

St. Johns Lutheran Church

Famous “First Word”



“Peace Be With You”

AS WE GATHER

Easter made a difference in the lives of so many people! In the core community of believers, it wasn't a matter of something to believe but how to make a difference in the way a person lived. The other disciples had let Thomas stay with them until Jesus reappeared. It must have been a tense time, but uniquely bearable because they had met their Lord, alive. That change, the difference that Easter made, wasn't limited to the apostles; the entire group shared all they had, living testimony of Jesus' presence with them. How will you be different after hearing this great Good News?

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 “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” *LSB* 467 v. 1-5

**Awake, my heart, with gladness,
See what today is done;
Now, after gloom and sadness,
Comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid
Where our bed must be made
When to the realms of light
Our spirit wings its flight.**

The foe in triumph shouted
When Christ lay in the tomb;
But lo, he now is routed,
His boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free;
In glorious victory
He who is strong to save
Has triumphed o'er the grave.

This is a sight that gladdens--
What peace it doth impart!
Now nothing ever saddens
The joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake,
No foe shall ever take
The hope which God's own Son
In love for me hath won.

Now hell, its prince, the devil,
Of all their pow'r are shorn;
Now I am safe from evil,
And sin I laugh to scorn.
Grim death with all his might
Cannot my soul affright;
It is a pow'rless form,
Howe'er it rave and storm.

The world against me rages,
Its fury I disdain;
Though bitter war it wages,
Its work is all in vain.
My heart from care is free,
No trouble troubles me.
Misfortune now is play,
And night is bright as day.

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 John 1:5:10; 2:1b-2*

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. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

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. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

KYRIE

LSB 186

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. Therefore as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

WORD

HYMN

“Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” *LSB* 467 v. 6-7

**Now I will cling forever
To Christ, my Savior true;
My Lord will leave me never,
Whate'er He passes through.
He rends death's iron chain;
He breaks through sin and pain;
He shatters hell's dark thrall;
I follow Him through all.**

**He brings me to the portal
That leads to bliss untold,
Whereon this rhyme immortal
Is found in script of gold:
"Who there My cross has shared
Finds here a crown prepared;
Who there with Me has died
Shall here be glorified."**

SALUTATION

**The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that our Easter faith not be only a matter of Sunday tradition, but will change how we care for one another and share our joy in active love and service each day; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MEMORIZED WORD

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12

FIRST READING *Acts 4:32–35*

³²The 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. ³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There 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 ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

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 John 1:1–2:2*

¹That 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— ²the 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— ³that 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. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be

complete. ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But 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. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. ¹My 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. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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* *(possible video)*

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

Glory be to Thee, 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.” ²⁶Eight 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.” ²⁷Then 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.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but 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 be to Thee, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE *“Peace”*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Sons and Daughters of the King” *LSB* 471

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

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

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

Alleluia!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We Walk by Faith and not by Sight sung by Eunice Bain

OFFERTORY LSB 192

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord Jesus, we pray that You would use us and the gifts You have given to us to serve anyone in need. Open our eyes to see opportunities near and far in which we may serve Your gracious plans. All that we have and are belongs to You.

Risen Christ, grant us to be of one heart and soul, sharing not only our common faith but all that we are and have.

We pray for people who are homeless, hungry, captive, and in mourning. Surround them, heavenly Father, with people of faith in our risen Savior, brothers and sisters who will tend to them with compassion and love. We pray for those near and dear to us, [*especially . . .*]. Wherever Your plans include us, O Lord, **open our hearts and hands, voices and resources to share the difference Easter makes for all who trust in our risen Savior.**

We pray for those who are rich and those who are poor, those who influence our nation and those who live unnoticed. O Holy Spirit, be among our brothers and sisters—those who have vast resources; all who make, administer, and judge our laws; and parents, teachers, and counselors—
all who know Christ as their living Lord.

Give them courage and caring hearts so that through them Your will shall be done.

We pray for our congregation, its programs of outreach and growth, and all who worship here. Lord over all, be with us and enliven us to do Your will in Easter joy.

Give us strength to show forth the difference Easter makes for us. Guide and protect us, heavenly Father, that we may serve You and the people around us in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Spoken by Assistant)

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.

(Sung by congregation) **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit. *(Sung)*

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God. *(Sung)*

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen. *(Sung)*

HYMN “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia” *LSB 463*

Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!

Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!

Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!

At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!

Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!

Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!

Now He lives no more to die. Alleluia!

Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!

God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!

