

# The Services of Holy Week

## The Triduum

The enormous significance of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection has always been the central focus of Christian worship. After six weeks of Lent, the Christian Church year has reached its climax. This is the celebration for which we have been preparing throughout Lent.

We now see what our Savior came to do. In the upper room, we see the depths of his love as he institutes the Lord's Supper and gives power to his followers to live out his command. On the cross at Calvary, we see the fullness of his devotion as he takes upon himself the sins of the world and suffers and dies on our behalf. At the empty tomb, we see the completeness of his victory as he rises triumphantly on Easter morning and assures us that our salvation is complete. The victory is won.

The three days that mark this climax of the Christian Church year – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday – are known as the *Triduum*, or the Three Holy Days of Christendom. The Triduum services are closely connected with one another. Together, they form a unit – a single worship service that extends over the “three holy days.” Some churches present this worship service in a single continuous service folder. This single service takes us through our Savior's suffering and death to his glorious triumph on Easter dawn.

Because this service is a unit, a few special notes are in order. There is no benediction at the end of the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. The benediction will occur at the end of the service on Easter Sunrise morning. In parallel, there is no invocation at the beginning of the Good Friday and Easter Sunrise services.

May the risen Christ bless our worship as we celebrate his passion and resurrection.



# Easter Sunrise Service<sup>+</sup>

## April 1, 2018

Jesus Lives: To Drive Away Fear

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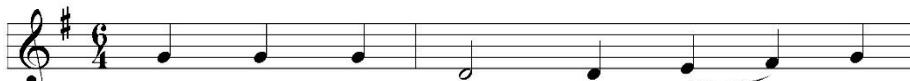
### SERVICE OF LIGHT

*The congregation assembles in the church in darkness and silence.*

**M:** As night turns to dawn and our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and in prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, through Word and sacrament, we share in his victory over death.

**C:** Amen.

*Please stand to sing the third stanza*



1 Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong  
2 No son of man could con - quer  
3 Christ Je - sus, God's own Son, came



bands For our of - fens - es giv -  
death, Such ru - in sin had wrought  
down, His peo - ple to de - liv -

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**<sup>+</sup> Easter Vigil:** A vigil is a service of Scripture readings and prayers in which believers *vigilantly* and eagerly wait and watch for the celebration of the Savior's deliverance. The Easter Vigil traditionally consists of four parts: the *Service of Light*, the *Service of Readings*, the *Service of Holy Baptism*, and the *Service of Holy Communion* (omitted this morning but referenced by singing "This is the Feast"). For more information on the Easter Vigil, see pg. 33 of *Understanding Lutheran Worship*, found in the hymnal rack.

en; But now at God's right hand he  
 us. No in - no - cence was found on  
 er; De - stroy - ing sin, he took the

stands And brings us life from heav -  
 earth, And there - fore death had brought  
 crown From death's pale brow for - ev -

en. There - fore let us joy - ful be  
 us In - to bond - age from of old  
 er. Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns;

And sing to God right thank - ful -  
 And ev - er grew more strong and  
 An emp - ty form a - lone re -

ly Loud songs of al - le - lu -  
 bold And held us as its cap -  
 mains; Its sting is lost for - ev -

ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 tive. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**M:** O God, you are like a refiner's fire, and your Spirit kindles the hearts of your faithful people with the fire of your love. Bless, we ask you, those who keep this joyful Easter festival. Burning with desire for life with you, may we be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light which has no end; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

*The minister lights the Paschal candle from the flame of the last Tenebrae candle.*

**M:** May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Almighty and most merciful God, we were once in darkness, but now we are light in Jesus Christ our Lord. Bless abundantly all who joyfully celebrate in faith the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Fill them with your heavenly blessing in him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**Easter Proclamation (*Exsultet*)**

**M:** Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has forever been banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people. Christ is risen!

**C:** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*(sung)* **It was a strange and dreadful strife when life and death contended.  
The victory remained with life; the reign of death was ended.  
Holy Scripture plainly says that death is swallowed up by death;  
Its sting is lost forever. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Here the true Paschal Lamb we see, whom God so freely gave us;  
He died on the accursed tree – so strong his love – to save us.  
See, his blood now marks our door; faith points to it; death passes o'er,  
And Satan cannot harm us. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## SERVICE OF READINGS

**M:** Our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by his resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for he truly keeps his word. The sun of righteousness has dawned on those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death.

