

St. Johns Lutheran Church



But sanctify the Lord God
in your hearts: and be ready
always to give an answer to
every man that asketh you a
reason of the hope that is in
you with meekness and fear.

1 Peter 3:15

DailyVerses.net

AS WE GATHER

Who am I? Who are you? Who is God? These are questions surrounding identity—questions we and others wrestle with on and off throughout our lives as we live through life's chapters that may include being a child, sibling, spouse, parent, employee, employer, hobbyist, or retiree, with the spiritual journey that accompanies them. These identity questions also have added meaning today as the society we live in especially wrestles with one's identity. When God baptizes us into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we receive our most important identity as a baptized child of God.

**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/>). **Our service today includes the celebration of God's presence, as He comes in the true body and blood of Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from receiving the sacrament until they have spoken with the pastor.**

PREPARATION**OPENING HYMN... In Christ Alone**

**In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,**

**When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone! Who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones he came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath.
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.**

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ☥ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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.

CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins to God, our Father, seeking His forgiveness through our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

Heavenly Father, creator of all that was, is, and will ever be, we confess to You that we fall short of the calling that we have received from You, as Your dearly loved children. We have struggled to share the reason for the hope we have in You. We have not always responded to others with gentleness and respect. We have failed to live and share the love we have first received from You. Forgive our sins, for Jesus' sake, and lead us to live lives that reflect Your indwelling presence.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ is 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.

Amen.

WORD

KYRIE *LSB 152*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

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.

Ever-living God, in You we live and move and have our being. We praise and thank You for creating us in Your image and for restoring our sin-stained selves to that image through the waters of Baptism. Lead and guide us by Your Spirit, as we live out our days so that others may come to know who You are; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MEMORIZED WORD

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

Psalm 27:4

FIRST READING *Acts 17:16–31*

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So 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. ¹⁸Some 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. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. ²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious.

²³For 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. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And 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, ²⁷that 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, ²⁸for “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.” ²⁹Being 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. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because 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.”

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 3:13–22*

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but 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; ¹⁶yet 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. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil. ¹⁸For 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,¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison,²⁰because 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.²¹Baptism, 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,²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Romans 6:9; John 16:33b*

Alleluia.

We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.
Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 14:15–21*

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵[Jesus said:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even 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. ¹⁸“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever 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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice” *LSB 556 v. 1-5*

**Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
With exultation springing,
And with united heart and voice
And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God has done,
How His right arm the vict'ry won,
What price our ransom cost Him!**

**Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay;
Death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day;
In sin my mother bore me.
But daily deeper still I fell;
My life became a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.**

**My own good works all came to naught,
No grace or merit gaining;
Free will against God's judgment fought,
Dead to all good remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair
Left only death to be my share;
The pangs of hell I suffered.**

**But God had seen my wretched state
Before the world's foundation,
And mindful of His mercies great,
He planned for my salvation.
He turned to me a father's heart;
He did not choose the easy part
But gave His dearest treasure.**

**God said to His beloved Son:
"It's time to have compassion.
Then go, bright jewel of My crown,**

And bring to all salvation.
From sin and sorrow set them free;
Slay bitter death for them that they
May live with You forever."

SERMON

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

OFFERING “We Know that Christ Is Raised” LSB 603 sung by Choir

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.

MOTHER'S DAY RECOGNITION

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray: With boldness and confidence we come before you O Lord, because we know You hear our prayers because Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Heavenly Father, We praise and thank You for sending the Holy Spirit, who calls us by the Gospel, gathers us around Your Word and Sacraments, enlightens us with Your truth, and sanctifies and keeps us in the true faith. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Creator God, You have created this world and everything in it, You continue to provide for our daily needs of body and life. Lead us as we steward the resources and relationships You generously give us.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

O Jesus, You know intimately the challenges we face and the griefs we bear in this life. Hear us as we pray for those who are hurting and grieving, [especially . . .]. Give them strength and healing according to Your good and gracious will. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Lord God, You have placed us in a community where there are people who have never known You or who no longer are connected to Your Church. Guide us, as You guided Paul and others, to seize the opportunities to share the reason for the hope we have, doing this with gentleness and respect. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Almighty God, You are the King of all creation and the fount of all wisdom. We pray for all the world's leaders and ask that You guide them according to Your will. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gracious God, we thank You for making us male and female and for creating families with a loving father and a mother. Today, we especially remember our mothers. We remember those in whose wombs you knit us together. We remember those You have worked through to provide us comfort, wise counsel, care, and discipline throughout the different stages of our lives. We ask Your blessing on all mothers, that they experience Your love and are shaped by it in their parenting.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through 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.

Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at every time in every place thank You, our God, who has created this world and everything in it, and, in Your mercy, has given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not be destroyed but have eternal life. We praise and thank You for saving us through the waters of Baptism and giving us a good conscience through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through this Meal, empower us to love You and share the truth of hope we have in You, through the resurrection of Jesus, with those in our homes, workplaces, and throughout our community. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS *LSB 161*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples

and said: “Take, eat; this is My ~~is~~ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ~~is~~ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI *LSB 163*

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

LSB 556 v. 6-10

Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

LSB 477

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE...

THANK THE LORD

LSB 164

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev’ryone what He has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in Joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Let us pray.

We thank You, our Creator, for providing for all the needs of our bodies and souls. We especially thank You for refreshing us through the gift of Your grace that You give us in this Meal. Strengthen us as Your offspring and lead us to love others; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen *LSB 474*

**Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

Refrain

**Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

**Walking the way, Christ in the center
Telling the story to open our eyes:
Breaking our bread, Giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.**

Refrain

**Jesus the vine, We are the branches;
Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth, Christ to the people,
Gift of the future now flowing to me.**

Refrain

**Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent;
Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: “O grave, be open!”
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.**

Refrain

**City of God, Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life, Saints and archangels,
Sing with creation to God the I AM!**

Refrain

Preacher	Pastor Michael Tanney
Liturgist	Alvaro Witt Duarte
Lector/Prayers	Tristan Pilot
Elders	Al Bohannon & Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	Cameron Hampel, John Benwell, Patrick Benwell, Jayvon Evers, Joan Potvin, William Gebhart, and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Alvaro Witt Duarte
Acolytes/Screen	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Bible Class	Pastor Michael Tanney

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Announcements

Saved to Share Called to Care

Our Response to God's Love Last Week

Attendance Sunday: 44

Nepalese Attendance: 29

Offering: \$2,655.00

WOL RESTAURANT NIGHT will be at Panera on Chippewa on May 18th, 4:00 - 8:00 pm. You Must show the flyer or order online with code FUND4U for WOL to benefit from the sale.

SAVE THE DATE Evangelism will be holding a Prayer Breakfast on Sunday May 21st, after the worship service. This will take the place of our Bible Study. Stay tuned for more details.

MUSIC IN A SACRED SPACE Hope Ev. Lutheran in St. Louis will host a season closing Organ Vespers on Sunday, June 4th at 4pm to celebrate the Holy Trinity. Guest musicians for the service will be organist Janet Muth and the school choir of St. Paul Lutheran in Hamel, IL. Rev. Benjamin Ball will serve as guest preacher. Hope Lutheran is located at 5218 Neosho St. in ST. Louis, MO. Visit hopelutheranstl.org for more information.

CHURCH PICNIC will be on June 11th at 10am (with lunch following) at the Old Carriage Pavilion in Tower Grove Park.

PIANO CONCERT on Sunday, May 21, at 4:00 p.m., at LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH featuring their Music Director and Concert pianist, Dr. Mark Laverty. Works by Bach, Beethoven and Brahms will be performed, as well as hymn singing. No tickets needed; a freewill offering will be received. Lord of Life is located at 15750 Baxter Road, in Chesterfield. For more information, visit: www.LordofLifeLCMS.org.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL IN OLIVETTE is currently seeking two teachers for the 2023-2024 school year. These positions are for preschool and 8th grade. Candidates must have a teaching certificate and have a passion for Lutheran education. Please submit your resume to teachercall@ilsolivette.org. We look forward to hearing from you. Check out our website to learn more about us at ilsolivette.org.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE will be on Thursday, May 18th at 6:30pm @ Ascension Lutheran Church.

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions –Veronica (Compass Director) and Daughter Emera as they grieve the death of their Husband/Father; Sharon Sieber for healing of cancer on her kidney; **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; and for all **Mother's**
Shut Ins – Bobbie Kepford, Jerry Schmaltz, Steve Bain, Carmen Hobson

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week

May 14 – May 21

Sunday	9:00am Worship w/ Communion (Mother's Day) 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 6:30pm Ascension Service @ Ascension
Friday	8am-12pm Office Open 8am Bible Study 1pm Nepali Mother's Prayer Service 2pm-6pm Compass
Saturday	<u>8:30am</u> Food Pantry / <u>9am</u> Confirmation 2pm Vicar Meeting
Next Sunday	9:00am Worship 10:30am Prayer Breakfast 10:30am Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship