



St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026

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.

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.

♪ "House of the Lord"

Words and Music by Phil Wickham and Jonathan Smith
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We worship the God who was. We worship the God who is.
We worship the God who evermore will be.
He opened the prison doors. He parted the raging sea.
Our God, He holds the victory, yeah.

Chorus: There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise.
There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise.

Oh, oh, oh, we shout out Your praise.

We sing to the God who heals. We sing to the God who saves.
We sing to the God who always makes a way.
'Cause He hung upon that cross then He rose up from that grave.
My God's still rolling stones away. (Chorus)

We were the beggars. Now we're royalty.
We were the pris'ners. Now we're running free.
We are forgiven, accepted, redeemed by His grace.
Let the house of the Lord sing praise. *(Repeat) 'Cause*

Chorus (2x): There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise.
There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise.

We shout out Your praise!
There is joy in this house, there is joy in this house today!
We shout out Your praise! We shout out Your praise.

Invocation

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

C **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

P Lord, we confess.

C **We confess that we have hurt others with our words and actions, neglected mercy, and trusted in ourselves rather than in God. We have allowed fear, self-righteousness, and indifference to shape our choices. Forgive us, gracious God. Restore in us the heart that seeks Your ways, the will to reconcile, and the courage to live as Your witnesses.**

P Hear the good news: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. In rising, He breaks the power of sin and death and pours out the gift of the Spirit upon us. By the power of the Spirit at work within us, and in the name of Jesus Christ, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins: you are loved, you are freed, and you are restored to live in the hope and peace of God's new creation.

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.

Collect of the Day

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 **Amen.**

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.**

Holy Gospel

John 14:15-21

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

C **Glory 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.

C **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

♪ “Christus Victor (Amen)”

Words and Music by Bryan Fowler, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Matt Boswell and Matt Papa
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O Most High, King of the ages,
Great I AM, God of wonders,
By the blood, You have redeemed us,
Led us through mighty waters,
Our strength, our song, our sure salvation.

Chorus 1: Now to the Lamb upon the throne,
Be blessing, honor, glory, power, for the battle You have won.
Hallelujah! Amen.

O Most High, dwelling among us,
Son of man, sent for sinners,
By Your blood, You have redeemed us,
Spotless Lamb, mighty Savior
Who lived, who died, who rose victorious.

Chorus 2: Now to the Lamb upon the throne,
Be blessing, honor, glory, power for the battle You have won.
Hallelujah!
With every tribe and every tongue,
We join the anthem of the angels in the triumph of the Son.
Hallelujah! Amen.

O Most High, King of the nations,

Robed in praise, crowned with splendor,
On that day, who will not tremble
When You stand Christ the Victor,
Who was and is and is forever. (*Chorus 2*)

Bridge: Amen, amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen. (*Chorus 2*)

Ending: Sing the victory of the Lamb.
Hallelujah! Amen. Amen.

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.

"Rattle!"

Words and Music by Chris Brown, Steven Furtick and Brandon Lake
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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.

(song continued on p.8)

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!

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 13th 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!

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!



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 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/sjmidland

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

*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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Dir. of Family Life Ministry: Anna
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Dir. Of Young Families Ministry:
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School Secretary: Sarah Graham
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School Principal: Brad Massey
(ext. 1300)

Business Manager: Kris Zastrow
(ext. 1206)

Dir. of Worship Music: Karen Kempin
(ext. 1205)

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."