



## St John's

Evangelical Lutheran Church & School  
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### *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

22 May 2022 9:00 A.M.

**Welcome!** We're glad you're here! Although we are from all different backgrounds, we love to learn about what God has done. You and everyone are welcome to learn about God and find helpful guidance for your life. Feel free to bring us your questions or your feedback so we can improve. Or ask how to be part of a group conversation about faith in Jesus.

We *love* to have **Children** with us in the pews for worship. Our children's activity bags in the entryway have activities that can help them. We love babies in worship too because our Savior said, "Let the little children come to me." When babies want to be loud, the **Parent's Room** (just outside our worship area) and the **Fellowship Hall** (downstairs) are good places for them to talk or cry so the rest of the worshipers can focus on God's Word. Then come back so we can all worship together.

If your **hearing aids** have T-Coils, set them to "on" and the service will be piped wirelessly to your ears.

We invite you to fill out a **ministry card** so we can better care for you. You'll find one on the pew in front of you. God bless your week. Come hear God's Word with us again!

Members: please note that the ministry cards are designed to serve some of your needs too.

**Pre-worship Pondering:**

— Kaspar Stolshagen

*Today in triumph Christ arose and conquered all His hellish foes.  
Great splendor marks His victory; sing praise to God eternally!*

*Though Satan rage, his pow'r is gone; his thundering roar can harm us none.  
Our strong Defender hurls him down and wins for us a heav'nly crown.*

*O Christ, our Savior, Helper, Friend, be with us till our journey's end.  
In mercy guide us by Your grace till we behold Your glorious face.*

*To Father, on the highest throne, to Christ, the Father's own dear Son,  
To God the Holy Spirit be all praise and thanks eternally.*

## Gathering Rite on the Word of God

**Worship Theme**      *Christ is Risen! Love, Trust, and Obey Him!*

**Gathering Rite on the Word of God**      (remain seated)

Pastor: *In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.*

Congregation: Amen. I will proclaim the name of the LORD.

C: (sings) Blessed Jesus, at Your Word, tune: CW221  
                  we are gathered all to hear You.  
                  Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
                  now to seek and love and fear You,  
                  By Your teachings, sweet and holy,  
                  drawn from earth to love You solely.

*P: Oh, how I love Your law!*

C: I meditate on it all day long.

*P: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,*

C: for they are ever with me.

*P: I have more insight than all my teachers,*

C: for I meditate on Your statutes.

*P: How sweet are Your words to my taste,*

C: sweeter than honey to my mouth! (Psalm 119:97-99,103)

C: (sings) All our knowledge, sense and sight,  
                  lie in deepest darkness shrouded

Till Your Spirit breaks our night  
with the beams of truth unclouded.  
You alone to God can win us,  
You must work all good within us.

(congregation stands)

*P: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,*

**C:** so that the **servant** of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

*P: Yet, almighty God, so often we have despised Your Word by failing to hear and learn it gladly, or by not listening to it carefully, or by straying from Your commands as if they did not apply to us.*

**C:** To all of our sins, Lord, we plead guilty. From our hearts we are sorry. Deliver us, Savior, from the punishment we deserve so that we may serve You gratefully.

**C:** (sings) Gracious Savior, good and kind,  
Light from Light, from God proceeding,  
Open now our heart and mind;  
help us by Your Spirit's pleading.  
Hear the cry Your people raises;  
hear and bless our prayers and praises.

*P: Your Shepherd has sought you out, and He has brought you here today to hear this life-giving, life-changing news: Your sins are forgiven! All of them! They will never be counted against you, because Jesus chose to have your sins counted against Him on the cross. Not only are you saved from eternal wrath, but because of Jesus, you now are counted as blameless, holy, righteous in God's sight, a true saint, destined for eternal life in Heaven. This is God's own verdict.*

**C:** May this good news draw our attention to God's Word all the days of our life.

C: (sings) Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
praise to You and adoration!  
Grant that we Your Word may trust,  
confident of our salvation,  
While we here below must wander,  
till we sing Your praises yonder.

## Prayer of the Day

*P: Father in heaven, every good and perfect gift comes from You. You have been so generous with us that now we want to love and obey You. Help us to think true and loving thoughts and to want everything You consider good.*

C: We ask it through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who is alive and is reigning with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## First Lesson

Acts 14:8-18

<sup>8</sup>In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth and had never walked. <sup>9</sup>He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed <sup>10</sup>and called out, “Stand up on your feet!” At that, the man jumped up and began to walk. <sup>11</sup>When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, “The gods have come down to us in human form!” <sup>12</sup>Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker. <sup>13</sup>The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them. <sup>14</sup>But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: <sup>15</sup>“Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in

them. <sup>16</sup>In the past, he let all nations go their own way. <sup>17</sup>Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.” <sup>18</sup>Even with these words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them.

