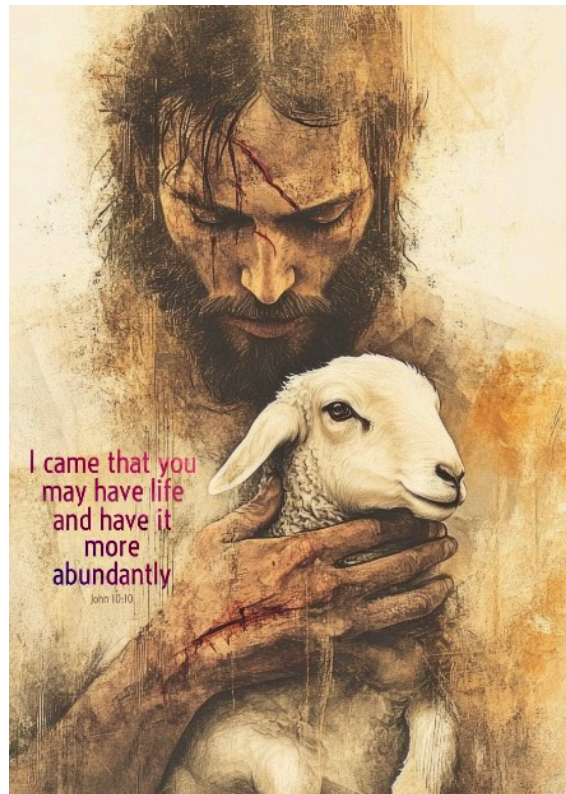


Fourth Sunday of Easter



April 26, 2026

St. John's Lutheran Churches

stjohnslutheranjc.com

Schubert

4409 Saint Johns Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Babbtown

7075 Highway P
Westphalia, MO 65085

Pastor: Rev. Ryan Groh
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About This Service: The heart of Christianity is not what we do for God but what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. We call our service the "Divine Service" because the Divine One, our Lord Jesus, promises to be present to serve us by His Word and with His body and blood.

Are My Children Welcome? Our Lord says, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). Yes, your little ones are more than welcome! We are delighted to have them with us in the service!

Visitors: Welcome to St. John's! If you have not already done so, please fill out the visitor's book outside of the sanctuary. If you don't yet have a church home, or have any questions about what we believe, teach, and confess, feel free to speak with Pastor; he would be happy to talk with you!

Communion: We ask that all visitors speak with Pastor before the service and prior to coming up for communion. We invite those who are communicant members of the LC-MS to commune with us. If you are not a communicant member of the LC-MS, please cross your arms when you come up to the communion rail to receive a blessing.

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn TLH 341 "Crown Him With Many Crowns"

Crown Him with many crowns, The lamb upon His Throne;
Hark how the Heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.
Awake my soul and sing Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless king Thro' all eternity.

Crown Him the Virgin's Son, The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose, As of that rose the stem;
The root whence mercy ever flows, The Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown Him the Lord of Love. Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye At mysteries so bright!

Crown Him the Lord of Life Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of Heaven, Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the King to whom is given The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is King of all. Amen.

The Order of Worship, Page 15 TLH

Invocation: *TLH Page 15 [Responses Sung]*

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C: **Amen.**

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: **Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

Confession of Sins *TLH Page 16*

ALL: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution *TLH Page 16*

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C: *[Sung]* **Amen.**

Introit (P: Pastor C: Congregation) *Psalm 95:1-3, 6-7a; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b*

P: I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

C: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

P: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

C: For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

P: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

C: For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Gloria Patri: *TLH Page 16 [Sung]*

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Kyrie: *TLH Page 17 [Sung]*

C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH Pages 17-19 [Sung]*

C: Glory be to God on high; And on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,

We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect

TLH Page 19

P: The Lord be with you!

C: And with thy spirit!

(prayed together) – **Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Response: [Sung] Amen.

First Reading – Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Epistle Reading – 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Gradual (*Pastor speaks, congregation responds with "Hallelujahs!"*)

P: Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor. He has given him dominion over the works of his hands; he has put all things under his feet.

C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

As the Gospel reading is announced, the congregation sings... **C: GLORY BE TO THEE, O LORD!**

Gospel Reading – John 10:1-10

¹[Jesus said:] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

The Gospel ended, the congregation sings...

C: PRAISE BE TO THEE, O CHRIST!

The Nicene Creed *TLH Page 22*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn TLH 436 "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"

**The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me The quiet waters by.**

**My soul He doth restore again And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for His own name's sake.**

**Yea, tho' I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.**

**My table Thou hast furnishéd In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.**

**Goodness and mercy, all my life, Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore My dwelling place shall be. Amen.**

The Sermon

Offertory *TLH Pages 22-23 [Sung]*

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Prayers

TLH Pages 23-24

ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Preface: *TLH Page 24 [Responses Sung]*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C: It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to Thee, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God ... therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

The Sanctus: *TLH Page 26 [Sung]*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He,

Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer: *TLH Page 27*

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;

[Sung] For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Institution: *TLH Page 27*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Pax Domini: *TLH Page 27*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: *[Sung]* A - - - - men.

The Agnus Dei: *TLH Page 28 [Sung]*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace. A - - - - men.

