

St. John's Lutheran Church

Serving God and the ELCA in the Metropolitan New York Synod



Worship Guide
10:30am
Sunday, May 12, 2024

Welcome to worship at St. John's Lutheran Church!

Through Word and Sacrament, we are God's people rooted in the abiding presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and empowered to serve by God's Holy Spirit!

Responding to the Good News of Christ, we live out our calling as people of faith.

Here at St. John's, our Mission Statement expresses our grace-empowered desire to be disciples in our everyday lives:

“Encountering, Connecting, Responding to Jesus Christ.”

We give thanks to God for this day and the opportunity to gather together as God's family to be fed with the Word and the Meal that sustains us for daily life!

For the Hearing-Impaired:

We have a T-Coil Hearing Assistance System in place in the worship space.

The T-Switch must be activated on your hearing aid.

Feel free to ask an usher if you need assistance.

Health Emergency Notes:

If anyone needs **glucose**, or juice for a **hypoglycemic medical emergency**, juice boxes are available in the small fridge in the Meet and Greet Room (Room 118), just around the corner from the sanctuary. Glucose tablets and gel are in the **First Aid Kits** in the *Entrance area coat room*, and in the *kitchen in the Fellowship Hall*. Please let a staff member know if you use any, so that they can be replaced right away!

In the unfortunate case of heart failure, our **DEFIBRILLATOR** is located across the hall from *Room 111 (Youth Ministry Office)*.



Please Note: this worship service is being live-streamed.

Please be aware that, by attending, you may appear on camera.

Footage will be posted on our church website and social media, such as YouTube.

Additional hand-held video footage may be taken for use on our church website.

Holy Communion

Pattern for Worship

In the principal service of Christian worship, the Holy Spirit gathers people around the means of grace: the saving Word of God and the sacraments. From the table of communion where Jesus Christ meets us with forgiveness, life, and salvation, we are sent out to share God's love and to care for those in need.

The basic pattern of this service — gathering, word, meal, sending — is a structure that allows for freedom and flexibility in the ways worship may be shaped locally, while focusing on what the church holds in common. The whole people of God are joined by the same gifts of grace, for the sake of the same mission of the gospel, into the life of the one triune God. Remember, people of all faiths are welcome at the Lord's Table. You may also come forward for a prayer of blessing from our pastor.

Why Do We Have Liturgy?

Our liturgy forms a pattern that is familiar and repetitious in order to help us frame our minds for a fuller worship experience. As steps in a dance free you to express yourself in music, the patterns in liturgy free us to express ourselves spiritually. There is comfort in repeating phrases and prayers each week, and liturgy — literally the “work of the church” — frames our collective experience each time we gather. We hope you find peace, strength, and comfort in the liturgy we have designed for you today!



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Our prelude music is designed to help you and your neighbors to relax, settle in, and immerse yourselves in some quiet time with God before we begin our worship service. This is also a good time to double check your portable devices to make sure they are on “mute.” We hope that this prelude music will enhance your worship experience and bring peace to you.

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, full of compassion and mercy, and abounding in steadfast love.

All Amen.

Pastor Trusting in Christ’s promise of forgiveness, let us now turn our hearts toward God in humble confession.

Silence is kept for reflection. Please kneel or sit.

Pastor Gracious God,

All You are our breath and our very life. We are the work of your hands, the children of your creation. We confess that we have often turned from you and sought our own path through life. Forgive us our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, that you may be our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were still far away, and has given us new life through our Lord Jesus Christ. By grace you have been saved, and in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit, God now forgives you all your sins!

All Amen.

Singing at the gathering may include hymns old and new, a prayer for God's mercy to fill the church and the world, or a canticle of praise to God's glory revealed in Jesus Christ.

Gathering Hymn

Rise, O Sun of Righteousness

ELW657

During the gathering, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the name of God, using a trinitarian greeting.

