

St. Johns Lutheran Church

“Unless I see in his hands
the mark of the nails...
I will never believe.”



“My Lord and my God!”

AS WE GATHER

We gather today still in the glow of the most joyous and amazing celebration of Easter, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, from the dead. The sights and sounds of that celebration linger in our memory, not as just a past event finished and forgotten, but as Peter calls it today, “a living hope,” as enduring and strong as the certainty of our living Lord and the promised future of our own resurrection. We return to continue the Easter celebration because in the afterglow of the days since Easter Sunday, many still do not know that hope. Like the absent apostle Thomas, we still face what seems to be a hopeless world. Today we remember that our only hope is built on a divine Savior whose crucifixion wounds were endured for us and for all. Thomas saw and believed. Peter rejoiced. Though we do not now see Him, “you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory” (1 Peter 1:8), the only sure and living hope.

RINGING OF THE BELLS WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME GUESTS

We’re glad you are here! Make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering. Please consider liking us on Facebook (St. Johns Lutheran Church – St. Louis City) and checking out our website (<https://stjohnslutheranstlouis.org/>).

PREPARATION

HYMN “Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won” *LSB 490*

**Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!
Death no longer can appall me;**

**Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!
From the grave Christ will recall me.
Brighter scenes will then commence;
This shall be my confidence.**

**Jesus lives! To Him the throne
High above all things is given.
I shall go where He is gone,
Live and reign with Him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence!
This shall be my confidence.**

**Jesus lives! For me He died.
Hence will I, to Jesus living,
Pure in heart and act abide,
Praise to Him and glory giving.
All I need God will dispense;
This shall be my confidence.**

**Jesus lives! I know full well
Nothing me from Him shall sever,
Neither death nor pow'rs of hell
Part me now from Christ forever.
God will be my sure defense;
This shall be my confidence.**

**Jesus lives! And now is death
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath
When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense;
Jesus is my confidence!**

INVOCATION

**In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *1 Corinthians 15:54b–57*

“Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O death, where is your victory?”

“O death, where is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 John 1:8–9*

That victory remains ours by a God-given faith and hope. That hope is kept alive as we daily repent of our sins and remain in the promises of God. For, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

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

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

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 are afraid of losing hope. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, risen from the dead for the life of the world, 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.

Upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

☩ WORD ☩

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST *LSB 154*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy
Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MEMORIZED WORD

He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. Isaiah 25:8

FIRST READING *Acts 5:29–42*

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.” ³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men

outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Christ has risen * from the dead.

**[God the Father] has crowned him with glory
and * honor.**

**He has given him dominion over the works * of his hands;
he has put all things un * der his feet.**

EPISTLE *1 Peter 1:3–9*

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if

necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 20:19–31* *(video)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On 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.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.” ²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Sons and Daughters of the King” *LSB 470*

**O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave hath lost its sting!
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

**That Easter morn, at break of day,
The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay.
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

**An angel clad in white they see,
Who sits and speaks unto the three,
"Your Lord will go to Galilee."
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

**That night the Apostles met in fear;
Among them came their master dear
And said: "My peace be with you here."
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

**When Thomas first the tidings heard
That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word.
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

**"My pierced side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be."
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

**No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

**How blest are they that have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

**On this most holy day of days
Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise.
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!**

SERMON

APOSTLE'S 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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

LSB 159

**What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the
name of the Lord.**

**I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O
Jerusalem.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious joy of our continuing celebration of the resurrection of Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ from the dead, we give You thanks and sing Your praise. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

By His death, He destroyed death and by His rising now gives to all who believe the gift of eternal life in the forgiveness of our sins. Help us to walk with the certainty of a living hope of the eternal life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give boldness to Your whole Church throughout the world that Your servants, especially Your pastors and teachers, proclaim the

resurrection of Christ to all people as the objects of Your love.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Lord God, save and defend our country. Give wisdom and compassion to all in authority that they may serve all people with justice and provide for the maintenance of peace.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Lovingly embrace all who gather to celebrate the remembrance of the most glorious death and resurrection of Your Son. Increase faith and hope in the hearts and minds of all who call upon You, especially all who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any adversity. (*Especially we remember...*) By Your healing grace, defend us from every evil to body and soul. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We commend to Your mercy, O Lord, all Your servants who have departed with the sign of faith and now rest in the sleep of peace. Grant to them Your mercy and everlasting peace; and on the day of the resurrection of all flesh, grant that we and all Your servants of Your Son, may altogether be set on His right hand and hear His most joyful voice saying, "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.
Amen.