*Be seated*

*Three Old Testament lessons are read. The first reading reminds us of the promise of a Savior who will restore our perfect existence in heaven. The other readings tell of God's great acts of deliverance in history, each prefiguring God's greatest act of deliverance in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. A period of silence for meditation and prayer follows each reading.*

### First Lesson

**Genesis 3:1-15**

*The perfection of God's creation is destroyed, but a Savior is promised.*

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

"You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

The man said, "The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals

You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

*Silence for meditation and prayer follows the lesson.*

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, you most wonderfully created human nature and yet more wonderfully redeemed it. By your mercy renew in us the image of him who came to share our humanity, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **Second Lesson**

## **Genesis 7:1 – 9:13 (selected verses)**

*Sin increases in the world, but God delivers the ancestors of the Savior.*

The LORD then said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation. Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, two of every kind of unclean animal, and also seven of every kind of bird, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth. Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made.”

And Noah did all that the LORD commanded him.

In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, on the seventeenth day of the second month – on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights.

On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark. Pairs of all creatures that have the breath of life in them came to Noah and entered the ark. Then the LORD shut him in.

For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth.

After forty days Noah opened the window he had made in the ark, and he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. But the dove could find no place to set its feet because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark. He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him.

By the first day of the first month of Noah’s six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.

Then God said to Noah, “Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you, so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it.”

So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you and with every living creature on earth. Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."

And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

*Silence for meditation and prayer follows the lesson.*

**M:** Let us pray.

O Lord, whose wrath burned against the evil of humanity, you kill and bring again to life according to your own purpose; you brought the flood on a wicked and perverse generation and yet saved faithful Noah and his family. Gather your elect into your Church and so complete your work of mercy that the ends of the earth may know your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C:** Amen.

### **Third Lesson**

### **Exodus 14:10 – 15:1a (selected verses)**

*God delivers his chosen people from the Egyptians.*

As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground. The Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I gain glory through Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen."

Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground.

The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. The LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen.” Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen. Not one of them survived.

But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground. That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians. And when the Israelites saw the great power the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

“I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea.”

*Silence for meditation and prayer follows the lesson.*

**M:** Let us pray.

O God, you once delivered your people Israel from slavery under Pharaoh and led them safely through the Red Sea. By this you give us a picture of our baptism. Lead us always to rejoice in your baptismal promise that we may live in its grace and declare to all people your desire to make them children of Abraham; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C:** Amen.

### **SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM<sup>+</sup>**

**M:** On this holiest of days, the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls his death and burial, rejoicing in the gospel of his glorious resurrection from the dead. Holy Baptism is the precious means of grace by which our Father in heaven connects us with Christ in his life, death, and resurrection. In Romans 6, the apostle Paul says,

**C:** **“Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.**

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<sup>+</sup> The focus on baptism and communion in the Easter Sunrise service has deep historical roots. Originally, the catechumenates (those receiving instruction in the faith) were baptized during the Easter Vigil service. They received the Lord’s Supper for the first time on Easter Sunday morning.

**M:** “Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”



1 All who be - lieve and are bap - tized Shall see the  
2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: Grant us your



Lord's sal - va - tion; Bap - tized in - to the death of Christ,  
Ho - ly Spir - it. Help us in our in - firm - i - ty



They are a new cre - a - tion. Through Christ's  
Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it. Grant us



re - demp - tion they shall stand A - mong the glo - rious,  
to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -



heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.  
ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

**M:** In Holy Baptism God takes away our sins and gives new life in Christ, our Lord. We solemnly renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways; we confess the gift of faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I ask you: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

**C:** Yes, and I ask God to help me.

**M:** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**C:** **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**M:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

**C:** **Yes, 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.**

**M:** Do believe in the Holy Spirit?

**C:** **Yes, 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.**

**M:** Do you intend to continue in this faith, to be diligent in the use of Word and sacrament, and in faith and action remain true to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as long as you live?

