

## First St. John Lutheran Church

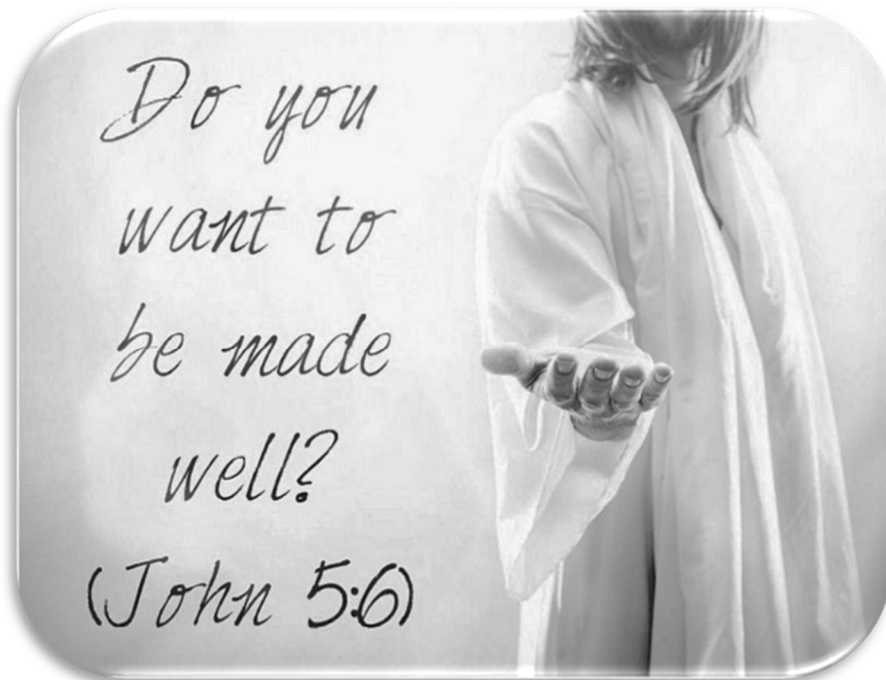
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[www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com)

Rev. Jerald K. Rayl

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



*Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community*

**May 22, 2022 - 10:30 am**

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**Sixth 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	Adult Bible Study
10:30 am	Late Worship

Livestream and Recorded Worship: We livestream the service on our church website at [www.firststjohn.com](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> grade will meet for Sunday School in the basement of the church (the JAM Room!). **DISMISSED FOR THE SUMMER.**

Catechism Class: Class will be held from 9:15 to 10:15 am each Sunday. **DISMISSED FOR THE SUMMER.**

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.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP—10:30 am

Prelude Dr. Pattin

Ringing of the Bell

Opening Song "Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!" No. 369

### The Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

### Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: 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.**

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

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life.

Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

### Announcements

#### **FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15**

*A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.*

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

<sup>11</sup>We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup>On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup>A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup>When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM: Psalm 67**

*Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. (Ps. 67:4)*

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,

**<sup>2</sup>that your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations.**

<sup>3</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

**<sup>4</sup>Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth.**

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup>The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, has blessed us.

<sup>7</sup>May God continue to bless us;  
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

**SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22–22:5**

*John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplant sun and moon.*

And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

<sup>22</sup>I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup>The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup>Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup>But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

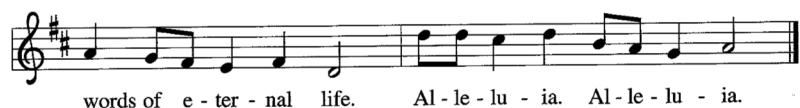
<sup>22:1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

**Gospel Acclamation (sung)**



**Gospel Announcement**

P: The Gospel according to St. John Chapter 5 .

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

**GOSPEL: John 5:1-9**

*Jesus heals on the Sabbath.*

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. <sup>3</sup>In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. <sup>5</sup>One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" <sup>7</sup>The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." <sup>8</sup>Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." <sup>9</sup>At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

**Gospel Response**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

SERMON

Sermon Hymn "When Pain of the World Surrounds Us" No. 704

Pastor Rayl

*(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*)

P: God in your mercy,  
**C: hear our prayer.**

**The Offering**

Dr. Pattin

**Offering Prayer**

P: 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**

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 Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed our 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful, God. You are most  
 holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.  
 You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that  
 everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.  
 We give you thanks for coming into the world to fulfill for us your  
 holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,  
 gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: Take  
 and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the  
 remembrance of me.

P: Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for  
 all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed  
 for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the  
 remembrance of me.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**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**

P: The reign of God is at hand. Come, taste the joy prepared for you.

### **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.”*

### **Communion Hymn**

“One Bread, One Body” No. 496

*(After all have received communion, please stand.)*

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

### **Prayer after Communion**

P: 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**

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

**C: Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn

“Day by Day”

No. 790

Postlude

Dr. Pattin

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### ***PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE***

#### **ELDERS**

Darold Henninger, Kevin Ruedy

#### **READER**

Bob Haar

#### **SOUND BOARD**

Mark Ackerman

#### **ACOLYTES**

Jordan & Mckenna Cummerow

**GRADUATE RECOGNITION  
SUNDAY  
June 19, 2022**



We will publicly acknowledge all our graduates from high school and college at our worship service on Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. Please plan on having your graduate attend this service as all graduates will be recognized. If you know of a graduate, please complete this form and drop it in the offering plate, mail it to the church office, or fax this page to 419-691-7220 by Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF GRADUATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRADUATED FROM

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEGREE EARNED

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FUTURE PLANS (SCHOOL, WORK, ETC.):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

YES, WE PLAN TO BE AT THE SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_

May 22, 2022

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**A Peace That Opens Doors**

Before his death, Jesus told his disciples how he and the one whom he called Father would come to those who love him and "make our home with them." God will send them the Holy Spirit, and Jesus leaves them his peace. They need not be afraid.

On the second Sunday of Easter we heard of Jesus' first resurrection appearance to these same disciples who were afraid and hiding behind locked doors. Jesus came speaking peace to them and breathed on them the new life of the Holy Spirit. He sent them out from behind the locked doors to carry on his message and ministry of forgiveness.

The peace of Jesus is not the peace of a gated community, achieved by defending against fear. It is a peace which frees us from fear so that we can open the doors to everyone God invites. So Lydia opened her house, first to Paul and his company, later to the local Christian community that gathered there. Her hospitality seems to flow directly from her baptism. What would our communities look like if we understood our baptism as a call to such radical hospitality? If we let Jesus open the doors of our homes and churches as well as our hearts?

The promise of Revelation is that the gates of the heavenly city will never be shut, for there will be no fear of enemies. God will keep the city secure with its gates wide open. Through baptism we have already set foot in that city, for we have entered into the river of the water of life that flows from the throne of God. Through baptism we already live in a city where Christ's peace is abundantly present, and all the doors are open.