

St. John
SHARING
the LOVE of Christ



Saturday, May 8, 2021 (5:30 pm)
Sunday, May 9, 2021 (8:30 & 10:00am)

We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church as we gather for this time of worship and reflection on God's love for the world.

The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Edwin Gell by her husband, Guy Gell.

Worship Leaders – Saturday 5:30 pm

Deacon	Georgene Lange
Ushers	John Fleming, Norm Roland
Altar Guild	Jan Drish
Pianist	Susan Fick

Worship Leaders – Sunday 8:30 pm

Deacon	Michelle Covert
Ushers	Joe Aincham, Jon Blomquist, Mark Collins, Lisa Marshall
Altar Guild	Jan Drish
Pianist/Organist	Janet Blomquist
Livestream Director/Graphics	Dawn MacGregor
Audio Board	Mike Pragit

Worship Leaders – Sunday 10:00 pm

Deacon	Kristen Vorrier
Ushers	Duane Johnson, Jackie Mansholt, Lisa Marshall, Roger Wyss
Pianist	Ellen Goodwin
Drums	Jason Vorrier
Audio Board	Mike Pragit

Contact Information

Pastor Jennifer Beamsley	jenbeamsley@stjohnjoliet.org	708-305-5561
Pastor Robin Caldwell	robinacaldwell@stjohnjoliet.org	630-408-1402
Pastor Evan Mayhew	evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org	262-366-3132
Dawn MacGregor	dawnmacgregor@stjohnjoliet.org	815-557-9702
Lisa Marshall	lisamarshall@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Pam Kornaus	pamkornaus@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Ellen Goodwin	ellengoodwin@stjohnjoliet.org	630-728-5948

Prelude

(5:30)	“Here I Am, Lord”	Schutte, arr. Hayes
(8:30)	“Built on the Rock the Church doth Stand”	Hoelty-Nickel
(10:00)	“Better is One Day/Come into His Presence”	Redman, arr. Tornquist

***Welcome and Invocation**

P We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***Prayer of the Day**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Merciful God, you are pleased to reveal your heart to us. Take from us what we no longer need to carry, so that we may be free again to choose to serve you and to be served by each other. In the name of Christ we pray.

C **Amen.**

Song of Praise

(5:30)

“Blessed Assurance”

Knapp, arr. Bock

(8:30)

“Doxology”

Traditional

(10:00)

“Forever”

Tomlin, arr. Wolaver

Psalm 98

D A reading from the ninety-eighth Psalm. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open!**

O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

**The Lord has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

**Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy**

at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Reading

Galatians 1:13-17, 2:11-21

D A reading from the book of Galatians. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open!**

[St. Paul writes:]

We know very well that we are not set right with God by rule-keeping but only through personal faith in Jesus Christ. How do we know? We tried it—and we had the best system of rules the world has ever seen! Convinced that no human being can please God by self-improvement, we believed in Jesus as the Messiah so that we might be set right before God by trusting in the Messiah, not by trying to be good.

Have some of you noticed that we are not yet perfect? (No great surprise, right?) And are you ready to make the accusation that since people like me, who go through Christ in order to get things right with God, aren't perfectly virtuous, Christ must therefore be an accessory to sin? The accusation is frivolous. If I was "trying to be good," I would be rebuilding the same old barn that I tore down. I would be acting as a pretender.

What actually took place is this: I tried keeping rules and working my head off to please God, and it didn't work. So I quit being a "law man" so that I could be God's man. Christ's life showed me how, and enabled me to do it. I identified myself completely with him. Indeed, I have been crucified with Christ. My ego is no longer central. It is no longer important that I appear righteous before you or have

your good opinion, and I am no longer driven to impress God. Christ lives in me. The life you see me living is not "mine," but it is lived by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I am not going to go back on that.

Is it not clear to you that to go back to that old rule-keeping, peer-pleasing religion would be an abandonment of everything personal and free in my relationship with God? I refuse to do that, to repudiate God's grace. If a living relationship with God could come by rule-keeping, then Christ died unnecessarily.

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

***Gospel Acclamation**

"Celtic Alleluia"

O'Carroll & Walker

***Gospel**

Luke 18:9-14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves,

rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

P The gospel of our Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Jen Beamsley

Musical Reflection

(5:30)	"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"	arr. Raney
(8:30)	"Two Pieces: No. 2 Flute Piece"	Green
(10:00)	"Blessed Assurance"	Knapp, arr. Hayes

***Apostles' Creed**

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

Prayers of the Church

P Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

The prayers conclude:

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C Amen.

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please remained seated in your pew as you share God's peace by waving to one another.

***Offertory**

(5:30)	"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"	Tomlin
(8:30)	"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"	Bradbury
(10:00)	"You Are My All in All/My Faith Looks Up to Thee"	Jernigan/Mason, arr. Tornquist

The offering will be received at the doors when we leave.

***Offertory Prayer**

P Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving** *(spoken)*

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

*Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

C 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

P The risen Christ invites us to this meal!
C **Thanks be to God!**

Distribution

We believe in the true presence of Jesus Christ in this meal and at this table. The assembly remains in the pews to receive communion as one, as the pastor says the following words:

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Receptacles will be provided near the exits of the building
for disposal of your communion ware.*

Communion Music

(5:30)	"The Solid Rock"	Bradbury, arr. Raney
(8:30)	"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"	Converse
(10:00)	"You are my King (Amazing Love)/Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"	Foote, Zundel, arr. Tornquist

*Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

P Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C **Amen.**

*Benediction

*Sending

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

(5:30)	"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"	Showalter, arr. Medema
(8:30)	"Two Pieces: No. 2 Trio"	Dandrieu
(10:00)	"How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place"	Howard, arr. Bergquist

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