**C:** **Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

**M:** Let us pray.

Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Having been buried with Christ into his death, help us to regard our baptism as the means by which we may live a new life in him. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to be united with Christ in his resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

*The church bell is rung and the lights of the church are fully lit.*

**M:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

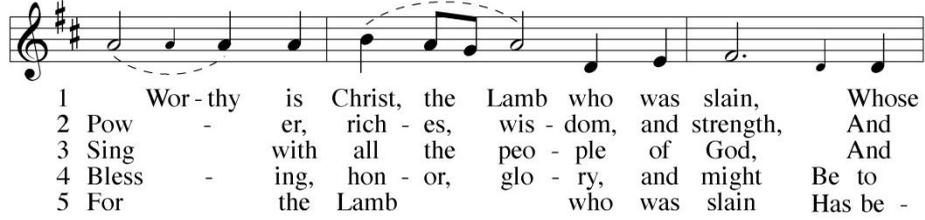
**C:** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

During the hymn of praise, the minister changes from a purple stole  
 (representing the season of Lent) into a white stole (representing the season of Easter).  
 The altar candles are lit from the Paschal candle during the hymn.

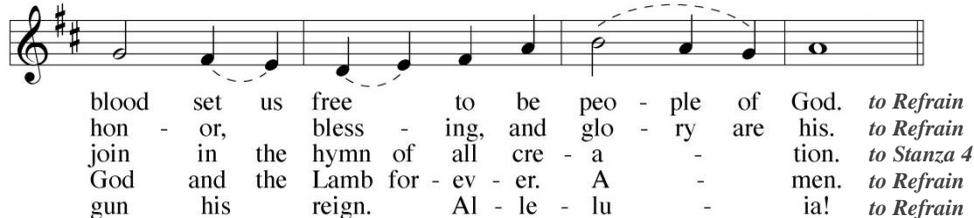
*Refrain*



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*

*Please stand*

**Gospel**

**John 20:1-18**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the

strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

"Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

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

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

*Be seated*

**Hymn of the Day**

**Come You Faithful, Raise the Strain**

*Christian Worship 142*

**Easter Message**

**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.*

## Offertory

Adult Handbell Choir

**Go to Dark Gethsemane**  
*arranged by Jeffrey Honore*

*Please stand*

**M:** Let us pray: O God, who made this holiest of days to shine with the glory of the resurrection of our Lord, preserve in all your people the Spirit of adoption which you have given, that they may serve you in faith and joy, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **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

**His Battle Ended There**  
*Christian Worship 146*

*Please stand*

**M:** Lord Jesus Christ, we give you praise and thanks for your glorious resurrection from the dead and for the opportunity to once again hear this good news and rejoice in it. Through your death our sins were buried with you, but now through your resurrection sin and death are left behind. May we live our lives in this resurrection joy, continually putting off the old and striving to live a new and holy life which reflects glory to your name, until we also rise and reign with you in everlasting joy; for you live and reign with the Father 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**

**Christ the Lord is Risen Today**  
*Christian Worship 149*

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## **Serving at Worship**

<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Kyle Bitter
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pastor Joel Leyrer
<b>Lector</b>	Pastor Eric Schroeder
<b>Musician</b>	Dan Schmal, organ
<b>Adult Handbell Choir Director</b>	Kristi Meyer
<b>Head Usher</b>	Rick Yahn

## **Worship Notes**

- The Easter plants which beautify the altar area have been placed by members of the congregation. If you purchased a plant, please pick it up following the 10:30 AM festival service. Altar Guild members will assist you in making sure you receive the plant you ordered.

## **In Our Prayers**

- Dorothy Felsing, recovering from hip surgery on Monday
- Cheryl Thompson, recovering from hip surgery on Wednesday
- Ann Washburn and Jason Sasada, married at St. John's on Saturday, March 24

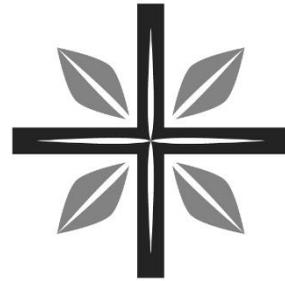
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# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



## 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.
- Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area.
- Large print service folders, assisted listening devices, and children's service folders 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.
- 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.
- Welcome to our guests! You enter this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. This is his house, and he is your heavenly Father. Come, then, into his presence, offering him your love and service. Come, expecting to share in the greatest things that life can offer. Come, hearing of full and free forgiveness. Come, knowing that through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, you are "more than conquerors" over sin, death, and the devil. And please, come again. If you currently have no church home and are looking for one, please indicate this on the guest card.
- Immediately following this service you are invited to attend our Easter breakfast in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level of church. A free will offering will be taken.

## 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 pm  
Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 am*

### Worship in Chinese

*Saturdays at 7:00 pm*

### 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. Scott Uecker  
scott.uecker@sjtosa.org*

### Church Office

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