

First St. John Lutheran Church

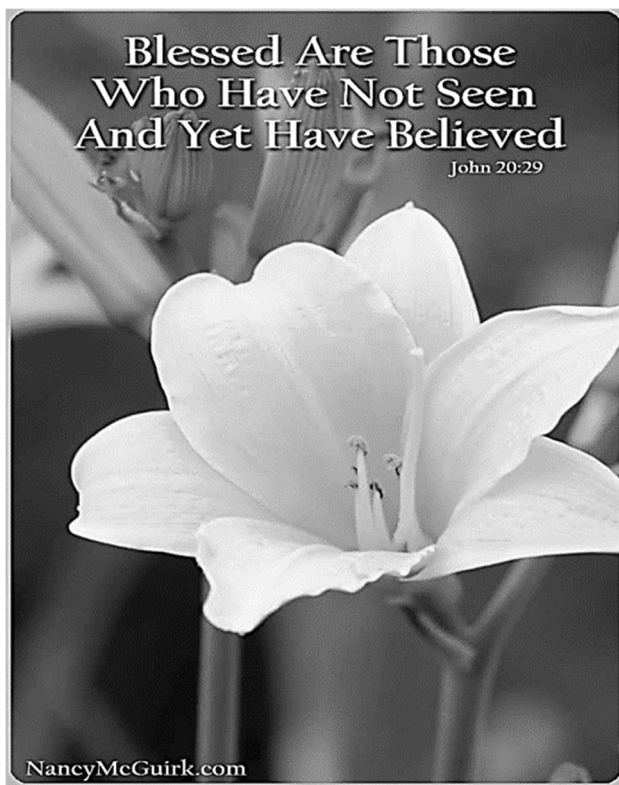
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Rev. Jerald K. Rayl

Annette Slater - Music Director
Dr. Anthony Pattin - Church Musician
Jacob Kelly - Youth & Family Minister



April 24, 2022

Second Sunday of Easter

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! We offer two services with Sunday School for youth and adults and catechism between the services. Our regular Sunday schedule is:

8:00 am	Early Worship
9:15 am	Sunday School / Catechism
9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
10:30 am	Late Worship

Livestream and Recorded Worship: We livestream the service on our church website at www.firststjohn.com. Also, the service will be recorded and published to the website.

Adult Sunday School meets at 9:15 am in the lounge (middle floor of the educational building – turn right out of the door by the choir loft).

Children ages 3 through 5th grade will meet for Sunday School in the basement of the church (the JAM Room!).

Catechism Class: Class will be held from 9:15 to 10:15 am each Sunday.

Nursery is in the church basement and is currently unstaffed; you are welcome to sit with your child. A diaper changing table is available in the ladies restroom in the basement of the church.

Restrooms are in the church basement. Go to the Narthex (lobby) and take either set of steps to the basement hallway. The ladies room is at one end, and the men's room is at the other.

Flowers: If you would like to sign up for altar flowers, there is a book in the Narthex (lobby) by the telephone. Or, you can call the church office during the week to check on availability.

Memorials: If you wish to give a memorial in honor or memory of a loved one, you may mail it in or pick up a memorial card in the church office or the Narthex (lobby) and place it in the offering plate.

Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community

April 24, 2022 - 10:30 am

ORDER OF WORSHIP—10:30 am

Prelude
Ringing of the Bell
Opening Song "The Day of Resurrection!" No. 361
Dr. Pattin

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

D: O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: Amen.

D: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

D: Merciful God,

C: we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

D: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins, but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

C: Amen.

D: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

D: Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Announcements

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 150

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. (Ps. 150:6)

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!

² **Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him according to his surpassing greatness!**

³ Praise him with trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp!