**When contending death and life, Alleluia!
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!**

**Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

Preacher	Pastor Michael Tanney
Liturgist	Pastor Michael Tanney
Lector	Pastor Michael Tanney
Prayers	Adane Erjabo
Elder	Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	John Benwell, Patrick Benwell, William Gebhart, and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Pastor Michael Tanney
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: 99
Communion: 65
Offering: \$3,026.05.00

WORD OF LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOL Restaurant Night
Tuesday, April 16th at Smoking Barrels BBQ (5641 S. Kingshighway Blvd).
All Day, Dine In or Carry Out

PRAYER BREAKFAST will be on April 21st at 10:30am in the place of Bible Study.

A BIG THANK YOU to the musicians who enhanced our worship during Holy Week: Terry Hartz - Bassoon; Lydia Hampel - Flute; Jonathan Schmidt - Trumpet; Patrick Benwell - Percussion. Special thanks to St. Johns Choir (Cathy, Sandy, Cindy and Joe) for their hard work and commitment. And a fine job by the Nepali children during the Easter service!

LUTHERAN DAY AT THE BALLPARK Join us for Lutheran Day at the Ballpark on Sunday, May 5 at 1:15 p.m. for an interleague matchup between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago White Sox. Sit with other families from your school and enjoy the view from the right field loge. Tickets are \$25 and include a free hot dog and soda. Tickets can be picked up at your school beginning May 1. The first 25,000 fans, ages 16 and older, will take home an exclusive Cardinals purse. Then, stick around to watch the Lutheran South Lancers battle the Sullivan Eagles following the Cardinals game. Kids, 15 & under, get to run the bases between the games. Alumni are invited to join us at 11:30 a.m. in the Cunningham Corner for a pre-game party including food and drink. Entrance to the alumni party is free. Get your Cardinals tickets today at <https://bit.ly/ballpark24>

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITY AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEBSTER GARDENS Join fellow Christian women on Saturday, April 27 for Rest Assured: A Women's Conference hosted by the Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens. Keynote speaker Sarah Salzberg and three other breakout speakers will be teaching on how vital rest is to God's creation. Register by April 14 at webstergardens.org/womens-conference/. If you have any other questions please feel free to contact me (Jodi Beth Haberman) at 901-409-3842.

20TH ANNUAL LESA AUCTION: A NIGHT FOR KIDS

April 13, 2024 Orlando's West in Maryland Heights. A Night for Kids dinner and auction is a celebration of Lutheran Education! The 2024 Theme is "20s for the 20th" Proceeds from the evening assist LESA in providing financial assistance for middle and lower income families attending LESA member schools, professional development for administrator and educators, including faith-based curriculum, and in providing marketing assistance and support. Tickets are \$100 per person or \$750 for a table of eight. Tickets include a three-course dinner and an opportunity to purchase both silent and live auction items.

MUSIC IN A SACRED SPACE Hope Ev. Lutheran Church in St. Louis invites you to join them on Sunday April 14th at 3pm for a hymn festival led by Dr. Sam Eatherton, featured organist and composer. The hymn festival will feature the choirs and instrumentalists of Hope Ev. Lutheran Church. Hope Ev. Lutheran Church is located at 5218 Neosho St. in St. Louis, MO. Visit hopelutheransth.org for more information.

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions – **Veronica** who mourns the death of a family member; **Karen's Great Grandchildren Tobias & Theodore** who are still in the hospital; **Steven** son of Margie, who has cancer; **Debbie Frerichs** who is recovering; **Joan Potvin** for healing; **Pastor Lempe's** health and **Mt. Olive's** congregation; Thanksgiving for the birth of Nabin & Rhoda's new baby Jenaya; **Our future called Pastors** (Nabin & Ratna); **Momentum Academy, Compass Staff** (New Staff Leah Mister); **Our Field-Worker** Adane Erjabo; **Missionaries** Zach Barz and Jerry Mays;

Shut Ins – Bobbie Kepford, Ethelmae Leuther, and Ruth Trauth

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week April 7 – April 14

Sunday	9:00am Worship 9:00am Mount Olive 10:30am Bible Study / Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship
Monday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>5:45pm</u> Evangelism 6pm Ladies Exercise
Tuesday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>7pm</u> Seminary Students
Wednesday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>3:45pm</u> Compass Chapel
Thursday	8am-12pm Office Open 2pm Ridgewood Bible Study 3pm-6pm Compass
Friday	8am-12pm Office Open 8am Bible Study 12pm Nepali Mother's Prayer Service 2pm-6pm Compass
Saturday	8:30am Food Pantry 2pm Vicar Meeting 5:30pm Young Adult Bible Study
Next Sunday	9:00am Worship w/ Communion 9:00am Mount Olive 10:30am Bible Study/Nepalese Worship 12:30pm African Worship