HYMN “This Joyful Eastertide” *LSB 482*

**This joyful Eastertide
Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified,
Has sprung to life this morrow:**

Refrain:
**Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain;
But now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen;
But now has Christ arisen!**

**Death's flood has lost its chill
Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver: *[Refrain]***

**My flesh in hope shall rest
And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number: *[Refrain]***

Preacher	Alvaro Witt Duarte
Liturgist	Pastor Michael Tanney
Lector	Isaac Hedstrom
Elders	Al Bohannon & Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	Cameron Hampel, John Benwell, Patrick Benwell, Jayvon Evers, Joan Potvin,

Children's Message	William Gebhart, and Roger Schmidt
Acolytes/Screen	Pastor Michael Tanney
Bible Class	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
	Isaac Hedstrom

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Announcements

Saved to Share Called to Care

Our Response to God's Love Last Week

Attendance Sunday/Communion: 58/42

Nepalese Attendance: 33

Offering: \$2,135.00

ERIN BODE, FREE CONCERT will take place on Friday, April 21st at 7:30pm. This free concert featuring Erin Bode will be presented as a gift to the community by Christ Memorial Productions. CMP will provide free soft drinks, wine, and beer as well as snacks during the concert.

LAUDAMUS AT LACLEDE GROVES "Laudamus" from Concordia Seminary will present a concert of sacred choral music in the Chapel at Laclede Groves Retirement Community on Wednesday morning, April 19, at 11:00 am. Laclede Groves is located at 723 South Laclede Station Road, St Louis, 63119. Enter through the glass doors by the flag pole, sign in at the welcome desk, and get directions to the chapel. Featured on the program will be several arrangements by Henry Gerike, former director of the group, and current resident of Laclede Groves. STM Student Alvaro Witt Duarte is a member of the group of thirteen singers led this year by Interim Conductor, Greg Gastler.

LUTHERAN SOUTH BAND EVENT The Lutheran South music department is proud to present its spring concert series. On Friday, April 28 the Jazz Band and Concert Choir will present their spring pops concert in the Kuhlmann Center at 7:00 pm. Guests will be seated around tables and snacks are encouraged. The Jazz Band will present two sets of big band music and the Concert Choir will sing several light-hearted selections. On Sunday, April 30 the Wind Symphony, Concert Band, and Junior Winds will present their spring programs at Concordia Lutheran in Kirkwood at 4:00 pm. Selections include *Pixar Movie Magic* arranged by Michael Brown, *Invocation and Jubiloso* by Claude Smith, *Ruckus* by Randall Standridge, and *Pastime* by Jack Stamp.

PASTOR AWAY Pastor Tanney will be away for his brothers funeral from April 21st-April 24th. Pastor Stanish Stanley will fill in on April 21st and there will be no Communion. In the case of an emergency, please contact Elder Earl Welch @ 314-629-9507

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions –Confirmation Class for the Lord to help them finish what they have begun; **Our Vicars** as they continue to take classes at the Seminary; **Our Field-Workers** Tristan (and family), Alvaro, and Isaac (as he begins his urban mission track); **Shut Ins** – Bobbie Kepford, Jerry Schmaltz, Steve Bain, Carmen Hobson

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week

April 16 – April 23

Sunday	9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship
Monday	<u>8am-12pm</u> Office Open / <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass 6pm Ladies Exercise
Tuesday	<u>8am-12pm</u> Office Open / <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass 6pm Seminary Students
Wednesday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>3:45pm</u> Compass Chapel
Thursday	<u>8am-12pm</u> Office Open / <u>2pm</u> Ridgewood Bible Study 3pm-6pm Compass
Friday	8am-12pm Office Open NO Bible Study 1pm Nepali Mother's Prayer Service 2pm-6pm Compass
Saturday	<u>8:30am</u> Food Pantry / <u>NO</u> Confirmation NO Vicar Meeting
Next Sunday	9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Study / Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship