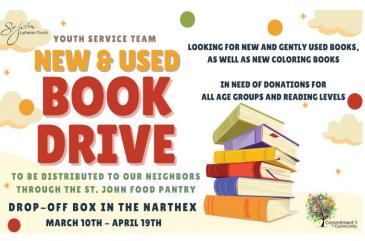


You Shall Be My Witnesses

April 6th, 2024 @ 5:30 pm

2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435 815-439-2320 | contact@stjohnjoliet.org | stjohnjoliet.org







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 by Sally Ferguson in memory of my mom and dad, Doris and Elmer Holland

To sponsor altar flowers for our worship space, sign up at stjohnjoliet.org or call the church office.

Worship Leaders - Saturday, April 6, 2024 (5:30 pm)

Deacon Yvonne Welsh

Ushers Elizabeth Fee, Norm Roland

Piano Susan Yokubonis

Music Director Tori Hicks

Counters Jan Drish, Nancy Kautz

Altar Guild Wendy Eklund, Monica Engel

Contact Information

Pastor Robin Caldwell	robincaldwell@stjohnjoliet.org	630-408-1402
Pastor Evan Mayhew	evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org	262-366-3132
Tori Hicks	torihicks@stjohnjoliet.org	815-355-3205
Nicole Adams	nicoleadams@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Pam Kornaus	pamkornaus@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Jenelle Lambert	communications@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
David Luecht, Council President	council@stjohnjoliet.org	815-954-9368

St. John Lutheran Church 2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435 815-439-2320 contact@stjohnjoliet.org stjohnjoliet.org

facebook St. John by the Mall – Joliet, IL

▶ YouTube St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet

*Indicates Congregation, Please Stand

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
- C Amen.
- P Look, here is water!
- C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!
- P Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

- P Look, here is water!
- C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!
- P At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

 By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

 We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
 - C Amen!

*Opening Hymn

#384, Vs. 1, 2, 4

"That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright"

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Music: European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621.

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Verse 1 That Easter day with joy was bright;

> The sun shone out with fairer light When, to their longing eyes restored, Th'apostles saw their risen Lord!

Verse 2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,

With constant love our hearts possess;

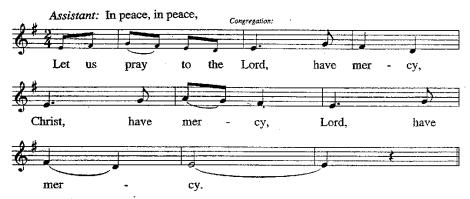
To you our lips will ever raise The tribute of our grateful praise.

Verse 4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give

> To you, once dead, but now alive! To God the Father equal praise, And God the Spirit, now we raise!

*Kyrie

- 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.



Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)



*Hymn of Praise



- Leader Vs. 1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
 Whose blood has freed and united us
 To be one great people of God. Refrain (All)
- **Leader Vs. 2** Power and riches, wisdom and might, All honor and glory to Christ forever. **Refrain (All)**
- Leader Vs. 3 For God has come to dwell with us,
 To make us people of God; to make all things new.

 Refrain (All)

*Prayer of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. Lord Jesus, after your death and resurrection you sent your followers into the world to build an expansive movement beyond their imaginations. As we continue to bear your church into the future, on paths we cannot fathom, guide us with the Holy Spirit as we aim to faithfully follow where you lead. We pray this in your holy name.
- C Amen.

Reading Acts 1:1-14

- D A reading from the book of Acts, the first chapter. Listen for the Word of the Lord.
- C Our hearts are open.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

- D Word of God, Word of Life!
- C Thanks be to God!

Psalm

Psalm 111:1-2, 7-10

- D A responsive reading from the book of Psalms.
 - Listen for the Word of the Lord.
- C Our hearts are open.

Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

They are established forever and ever,

to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to his people;

he has commanded his covenant forever.

Holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

- D Word of God, Word of Life!
- C Thanks be to God!

