



April 5, 2025

St. John Lutheran Church
20012 J Road
Athol, Kansas
785-695-2323

Welcome to Worship

Ann Auten, Pastor

Easter Sunday

CALL TO WORSHIP [in cemetery]

L: In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we come to worship. Amen.

L: We are the Easter people who have been to the tomb and proclaim that it is empty. He is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed!

L: We are the Easter people who have met him by the roadside and recognized him as the Son of God - risen from the dead - and living in this world and the next. He is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed!

L: We are the Easter people who have placed our hands in His side and felt his wounds. He was once dead but is now alive. He had been raised by the triumphant power of the Almighty God. He is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! We worship a risen God.

[move into sanctuary]

DRESSING OF THE ALTAR

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

LBW #151

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LBW #143

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: When we come into the presence of our risen Lord, the glory of His perfection shows us our own sin and guilt.

Scripture tells us, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our

sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us take a moment now and come before the empty tomb and look at where we have failed to live up to God's standards for our lives.

[Moment for reflection]

C: Almighty and merciful God, I confess that I have sinned against You in my thoughts, words and actions. Forgive me for the hurts I have caused others and the times I have failed to proclaim Your love. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, save me, forgive me and renew me.

L: Hear the Good News:

Easter is not just an event that happened long ago. The joy of Jesus' victory over death echoes down through the ages to you and me. God loves you so much that He gave His only Son to die on the cross for your sins. But Jesus rose to Life again! The powers of sin, death and Satan have been destroyed! If you believe this Good News, your sins are completely forgiven and you will live with Christ forever!

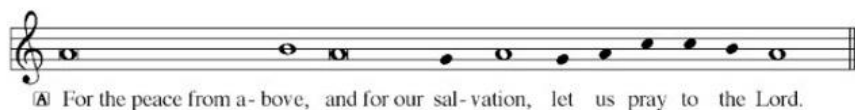
C: Praise the Lord! Alleluia! Amen!

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

KYRIE



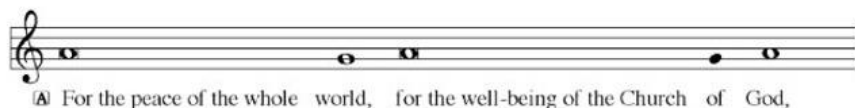
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **G** A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



B Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

GREETING

L: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: God of Mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive, and has become the Lord of Life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Jesus, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you. We ask this through Jesus the Messiah, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 14:10-15:1

R: The first lesson comes from the 14th and 15th chapters of Exodus.

10 As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. 11 They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? 12 Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, ‘Let us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” 13 But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today, for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.” 15 Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. 16 But you lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. 17 Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them, and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. 18 Then the Egyptians shall know that I am

the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.” 19 The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. 20 It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. 21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. 22 The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. 23 The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. 24 At the morning watch the Lord, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. 25 He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.” 26 Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” 27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. 28 The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. 29 But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. 30 Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 31 Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses. 15 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: “I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.
R: Here ends the reading.

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24

Read Responsively

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

2 Let Israel say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

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

15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

16 the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

**17 I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the LORD.**

18 The LORD has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

**19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.**

20 This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

**21 I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.**

22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

**23 This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

R: The second lesson comes from the 15th chapter of 1 Corinthians.

15 Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, 2 through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I

proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures ⁴ and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

R: Here ends the reading.

GOSPEL VERSE

L: Please rise in honor of the gospel.

C: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

L: The Holy Gospel according to John the 20th chapter.

C: Glory to You O Lord

1Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." 3Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did

not go in. 6Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10Then the disciples returned to their homes. 11But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." 14When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." 16Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). 17Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" 18Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

L: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to You O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON THEME

I Have Seen the Lord!

SONG

My God's Not Dead, He's Surely Alive

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from
the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one
holy Christian and apostolic Church
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
and for all people according to their needs.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

RECEPTION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

L: It is our duty and delight join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

L: On the night of his betrayal...remembrance of me.

Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again, even as we cry: Amen! Come, Lord, Jesus!

C: Amen! Come, Lord, Jesus!

L: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit so that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation. Amen!
Come, Holy Spirit!

C: Amen! Come, Holy Spirit!

L: This we pray through Jesus the Christ, our Savior and our friend.

C: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, now and forever. Amen.

L: Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as Abba father as we pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

(The wine is red and the grape juice is white)

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

What a Beautiful Name

Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone

How Great Thou Art



POST COMMUNION BLESSING

L: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus the Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace

C: Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Let us pray...

C: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with heavenly food; through Jesus the Christ our Lord. Amen

BLESSING

L: Christ is Risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Go now, and may the peace of the Risen Christ go with you!

L: We go to spread the Good News! Alleluia! Amen!

CLOSING SONG

Happy Day

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace because He is Risen!

C: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Happy Day

At the very end of the service after the dismissal, I would like the last song started again and played as people are leaving. Kind of like a postlude, but not quite as loud. Gives life to the end instead of an empty space! Pr Ann

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome visitors! Please pick up a visitor bag from an usher just for you! Everyone is invited to stay after our sunrise service for brunch! Come celebrate the resurrection of Christ with us!

EVENTS THIS WEEK:

April 7 - @ 6:30 Men's Breakfast
@ 10:30 AM Bible Study at SunPorch and SCHR
@ 6:30 PM - Pastor Ann's Bible Study
April 8 - @ 9:00 AM - Women's Bible Study
@9:00-12:00 - Pastor Ann's Office Hours
@6:00 PM - Confirmation Class
April 9 - @ 1:30 pm - Bible Study at Sunporch

New Bible Study! Do you know what happened next after Jesus ascended into heaven? On Tuesdays with Pastor Ann, we will study the Acts of the Apostles. In a world that is unsure of where to find truth or purpose, the book of Acts reveals God's plan for global redemption, his purpose for our lives, and the power he has given us to accomplish his mission. Join us!

Keep those extra Bibles and Christian materials coming! Join our Lenten LOVE packages drive and bring your items to our display!

2 Easter lilies given in memory of Lois Kussman and her grandson Clifford Holthaus.

FUTURE EVENTS:

April 25 - Youth Mission at Hastings Crossroads
May 3 - Confirmation Sunday
May 17 - Graduation Sunday

Scriptures for April 12th
1st Reading: Acts 5:29-42
Psalm 148
2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9
Processional Gospel: John 12:12-19
Gospel: John 20:19-31
Sermon Title: "I'll Believe It When I See It!"

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