.
 free, All joy and full con - so - la - tion.

✠ CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

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.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

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

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

† INTROIT

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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.**

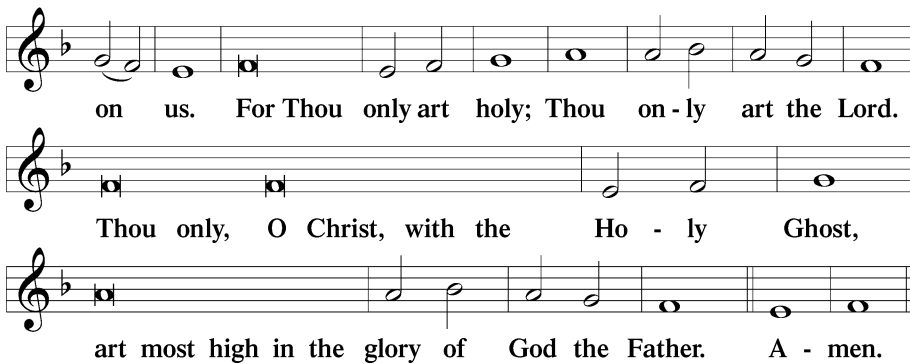
P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to sal- | vation if indeed you have tasted that the | Lord is good.

† KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

† GLORIA IN EXCLESIS

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

† SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir - it.

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.



A - men.

(Be Seated)

† FIRST READING: Acts 5:29-42

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

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But 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. And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. For 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. After 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. So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left

the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

† GRADUAL:

**Christ has risen | from the dead.
God the Father has crowned him with glory and | honor.
He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;
he has put all things un- | der his feet.**

† EPISTLE READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)



Al-le - lu - ia. 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.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

On 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." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." 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.”

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So 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.”

Eight 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.” Then 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.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Now 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.



☩ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

☩ STATEMENT of FAITH: Nicene Creed

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.

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.

(Be Seated)

☩ CHILDREN'S SERMON

† SERMON HYMN NO. **484**: "Make Songs of Joy"



1 Make songs of joy to Christ, our head; Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Our life was pur - chased by His loss; Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 O death, where is your dead - ly sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 And where your vic - to - ry, O grave, Al - le - lu - ia!



He lives a - gain who once was dead! Al - le - lu - ia!
 He died our death up - on the cross. Al - le - lu - ia!
 As - sumed by our tri - um - phant King! Al - le - lu - ia!
 When one like Christ has come to save? Al - le - lu - ia!

**5 Behold, the tyrants, one and all, Alleluia!
 Before our mighty Savior fall! Alleluia!**

**6 For this be praised the Son who rose, Alleluia!
 The Father, and the Holy Ghost! Alleluia!**

† SERMON: "God's Diamonds in the Rough" 1 Peter 1:3-9

(Please Stand)

† OFFERTORY



☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

✠ PRAYER of the CHURCH

P: Lord God, like Thomas we wrestle with faith amid doubts and fears. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that believing, we may see, and seeing, we may rejoice in Your Son and the power of His resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious Lord, give courage to all pastors as they preach and teach the Word, that all who hear may believe and that, believing, they may live in righteousness and godliness until the day Christ returns as Judge and Lord of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Give peace, Lord, to our homes and enliven them by Christ's resurrected life. Let the forgiveness of sins reign among husbands and wives, parents and children. Assure those who live alone that they, too, are Your children, upheld by Your right hand. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord God of hosts, You have added believers to the Lord Jesus in all times and places, from those receptive and hostile alike. Shepherd the nations, and bring all peoples to embrace the Gospel of the resurrected Christ. Curb wicked rulers and break their power, that all would be brought to the feet of Jesus in worship. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious Father, as Your Son's wounds brought gladness and peace to the troubled disciples, give Your presence and comfort to the troubled in our midst. Comfort also those who weep with the blessed joy of Easter morning. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, preserve Your Holy Communion and Your Son's blessed Supper among us. Give contrition and faith to those who gather at this altar. Unite them in their confession of Your truth, and so bring them worthily to eat and to drink Christ's body and blood for their forgiveness and life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, Your Son suffered on our behalf to win salvation for us. Grant that we may have the privilege not only of believing in Him, but also of suffering for His sake. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, heavenly Father, give us all things good and beneficial to us and to our salvation, and keep us from all things harmful; through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P: Lift up your hearts.



☐ We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



☐ It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and singing:



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

have been instructed and who publicly confess this faith. If you are not a confirmed member of an LCMS congregation, we are thankful for your presence today and warmly invite you to come forward for a blessing, indicating this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor approaches. Following the service and in the coming week, our pastors would be glad to speak with you about the Lord's Supper and to share more about what we believe, teach, and confess in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

† DISTRIBUTION HYMN No. 643: "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
 2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,

The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
 The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.

The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed
 Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,

The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
 Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
 With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
 U-nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us
 Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing

To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.
 Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

(Please Stand)

† NUNC DIMITTIS



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



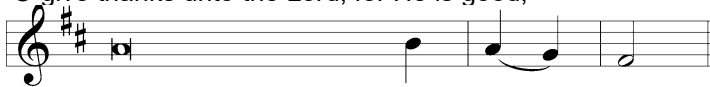
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

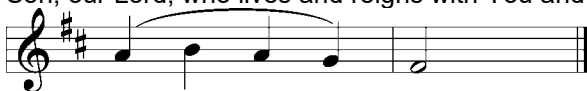
† THANKSGIVING

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and 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.



A - men.

† SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P: Bless we the Lord.



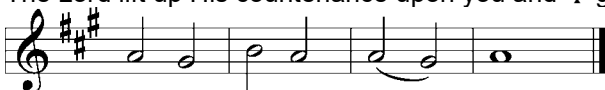
☐ Thanks be to God.

† BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

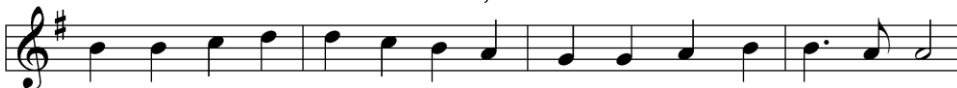
The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

† CLOSING HYMN NO 477: "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:

2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:

△ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
See the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic-tim For the world's sal - va-tion bled—
Once He died, and once was bur-ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir-it, Fount of love and sanc-ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.
Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor-ship and a - dore.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

POSTLUDE

THIS WEEK:

WEDNESDAY

Choir Practice
Midweek Service

4:45 p.m.
6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Pastor Riley's Bible Study

10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY

8:30 AM Bible Study - Led by Herb Greenspan (*In the Lounge*)
Divine Service

10:00 a.m.