

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 3, 2026, 8:30 A.M./10:30 A.M**  
**St. John's Lutheran Church**

\*Bulletins are subject to change based on the Pastors' discretion

**Prelude:** There Is A Balm In Gilead Arranged by K. Ledington by the Youth Bell Choir

**Ringing of the Church Bell**

**Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

page 116-117

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,  
**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**  
**C: Amen.**

P: In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn**

*Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

*ELW #645*

**Greeting and Kyrie**

pp. 147-148

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**Kyrie**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

**The Hymn of Praise** (This is the feast)

pp. 149-150

P: This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia.

**C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever, Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Prayer of the Day:**

P: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**First Reading: Acts 7:55-60**

<sup>55</sup> Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

**Psalm: 31:1-5, 15-16** (read responsively)

P: <sup>1</sup> In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

**C: <sup>2</sup> Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

P: <sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

**C: <sup>4</sup> Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

P: <sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

**C: <sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

P: <sup>16</sup> Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

**Anthem** (8:30 Service)

*As Trees By The Waters* By Jayne Southwick Cool  
*Handbells, Senior Choir, Piano*

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10**

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

<sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>7</sup> This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for

those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,”<sup>8</sup> and “A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**Gospel Acclamation** “*Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?*”

*page 151*

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**The Gospel: John 14:1-14**

**Glory to You, O Lord! / Praise to You, O Christ!**

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:]<sup>1</sup> “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.<sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?<sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.<sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going.”<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.<sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.”<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?<sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.<sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves.<sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.<sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.<sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Message** (*noisy offering will be taken*)

**Message**

**Pastor Mark Oehlert**

**Confession of Faith**

*Apostle’s Creed*

*page 127*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Offering Hymn:**

*You Are The Way*

*ELW# 758*

**Offering Prayer:**

P: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and

blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **C: Amen.**

**Prayers of the Church:** P: Merciful God.... **C: Receive our prayer..**

**Sharing of the Peace:** P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us greet each other and share the peace of Christ with each other, either with a wave, a fist bump, hand shake, ...however you prefer using the words "Peace be with you".

**The Great Thanksgiving (sung) pg. 152**

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn

**Holy, Holy, Holy (sung) page 153**

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of Pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**The Words of Institution**

**The Lord's Prayer page 112**

**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.**

**Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) page 154**

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**Communion Distribution Music: Youth Bell Choir**

**Communion Distribution Hymns: ELW #480 O Bread of Life from Heaven**

**ELW #487 What Feast of Love**

**Prayer Following Communion:**

P: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing ELW# 389**

**Dismissal: P: Go in Peace, remember the poor.**

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: Christ is Made the Sure Foundation by Robert Hobby**

**Activities this Week at St. John's**

**May 3, 2026, to May 12, 2026**

|              |                  |   |
|--------------|------------------|---|
| Sun, May 3   | 8:30am & 10:30am | *Noisy Offering, Worship Services W/Comm, 4 <sup>th</sup> grade<br>Communion for those not able to attend in April, Pastor Mark Oehlert |
|              | 9:30am           | Sunday School (last day), Bible Study, Sr Choir   |
|              | 7:00pm           | Men's Choir   |
| Wed, May 6   | 8:45-noon        | Quilting  |
|              | 6:00pm           | Youth Bells (tentative last one)  |
|              | 7:00pm           | Sr Bells  |
| Sun, May 10  | 8:30am&10:30am   | Worship Services Pastor Waldemar Gies, Sunday School Teacher/Choir<br>Recognition   |
|              | 9:30am           | Bible Study, Sr Choir   |
|              | 7:00pm           | Men's Choir   |
| Tues, May 12 | 9:15am           | Sarah Circle - Lounge   |
|              | 7:00pm           | Dorcas Circle - Virtual   |

**General Funds** (undesignated)

**Jan 1 – April 29, 2026,**

Actual Income \$61,040.22

**Jan 1 – May 31, 2026,**

Budget Expenses \$86,199.15

**Attendance**

2026 Average 97

Previous Week 86

2025 Average 103

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|                            |          |   |
|----------------------------|----------|---|
| Greeters                   | 8:30am   | Nona Sawyer                                   |
|                            | 10:30 am |   |
| Readers                    | 8:30 am  | Ann Rademaker                                 |
|                            | 10:30am  | Wendy Bucheit                                 |
| Acolytes                   | 8:30 am  | Ushers  |
| Ushers                     | 8:30am   | Ron Dahlstrom, David & Wendy Sanderson        |
|                            | 10:30am  |   |
| Communion Assistant        | 8:30am   | Nona Sawyer, Brenda Dougherty, Chris Stuckman |
|                            | 10:30am  | Wendy Bucheit                                 |
| Communion Prep             | 8:30am   | Chris Ellickson, Dawn Teslow                  |
|                            | 10:30am  | Linda Groe                                    |
| Secretary                  |          | Lana Dahlstrom                                |
| Custodians                 |          | John & Sharon Roe                             |
| Organist/Director of Music |          | James H. Bieber                               |
| Pastor                     |          | Mark Oehlert                                  |

