



St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

8 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.

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, often called Good Shepherd Sunday, we rejoice that the risen Christ calls us by name and leads us beside still waters. In a world filled with competing voices, His voice alone gives life, forgiveness, and peace. Today we hear again that our Shepherd laid down His life for the sheep and now lives to guide and guard His flock. Secure in His care, we gather to listen, to receive, and to follow.

Preparation for Worship and Welcome

Hymn

“This is the Day the Lord Has Made”

LSB 903

This is the day the Lord has made;
He calls the hours His own.
Let heav'n rejoice, let earth be glad
And praise surround the throne.

Today He rose and left the dead,
And Satan's empire fell;
Today the saints His triumphs spread
And all His wonders tell.

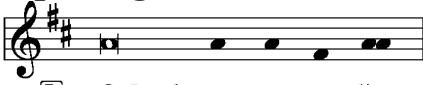
Hosanna to the anointed King,
To David's holy Son!
Help us, O Lord; descend and bring
Salvation from Your throne.

Blessèd is He who comes to us
With messages of grace;
He, in the Lord's name, comes to us
To save our fallen race.

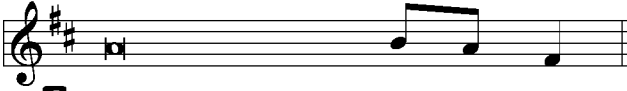
Hosanna in the highest strains
The Church on earth can raise.
The highest heav'ns, in which He reigns,
Shall give Him nobler praise.

Text: Public domain

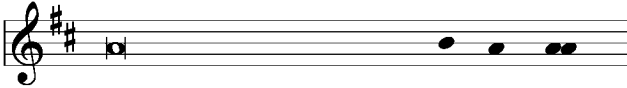
Opening Versicles



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to you, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

Antiphon

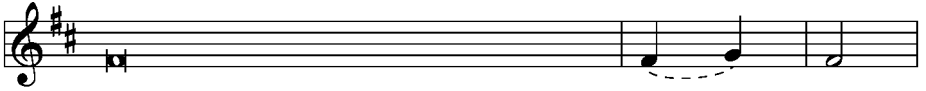


L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.

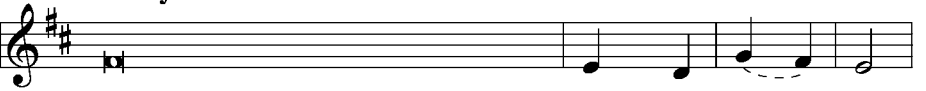


C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

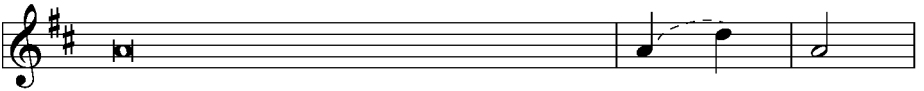
Venite



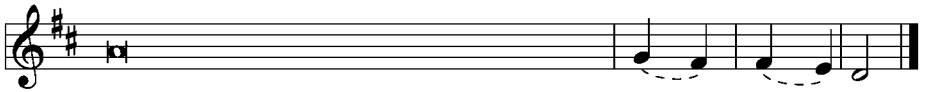
C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,
5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.
5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Antiphon



L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 10:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber.

But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children’s Message

Stephanie Davis

Hymn

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

LSB 709

The King of love my shepherd is,

Whose goodness faileth never;

I nothing lack if I am His

And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,

My ransomed soul He leadeth

And, where the verdant pastures grow,

With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
 But yet in love He sought me
 And on His shoulder gently laid
 And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
 With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
 Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
 Thy cross before to guide me.

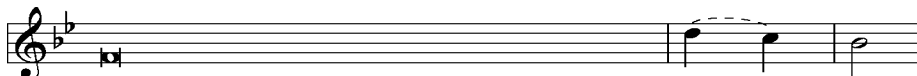
Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 Thine unction grace bestoweth;
 And, oh, what transport of delight
 From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
 Thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
 Within Thy house forever!

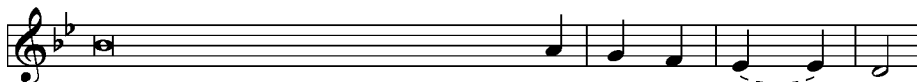
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Sermon

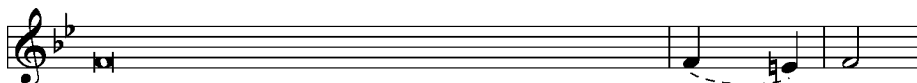
Te Deum



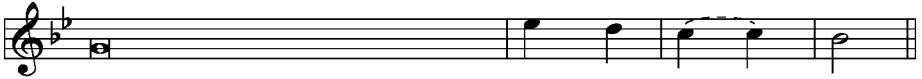
- 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 3 The noble army of martyrs praise You.



