

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

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

901 West Jefferson Avenue
Effingham, Illinois 62401
Phone: (217) 342-4334
Fax: (217) 342-6599

E-mail: saintjohnslcms@gmail.com
WEBSITE: stjohnslcms.net
PRESCHOOL WEBSITE: eaglesnestpreschool.com

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
"Because I Am Going to the Father"



5:30PM — May 18, 2019
8:00AM — May 19, 2019

THOSE WHO SERVE US

Each Member of St. John's	A Minister
Rev. Ted Gall	Pastor
Rev. Gary Fortkamp	Worship Leader
Mrs. Sandy Esker	Preschool Director
Mrs. Linda White (5:30 PM) Mrs. Jerry Starner (8:00 AM)	Organist
Mrs. Amy Kohnert	Song Leader
St. John's Praise Band	10:30AM
Mr. Howard Janis	5:30PM Elder on Duty
Sophia Jansen	5:30PM Acolyte
Mr. Jim Schroeder	8AM Elder on Duty
Andrew Lotz	8AM Acolyte
Mr. Todd Zeigler	10:30AM Elder on Duty
Aiden Hanks	10:30AM Acolyte
Mr. Dave Wall	Elder on Duty for May 20-24, 2019
Sister Congregation	in Blidene, Latvia
Adopted Chatelain School	Haiti
Mrs. Julie Scott	(343-3047) 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*)

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 that grace our altar today were given in honor of the wedding of Laura Brauer and Isaac Galvan who were married at our altar on Saturday.

AS WE GATHER “A little while” says Jesus, and He will not be seen and then seen again—because He is going to the Father. Jesus is nothing but blunt with His disciples, telling them what will happen. But they do not want to hear it. They did not want to hear His words of suffering and death to come on the cross, and they missed His promise to rise again. Jesus knew their aching hearts were full and promised the Spirit to lead them into all truth. A little while and death will give way to life—for Jesus and also for His disciples. Because He goes to the Father, preparing the way, we also look forward to going to the Father. This hope sustains the weary through their trials in this mortal life. We belong forever to the Lord.

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN.....“*God of Grace, God of Glory*” **Pg. 850 LSB**

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: The Lord has made known His salvation;

People: **He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Pastor: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

People: **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Pastor: Come, let us kneel before the Lord and make confession of our sin,

People: **and call upon His mercy that we may be forgiven.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father:

People: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only 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 forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May He who began this good work in you bring it to completion at the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us extend the hand of reconciliation and peace to one another.

People: Peace be with you.

Response: And also with you.

+ WORD +

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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 LESSON..... Acts 11:1–18

(What God has made clean do not call common.)

11 Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, ³ “You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” ⁴ But Peter began and explained it to them in order: ⁵ “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. ⁶ Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. ⁷ And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸ But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹ But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’

¹⁰ This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. ¹¹ And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. ¹² And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ ¹⁵ As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷ If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could

stand in God's way?" ¹⁸ When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE **Revelation 21:1-7**

(The vision of the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, is described.)

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷ The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Romans 6:9; John 14:23*

Pastor: Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Pastor: We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

People: If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. Alleluia! Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL **John 16:12-22**

(I am going to the Father.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All

that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁶“A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” ¹⁷ So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” ¹⁸ So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” ¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’? ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED.....Back Page of LSB

HYMN OF THE DAY.....Fight the Good Fight.....Pg. 664 LSB

SERMON....."God is Our Strength and Defender".....Ephesians 6:10-11

OFFERINGS/OFFERTORY.....We Give Thee but Thine Own.....Pg. 781 LSB

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES & MILITARY PERSONNEL

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: God has made His dwelling place with man; He will dwell with us, and we will be His people; and God will be our God. In confidence of this, let us raise to Him our prayers on behalf of those in need and all people. Almighty Father, You met a divided world with one saving love and will, manifested in the incarnation, suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Make us one people in Him, and bless all efforts to come to the true unity of Your Word by the power of Your Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give Your rich and abundant blessing to Your Church, O Lord, that she faithfully hold to Your Word even amid trial and persecution, and give Your blessing to all pastors and servants of the Church in their service to us in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give us Your Spirit, O Lord, that we welcome the stranger and boldly speak Your Word to those who have not heard it. Guide us by Your grace that we be faithful witnesses until You come in Your glory to finish Your new creation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Raise up before us, O Lord, the holy vision of heaven and the eternal city, Jerusalem, on high, that things of this life not distract us from the future You have promised and that we live in holy anticipation of the eternal day when all things have been brought to fulfillment. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Govern the nations, O Lord, and bless our leaders, that they be people of good moral conscience and integrity, for the sake of the poor and the oppressed, and for the encouragement of virtue and good works. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Accept, O Lord, our song of praise and the worship of our hearts, and with them the tithes and offerings of a grateful people, who rejoice in Your mercies and in the daily provision of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Guard those in need, O Lord, from the pain of body or mind, from the suffering of illness, and from the fear of death, [*especially . . .*]. Bring them the comfort of Your presence, healing according to Your will, patience in the day of trial, and deliverance at the last. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Recalling the saints of old who trusted in You, we pray You, O Lord, to bring us with them to the great and holy day when the old is past, tears are dried up, fears are ended, and death is no more. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Bidden by Your promise, we Your people commend to You these concerns of our hearts, these prayers of Your Church, and these petitions on behalf of all people as they have need, through the mercy and because of the merits of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN.....Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus.....Pg. 660 LSB

SILENT PRAYER

GREETING OF PEACE

POSTLUDE

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2018 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.