**St. John's Lutheran Church Events**

If you are unable to join us in person, you may listen on the radio or watch online through the St. John's Waukon Facebook page. Bulletins may be found on our website <https://stjohnswaukon.net/>

**Radio Broadcast Ministry** Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by church funds graciously given by our listeners and congregation. Thank you for your contribution. If you'd like to sponsor a radio broadcast, contact the Church office at 563-568-3623. *Please note: When sponsoring a broadcast, you may select a hymn of your choice for that service.* We invite you to join us each Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. on **KNEI 103.5 FM** to listen to the service.

Join us for **Sunday Bible Study!** with a study of men & women of the Bible. Come gather with us in the lounge at 9:30 am, between services. Visit the resource page at <https://stjohnswaukon.net/bible-study-resources-1>

**Quilting** on Wednesdays in the parish hall from 8:45 am to noon. All are welcome! We have 30 quilts done!

**Baby Kits** we are grateful to share that 36 Baby Care Kits have been assembled and will be sent to World Relief. To find out more about our special projects here at St John's visit the website and look at the MORE drop down tab. We have a lot of good things happening throughout the year!

**Video security system** has been upgraded. The cost is approximately \$11,000. If you would like to contribute to this important safety improvement, Checks may be made payable to St. John's, with "Security System" noted in the memo line. We greatly appreciate your support in helping keep our church a safe and welcoming place for all.

**First Communion Service** Today Sun, May 3, (for those who could not attend in April)

**St. John's Spring Clean Up Day** Sat, May 30, starting at 9:00 AM. Join us as we spruce up the church grounds for the season! There are several projects to tackle, many hands make light work—your help is greatly appreciated!

The **Church Services Committee** is seeking your input to better understand what our congregation values most in worship services and programs. We invite you to keep an open mind as you respond—at this stage, cost is not a concern. Your feedback will play an important role in guiding future planning and decisions. Please remember to include your name so we may follow up if needed and kindly submit only one survey per member. We encourage everyone to participate, as each voice is valuable in shaping the future of our church community. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts. Surveys are available in the narthex on pink paper or on page 9 of the May newsletter. Completed surveys may be returned to the church office or placed in the wooden box. **Please return all surveys by Sunday, May 31.**

#### **Upcoming May Service Reminders**

May 10 Mother's Day. Choir & Sunday School Teacher Recognition.

May 17 Graduating Senior Recognition/Baccalaureate Service. Senior Reception following 8:30 Service.

May 24 Memorial Day weekend. Summer service schedule begins-8:30am/10:00am. Men's choir singing.

#### **Volunteers for May 10, 2026:**

Ushers: 8:30am Ron Dahlstrom, David & Wendy Sanderson; 10:30am

Greeters: 8:30am Chris Engstrom; 10:30am Ed & Karen Stamper

Readers: 8:30am Blake Roe; 10:30am Karen Stamper

Acolytes: Ushers

#### **Community Events** *See the bulletin board for more information.*

\*Parents/kids are invited to **Ewalu's Summer Camp Open House** from 1-4 pm on Sun, May 3!

\***Glenwood Lutheran Church**, will celebrate the restoration of its historic 1909 Hinner pipe organ. Join for a short program/slide show in our auditorium May 3 at 1:30pm. The program will continue at 3 pm in the sanctuary with Luther College Organist, Professor Alexander Meszler, and several students. Treats and coffee to follow. We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you!

\*St. John's UCC **Chicken BBQ**, plant & bake sale. 2952 Wheatland Rd, New Albin. Sun, May 3, 4pm until gone, ½ chicken dinner. Dine in/carry outs.

\*The **Decorah Chorale** will present its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spring Concert, *Illuminate*, on Sun, May 3 at 7:00 p.m. in the Decorah High School Auditorium.

\*Waukon FFA horticulture students have their **FFA Plant Sale**, Waukon High School Greenhouse (1061 3rd Ave NW, Waukon). Dates/times: May 9 from 9:00am–12:00pm May 7 & 8 from 3:30pm–6:00pm.

**Outstanding Evening** Sun, May 10 Tenor and Bass Voices sing at Decorah Lutheran Church at 7:00 pm. Free-will donation benefits the Decorah Area Food Pantry. Refreshments downstairs following the concert.

\*Allamakee Master Gardener & Waukon FFA **Plant Sale** Sat. May 16, 8am-12pm @ the Allamakee County Fairgrounds show barn.

\***Pies and Purses!** Sat May 16 9am-12pm Robey Memorial Library. Sew a purse for girls in Zambia, enjoy a piece of pie.