Apostolic Greeting

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

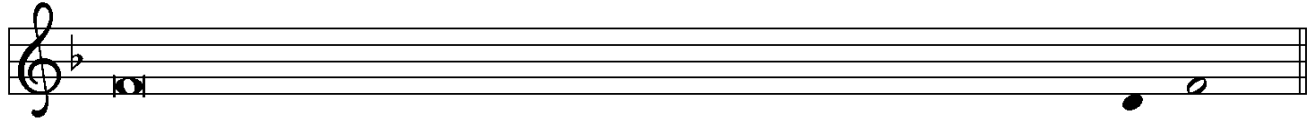


*Christ
is
Risen!*

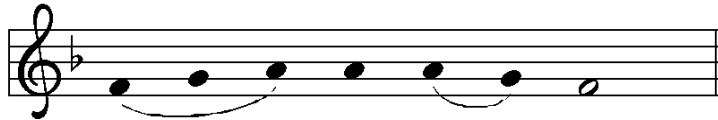
Kyrie



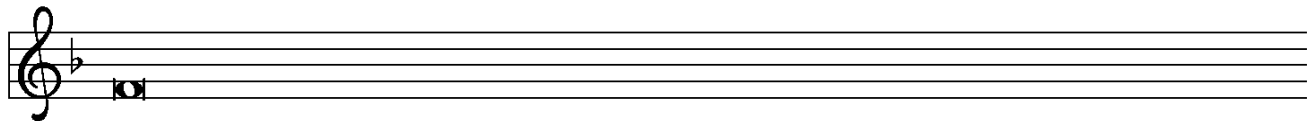
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



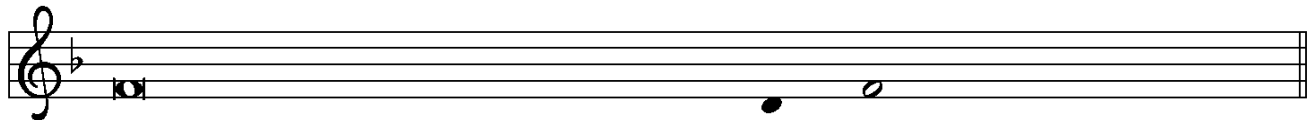
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



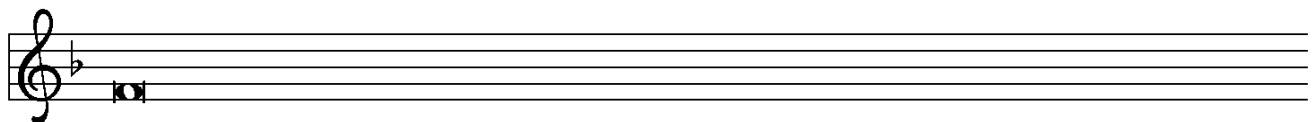
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



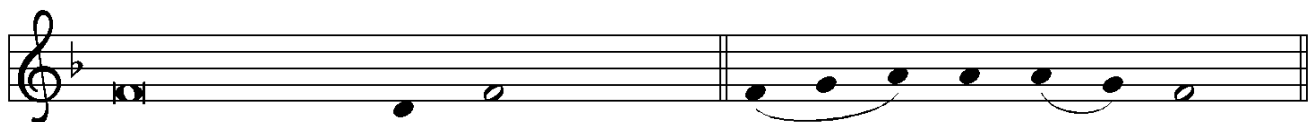
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



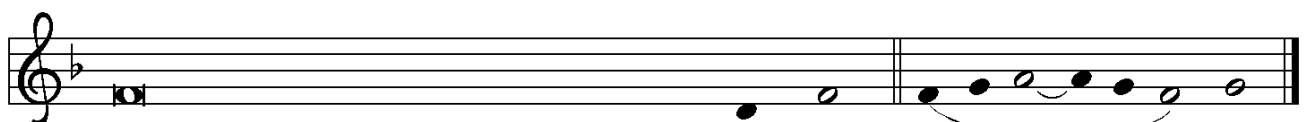
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Hymn of Praise

High Voices Sing Verses 1 and 3

Low Voices Sing Verses 2 and 4

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **1** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **2** Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **3** Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister gathers the congregation into prayer.

P The Lord be with you. **A** And al - so with you.

Pastor

Let us pray.

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. .

All

Amen.

The congregation is seated

WORD

FIRST READING

New Revised Standard Version

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Reader The word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God!**

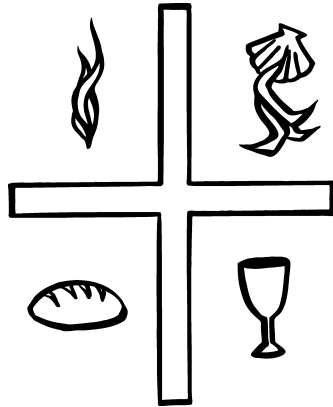


⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Reader The word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God!**



gospel



Please stand if you are able

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Pastor The holy gospel according to John in the seventeenth chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

Pastor The gospel of the Lord.