*Celtic Alleluia

"Celtic Alleluia"

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*Gospel Mark 6:7-13

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff: no bread, no bag, no money in their belts, but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

P The gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Evan Mayhew

Hymn of the Day

#392, Vs. 1-3

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt. Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-188 Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

- Verse 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;
 Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.
 Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
 "Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."
- Verse 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
 Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.
 Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,
 Shall our hearts forget his promise; "I am with you evermore?"
- Verse 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay;
 Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day.
 Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea
 Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

*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

#178

Text and music: Paul Andress, b. 1956. Text and music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

In the hope of God's grace and salvation, the church prays for all the great needs of the world.

Your prayer requests may be spoken when invited during today's prayers, by filling out a green prayer request card in your pew or filling out the Prayer Request form at stjohnjoliet.org.

P Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Congregation sings this response:

Hear Our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: Peace to all people, hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, Hear now our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

- P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- C Amen.

*Sharing the Peace

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

You may share the peace of Christ with others with a handshake. Those who choose to stay in their pew may wave or give signs of peace.

Offertory

Commitment to Community

Your offering of any amount is generous and fosters God's grace for the world through the ministry of St. John, in service to God, to people in need in our neighborhood, across the country, and around the world.

Your offering and attendance sheets may be placed in the offering plate, or try our new online giving platform, Tithe.ly. Thank you!



"Be Not Afraid"

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taize Community. Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994. © 1998 Les Presses de Taize, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

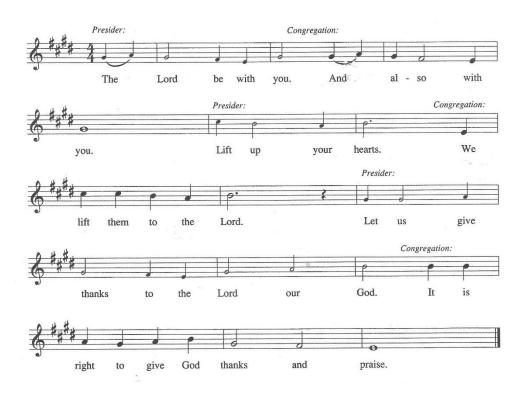
Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia! Repeat

Repeat

*Offertory Prayer

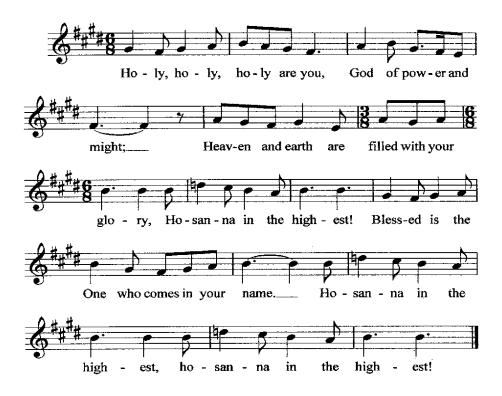
D Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving



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. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy



*Words of Institution

*The 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,

*Invitation to Communion

P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

C Thanks be to God!

Distribution

We believe in the true presence of Jesus Christ in this meal and at this table.

All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

There are two ways to receive communion today:

Receiving Communion in your pew

You may receive communion in your pew with the elements contained in the communion pod. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion:

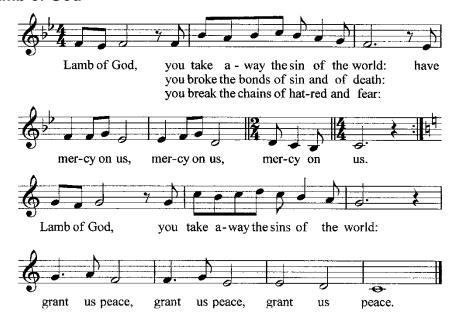
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

- You will be invited forward by the usher to receive bread from the pastor.
 Gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the pastor.
- Communion assistants hold trays with red wine in the outer rings of the tray and white grape juice in the inner rings of the tray.
- After receiving communion, place the used communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.
- At the 5:30pm service, the pastor will offer a blessing before you leave the communion rail.

Receiving Communion at the altar

- You will be invited forward by the usher.
- Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when receiving communion.
- Red wine is on the outer rings of the tray; white grape juice is on the inner rings of the tray.
- After receiving communion, place the used communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.

