



St. John's Lutheran Church

*Serving God and the ELCA
in the Metropolitan New York Synod*

May 18, 2025

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth.

The risen Christ is making all things new.

In the mystery of the resurrection God has made new people of us.

Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor/Leader: The Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.

Pastor/Leader: Let us pray.

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may sow goodness and peace, through 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.

Today's Hymns for the 10:30 Worship Service

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| Prelude | <i>Jesus Loves Me / Jesus Loves the Little Children</i> <i>Performed by the St. John's Children's Chime Choir</i> | |
| Gathering Hymn | Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones | ELW 424 |
| Hymn of the Day | I Come With Joy | ELW 482 |
| Offertory Anthem | <i>Open Now Mine Eyes</i> | <i>John Rutter</i> |
| Communion Hymns | Baptized and Set Free | ELW 453 |
| Sending Hymn | Alleluia! Voices Raise | ELW 828 |
| Postlude | <i>Fugue in E Flat Major</i> | <i>J.S. Bach</i> |

¹ Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

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| Pastor | The Word of the Lord. ... <i>OR:</i> | Leader | Word of God, Word of Life. |
| All | Thanks be to God. | All | Thanks be to God. |



¹ I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

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| Pastor | The Word of the Lord. ... <i>OR</i> : | Leader | Word of God, Word of Life. |
| All | Thanks be to God. | All | Thanks be to God. |

9 AM Acclamation:

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to _____ in the _____ Chapter.

All Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God, forever.

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

9 AM Response:

Pastor The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise be to Christ, praise be to Christ, praise be to Christ, forever.



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