



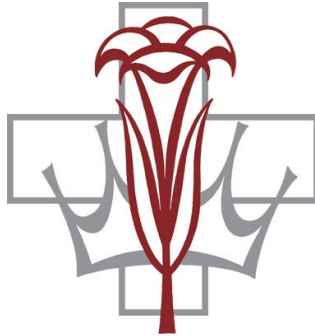
# St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

## The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 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.*

## Abiding in Christ's Love

*On this Sixth Sunday of Easter, we hear again the comforting promise of Christ's presence with His people. In a world often marked by uncertainty and fear, Jesus calls us to remain in His love and to live as people shaped by His peace. As we gather for worship today, may the Holy Spirit strengthen our faith, guide us in obedience to God's Word, and fill our hearts with the enduring hope and joy found in the risen Christ.*

## Preparation for Worship and Welcome

### Hymn

“Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace”

LSB 844

- 1 Lord of all nations, grant me grace  
To love all people, ev'ry race;  
And in each person may I see  
My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.
- 2 Break down the wall that would divide  
Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.  
My neighbor's good let me pursue;  
Let Christian love bind warm and true.
- 3 Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred  
By loveless act and thoughtless word.  
Make me to see the wrong I do  
Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.
- 4 Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak  
Whenever strong oppress the weak.  
Should I myself the victim be,  
Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee.
- 5 With Thine own love may I be filled  
And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,  
That all I touch, where'er I be,  
May be divinely touched by Thee.

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### Invocation and Exhortation

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

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in

us.

- C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

## 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. 119:89-93; antiphon: Ps. 119:105*

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

**Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.**

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

**By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants.**

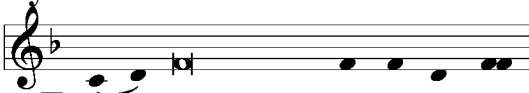
If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

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

**Glorify 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.**

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

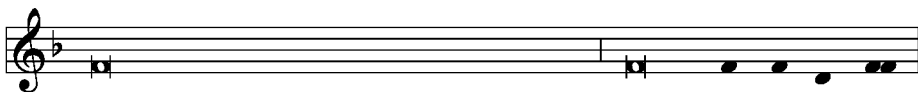
## Kyrie



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



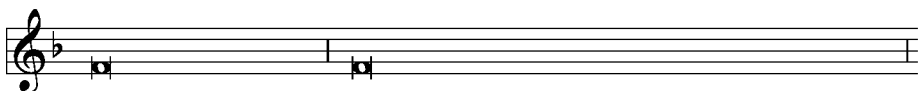
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



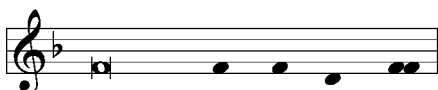
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



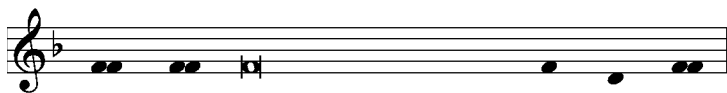
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.



**C** A - - men.

## Gloria in Excelsis



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** 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.



**C** A - men.

## First Reading

*Acts 17:16-31*

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. 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. 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. And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. 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. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. 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, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, 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.’”

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. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 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.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*1 Peter 3:13-22*

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts regard 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, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.

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, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, 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. 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, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels,

authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Common Alleluia and Verse

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 14:15-21*

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

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 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.

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

# Apostles' Creed

**C** 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.**

## Children's Message

Pastor Josh

## Hymn

“Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring”

*LSB 353*

- 1 Jesus came, the heav'ns adoring,  
Came with peace from realms on high;  
Jesus came to win redemption,  
Lowly came on earth to die;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Came in deep humility.
- 2 Jesus comes again in mercy  
When our hearts are worn with care;  
Jesus comes again in answer  
To an earnest, heartfelt prayer;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Comes to save us from despair.
- 3 Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing,  
Bringing news of sins forgiv'n;

Jesus comes with words of gladness,  
Leading souls redeemed to heav'n.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Hope to all the world is giv'n.

