



St. John Lutheran Church and School
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
Reverend Jeff Caithamer
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School Principal: Tim Gabbert

Divine Service II

Prelude – Partita on “*Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*”

Cherwein

OPENING HYMN 480 *He’s Risen, He’s Risen*

- 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.
- Δ5 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.

***INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P In the name of the Father and of the 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.**

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 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 Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

*KYRIE

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P 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 mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE *This is the Feast*

P This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia.

C **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray... (*The Collect of the Day is spoken.*)

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Acts 4:32-35

³² Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³ And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as

were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵ and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: 1 John 1:1-2:2

¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — ² the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³ that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1} My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*ALLELUIA AND VERSE

C **Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter. (19-31)

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

¹⁹ 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." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." ²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ 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." ²⁶ 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.”²⁷ 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.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;³¹ 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY 470 *O Sons and Daughters of the King*

- 1 O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 That Easter morn, at break of day, The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 An angel clad in white they see, Who sits and speaks unto the three,
“Your Lord will go to Galilee.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 That night the apostles met in fear; Among them came their master dear
And said, “My peace be with you here.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 5 When Thomas first the tidings heard That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 “My pierced side, O Thomas, see, And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied; He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
“You are my Lord and God!” he cried. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 8 How blest are they who have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 9 On this most holy day of days Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SERMON “*Blessed Believers*” John 20:19-31

***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 everlasting. Amen.

*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

“O Filii et Filiae”

Dandrieu

*LORD’S PRAYER

*COLLECT

*BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 649 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father’s throne We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes, Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows The sympathizing tear.
- 4 When here our pathways part, We suffer bitter pain;
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet again.
- 5 From sorrow, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free
And perfect love and friendship reign Through all eternity.

Postlude – Carillon-Sortie on *O Filii et Filiae*

Hummerding

SERVING –

Preaching: Rev. Jeff Caithamer

Organist: Keith Williams

Videographer: Lou Ann

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY – We remember the following people in our prayers: *for peace and comfort:* John & Cheryl and family at the death of brother Dan. *following surgery:* Gilbert, Cindy; *in thanksgiving:* for the one year anniversary of Jan’s kidney transplant on April 7th; *for healing and recovery:* Denny-father of Katie, Starley, Taylor, Maelynn- granddaughter of Rick & Rita, Karla, Pastor Ehlers, Aidan, Whitney-wife of Ellie grandson, Barbara-friend of the congregation, John, Tom, Hendricks-grandson of Dan & Joanie, Jacob-great grandson of Bob &

Joan, Maria, Merv, Jessica-granddaughter of Bob & Joan, Joan-mother of Bill, Judy-mother of Rochelle, Rebecca-daughter of Marvin & Esther, Roy-father of Anne, Dan-brother of Bonnie, Todd, Brett-cousin of the Kindts'; *for successful treatments*: Luke, Kendra (school parent), Cari (school parent), Nicole (school parent), Earl, Jayne, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy; *for our college students*: Billy, Kyle, Joshua; *for those in the military*: Roberto, Adam, Joshua, Nick, Taylor, Andy, Brandon, Ben, Allyson, Zachary; *for our homebound*: Paul, Alice.

For requests for the prayer chain or to be added to the chain:

<http://stjohnmedia.org/church/PrayerList.html>

OUR WEEK AHEAD

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| Today | <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i> ; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 New Member Class |
| Monday | 5:30 Finance Board |
| Tuesday | 6:00 Elders |
| Wednesday | 8:20 Chapel; 10:00 Adult Bible Class; 5:45 Midweek School; 7:15 Holy Communion |
| Sunday | <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i> ; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 1:00 New Member Class |

Ark Encounter & Creation Museum Trip – Immanuel, Springfield is hosting a trip see the Ark and Creation Museum in Kentucky. Dates are April 26-29, roundtrip motor coach, 3 night stay in Cincinnati area, breakfast and dinner 3 days, admissions, baggage handling, all for \$450.00 per person (double occupancy). Call Pastor Stuenkel or the church office at 217-528-5232 for details and sign-up.

It's not too late to join the St. John team in the Pregnancy Resource Center Walk for Life this year. There is a live walk at Marketplace Mall on April 17th at 9am with a celebration following across the street at the Center. However, you do not have to walk in this event to participate, you can walk on your own at another time. Please register and select St. John Lutheran Champaign for team at: <https://www.pregnancyresourcecenter.org/get-involved/events/champaign-events/> You can find more details here as well. If you are unable to participate but would like to make a donation, please contact Vanessa. Thank you for your support of this important, life-saving ministry.

LWML Salad Supper will be a St. John LWML only. Bring your own bag supper for fun and fellowship April 19th at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. All women of St. John are welcome. Bring one or two "Thinking of You" cards with a stamped envelope to send with a \$10 gift card to encourage St. John's college students. The gift cards will be purchased through St. John School gift card program. Please give your donations for the gift cards purchase to Martha. Contact Linda or Martha for more information.

Enrollment for 2021-2022 – St. John Lutheran School and Little Lamb Preschool offer a Christ-centered education for students age three through eighth grade. Our caring, skilled teachers use a variety of strategies to engage students’ minds in a safe learning environment, with the focus on teaching every subject with a Biblical worldview. Little Lamb Preschool offers morning and full day classes. Two-day (T/TH), three-day (M/W/F), and five-day options are available. Tell everyone about our wonderful school. Enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year has begun. For more information, contact the school office at (217) 359-1714.

St. John School Wish List – There are several items that our teachers, students and school would benefit from: interactive projectors, new classroom flooring, Chromebooks, outdoor pavilion, office computers, new assessment program. Please see the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall for more details and estimated costs and consider making a donation towards one of the items. If your donation goes in the offering plate, the donation remains anonymous. If your donation is turned into the school office, we can thank you for your generosity. All donations will be included on your Contribution Statement.

Equipping the Priesthood of All Believers – Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week’s teachings include: What I Wish My Non-Lutheran Family Members Knew about the Church Calendar, Eastern Orthodoxy, Christians in a Woke World, The Prophet Jonah and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.