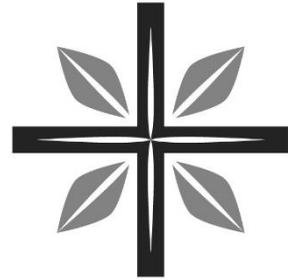


St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Welcome to our visitors!

- It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- Large print service folders, assisted listening devices, children's service folders and children's worship notes are available from the ushers.
- Parents may take small children into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed and follow the worship service on the TV monitor. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.
- Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area.
- As the offering is received, members and guests are asked to sign the Friendship Register. Please pass the register to your neighbor and then return it to the center aisle. Visitors are also asked to fill out a guest card and give it to an usher.

Ascension

May 25, 2017

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please stand to sing the final stanza

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

Christian Worship 171

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: The LORD reigns, he is robed in majesty;

C: **the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength.**

Psalm 93:1

M: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;

C: **let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!"**

M: Let the sea resound, and all that is in it;

C: **Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them!**

1 Chronicles 16:31, 32

M: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

C: **You have set your glory above the heavens.**

Psalm 8:1, 2

M: Praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted;

C: **his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.**

Psalm 148:13

**Christ high-ascended, now in glory seated,
Throned and exalted, victory completed,
Death's dread dominion finally defeated –
We are his witnesses.**

**Christ in his splendor, all dominion gaining,
Christ with his people evermore remaining,
Christ to all ages, gloriously reigning –
We are his witnesses.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated

Advent Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

First Lesson for the Second Sunday in Advent

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD –
and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;
but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.
He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.
Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.
The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox.
The infant will play near the hole of the cobra,
and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest.
They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.
In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and
his place of rest will be glorious.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Response to the Word

Adult Choir

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

arranged by Hugo Distler

Lo! how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came a flow'ret bright amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind.
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior, when half-spent was the night.

This flow'r whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God! From sin and death he saves us and lightens ev'ry load.

Christmas Reading

John 1:1-14

Gospel for Christmas Day

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Response to the Word

Adult Choir

Christ is Born!

arranged by Hal H. Hopson

“Christ is born,” the choirs are singing; all the earth with joy is ringing,
Peace on earth this night is bringing. Christ is born, rejoice and sing.

Be gone all gloom and sadness, all hearts be filled with gladness.
Rejoice, the Lord is born. Rejoice, the Lord is born.

Christ is born in yonder manger. To the humble, he’s no stranger,
Have no fear of harm or danger. Christ is born, rejoice and sing.

Be gone all gloom and sadness, all hearts be filled with gladness.
Rejoice, the Lord is born. Rejoice, the Lord is born.

Epiphany Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

First Lesson for Epiphany

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you.
Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm.

Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.
Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah.
And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.”

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Response to the Word

Adult Choir

The Lord is My Light!

by John Carter

The Lord is my light, the Lord is my salvation; whom shall I fear?
In the time of trouble he will shelter me,
He will keep me safe in his holy temple.
I will shout with joy! I will sing his praise!

The Lord is my light, the Lord is my salvation; whom shall I fear?
Hear my voice when I call, O Lord, teach me.
Hear my voice when I call, O Lord, lead me.
Hear my voice when I call, O Lord, do not turn away.

Transfiguration Reading

Matthew 17:1-9

Gospel for Transfiguration

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Response to the Word

Adult Choir

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

by Hal H. Hopson

O love, how deep, how broad, how high, beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake!

For us baptized, for he us bore his holy fast and hungered sore;
For us temptation sharp he knew; for us the tempter overthrew.

For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his daily works he wrought,
By words and signs and actions thus still seeking not himself, but us.

For us by evil pow'r betrayed, scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death, for us gave up his dying breath.

For us he rose from death again, for us he went on high to reign;
For us he sent his Spirit here to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad;
The Trinity whom we adore forever and forevermore.

Lenten Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Epistle Lesson for the First Sunday in Lent

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned – for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who

receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Response to the Word

Adult Choir

Kyrie

by Franz Schubert

Kyrie eleison; Christe eleison; Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Easter Reading

Matthew 28:1-10

Gospel for Easter

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Response to the Word*Adult Choir***Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands***by Bradley Norris*

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands
For our offenses given;
But now at God's right hand he stands
And brings us life from heaven.
Therefore let us joyful be
And sing to God right thankfully
Loud songs of hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Love reigns: Christ has overcome. God reigns: Hallelujah!
Death is not the final word. Life is changed, not ended.
Joy has come to the world; blessed be God's holy name.

