



St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.

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# Graduation and Closing Service

May 26, 2021

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## Preservice Music

*St. John's Music Students*

## Go, My Children

*Megan Dvorachek, piano*

## In Christ Alone

*Sydney Vitangcol, piano*

## Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

*Cavanaugh Sipe, piano*

## The Church's One Foundation

*Amos Ebeling, Reina Ebeling, Annalise Kuehn, Evan Pastorek, brass*

## Abide With Me

*Amos Ebeling, Reina Ebeling, Annalise Kuehn, Evan Pastorek, brass*

## Speak, O Lord

*Morgan Festerling, violin*

## Opening Hymn

*Please stand to sing the final stanza*

## Shepherd of Tender Youth

*Christian Worship 515*



1 Shep - herd of ten - der youth, Guid - ing in  
2 You are our ho - ly Lord, Christ, the in -  
3 You are our great High Priest; You have pre -  
4 Oh, ev - er be our guide, Our shep - herd  
5 So now and till we die Sound we your



love and truth Through de - vious ways, Christ, our tri -  
car - nate Word, Heal - er of strife. You did your -  
pared the feast Of ho - ly love; And in our  
and our pride, Our staff and song. Je - sus, O  
prais - es high And joy - ful sing; In - fants and



um - phant King, We come your name to sing  
 self a - base That from sin's deep dis - grace  
 mor - tal pain None calls on you in vain;  
 Christ of God, By your en - dur - ing Word  
 all the throng Who to your Church be - long



And here our chil - dren bring To join your praise.  
 You might thus save our race And give us life.  
 Our plea do not dis - dain: Help from a - bove!  
 Lead us where you have trod; Make our faith strong.  
 U - nite to swell the song To Christ, our King.

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

**C:** Amen.

**M:** Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you see our young people growing up in an uncertain and confusing world. Send your Holy Spirit into their hearts that they may grow in grace and wisdom. Give them strength to resist temptation and courage to meet the challenges of each new day. Show them that following you is more satisfying than pursuing selfish goals. Make their unique gifts and youthful vitality a blessing to their families, to the church, and to all others their lives may touch, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**C:** Amen.

*Be seated*

## THE WORD

**First Lesson**

**Deuteronomy 31:7-8**

*The LORD goes ahead of us in all of life's journeys.*

Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the LORD swore to their forefathers to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

## Response to the Word

*Small group choir*

## Shepherd of My Heart

*by Francis Patrick O'Brien*

My shepherd is the Lord, for nothing shall I want;  
Green are the pastures where I'm led to repose.  
Near waters and deep God will refresh my soul.  
I am led onward in ways true to the Name.

*Refrain:* Guide me, O shepherd of my heart;  
Lead me homeward through the dark, into everlasting day.  
Show me the way of truth and light, keep me always in your sight.  
May my life never part from the shepherd of my heart.

If I should walk one day into the vale of darkness,  
No evil shall I fear with God at my side.  
There with your crook and staff you give me strength and comfort;  
You spread a banquet in the sight of my foes.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup is overflowing;  
Goodness and kindness crown the days of my life.  
Within the Lord's own house I dwell in peace forever;  
Within the house of God my soul is at rest.

## Second Lesson

**2 Timothy 3:14-17**

*Continue in the faith you have learned.*

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

*Please stand*

## Gospel

**Matthew 19:13-15**

*All believers – including our children – are precious to Jesus and heirs of heaven.*

Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise be to you, O Christ.

*Be seated*

**Hymn of the Day**  
*8th Grade Class Hymn*

**On Eagles' Wings**  
*Christian Worship 440*



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, Who a-  
2 Snares of the fowl - er will nev - er cap-ture you, And  
3 For to his an - gels he's giv - en a com-mand To



bide in his shad-ow for life, Say to the Lord: "My  
fam - ine will bring you no fear; Un - der his wings your  
guard you in all of your ways; Up - on their hands they will



ref - uge, My rock in whom I trust!"  
ref - uge, His faith - ful - ness your shield.  
bear you up, Lest you dash your foot a- gainst a stone.

*Refrain*



And he will raise you up on ea - gles' wings, Bear you on the



breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, And



hold you in the palm of his hand.

**Sermon**

**1 Timothy 4:12**

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.

**Anthem**

*Small group choir*

**Christ Be My Leader**

*arranged by Michael Bedford*

Christ be my leader by night as by day;  
Safe through the darkness, for he is the way.  
Gladly I follow, my future his care;  
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my leader in age as in youth,  
Drifting or doubting for he is the truth.  
Grant me to trust him, though shifting as sand,  
Doubt cannot daunt me, in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm and in strife;  
Death cannot hold me, for he is the life.  
Darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain  
Can touch my salvation, with Jesus I reign.

**Class Speaker**

**Collin Neumann**

**Anthem**

*Junior Handbell Choir*

**My Spirit's Gonna Shine**

*arranged by Dan Edwards*

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

**Class Speaker**

**Sydney Vitangcol**

**Awarding of Diplomas**

**Principal Dan Markgraf**

*Please stand*

## Prayer of the Church

*The minister says the Prayer of the Church*

## 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

## Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus

*Christian Worship 452*



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low his ex -  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, To his im - age  
3 Let us al - so die with Je - sus. His death from the  
4 Let us glad - ly live with Je - sus; Since he's ris - en



am - ple pure, Flee the world which would de - ceive us  
e'er con - form; Heav - en's glo - ry soon will please us,  
sec - ond death, From our soul's de - struc - tion, frees us,  
from the dead, Death and grave must soon re - lease us.