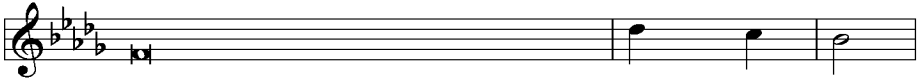
- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
 2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
 3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



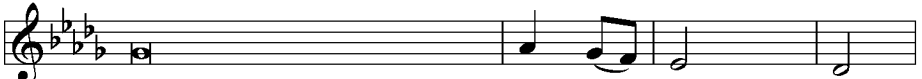
- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
 2 The glorious company of the apostles praise You.
 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
 4 You are the king of glory, O Christ;



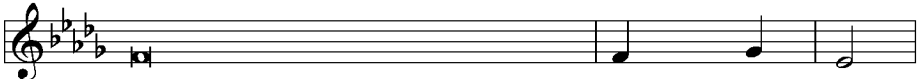
1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
 2 The goodly fellowship of the proph - ets praise — You.
 3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com - fort - er.
 4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.



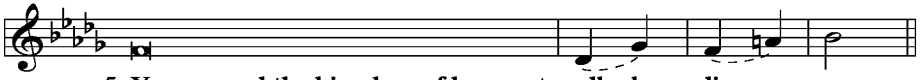
5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
 6 You sit at the right hand of God



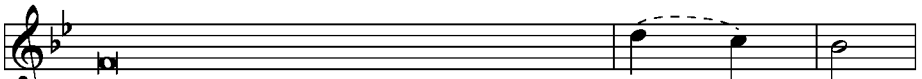
5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
 6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
 6 We believe that You will come



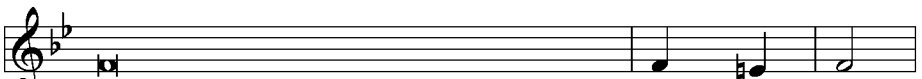
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
 6 to be — our — judge.



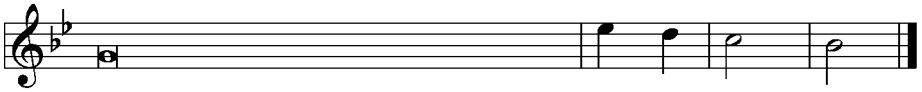
7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,
 8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.
 9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out — sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.
 8 Govern them and lift them up for - ev - er.
 9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on — us.



7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints
 8 Day by day we magni - fy You.
 9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.



7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.
 8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.
 9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

Offering

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

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.

Salutation



P The Lord be with you.



C And with your spir - it.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray:
 Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death
 the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we
 hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by
 name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your
 Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one
 God, now and forever.

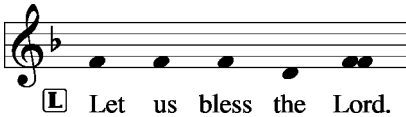
C Amen.

Collect for Grace

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benedicamus



Benediction

P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.

C A - men.

Hymn

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

LSB 918

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy pow’rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield;
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell’s destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan’s side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.

Text: Public domain

Announcements

Blessing and Dismissal

P May God, our faithful Good Shepherd, keep you in His tender care,
lead you in paths of righteousness, and fill you with resurrection hope.

C Amen.

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

As we conclude, please feel free to stay for a few minutes if you would like to connect or chat with people Jesus has brought together today. Remember that we are all in this together!

Announcements

Stronghold Cambodia Mission Trip Presentation

The mission trip team will give a presentation about their trip to Stronghold TODAY during the Bible Study hour (9:30 - 10:30).

VBS Registration & Meeting

Register today for Vacation Bible School by visiting myvbs.org/sjlmidland ! "Illumination Station: Shining a Light on Who Jesus Really Is" is coming to St. John's Monday, June 15- Thursday, June 18 (6:00-8:00pm, family meals offered at 5:30pm). Children age 3 (must be potty trained) through grade 5 are invited to attend. Share an invite with family, friends, and neighbors-- all are welcome!

Interested in volunteering? Administration, teaching, music, art, construction, sports, food prep, skits... there's opportunity for EVERYONE to share their gifts. **Our first meeting is Tuesday, April 28 at 6:00pm in the Lounge.** Hope to see you there!

National Day of Prayer –Thursday, May 7th, 2026

"Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking Him in All Generations"

1 Chronicles 16:24

Every year thousands of people gather across our country to pray for our Communities, our State and our Nation. This year our St. John's prayer team invites you to join us as we pray with our community seeking our Lord's guidance for our leaders and His grace upon us.

2 Chronicles 7:14 "if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Our prayer team invites you to join us by praying with us for "30 Days of Prayer." Also, we invite you to come with us on Thursday, May 7th to the local prayer event held at noon outside the Midland County Courthouse. Mark your calendars, more specific information will be shared as plans are finalized.

***Altar flowers are given in celebration of
Brad and Alisha Burrige's first wedding anniversary!***

Acknowledgments

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St. John's Lutheran Church & School
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Kathy
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Senior Pastor: Daniel Kempin
(ext. 1201)

Associate Pastor: Joshua Parsons
(ext. 1202)

Dir. of Family Life Ministry: Anna
Kruger

Dir. Of Young Families Ministry:
Stephanie Davis
(ext. 1204)

Our Mission Statement

"We are here to share the good news of salvation and make disciples of Jesus Christ, in accordance with the Scriptures (Matt. 28:18-20) and with the help of the Holy Spirit. This mission begins with our St. John's family and extends to the Midland Community and the world."