The congregation is seated.

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand if you are able.

Hymn of the Day

God Is Here!

ELW526

*God's word is further proclaimed as we sing and as we confess our faith with the whole church.
After praying for the world, we receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace.*

Pastor We express our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

**or, "descended into hell."*

***or, catholic (universal)*



Prayers of Intercession

A Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence. The assisting minister continues with the petitions, and the congregation responds to each with:

A Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

The Pastor concludes the prayers with:

Pastor Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your great mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All Amen

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say:

Response Peace be with you.

The congregation is seated.



Announcements



MEAL

The gift of God's grace is always proclaimed in Jesus' own words of command and promise at the table. A full thanksgiving also includes praise to God for creation and salvation, remembrance of the crucified and risen Christ, and prayer for the Holy Spirit in this meal. The thanksgiving concludes with the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us.

Offering

An offering is gathered and the table is set. During this section of worship, we offer our gifts of time, self, and possessions to the glory of God, and we celebrate the sacrament of the eucharist, where Christ comes to meet us at the table.

Offertory Anthem

As the gifts are brought forward, the congregation stands.



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer


A Let us pray.

All O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

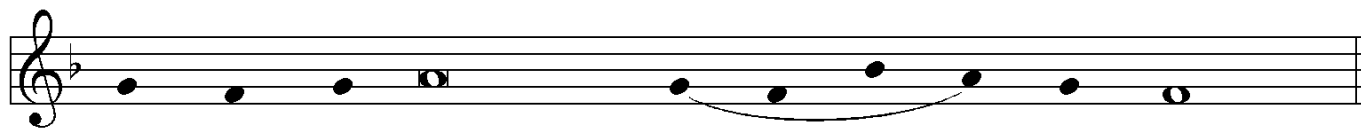
The Great Thanksgiving



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Pastor It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy ... and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



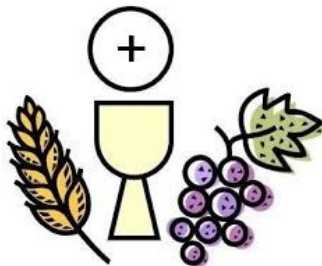
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Pastor Blessed are you, almighty and ever-living God. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. We give you thanks that you have gathered us into one through your Son, Jesus Christ, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

All Amen! We give you thanks and praise, O Lord!

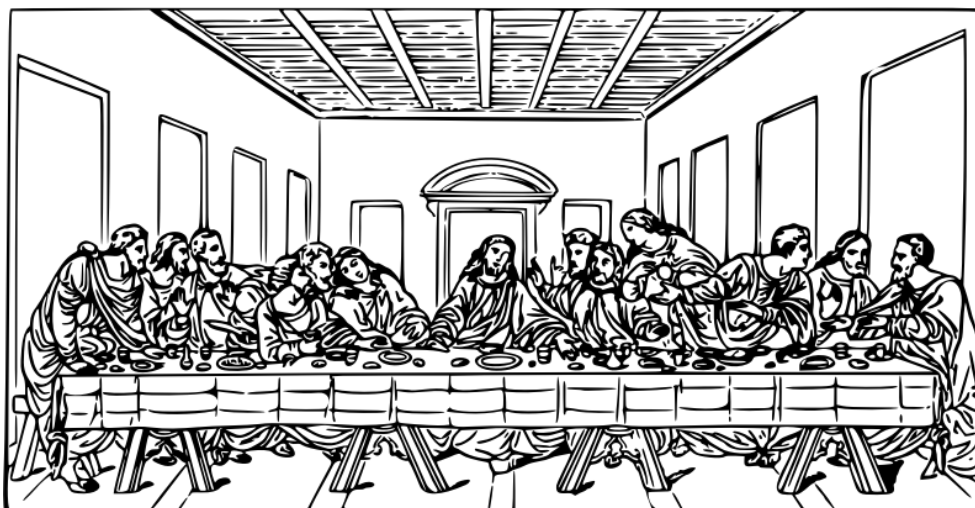
Pastor On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity that we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, † with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

All Amen.