And to sin our souls al - lure. Ev - er in his  
Sun - shine fol - low on the storm. Though we sow in  
Quick - ens us with life's glad breath. Let us mor - ti -  
Je - sus, thou art now our head. We are tru - ly



foot - steps tread - ing, Bod - y here, yet soul a - bove,  
tears of sor - row, We shall reap in heav'n - ly joy,  
fy, while liv - ing, Flesh and blood and die to sin,  
thine own mem - bers; Where thou liv - est, there live we.



Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the  
And the fears that now annoy Shall be laugh-ter  
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the  
Take and own us con-stant-ly, Faith-ful Friend, as



Fa-ther's bid-ding. Faith-ful Lord, a-bide with me.  
on the mor-row. Christ, I suf-fer here with thee;  
gate to heav-en. Je-sus, here I die to thee,  
thy dear breth-ren. Je-sus, here I live to thee,



Sav-ior, lead; I fol-low thee.  
There, oh, share thy joy with me.  
There to live e-ter-nal-ly.  
Al-so there e-ter-nal-ly.

*Please stand*

**M:** God of time and eternity, as time flows by we are faced with changes and new horizons. But our times are in your hands. You have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet unwalked, through trials unknown. Give us faith to go forth with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us all the days of our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**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

# Go, My Children, With My Blessing

Stanza 1: 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents; Stanzas 2-4: Congregation

Christian Worship 332



1 Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing,  
2 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en,  
3 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished,  
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you



Nev - er a - lone. Wak - ing, sleep - ing,  
At peace and pure. Here you learned how  
Clos - er to me; Grow in love and  
And give you peace; I the Lord will



I am with you; You are my own.  
much I love you, What I can cure.  
love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free.  
smile up - on you And give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; Here you  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here his  
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior,



made you mine for - ev - er. Go, my chil - dren,  
touched him, saw his glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren,  
ten - der com - fort stilled you. Go, my chil - dren,  
Com - fort - er, and Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren;



with my bless - ing— You are my own.  
sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.  
I will keep you And give you peace.

## Graduating Class of 2021

Brody Ban	Maximilian Glaeske	Donavin Sorattanasoun
Madison Binner	Albert Layden	Henry Szymanski
Nathan Close	Ben Langebartels	Camden Theesfeld
Sebastian Cox	Ryan Leyrer	Emma Trotter
Megan Dvorachek	Collin Neumann	Sydney Vitangcol
Amos Ebeling	Sofia Schroeder	Lauren Wigley
Morgan Festerling	Cavanaugh Sipe	Brady Zimmer

**Class Colors:** Light Blue and Silver

**Class Hymn:** On Eagles' Wings (*Christian Worship* 440)

**Class Verse:** Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity (1 Timothy 4:12).

## Elementary School Faculty

Dan Markgraf	Principal
David Leyrer	Grade 8, Athletic Director
Christine Rindfleisch	Grade 7
Keith Hackbarth	Grade 6
Brett Kriese	Grade 5
Megan Bauer	Grade 4
Mandy Treder	Grade 3, School Music Coordinator
Renee Pastorek	Grade 3
Lisa Festerling	Grade 2
Terry Buske	Grade 1
Dana Leyrer	Kindergarten
Naomi Stein	Preschool (K4)
Leslie Campbell	Preschool (K4)
Carrie Henning	Preschool (K3)
Andrew Duncan	Special Education

# Serving at Worship

<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Eric Schroeder
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pastor Kyle Bitter
<b>Lector</b>	Pastor Joel Leyrer
<b>Musician</b>	Megan Bauer, piano
<b>Small Group Choir Director</b>	Mandy Treder
<b>Junior Handbell Choir Director</b>	Julie Handeland
<b>Board of Education</b>	Casey Holtz, Board Chairman Kerry Kuehn, Elementary School Committee Jon Phillips, Athletics Troy Schulz, Early Childhood Dan Young, Secretary
<b>Elementary School Committee</b>	Kerry Kuehn, Chairman Angela Glaeske Stephanie Lamas Lora Sankey

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## The Mission of our Church

*As God's people gathered together at St. John's, we live to declare the praises of our Savior God who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of his grace.*

*As 21<sup>st</sup> century disciples of Jesus, we reflect the light of God's love by:*



*Making worship of our Savior the top priority in our lives*



*Growing in our faith through daily contact with God's Word*



*Fostering Christian friendships for mutual encouragement and support*



*Using our unique gifts to glorify God and serve God's people*



*Sharing the good news of God's forgiving love with others*

### Worship Services

*Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.*

*Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.*

### Worship in Chinese

*Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.*

### Pastors

*Pastor Joel Leyrer  
joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org*

*Pastor Eric Schroeder  
eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org*

*Pastor Kyle Bitter  
kyle.bitter@sjtosa.org*

### Chinese Outreach Pastor

*Pastor Joshua Yu  
joshua.yu@sjtosa.org*

### School Principal

*Mr. Dan Markgraf  
dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org*

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