So let us keep the festival
To which the Lord invites us;
Christ is the very joy of all,
The sun that warms and lights us.
Now his grace to us imparts
Eternal sunshine to our hearts;
The night of sin is ended. Hallelujah!

Ascension Reading**Luke 24:44-53***Gospel for Ascension*

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Response to the Word

All Peoples, Clap Your Hands (see pg. 14)

Stanzas 1 & 3: Congregation

Stanza 2: Adult Choir

Ascension Message

Ephesians 1:22-23

Ascension: An End and a Beginning

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Offering

The members of St. John's have joined together to do the Lord's work in our community and around the world, and our offerings are a joyful response of our faith. If you are a visitor today, you are welcome but not obligated to give an offering.

Please stand

Prayer of the Church for Ascension

M: Ascended Lord, in your ascension you lifted up your hands in blessing upon your faithful disciples and apostles.

C: **Bestow your blessing also upon us as we look to the skies for your glorious return on the last day.**

M: Ascended Lord, you concealed yourself in the bright cloud, yet promised the Holy Spirit who reveals you and makes you known to us through faith.

C: **Create in us new hearts and right spirits. By your Holy Spirit, lead us in the way to everlasting life.**

M: Ascended Lord, you commissioned your apostles to preach your word and make your salvation known to the ends of the earth.

C: **Uphold and support the pastors and missionaries who carry out this commission today. As you have sent them, also send us that we may be your evangelists and witnesses.**

M: Ascended Lord, you sit at the right hand of the Father and promise to be near us always.

C: **As you have promised, come to us in your Word and Sacraments. Use these means of grace to forgive our sins, free us from our guilt, and strengthen our faith.**

M: Ascended Lord, you blessed your apostles and promised to return in the same way you ascended into heaven.

C: **In the midst of this world's uncertainties and trials, keep us ever ready and watchful for that day. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Be seated

Hymn

On Christ's Ascension I Now Build
Christian Worship 173

Please stand

M: Father of glory, your Son ascended to heaven and now sits in majesty at your right hand. Increase in us patient trust as we wait for the fullness of this glory and majesty to be revealed when he returns again in triumph on the Last Day. Until that day, clothe us with your Spirit that we may proclaim your Kingdom and lift up the name of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated

Closing Hymn

Adult Choir

Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow

setting by Heinrich Isaac

Now rest beneath night's shadow
The woodland, field, and meadow;
The world in slumber lies.
But you, my heart, awaking
And prayer and music making,
Let praise to your creator rise.

Lord Jesus, since you love me,
Now spread your wings above me
And shield me from alarm.
Though Satan would devour me,
Let angel guards sing o'er me:
This child of God shall meet no harm.

Announcements

Postlude

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"Kyrie" Text public domain.

"Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands" Text public domain.

"Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow" Text public domain.

1 All peo - ples, clap your hands, and shout with joy and sing,
 2 God has gone up on high, with shout and trum - pet voice;
 3 No - bles from all the earth are joined with A - bram's seed;

The Lord Most High is to be feared; he is the earth's great King.
 Sing praise, sing praise to God our King, sing praise to him, re - joice!
 The rul - ers of the world are God's. He's lift - ed high in - deed!

He brings the na - tions down and peo - ples in our sight;
 For God is King of all. Sing praise with all your skill;
 So to the Fa - ther raise, with his as - cend - ed Son,

He choos - es our in - her - i - tance; his love is Ja - cob's might.
 He sits up - on his ho - ly throne and rules the na - tions still.
 And Ho - ly Spir - it end - less praise, e - ter - nal Three - in - One.

Serving at Worship

Preacher

Pastor Joel Leyrer

Presiding Minister

Pastor Eric Schroeder

Musicians

Lynn Kozlowski, organ
Rachel Miller, clarinet

Adult Choir Director

Dr. William Braun

Head Usher

Matt Bahr

In Our Prayers

- Alice Sebald, convalescing at the Village at Manor Park, Barbara Schmelzer at Menomonee Falls Health Care Center and Lucille Lambrecht in hospice care at her sister's home.