

**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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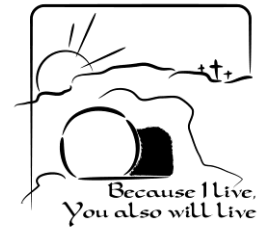
WEBSITE: stjohnslcms.net

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Another Helper"

5:30PM — May 20, 2017

8:00AM — May 21, 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
Mrs. Amy Kohnert & Mrs. Ammon Probst.....	Song Leaders
St. John's Praise Band	10:30AM
Mr. Dave Wall	5:30PM Elder on Duty
Mr. Jerry Pruemer	8AM Elder on Duty
Tyler Budde	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Gayland Bourland	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Jon Perry	10:30AM Acolyte
Mr. John Jackson 347-0883.....	Elder on Duty for May 22-May 26, 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.

AS WE GATHER It would be a strange thing for God to send His Son to prepare the way of salvation for the world and then not give us a way to receive that salvation. “Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God” (1 Peter 3:18). How does Jesus “bring us to God”? Peter says, “Baptism . . . now saves you” (1 Peter 3:21). Here is the most important way Jesus sends the Helper, the Holy Spirit, who works repentance and faith in the heart. Saving faith is not a product of our own effort, decision, or desire. It is always the gift of God, continually renewed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit working through God’s Word and Sacraments. As our Easter celebration continues, we are drawn closer to our Lord, who remains close to us, as He said, “I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20).

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ PREPARATION +

HYMN..... *“I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives”***[LSB 468]**

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 66:8, 20*

Pastor: Bless our God, O peoples;

People: let the sound of His praise be heard.

Pastor: Blessed be God, because He has not rejected my prayer
People: **or removed His steadfast love from me!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Beloved, Jesus said, "I will be with you always." Let us take Him at His word and come into His presence, sharing our great need of Him as we confess our sins and ask for forgiveness.

People: **I confess to almighty God all my sins with which I have offended You, especially the sin of trying to go it alone without You. On my own, I am weak, and sin so easily makes me forget Your Word and will for my life. I have sinned in many ways by evil thoughts, words, and deeds. Because of Your merciful death on the cross and in the power of Your resurrection from the dead, let me hear from You the words of Your grace and forgiveness and new life. Amen.**

Pastor: In keeping with His promise, the Lord sends another helper to deliver His own words of forgiveness. So now, 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 119:89–96

Pastor: ⁸⁹ Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

People: ⁹⁰ **Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.**

Pastor: ⁹¹ By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants.

People: ⁹² **If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.**

Pastor: ⁹³ I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.

People: ⁹⁴ **I am yours; save me, for I have sought your precepts.**

Pastor: ⁹⁵ The wicked lie in wait to destroy me, but I consider your testimonies.

People: ⁹⁶ **I have seen a limit to all perfection, but your commandment is exceedingly broad.**

ALL: 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.

Pastor: Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

KYRIE (p. 152-153 in hymnal)

HYMN OF PRAISE.....“How Great Thou Art”[LSB 801]

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

FIRST READING **Acts 17:16-31**
(Paul in Athens.)

¹⁶ Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸ Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹ And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰ For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. ²² So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶ And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on

all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸ for “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we are indeed his offspring.” ²⁹ Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE..... 1 Peter 3:13-22

(You are living stones in God's house.)

¹³ Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹ Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL..... John 14:15-21
(Jesus promises the Holy Spirit.)

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

HYMN OF THE DAY ... “Dear Christians, One And All, Rejoice” [stz 1-4 LSB 556]

SERMON..... “The Other Helper” John 14:15-21

OFFERING/OFFERTORY “Father Welcomes” [LSB 605]

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. We give You praise and thanksgiving, almighty God, that You do not leave us or forsake us, but come to us and all the world by Your Holy Spirit working through Your Word. By His help, we worship and glorify You, and take continual refuge in Your great mercy and grace. Abide with us, and keep us close to You, that we may share in Your great life and love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lift up Your whole Church in the Spirit of Christ and especially those You call and send, who give us Your gifts of forgiveness and Your Word of truth. Be with us always with Your mercy, protection, and love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Grant Your blessings to all in the authority of government in our nation and throughout the world, that we may lead peaceful and quiet lives, godly and dignified in every way. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [*especially . . .*]. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all those who have gone before us with the sign of faith, we give thanks, and those who have loved and served You in Your Church who now rest from their labors (*silence for remembrance*). Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through 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..... “Christ The Lord Is Risen Today”..... [stz 1-4 LSB 469]

**SILENT PRAYER
GREETING OF PEACE
POSTLUDE**

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