

THURSDAY IN THE FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER

THURSDAY, 1:30 P.M., APRIL 29, 2021

Welcome to guests and visitors!

This pamphlet will guide your worship today. The assembly's parts are indicated by ☒ and bold font. The vertical line in the left margin indicates when the assembly stands as each is able.



About Holy Communion with Saint John Lutheran Church

"It is taught that the true body and blood of Christ are truly present under the form of bread and wine in the Lord's Supper and are distributed and received there" (Augsburg Confession, Article X). "A person who has faith in these words, 'given for you' and 'shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,' is really worthy and well prepared." "Forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament" (The Small Catechism, Part VI). "This church practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to Communion" (The Use of the Means of Grace, Principle 50).

EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

☒ **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

A welcome and introduction to the day are made.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

☒ **Amen.**

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.

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We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

☞ We thank you, O God.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

☞ We bless you, O God.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

☞ We praise you, O God.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

☞ Amen.

ENTRANCE PSALM (33)

¹Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous;

☞ it is good for the just to sing praises.

²Praise the Lord with the harp;

☞ play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.

³Sing for him a new song;

☞ sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.

⁴For the word of the Lord is right,

☞ and all his works are sure.

⁵He loves righteousness and justice;

☞ the lovingkindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.

⁶By the word of the Lord were the heavens made,
☩ by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.

⁷He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin
☩ and stores up the depths of the sea.

Glory 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.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
☩ And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God.

**☩ Alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

**☩ Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God,

**☩ for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

☩ And also with you.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

FIRST READING: Micah 7:8-20

⁸Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me. ⁹I must bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he takes my side and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall see his vindication. ¹⁰Then my enemy will see, and shame will cover her who said to me, "Where is the Lord your God?" My eyes will see her downfall; now she will be trodden down like the mire of the streets. ¹¹A day for the building of your walls! In that day the boundary shall be far extended. ¹²In that day they will come to you from Assyria to Egypt, and from Egypt to the River, from sea to sea and from mountain to mountain. ¹³But the earth will be desolate because of its inhabitants, for the fruit of their doings.

¹⁴Shepherd your people with your staff, the flock that belongs to you, which lives alone in a forest in the midst of a garden land; let them feed in Bashan and Gilead as in the days of old. ¹⁵As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, show us marvelous things. ¹⁶The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might; they shall lay their hands on their mouths; their ears shall be deaf; ¹⁷they shall lick dust like a snake, like the crawling things of the earth; they shall come trembling out of their fortresses; they shall turn in dread to the Lord our God, and they shall stand in fear of you. ¹⁸Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of your possession? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in showing clemency. ¹⁹He will again have compassion upon us; he will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. ²⁰You will show faithfulness to Jacob and unswerving loyalty to Abraham, as you have sworn to our ancestors from the days of old.

The word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 95:1-7

¹Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**☞ ²Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

³For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**☞ ⁴In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

⁵The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.

**☞ ⁶Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

⁷For he is our God,

☞ and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:13-17

John writes: ¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal ;they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Jesus says, I am the good shepherd.

☩ I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Mark 14:26-31

The holy gospel according to Mark.

☩ Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered.'

²⁸But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." ²⁹Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." ³⁰Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." ³¹But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

The gospel of the Lord.

☩ Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow the sermon.

MUSICAL OFFERING

EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

☩ Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

☩ And also with you.

The assembly remains in place, as the service continues.

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**☩ 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

Each petition ends: Hear us, O God.

☞ Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you . . . through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☞ Amen.

OFFERING PRESENTATION

Offerings are received at the door as one enters. The offering is presented for the work of Christ's Church, here and throughout the world.

OFFERTORY

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

☞ Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Lord God says: I myself will search for my sheep;

☞ I will seek them out.

As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are scattered,

☞ so I will seek out my sheep.

I will bring them out from the peoples

☞ and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel.

Alleluia.

☞ Alleluia.

OFFERING PRAYER

At the conclusion, the assembly responds:

☞ Amen.

The table is set.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

☩ And also 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

The minister continues, concluding: ... and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SANCTUS)

**☩ 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. . . .

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

☩ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life . . .

Grace our table with your presence.

☩ Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. . . .

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

☩ Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places . . .

we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**☞ 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to receive from this table.

Eat and be satisfied.

☞ Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG (AGNUS DEI)

**☞ 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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Please remain seated where you are. The communion elements will be brought to you. The host is received in your open hand. The wine will be taken by you from an individual glass. Carefully place your empty glass on the pew until end of worship.

BLESSING & POST-COMMUNION PSALM (63)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

☞ Amen.

¹O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

**☞ ²Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

³For your lovingkindness is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.

**☞ ⁴So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**

⁵My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

**☞ ⁶when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

⁷For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

☞ ⁸My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

¹¹The king will rejoice in God; all those who swear by him will be glad;
for the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.

**☞ Glory 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.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

At the conclusion, the assembly responds:

☞ Amen.

BLESSING

Response after the blessing:

☞ Amen.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check web-sites and printed materials for further information.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

☩ Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news.

☩ Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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