



St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 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.

Waiting in Hope and Prayer

Today we stand with the disciples between Christ's ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. In this season of waiting, we are reminded that God is at work even when we cannot yet see the fullness of His plan. As we gather in worship today, may the Lord strengthen us to live with patient hope, steadfast prayer, and confident trust in the promises of the risen and reigning Christ.

♪ “A Thousand Hallelujahs”

Words and Music by Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood, and Phil Wickham
©2022 City and Vine Music Publishing International | Phil Wickham Music | Simply Global Songs

Who else would rocks cry out to worship?
Whose glory taught the stars to shine?
Perhaps creation longs to have the words to sing,
But this joy is mine.

Chorus: With a thousand “hallelujahs,”
We magnify Your name.
You alone deserve the glory,
The honor and the praise.
Lord Jesus, this song is forever Yours,
A thousand “hallelujahs” and a thousand more.

Who else would die for our redemption?
Whose resurrection means I'll rise?
There isn't time enough to sing of all You've done,
But I have eternity to try. *(Chorus)*

Bridge (2x): Praise to the Lord, to the Lamb,
To the King of heaven.
Praise for He rose; now He reigns.
We will sing forever.

Chorus—Bridge—Chorus

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 confess our sins to God, our Father.
C **Merciful Father, we confess that we have not waited patiently upon You. We have trusted our own understanding more than Your promises, and we have allowed fear, doubt, and distraction to**

weaken our faith. Too often we have failed to love others well, to seek Your will in prayer, or to live as witnesses to the hope we have in Christ. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again for us. Renew us by Your Holy Spirit, and lead us to walk in faithful obedience and joyful trust; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His 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 therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Introit

Ps. 100:1-5; antiphon: Ps. 101:1

I will sing of steadfast love and justice;
to you, O LORD, I will make music.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all 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.

I will sing of steadfast love and justice;
to you, O LORD, I will make music.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray:

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Reception of New Members to our Church Family

First Reading

Acts 1:12-26

Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.

And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." (Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) "For it is written in the Book of Psalms, "'May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it'; and "'Let another take his office.'

So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the

household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And “If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good...

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 17:1-11

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

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

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

“I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand
of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message

Anna Kruger

♪ “The Old Rugged Cross”

Words and Music by George Bennard, arr. by David Shippy
© 2006 PraiseCharts

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame.
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Chorus: So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
'Til my trophies at last I lay down.
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it someday for a crown.

Oh the old rugged cross, so despised by the world
Has a wondrous attraction for me.
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary. (*Chorus*)

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wonderous beauty I see.
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me. (*Chorus*)

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true.
Its shame and reproach gladly bear.
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share. (*Chorus*)
And exchange it someday for a crown.

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.**

Communion Preparation

P Let us pray.

C **Gracious Lord, as we come to Your Table today, quiet our anxious hearts and draw us into Your presence. Prepare us to receive with repentance, faith, and thanksgiving the true body and blood of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. Strengthen us through this holy meal to wait with hope, to live in love, and to serve faithfully as Your people in the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

♪ “O Come To The Altar”

Words and Music by Steven Furtick, Chris Brown, Wade Joye and Mack Brock
© 2015 Music by Elevation Worship Publishing

Are you hurting and broken within,
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin? Jesus is calling,
Have you come to the end of yourself,
Do you thirst for a drink from the well? Jesus is calling.

Chorus: O come to the altar;
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes,
Come today; there's no reason to wait. Jesus is calling.
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy;
From the ashes a new life is born. Jesus is calling. (*Chorus 2x*)

Bridge (2x): Oh what a Savior, Isn't he wonderful;
Sing alleluia, Christ is risen.
Bow down before him, For he is Lord of all;
Sing alleluia Christ is risen.

Chorus (2x)

Ending: Bear your cross as you wait for the crown;
Tell the world of the treasure you've found.

♪ “From Everlasting (Psalm 90)”

Words and Music by Lacy Hudson and Lisa Clow
©2021 Sovereign Grace Praise

O God, before the mountains were brought forth
Or days of spring and summer filled the earth
From everlasting, You are God.

We dwell beneath the stars in ancient skies.
A thousand years are nothing in Your sight.
From everlasting, You are God.

Chorus: And all our days are held within Your hands.
Your perfect love and favor have no end.
We rest within the wisdom of Your plan,
Everlasting God

O God, when joy and tragedy collide
And loss reminds us life is but a sigh,
From everlasting, You are God. (*Chorus*)

O God of light, our ways are known to You,
But by Your grace You're making all things new.
So satisfy us in our numbered days,
Establish every effort while we wait.
From everlasting, You are God.

Chorus: And all our days are held within Your hands.
Your perfect love and favor have no end.
We rest within the wisdom of Your plan,
Everlasting

Chorus: And all our days are held within Your hands.
Your perfect love and favor have no end.
We rest within the wisdom of Your plan,
Everlasting God

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.**

“Blessed Be Your Name”

Words and Music by Matt Redman and Beth Redman
©2002 Thankyou Music

Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful,
Where Your streams of abundance flow, blessed be Your name.
Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,
“Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name.”

Blessed be Your name, when the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's “all as it should be,” blessed be Your name.
Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering,
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your name.

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,
“Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name.”

You give and take away, You give and take away.
Our lips, they will proclaim, “Lord, Blessed be Your name.”
You give and take away, You give and take away.
Our lips, they will proclaim, “Lord, Blessed be Your name.”

“Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name.”

Announcements

Blessing and Dismissal

P May God fill you with patient hope, steadfast faith, and the peace of the risen Christ as you wait upon His promises.

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

SJL Men's Softball! Come cheer on the St. John's men's softball team **this Monday at 6:30 at RC 4**. You can find the season schedule along with directions to the fields on the bulletin board and the church website. See you there!

Altar flowers are given in celebration of Kirk & Tammi Tomlinson's 47th Wedding Anniversary!

*Pulpit flowers are given in Memory of Minnie Pacholka's birthday on May 15th
Courtesy of Matt and Martha Currie*

Acknowledgments

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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."