⁴ **Praise him with tambourine and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe!**

⁵ Praise him with clanging cymbals;
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

⁶ **Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!**

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as the faithful witness, or martyr; firstborn of the dead; ruler in a kingdom of priests; the one who comes; the beginning and the end of all time.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

Gospel Acclamation *(sung)*

Alleluia! Lord to whom can we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Announcement

D: The Gospel according to St. John Chapter 20.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The proclamation of Easter continues in John's gospel as Jesus appears to his disciples. Jesus' words to Thomas assure us that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Gospel Response

D: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Sermon Hymn

"Thine Is the Glory"

Deacon Laura Scherer

No. 376

(Please stand)

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father;

through him all things were made.

for us and for our salvation

He came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary

and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer *(Each petition concludes with this response)*

D: God in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

(Please be seated)

The Offering

Chancel Choir *"Twelve Gates Into the City"* arr. L. Shackley

Offering Prayer

D: Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table.

Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Deacon: Let us pray. Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before He suffered, instituted the Sacrament of His Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully, in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in this holy sacrament gives us a pledge of forgiveness of sins, life, salvation, and eternal life; to Jesus be all glory now and forever.

C: Amen.

Deacon: Be present, O Jesus, our great high Priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of the bread; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God.

C: Amen.

Deacon: Now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

The Lord's Prayer *(prayed by all)*

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

Deacon: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

C: Amen.

The Communion *(distribution will be continuous)*

If you wish to receive apple juice instead of wine, place your hand over your shoulder as you approach the person distributing the wine.

"All baptized Christians, believing that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's table. Infants, children and others who have not been baptized are welcome to come to receive a blessing; please make an X with your arms across your chest."

(After all have received communion, please stand.)

D: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and sustain you in God's grace. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

D: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

Blessing

D: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, (✠) bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

D: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

D: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C: Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn
Postlude

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

No. 392, v. 1-4
Dr. Pattin

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

GUEST OFFICIANT

Deacon Laura Scherer

ELDERS

Ben Hodges, Matt Miller

READER

Bob Haar

SOUND BOARD

Mark Ackerman

ACOLYTES

Mckenna Cummerow, Aubrey Swartz

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY

Please purchase full size items.

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| dish soap | shampoo, child | toothbrush, child |
| paper towels | laundry soap | tampons |
| toilet paper | fabric softener sheets | sanitary pads |
| tissues | body lotion | band aids |
| deodorant | body soap | toothpaste, adult |
| shampoo, adult | toothbrush, adult | toothpaste, child |
| disposable razors | | |

This is a list of the items that will provide a month’s worth of hygiene supplies to families or individuals in our neighborhood to help them stay clean and healthy. We always welcome any donations from our congregation members. **If you would like to donate items, please donate only full size products as sample sizes will not last a month.** If you would prefer a Pantry volunteer to do the shopping for you, we welcome monetary donations. Please make out checks to First St. John Lutheran Church and write Personal Needs Pantry on the memo line.



Touch the Broken Bread

It has been said that when the first paintings of a New England autumn made their way back to Europe, many people refused to believe their accuracy. The vivid foliage seemed as likely as streets paved with gold. The impulse to doubt extravagant claims without direct proof is part of human nature. It wasn't the Europeans' fault that they had never seen sugar maples. It wasn't Thomas's fault that he hadn't been there with the other disciples on Sunday evening when the risen Jesus first came to them. Probably any other of the disciples would have reacted the same way in his place. What Jesus says to Thomas ("Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.") is not meant to shame him. After all, Jesus apparently comes to the disciples again for Thomas's sake, so that he will not be left out. What Jesus says to Thomas is for *our* sake. We are no less blessed than the eyewitnesses; we too have the story, written so that we will come to believe.

What makes this different from a painting of autumn glory is that the story is not just something we experience as passive observers or listeners. We are brought into the story, born as children of God, filled with the living water of the Spirit, nourished with the bread of life that is Jesus' own body. Believing, we have new life. That new life of water and bread and Spirit is for us the chance to touch the living God who took on our woundedness. Come and hear the story; you are as much a part of it as Thomas. Come and touch the broken bread, the body of Christ, broken that we might live with him.