Pastor Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us boldly pray:

All 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

Pastor Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Instructions

Before the Lord's supper is shared, the presiding minister leads us into thanksgiving:

*The communion elements are our normal communion wafers,
and **red wine** or **white grape juice** in disposable cups.*

*We also have **gluten-free** wafers available.*

*The ministers will help you at the rail if necessary, and will bring communion
to those unable to come forward. Please tell an usher of this need.*

Remember, people of all faiths are welcome at the Lord's Table!

You may also come forward for a prayer of blessing from our pastor.

Communion Hymn *I Come With Joy*

ELW482

After the Eucharist has been shared by all, the congregation stands.

Table Blessing

Pastor The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep
you in his grace.

All Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer After Communion

A Let us pray.

God of all creation, all that you have made is good, and your love endures forever. Send your spirit with us now, that we may be united and transformed through the healing power of this gift of life, to serve you more fully by loving our neighbors more deeply.
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

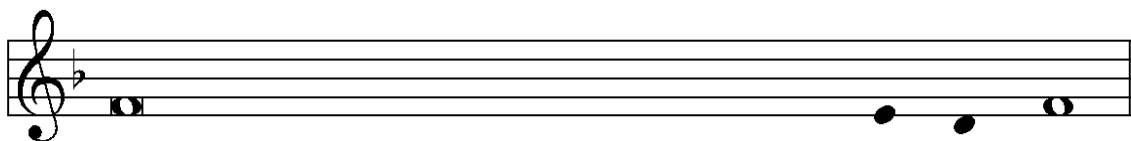
All Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*The gifts of grace that we share at God's table are now ours to bring to all those in need.
We are sent out to live as Christ's body in our community and throughout the world.
Go in peace!*

Benediction



☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and . . . ✝ give you peace.

The congregation sings the Three-Fold Amen:

A - men, a - men, a - - - men.

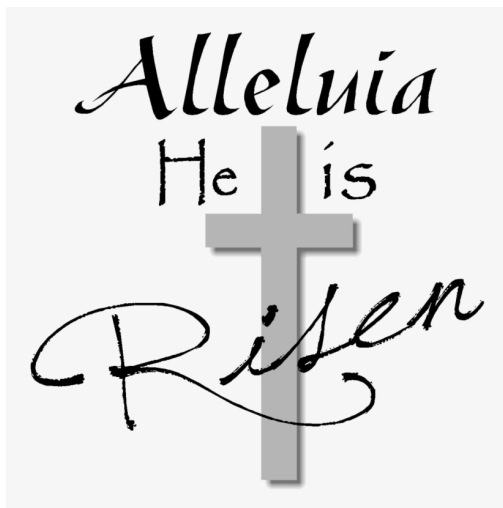


Dismissal

Pastor You are the body of Christ, raised up for the world!
Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude



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How to Give to St. John's

Thank you for your gifts! Every dollar you give enhances God's work through the ministries of St. John's. And there are so many ways to give! We recommend electronic methods because they are secure, fast, reliable, and consistent.

It helps us keep up with our budgeting process too.

Currently, one-third of our contributions are from e-giving... We thank you!

E-Giving.....Scan the QR code below and simply follow the prompts!

Text Giving.....Text (844) 914-0367 to make secure recurring or one-time offerings.

A quick-info flyer is available in the kiosks around the church.

Or, contact Jeanne Jones jjones@stjohnselc.org or (845) 452-1550.

*Thank you all for your dedication to the important work
St. John's performs for you and for our community!*

Scan here for Online Giving!



P.S. Have you remembered St. John's in your will? Your planned giving can ensure that St. John's will be a beacon to the community for many generations to come!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

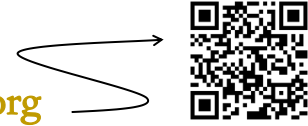
Serving God and the ELCA in the Metropolitan New York Synod

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Visit Our Website at: www.stjohnselc.org



We're on Facebook too:

"St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church"

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

(Contemporary) (Traditional)

Staff Contact Information:

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Joey LaBelle	<i>Videographer</i>	rleigh@stjohnselc.org

When you or someone you know is hospitalized or in need of emergency pastoral care:

During office hours:

- Pastor Jeffrey Koenig at (845) 452-1550

After hours or on weekends:

- Pastor Jeffrey Koenig at (845) 597-2901 (cell)
- Deacon Rich Ferolito at (845) 635-2239