Lamb of God



Communion Music

481, Vs. 1

"Come to the Table"

Text by: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942. Music by: Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956.

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Verse 1 Come to the table of mercy,

Prepared with the wine and the bread.

All who are hungry and thirsty,

Come, and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's invitation;

Receive from his nail-scarred hand.

Eat of the bread of salvation;

Drink of the blood of the Lamb. Repeat

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-1677; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Verse 1

Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness, Come into the daylight's splendor, There with joy your praises render. Bless the one whose grace unbounded This amazing banquet founded; Christ, though heav'nly, high, and holy, Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

Verse 3

Now in faith I humbly ponder
Over this surpassing wonder
That the bread of life is boundless
Though the souls it feeds are countless;
With the choicest wine of heaven
Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation,
Pledge and seal of my salvation.

Verse 4

Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure, Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding: Humbly now, I bow before you, Love incarnate, I adore you; Worthily let me receive you, And, so favored, never leave you.

*Prayer after Communion

- D Let us pray. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.
- C Amen.

*Benediction



*Sending Hymn

376, Vs.1

"Thine Is the Glory"

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939. Music: George Frideric Handel, 1865-1759. Public Domain. Reprinted & Streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

Verse 1 Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;

Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won! Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;

Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!

*Sending

D Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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DONATIONS NEEDED

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Morning Star Mission has a silverware and coffee mug shortage. We are looking for new or gently used silverware and mugs to donate.

Bring all donations to St. John Narthex starting April 7th







Congregational Meeting Sunday, May 5th 9:45 AM in the Sanctuary www.stjohnjoliet.com Meeting Ministry Updates Voting on Council Members

9:45am - 10:45am 9:45am - 10:45am New Member Class: Trinity Room

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

8:30am - 9:30am Worship: Sanctuary

11:00am - 12:00pm Worship: Sanctuary

APRIL

Worship: Sanctuary		
Girl Scouts: Karin Johnson Hall		
MONDAY, APRIL 8		
Parent's Day Out		
Staff Meeting: Trinity Room		
A.A. Woman's Group: Karin Johnson Hall		
Monday Night Small Group: Trinity Room		
Al-Anon: West Wing 3 & 4		
Handbells: Sanctuary		
Handbell Ensemble: Sanctuary		
College Check-IN: Zoom		
TUESDAY, APRIL 9		
Parent's Day Out		
Finance/Executive Committee: Trinity Room		
Boy Scouts: Karin Johnson Hall		
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10		
Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall		
Parent's Day Out		
Confirmation: Off-Site at Cathedral of St. Raymond-Joliet		
High School FIRE: Off-Site		
THURSDAY, APRIL 11		
Coffee with Friends (Women): Trinity Room		
Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall		
Parent's Day Out		
Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall		
Green Team:Narthex		
Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall		
Food Pantry Distribution Online Orders: West Wing		
Martha Circle: Trinity Room		
A.A. Men's Group: Zoom		
MOPS Setup: Narthex		
Praise Team: Sanctuary		
FRIDAY, APRIL 12 (Church Office Closed)		
n Quilters: West Wing 5		
m Meals on Wheels: Senior Services of Will County, Mark Frost		
n MOPS: Narthex		
SATURDAY, APRIL 13		
m Food Pantry Volunteer Shifts: Narthex & Karin Johnson Hall		
m Food Pantry Distribution Drive-Thru: Parking Lot		
m Pragait Bridel Shower: Narthex		
m Youth Ministry Fair: Narthex/Trinity Room		
m Worship: Sanctuary		
m Youth Ministry Fair: Narthex/Trinity Room		
SUNDAY, APRIL 14		
m Worship: Sanctuary		
am Sunday School: Sanctuary/Karin Johnson Hall/West Wing		
m Fair Trade Coffee: Narthex		
am Youth Ministry Fair: Narthex/Trinity Room		
om Worship: Sanctuary		
om Tween Go!		

^{*}Check "stjohnfood.org" for Food Pantry distribution times and volunteer opportunities.