- 4 Jesus comes in joy and sorrow,  
Shares alike our hopes and fears;  
Jesus comes, whate'er befalls us,  
Cheers our hearts and dries our tears;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Comforts us in failing years.

Text: Public domain

## Sermon

### Offertory



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

# Offering

## Hymn

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

*LSB 816*

- 1 From all that dwell below the skies  
Let the Creator’s praise arise;  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung  
Through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;  
Eternal truth attends Thy Word.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore  
Till suns shall rise and set no more.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- D 3 All praise to God the Father be,  
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Whom with the Spirit we adore  
Forever and forevermore:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Public domain

## 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 unto thee.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and T give thee peace.



## Hymn

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

*LSB 480*

- 1 He’s risen, He’s risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;  
He opened death’s prison, the incarnate, true Word.  
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song  
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.
- 2 The foe was triumphant when on Calvary  
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.  
In Satan’s domain did the hosts shout and jeer,  
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.
- 3 But short was their triumph; the Savior arose,  
And death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His foes.  
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high;  
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nevermore die.
- 4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;  
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden’s door.  
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;  
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.
- D 5 Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;  
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.  
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:  
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.

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## Announcements

## Blessing and Dismissal

**P** May the risen Christ fill you with courage, love, and peace as you go from this gathering. May the Spirit's gifts empower your faithful living today and always.

**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

**The Baby Bottle Fundraiser for LifeClinic** will begin this week, Mother's Day, and run until Father's Day. Please pick up a baby bottle in the church lounge after Sunday worship (Saturday night worship - get one from the bin in the office). Fill with coins, bills or a check made out to LifeClinic Community Resources and return to the church office by Father's Day. Your money goes to supporting new moms through pregnancy testing, options counseling, parenting education and baby supplies.

**SJL Men's Softball!** Come cheer on the St. John's men's softball team at their first games (it's a double header!) of the season this Monday at 7:45 and 9:00 at RC 5. You can find the season schedule along with directions to the fields on the bulletin board. See you there!

**Women of St. John's** will be meeting on Monday, May 11 at 12:30pm in Room 2. This will be our last meeting until September. Please join us if you are able.

### **Creating Seed Packets With Seeds of God's Word**

*Drop In Visual Faith Event -Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Rm. 3*  
Join us as we colorize and assemble Visual Faith Seed Packets and flower scripture cards. A great way to bring God's word into your week, a leave behind for someone to discover or a day brightener for those on our Visitation Roster.

**Family Fun Meetups** Join us this summer at St. John's playground for Family Fun Meetups! This open-house style event invites caregivers and children to enjoy time together, build relationships, and end the morning with a short devotional. More information to come!

**Homeschooling Meet-Up** Are you a homeschooling family attending a Lutheran church in the Great Lakes Bay region? We are organizing a meet-up to establish a local network for fellowship, support, and shared activities. We are having a meet-up at the Zauel Library playground on Tuesday, May 19 @2:00pm EST. If there is rain, we will meet inside the library in the playroom at the right far corner of the children's section.

If you are interested in connecting, please reach out to Emily Abraham at [emilyabraham730@gmail.com](mailto:emilyabraham730@gmail.com) or text (404-713-7206) for details on our upcoming meet-up.

**New Member Reception**

Join us next Sunday, May 17 as we celebrate our new members! Recognition/welcome will take place during worship services, fellowship and refreshments will be offered at 9:00am.

**Vacation Bible School**

Have you heard? "Illumination Station: Shining a Light on Who Jesus Really Is" is coming to St. John's Monday, June 15- Thursday, June 18. Program runs from 6:00-8:00pm, family meals served at 5:30pm. Children age 3 (must be potty trained) through grade 5 are invited to attend. Register today at [myvbs.org/sjlmidland](http://myvbs.org/sjlmidland)

Interested in volunteering? Our next meeting is **THIS Tuesday, May 12 at 6:00pm** in the Lounge. Hope to see you there!

**Missionaries Needed** Are you interested in learning more about outreach opportunities at the Midland Co. fair this year? Scan the QR code to find out more and to volunteer!



*Altar flowers are given in celebration of  
Jenna and Kirsten Butcher's Graduation!*

## Acknowledgments

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St. John's Lutheran Church & School  
Website QRC:



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### 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."