*P: You have heard the Word of the Lord.*

*C (speaks): Thanks be to God!*

## **Psalm of the Day**

Psalm 65 (page 89 in the hymnal)

## **Verse of the Day**

see 1 John 5:3

*P: Alleluia. Praise the Lord. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!*

*Alleluia! This is love for God: to obey his commands.*

*C: And his commands are not burdensome. Alleluia!*

## **Gospel**

John 14:23-29

<sup>23</sup>Jesus replied, “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. <sup>24</sup>He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. <sup>25</sup>All this I have spoken while still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming back to you.’ If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe.”

*P: You have heard the Gospel of the Lord.*

*C (speaks): Praise be to Christ!*

## Sermon

Revelation 21:10-14,22-23

<sup>10</sup>And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. <sup>11</sup>It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. <sup>12</sup>It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>13</sup>There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. <sup>14</sup>The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. <sup>22</sup>I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. <sup>23</sup>The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

*What Will Heaven be Like?*

## Apostles' Creed

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.

Many of our members give to the Lord electronically or once a month. So we now gather our offering as we enter the worship area. It is also acceptable to place an offering into the plate on the way out of the worship area. Guests are always welcome here without obligation.

## **We Bring a Thank Offering**

Hymn #171\*

6. O risen Christ, ascended Lord,  
all praise to You let earth accord. Alleluia!  
You are, while endless ages run,  
with Father and with Spirit one. Alleluia!

## **Prayers of the Church**

### **Lord's Prayer**

*P: Our Father in heaven,*

**C: Heavenly Father, we are Your dear children.**

*P: Hallowed be Your name,*

**C: Help us live and teach Your Word correctly.**

*P: Your kingdom come,*

**C: Send the Holy Spirit to strengthen Christ's rule in our hearts and to spread that rule to many others.**

*P: Your will be done on earth as in heaven,*

**C: Let Your saving plan be done rather than the plans of the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh.**

*P: Give us today our daily bread,*

**C: Provide for our bodily needs each day, and teach us to be content.**

*P: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us,*

**C: Graciously cancel our debt of sin, and lead us to do the same for others.**

*P: Lead us not into temptation,*

**C: Help us so that we are not overcome by anything which might lead us to sin.**

*P: But deliver us from evil,*

C: Bring us safely through the many hardships of life to our heavenly home.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: *Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our private petitions. [Silent prayer.]*

P: *For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen.*

C: We are sure You will hear and can answer our prayer.  
This is most certainly true.

## Hymn

#169\*

### Prayer about God's Word

P: *Almighty God, grant to Your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder Your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve You in steadfast faith and confess Your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



### Blessing

P: *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 His favor and grant you His ✠ peace.*



## Hymn

#333\*

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Thank offering hymn stanza – *“O Risen Christ Ascended Lord”* from CW #171, original words by the Venerable Bede, *tr. composite.* In the public domain.

## Memory Verse of the Month

Philippians 3:20-21

Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

## SERVING THE LORD AND US

May 22, 2022

**Minister:** Pastor Nathan Cordes 651-448-3559 KnowJesusBetter@StJohnsLakeCity.com

**Organist:** Joyce Zillgitt

**Audiovisual Tech:** Chris Fischer

**Flower Committee for May:** Georgene Arndt, Cheryl Glander

**May 22 Ushers:** Jim & Marcia Sprout

**May 29 Ushers:** Lyle Peters and John Weick

### Teachers in our LES

Mr. David Zabel, Principal, Gr. 6-8

Mrs. Jamie Fischer, Gr. PK-4

Miss Allison Hofland, Gr. K

Miss Molly Ring, Gr. 3-5

Miss Katie Siverly, Gr. 1-2

Mrs. Donna Kronebusch, PK-3

**Sunday School Teachers** Dawn Balow, Jennifer Ellison, Kristi Gross,  
Seth Harteneck, Brittany Huneke, Marcus Huneke

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** Join us Mon June 13 through Fri June 17 as we take a Road Trip on Route 3:16! VBS Registration is open for children ages 3 to 12. If you would like to volunteer to work with the children, please contact Mrs. Fischer ([fischerj@stjohnslakecity.com](mailto:fischerj@stjohnslakecity.com)) or Miss Hofland ([hoflanda@stjohnslakecity.com](mailto:hoflanda@stjohnslakecity.com)). If you would like to donate supplies and materials, see the Information Counter for a list of materials. If you would like to pray for this part of our ministry, contact

our Lord Jesus directly—He’s always glad to hear from those who trust Him.