The Distribution *(We invite those who are communicant members of the LC-MS to commune with us.)*

Distribution Hymns TLH 206 "Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense"

**Jesus Christ, my sure Defense And my Savior, ever Liveth;
Knowing this, my confidence Rests upon the hope it giveth
Though the night of death be fraught Still with many an anxious thought.**

**Jesus, my Redeemer, lives; I, too, unto life shall waken.
Endless joy my Savior gives; Shall my courage, then, be shaken?
Shall I fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His members dead?**

**Nay, too closely am I bound Unto Him by hope forever;
Faith's strong hand the Rock hath found, Grasped it, and will leave it never;
Even death now cannot part From its Lord the trusting heart.**

**I am flesh and must return Unto dust, whence I am taken;
But by faith I now discern That from death I shall awaken
With my Savior to abide In His glory, at His side.**

**Glorified, I shall anew With this flesh then be enshrouded;
In this body I shall view God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;
In this flesh I then shall see Jesus Christ eternally.**

**Then these eyes my Lord shall know, My Redeemer and my Brother;
In His love my soul shall glow,— I myself, and not another!
Then the weakness I feel here Shall forever disappear.**

**They who sorrow here and moan There in gladness shall be reigning;
Earthly here the seed is sown, There immortal life attaining.
Here our sinful bodies die, Glorified to dwell on high.**

**Then take comfort and rejoice, For His members Christ will cherish.
Fear not, they will hear His voice; Dying, they shall never perish;
For the very grave is stirred When the trumpet's blast is heard.**

**Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave And at death no longer tremble;
He, the Lord, who came to save Will at last His own assemble.
They will go their Lord to meet, Treading death beneath their feet.**

**Oh, then, draw away your hearts Now from pleasures base and hollow.
There to share what He imparts, Here His footsteps ye must follow.
Fix your hearts beyond the skies, Whether ye yourselves would rise. Amen.**

TLH 535 "Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing"

**Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing, A cheerful trust maintain;
For God, the Source of everything, Thy Portion shall remain.**

**He is thy Treasure, He thy Joy, Thy Life and Light and Lord,
Thy Counselor when doubts annoy, Thy Shield and great Reward.**

**Why spend the day in blank despair, In restless thought the night?
On thy Creator cast thy care; He makes thy burdens light.**

**Did not His love and truth and power Watch o'er thy childhood day?
Has He not oft in threatening hour Turned dreaded ills away?**

**He ever will with patience chide, His rod falls gently down,
And all thy sins He casts aside And in the sea doth drown.**

**When silent woe thy bosom rends, His pity sees thy grief,
Supplies what to His glory tends And to thine own relief.**

**He knows how oft a Christian weeps And why his tears now fall;
And in the His mercy keeps These things are noted all.**

**His wisdom never plans in vain, Ne'er falters or mistakes;
All that His counsels did ordain A happy ending makes.**

**Upon thy lips, then, lay thy hand And trust His guiding love;
Then like a rock thy peace shall stand Here and in heaven above. Amen.**

Nunc Dimittis

TLH Pages 29-30 [Sung]

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,
For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the Face of all people,
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The Thanksgiving: TLH Page 30

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good. C: [Sung] And His mercy endureth forever.

The Thanksgiving Prayer: TLH Pages 30-31

**P: ...through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God,
world without end.**

C: [Sung] A- - - - men.

The Benedicamus: TLH Page 31

P: The Lord be with you.

C: [Sung] And with thy spirit.

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: [Sung] Thanks be to God.

The Benediction: TLH Page 31

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: *[Sung]* **Amen, Amen, Amen!**

Closing Hymn TLH 193 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

**"Christ the Lord is ris'n today," Sons of man and angels say.
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and, earth, reply.
Love's redeeming work is done, Fought the fight, the battle won.
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er; Lo, He sets in blood no more.
Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids His rise; Christ has opened Paradise.
Lives again our glorious King; Where, O Death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy victory, O Grave?
Soar we now where Christ has led, Following our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Praise to Thee by both be given!
Thee we greet triumphant now: Hail, the Resurrection Thou! Amen.**

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Have A Blessed Week!

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Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

The Lutheran Hymnal: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn #341: Scripture: Revelation 19:12; Crown Him With Many Crowns; Author: Matthew Bridges (1851, cento, alt.); Tune: Diademata; Composer: George J. Elvey (1868).

Hymn #436: Scripture: Psalm 23; The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want; Author Francis Rous, et al (1658); Tune: Belmont; Composer: William Gardiner (1812).

Hymn #206: Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:35 ff.; Jesus, meine Zuversicht; Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense; Author unknown (1653); Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1863); Tune: Jesu, meine Zuversicht; Composer: Johann Crüger (1653).

Hymn # 535: Scripture: Psalm 56:8; Ich singe dir mit Herz und Mund; Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing; Author: Paul Gerhardt (1653, cento); Translator: John Kelly (1867, alt.); Tune: Ich singe dir; Source: "Harmonischer Liederschatz", Frankfurt, 1738.

Hymn #193: Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:57; Christ The Lord Is Risen Today; Author: Charles Wesley (1739, cento); Tune: Orientis partilius; Source: French Melody (c. 1200, ad.).

Bible Readings: The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

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“Whoever follows Our Lord with a believing heart is nourished with a food of eternal freshness. For He makes us lie down in green pastures. These pastures are the eternal joys of an ever-green paradise. Those who have evaded the traps of temporary pleasures rejoice with the fullness of eternity. There are choirs of angels singing hymns, there the company of heavenly citizens, there the delightful festival of those returning from the sad labor of their exile here, there the farseeing choir of prophets, there the apostles, there the victorious army of innumerable martyrs, as much happier there as they were tormented here. Let us seek these pastures, dearly beloved! There we may enjoy the celebration of so many citizens.”

- St. Gregory

Daily Bible Reading:

- **Monday, Apr. 27th**: Genesis 5
- **Tuesday, Apr. 28th**: Genesis 6
- **Wednesday, Apr. 29th**: Genesis 7
- **Thursday, Apr. 30th**: Genesis 8
- **Friday, May 1st**: Genesis 9
- **Saturday, May 2nd**: Genesis 10
- **Sunday, May 3rd**: Genesis 11

Catechism Recitation for the Week:

Baptism: What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.