



# St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

**Second Sunday after Easter**

**April 27, 2025**

**10:45 a.m. Worship**



**TO VIEW THE SERVICE WHILE IT IS GOING ON LIVE ...** go to our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/sjlmidland/> Since this is a PUBLIC PAGE, you do not need to have a personal Facebook account in order to view the livestream.

*The video of the service will be available for viewing on Facebook following the service so others can view it later.*

**NOTE: Announcements and Prayers can now be found online by clicking on the “Church” tab and then going to “Church”**

# Locked Doors

*Even locked doors could not stop Jesus from entering the room where the fearful disciples were gathered together. Jesus brought peace in the midst of fear and proven truth to a doubting Thomas who desired to see in order to believe. What hope we have knowing that Jesus meets us right where we are. Whether we are in a season of fear and anxiety, despair, or doubt, Jesus breaks through the locked doors of our lives to meet us there. He sees us, knows us, and invites us in return to see Him and know Him.*

## "Christ Is Risen"

Words and Music by Phil Wickham, Brian Johnson and Matt Brock

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Let no one caught in sin remain  
Inside the lie of inward shame,  
But fix our eyes upon the cross,  
And run to Him who showed great love  
And bled for us, freely You've bled for us.

Chorus: Christ is risen from the dead,  
Trampling over death by death  
Come awake, come awake,  
Come and rise up from the grave.  
Christ is risen from the dead,  
We are one with Him again  
Come awake, come awake,  
Come and rise up from the grave.

Beneath the weight of all our sin,  
You bowed to none but heaven's will;  
No scheme of hell, no scoffer's crown,  
No burden great can hold You down.  
In strength You reign; Forever let Your church proclaim: *(Chorus)*

O death, where is your sting?  
O hell, where is your victory?  
O church, come stand in the light;  
The glory of God has defeated the night. Singing:

O death, where is your sting?  
O hell, where is your victory?  
O church, come stand in the light;  
Our God is not dead; He's alive, He's alive! *(Chorus 2x)*

## Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.**  
Amen.  
P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
C Amen.

## Introit

*Ps. 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3*

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

**Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;  
make known his deeds among the peoples!**

Sing to him, sing praises to him;  
tell of all his wondrous works!

**Glory in his holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!**

Seek the LORD and his strength;  
seek his presence continually!

**Remember the wondrous works that he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.**

He remembers his covenant forever,  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

**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.**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

## Collect of the Day

**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.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading

*Acts 5:12-32*

Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." 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.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

*Revelation 1:4-18*

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

*John 20:19-31*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to You, 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; but 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.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

## **Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life T everlasting. Amen.**

**K-4<sup>th</sup> Choir**

*“Living in the Light”*

Ruth Elaine Schram

**Children’s Message**

Anna Kruger

## **“How Great Is Our God”**

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Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves and Ed Cash  
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The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty,  
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,  
and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great...how great...is our God!

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;  
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End  
The Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great...how great...is our God!

Name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing; How great is our God!  
Name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing; How great is our God!

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great...how great...is our God!

**Sermon**

**Offering**

**Prayer of the Church**

## The Lord's Prayer

**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.

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless thee and keep thee.  
The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious to thee.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and T give thee peace.  
**C** Amen.

## Announcements (see pg. 10)

## Blessing and Dismissal

**P** As Christ burst forth from the tomb, may new life burst forth from us  
and show itself in acts of love and healing to a hurting world. And may  
that same Christ, who lives forever and is the source of our new life,  
keep your hearts rejoicing and grant you peace this day and always.  
**C** Amen.  
**P** Go in peace, serve the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## 🎵 “Rattle!”

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Words and Music by Chris Brown, Steven Furtick and Brandon Lake  
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Bethel Music Publishing

Saturday was silent; surely it was through.  
But since when has impossible ever stopped You?  
Friday's disappointment is Sunday's empty tomb.  
Since when has impossible ever stopped You?

Chorus: This is the sound of dry bones rattling.  
This is the praise make a dead man walk again.  
Open the grave; I'm coming out.  
I'm gonna live, gonna live again.  
This is the sound of dry bones rattling.



Pentecostal fire stirring something new,  
You're not gonna run out of miracles anytime soon.  
Resurrection power runs in my veins too.  
I believe there's another miracle here in this room (*Chorus*)

Bridge: My God is able to save and deliver and heal  
And restore anything that He wants to.  
Just ask the man who was thrown on the bones of Elisha  
If there's anything that He can't do.

Just ask the stone that was rolled at the tomb in the garden  
What happens when God says to move.  
I feel Him moving it now. I feel Him doing it now.  
I feel Him doing it now. Do it now. Do it now.

Chorus: This is the sound of dry bones rattling.  
This is the praise make a dead man walk again.  
Open the grave; I'm coming out.  
I'm gonna live, gonna live again.  
Open the grave; I'm coming out.  
I'm gonna live, gonna live again.  
Open the grave; I'm coming out.  
I'm gonna live, gonna live again.

This is the sound of dry bones rattling.  
This is the sound, this is the sound.  
Dry bones rattle!

## General Announcements

1. **Lydia Guild Meeting**
  - a. **Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**
  - b. Carol Sweebe will present “*Threads of My Tapestry*” in the Lounge.
  - c. Everyone welcome. Light refreshments will be provided.
2. **Vacation Bible School**
  - a. "Magnified!" is coming to St. John's **Monday, June 9-Thursday, June 12.**
  - b. Interested in volunteering? Join us for a meeting on **Tuesday, April 29 at 6pm.**
3. **Birthday Party for Ruth Morey**
  - a. Everyone is invited to help celebrate Ruth's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday at Venue 63 on **May 17<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm.**
  - b. Say hello and get a hug! Sponsored by her children.
4. **National Day of Prayer**
  - a. **May 1st** from **12-1pm** in front of the **Midland County Courthouse.**
  - b. Please join us on Main St. in Midland as we PRAY for our nation. Everyone is welcome!
5. **LifeClinic Fundraiser**
  - a. Currently the St. John's table at The LifeClinic on **May 1st** is full. However, this doesn't mean that you can't attend!.
  - b. You can still register and select "I don't have a table host" from the drop-down menu and you will be assigned to a table.
  - c. The same event is being held on 2 other dates as well- April 30th at noon and May 15th at 7 pm.
  - d. Questions, contact Beth Smith at (989) 941-8104.

## **Acknowledgments**

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