**Opportunities for Learning, Serving, and Spending Time Together**  
**May 22, 2022 – May 29, 2022**

**Sunday**

- 9:00 AM Worship
- 9:00 AM Live-stream on YouTube
- 10:15 AM Bible Classes for all ages
- 10:35 AM Rebroadcast of 9 AM service on ch 18 or 13

**Monday**

- 2:00 PM Caring Hands Quilters
- 2:00 PM High Street House
- 3:00 PM Pepin Plaza

**Tuesday**

- 8:00 AM Track and Field Day for St. John’s School

**Wednesday**

- 8:40 PM Chapel
- 10:00 AM Care Center Service
- 3:30 PM Catechism
- 6:00 PM School Picnic Pot-Luck  
ALL WELCOME

**Wednesday cont.**

- 7:00 PM Rebroadcast of Sunday’s service on ch 18 or 13

**Thursday**

- 6:00 PM End of School Year Service ALL WELCOME

**Friday**

- 8:00 AM Last day of school at St. John’s

**Saturday**

**Sunday**

- Last Sunday Offering—L.I.M.A. see p. 11-12 below
- 9:00 AM Worship w/ Communion
- 9:00 AM Live-stream on YouTube
- 10:15 AM Bible Classes for all ages
- 10:35 AM Rebroadcast of 9 AM service on ch 18 or 13

**HOLY COMMUNION** will be offered on May 15 and May 29.

**BEAUTY FOR CHRIST** On your way out of worship, notice the new banners on the back wall of the worship area. Celebrating our risen Lord Jesus Christ, these were a gift from the GROW Bible study. The people of St. John thank the ladies who participated in the Thursday morning Bible study for spending the rest of their “coffee money” on these banners.

**PENTECOST GERANIUMS** Our Altar Guild is accepting red geranium donations for decorating our worship area on June 5. You may bring

your blooming red geranium to the church on Saturday June 4 between 9:00 and 10:00 A.M. Please use the sign-up sheet on the information counter to indicate you are bringing a geranium, who you are placing the geranium in memory of if you like, and whether you plan to pick up your live geranium after Pentecost.

**Some of the Ways We Fed our Faith**

**Sunday Morning Worship Attendance**

165; plus all who watch the worship video or read the worship materials

**Sunday Bible Class –39 Sunday School –8**

**LIMA—Reflections from the Hospital**

Theodicy. Have you ever heard the word? It means “the vindication of divine goodness and providence in view of the existence of evil.” In simpler language, theodicy tries to answer the question of how bad things can happen if there is a good God.

I’ve made thousands and thousands of hospital visits in the Mayo hospitals in Rochester. Not too long ago, an older pastor asked me how all those hospital visits had changed me as a person and as a pastor. The answer is that I think about theodicy more than most people. How can you not wonder why God would allow a child to struggle for years with cancer or be killed suddenly in an accident? What about the newly retired woman who dies in a freak accident just as she’s able to spend more time with her grandchildren? The list goes on and on.

As I’ve gotten older and made more hospital visits, I have begun to wonder about those things a little less. Instead, I am coming to grips with just how sinful this world is. Cancer, accidents, and all manner of problems are the result of living in a sinful world. The curse first uttered in the Garden of Eden has reverberated in our world for thousands of years. COVID? A result of Adam’s sin. My achy knee? A result of Adam’s sin. The divisions in our country and in our congregations? Results of sin. My achy knee isn’t necessarily a direct result of a sin I committed but my sin has certainly contributed to the sinfulness of this

world and the general consequences of that sin. This old world is no friend to God's children.

Is this an overly negative outlook? I'd call it realistic. When we see just how sinful this world is, we are ready to appreciate what God said in Galatians 1:4, *Jesus gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father*. Note carefully what Paul wrote: Jesus gave Himself to rescue us from this evil age. Paul could have written that Jesus rescued us from our sin, from death or from the power of the devil. All are true. But here, Paul tells us that Jesus has rescued us from this evil age, this evil world. One of our synod's early scholars defined the phrase this way: "It sums up the mode of existence and life in time, yes, finally everything that belongs together in the present world by virtue of character, meaning, and purpose, just as we express all of this with the word world" (Professor J.P. Koehler). Sin has corrupted the world; that corruption impacts our lives dramatically.

But this is real too: Jesus has rescued us! His death on the cross paid for our sins. Faith in Jesus makes us children of God and heirs of heaven. This sinful world filled with death, disappointment, division, and achy knees is not our home. We have been rescued from this present evil age. Heaven – life with God and His Church – is our home.

None of this solves the "problems" raised by theodicy. None of this makes the pain and heartache of the hospital room disappear. But it does take the sting away. We have been rescued. Heaven is ours. The believing child who struggles and perhaps dies of cancer will be in heaven. The faithful grandmother who died suddenly will see her believing grandchildren forever in heaven. And my achy knee will feel just fine after Judgement Day!

That's the sure and certain message I share in the hospital. It's the message your pastor reminds and reassures you of every week. And it's the message we share with all those who live in this "present evil age."

Your Rochester/Mayo LIMA chaplain, Pastor Brian Kom