

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD
ST. JOHN'S EAGLE'S NEST PRESCHOOL**

MISSION STATEMENT
**Fellowship of Hope, Teaching, Serving and
Proclaiming!**

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Who Knew?"

5:30PM — April 29, 2017

8:00AM — April 30, 2017



THOSE WHO SERVE US

Each Member of St. John's	A Minister
Rev. Ted Gall	Senior Pastor
Rev. Earl Brown	Assistant Pastor
Mrs. Sandy Esker	Preschool Director
Mr. Jamie Lotz	Organist
Miss Holly Hulskotter.....	Song Leader
St. John's Praise Band.....	10:30AM
Mr. Todd Zeigler.....	5:30PM Elder on Duty
Mr. Jeff Stremming.....	8AM Elder on Duty
Kaiden Kohnert	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Howard Haake	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Mr. Jerry Pruemer	Elder on Duty for May 1 – May 5, 2017
Missionaries from Pakistan	Younis Darshan and Raja Shaleem
Missionaries from India	Ajay Paul & Sonne
Sister Congregation	in Blidene, Latvia
Mrs. Arnetia Osborn.....	(342-2210) Prayer Chain Coordinator

WELCOME To our friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to the stranger, we extend our sincere greeting. If you are a visitor, please understand that you are our guest and we want you to feel welcome and comfortable. We are happy you chose to be with us in this service, and pray you have been blessed by our Lord today as He has blessed us by your presence.

CHRIST is important to us

- in our worship
- in our study
- in our fellowship
- in our lives.

YOU are important to us

- in our worship
- in our study
- in our fellowship
- in our lives.

HOLY COMMUNION – When the members of St. John’s Lutheran Church, (LCMS) celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we confess the Real Presence of Christ’s Body and Blood in the Bread and Wine, given and shed for the forgiveness of our sins. (*1 Cor 10:16 & 1 Cor 11:23-26*) We believe that Christ’s Body and Blood are present “in, with and under” the elements of the Holy Supper. (*Luther’s Small Catechism*) Members should register their intent to commune on the pew card. If you are visiting with us and you desire to join with us in communion fellowship in agreement with these beliefs, please speak to one of the Pastors or the elder on duty before the service.

HIS VISION FOR US:

St. John’s will be known for being involved in our changing community, for providing leadership in our changing world, and for serving others in Christian love.

We will welcome our diverse guests with open arms. Our friendly, loving and accepting people will engage our guests, mentor them in the faith, and inspire many to become members.

Our members will be motivated by the cross to be actively engaged in ministry, showing love and care to others. We will encourage one another, nurture one another, and enthusiastically serve our God together!

HIS GOAL FOR US:

We will pray and work with singleness of purpose to expand the impact of our ministry to God’s children of all ages, with special emphasis on young families, by developing new ways to strengthen the relationship between St. John’s, our members and our community, providing the facilities and resources to involve more people in ministry and outreach.

WELCOME CENTER Greeters are present at the Welcome Center in the atrium adjacent to our sanctuary before and after the service to answer any questions you may have, provide directions to restrooms, classrooms, etc. If you are a first time guest, we also have a gift for you. If you live in our community or surrounding area and you do not have a church home, we welcome your consideration. We offer true fellowship with a living Savior and membership in His Church.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER Kindly fill out a registration card (welcome side) located in the pew rack. Our guests are also asked to complete the address and phone number portion. Please pass your card to the center aisle to be gathered during the offering.

CELL PHONES Please turn your cell phones off before the service begins.

ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers which grace our altar are given in celebration of the 45th wedding anniversary of Dick & Pauline Kinkelaar on April 29th.

AS WE GATHER It took the resurrection to reveal God's eternal plans to save the fallen human race. Who among the people of Jerusalem knew that "this Jesus whom you crucified" (Acts 2:36) would be Lord and Christ? Who knew that it would take His blood to pay for our sins—as Peter reveals in the Epistle. How could the disciples on the road to Emmaus understand that their guest was Jesus, risen from the dead, until He revealed Himself in the breaking of the bread? We would also be clueless were it not for the grace of God in revealing His plan of salvation to us and working faith in our hearts to believe it. To Him be the glory forever!

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ PREPARATION +

HYMN..... *"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"***[LSB 490]**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 116:1–2, 5, 9, 12–14*

Pastor: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

People: **our God is merciful.**

Pastor: I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice

People: **and my pleas for mercy.**

Pastor: Because He inclined His ear to me,

People: **therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.**

Pastor: I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

People: What shall I render to the LORD for all His benefits to me?

