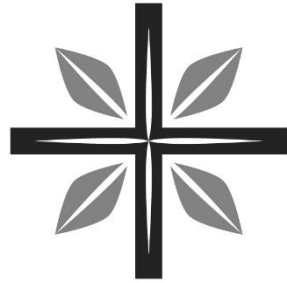


St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



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.
- Please join us for Bible class at 9:15 AM on Sunday.
Christian Estate Planning Seminar: Fellowship Hall, lower level of church
Bible Information Class: St. Matthew's Room, lower level of church
A staffed nursery is available during Bible class.

The Third Sunday of Easter[†]

April 14 & 15, 2018

Jesus Lives: To Work Through His Word

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Please stand to sing the final stanza

Thy Strong Word

Christian Worship 280

M: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

[†] **Sundays of Easter:** The Easter season is fifty days long and consists of eight Sundays: from Easter to Pentecost. The Sundays of Easter remind us that Easter is a continued celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead and victory over Satan. For more information on the Sundays of Easter, see pg. 34 of *Understanding Lutheran Worship*, found in the hymnal rack.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

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
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, And
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, And
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might Be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain Has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *to Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *to Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion. *to Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *to Refrain*
 gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia! *to Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

THE WORD

First Lesson

Acts 12:1-19

God powerfully intervenes in history and works through his Word.

It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. When he saw that this pleased the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.

So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.

Then the angel said to him, "Put on your clothes and sandals." And Peter did so. "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me," the angel told him. Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.

Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I know without a doubt that the Lord sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were anticipating."

When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer the door. When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!"

"You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel."

But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. "Tell James and the brothers about this," he said, and then he left for another place.

In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter. After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.

When we proclaim what the LORD has done, we work through his Word.

Refrain

This is the day the Lord has made, let us re-joyce and be glad!
 This is the day the Lord has made, let us re-joyce and be glad!

Psalm tone

The LORD is my strength and my song;
 he has become my salvation.

The LORD's right hand is lifted high;
 the LORD's right hand has done mighty things!

I will not die but live,
 and will proclaim what the LORD has done. *Refrain*

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;
 you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;
 the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;
 let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen. Refrain**

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 2:12 – 3:6

God gives us the competence to work through his Word.

Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me, I still had no peace of mind, because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I said good-bye to them and went on to Macedonia.

But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task? Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God.

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, like some people, letters of recommendation to you or from you? You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everybody. You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

Such confidence as this is ours through Christ before God. Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant – not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia, alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Please stand

Gospel

Luke 24:36-49

Jesus unlocks the Scriptures and enables the disciples to work through his Word.

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

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.”

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Anthem (Sunday)

Junior Choir

Yesu Kwetu ni Rafiki

arranged by Mark Burrows

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer.

Yesu kwetu ni Rafiki. Maombi asikia.

What a friend we have in Jesus. Take it in prayer.

Hymn of the Day

This Joyful Eastertide

Christian Worship 160

Sermon

Luke 24:36-49

Jesus lives to work through his Word

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Be seated

THANKSGIVING

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 the Sundays of Easter

M: O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.

C: **Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

M: In your compassion, you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

C: **Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.**

M: Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

C: **Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.**

M: Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

C: **Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.**

M: Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying.

C: **Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

M: Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

C: **Alleluia! Thanks be to God! 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

How Firm a Foundation
Christian Worship Supplement 768 (see pg. 14)

Please stand

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



Be seated

Closing Hymn

He Is Arisen! Glorious Word
Christian Worship 162

Announcements

WELS Connection

Apache Mission – 125 Anniversary

Postlude

If you do not wish to take your service folder home, please place it in the basket so it can be reused.

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“*Psalm 118*” Tune Marty Haugen © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. Tone © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House.

“*Yesu Kwetu ni Rafiki*” © 2011 Choristers Guild.

Readings for the Week of Easter 3

M	Ephesians 4:17-24.....	Job 38:1-11
T	Ephesians 4:25-32.....	Job 42:1-10
W	1 John 4:7-14.....	Isaiah 65:17-19, 23-25
TH	Acts 17:22-32.....	Colossians 1:15-18
F	2 Corinthians 5:16-21.....	Romans 8:18-23
S	Romans 1:18-25.....	Revelation 21:1-5

Serving at Worship

Preacher

Pastor Joel Leyrer

Presiding Minister

Pastor Eric Schroeder

Musician

Dr. William Braun, organ (Saturday)
Dan Baker, organ (Sunday)

Junior Choir Director

Mandy Treder

Head Ushers

Matt Bahr (Saturday)
Kerry Kuehn (8:00 AM)
Rick Yahn (10:30 AM)

Greeters

Mark & Mary Gaub and Adam & Jenny Greggs (8:00 AM)
Kathryn Hendee, Mark & Chris and Mary Rindfleisch (10:30 AM)

Worship Notes

-
-

In Our Prayers

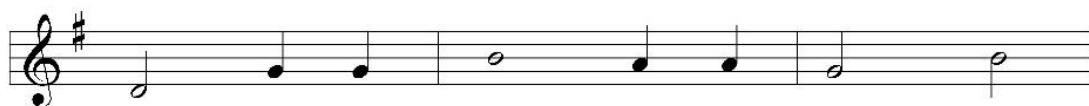
- Reece Masami Inouye, son of Aimee Rusch and Kevin Inouye who was baptized Saturday morning here at St. John's.



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints
 2 "Fear not! I am with you. Oh, be
 3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path -
 5 "Through - out all their life - time my peo -



of the Lord, Is laid for your
 not dis - mayed; For I am your
 for re - pose I will not, I
 way shall lie, My grace all - suf -
 ple shall prove My sov' - reign, e -



faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What
 God and will still give you aid; I'll
 will not, de - sert to his foes. That
 fi - cient shall be your sup - ply. The
 ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love, And



more can he say than to you
 strength - en you, help you, and cause
 soul, though all hell should en - deav -
 flames will not hurt you; I on -
 then, when gray hair shall their tem -



he has said Who un - to the
you to stand, Up - held by my
or to shake, I'll nev - er, no
ly de - sign, Your dross to con -
ples a - dorn, Like lambs they shall



Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!
sume and your gold to re - fine.
still on my shoul - ders be borne.”

The beloved words of this hymn are wed to its traditional American melody.

Text: *A Selection of Hymns*, London, 1787, alt.

Tune: FOUNDATION (11 11 11 11) Traditional American melody: Caldwell's *Union Harmony*. 1837.