Pastor: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,

People: I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people.

CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION *Psalms 124:8; 130:3–4*

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: We confess that we have not always been as ready to speak Your Word of judgment and mercy to the people around us. We have often reflected the futile ways of this world rather than the faith in our hearts. We have failed to bring our friends with us to hear the promise that is for them and their children. Forgive us, good Lord.

Pastor: Likewise we give thanks, heavenly Father, that Your Word remains forever, assuring us that Your Son's death paid for all our sins, as You had planned from before creation.

People: We confess that we have been too aware of the fragile nature of our human flesh, fearful of withering under the heat of opposition from the society around us. We have not always trusted Your abiding Word. Forgive us, good Lord.

Pastor: Moreover, O Holy Spirit, we give thanks that, as our Lord was discerned in the breaking of the bread, so You use Word and Sacrament to work and sustain faith in the hearts of all believers.

People: We confess that we have not always valued the promises of our Baptism. Forgive us, good Lord.

Pastor: Rejoice and be glad! Our gracious Savior is with us today as surely as He was in Emmaus. The Holy Spirit continues to strengthen us as we follow the apostles' footsteps. You have been redeemed by the blood of Christ; therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

+ **WORD** +

INTROIT *Psalm 133; antiphon: v. 1, adapted*

People: Behold with Easter faith and see:
Brothers and sisters, blest are we.
How good and pleasant life can be
When we all dwell in unity!

Pastor: It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!
It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.
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.

People: Behold with Easter faith and see:
Brothers and sisters, blest are we.
How good and pleasant life can be
When we all dwell in unity!

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HYMN OF PRAISE..... “At The Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”[Tune to LSB 633]

**At the Lamb’s high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!**

**Futile are all worldly ways;
Jesus’ rising fear allays.
He has paid with His own life,
Saving us from deadly strife. Alleluia!**

**Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!**

Text: (Sts. 1, 3): Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt., Public domain; (St. 2): James Pierce, copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world.

People: Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 2:14a, 36-41
(Repent and be baptized.)

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. ³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” ³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” ³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” ⁴⁰ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” ⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE..... 1 Peter 1:17-25
(Since you have been born again, love one another.)

¹⁷ And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³ since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴ for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

8AM MINISTRY OF MUSIC.....“May The Road Rise To Meet You”... by Crosstones

HOLY GOSPEL..... Luke 24:13-35

(Jesus is recognized in the breaking of the bread.)

¹³ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹ And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.

²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.”

²⁵ And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. ²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹ And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the

Scriptures?”³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,³⁴ saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!”³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLE’S CREED

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

HYMN OF THE DAY *“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”* [stz 1-4, 8 LSB 461]

SERMON..... *“Eternally Free”* 1 Peter 1:17-25

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *“Who Are You Who Walk In Sorrow”* [St. 5: LSB 476]

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for people around the world in their various needs, their nations and leaders, the Church wherever it proclaims Christ, and ourselves in this place. Awaken the people of the world, heavenly Father, that, like those in Jerusalem, they may see their need to repent of their animosity and hatred. Grant them to look for the welfare of not only themselves but also for the generations that follow them. Where they are oppressed, grant freedom; where they are exiled, open doors of repatriation; where they live in fear, provide the security they need. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Raise up leaders in all the nations, Lord over all, so that they may seek ways that lead to peace with their neighbor states as well as justice and compassion for their citizens. Give them a sense of service to replace their thirst for power. Guide and direct the armed forces of the world and all who keep the peace at home. We pray especially for those who serve our country and communities. Instill in them a desire to bring order from chaos and calm from conflict. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all whose faith and hope are in You, Lord our God, we pray Your protection and courage. Assure them of Your presence when they face opposition or persecution. Raise up and direct clergy and lay leaders to faithfully proclaim the truth of the resurrection. Open doors of opportunity here and wherever the Gospel is proclaimed, so that Your Church may grow in faith and in numbers. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: “All flesh is like grass,” and so, Lord Jesus, we ask You to strengthen and preserve all who call out to You with illnesses or disabilities, in sorrow and mourning, from isolation and fear, [*including . . .*]. Surround them with caring health care professionals, understanding counselors, and concerned circles of family and friends. Bring about the health, relief, and joy You have in mind for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, grant to us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

**LORD’S PRAYER
CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: Amen.

HYMN..... “Beautiful Savior”[LSB 537]

SILENT PRAYER

GREETING OF PEACE

POSTLUDE

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