



"Put your finger here,  
see my hands.  
Reach out your hand  
and put it into my side.  
Do not doubt, but believe."

John 20:27, NRSV

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church  
Sunday, April 7, 2024



[www.stjohnwilliston.org](http://www.stjohnwilliston.org)

419-836-5514

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Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P: Most merciful God...

**C: have mercy on us. We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

P: With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants your newness of life in Jesus Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**GATHERING SONG**      That Easter Day with Joy was Bright      Hymn # 384  
4 verses

### GREETING AND KYRIE:

P: 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.**

# KYRIE

*Assistant:* In peace, in peace,

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,  
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have  
mer - cy.

The musical score is written on three staves. The first staff is for the Assistant and the second and third staves are for the Congregation. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The Assistant's part consists of a single line of music. The Congregation's part consists of two lines of music. The lyrics are: "Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy." The word "mer" is on the first line and "cy." is on the second line of the Congregation's part.

*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)** ↑

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*

Help, save and de - fend us, O God.  
A - - - men.

The musical score is written on two staves. The first staff is for the Assistant and the second staff is for the Congregation. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The Assistant's part consists of a single line of music. The Congregation's part consists of a single line of music. The lyrics are: "Help, save and de - fend us, O God. A - - - men." The word "A" is on the first line and "men." is on the second line of the Congregation's part.

# NOW THE FEAST

## Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!


## Verse 1:

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*


1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit - ed us to be one great  
peo - ple of God. *To refrain*

Verse 2


*Congregation or Congregation 2:*



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and



might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ



for ev - er. *To refrain*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for Verse 2. It consists of three staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff begins with a whole rest followed by a half note G4, quarter notes A4 and B4, a half note C5, and a quarter note B4. The second staff continues with a quarter note A4, a half note G4, quarter notes F#4 and E4, a half note D4, and a quarter note C4. The third staff continues with a quarter note B3, a half note A3, quarter notes G3 and F#3, a half note E3, and a quarter note D3. The lyrics are: "Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ for ev - er." The phrase "To refrain" is written above the end of the third staff.

Verse 3

*Congregation:*



3. For God has come to dwell with us,



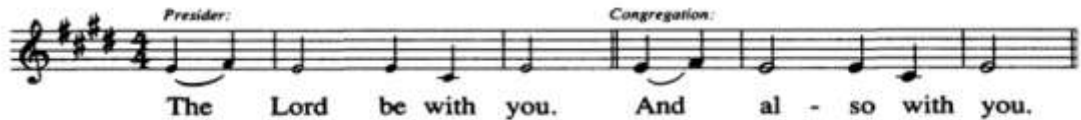
to make us peo - ple of God; to make



all things new. *To refrain*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for Verse 3. It consists of three staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff begins with a whole rest followed by a half note G4, quarter notes A4 and B4, a half note C5, and a quarter note B4. The second staff continues with a quarter note A4, a half note G4, quarter notes F#4 and E4, a half note D4, and a quarter note C4. The third staff continues with a quarter note B3, a half note A3, quarter notes G3 and F#3, a half note E3, and a quarter note D3. The lyrics are: "3. For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo - ple of God; to make all things new." The phrase "To refrain" is written above the end of the third staff.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY



P: Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## FIRST READING

**Acts 4:31-35**

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

*L: The Word of the Lord....* **C: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

**1 John 1:1 - 2:2**

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*L:* *The Word of the Lord...*    **C: Thanks be to God**

The image shows a musical score for a congregational hymn. It consists of three staves of music in a treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. The first staff is labeled 'Congregation:' and contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we'. The second staff continues the lyrics 'go? You have the words of e - ter - nal'. The third staff concludes with 'life. Al - le - lu - ia!' and includes the instruction 'Repeat optional' at the end of the line.

*P:* Holy Gospel according to St. John

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

## **GOSPEL**

**John 20:19-31**

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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus

came. 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."

A 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." 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 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.

*P: The Gospel of the Lord...*     **C: Praise to you, O Christ**

## **SERMON**

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

Hymn # 386

Verses 1, 4-8

*Sung to the tune of "The Stife is O'er, the Battle Done"*

## **NICENE CREED**

**ALL: 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.**



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of Grace,

C: hear our prayer.

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Risen One,

C: **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.**

## AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

Refrain

*Congregation:*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in-to one to be-come our bread;



so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be



gath-ered in-to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst, \_\_\_\_\_
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when




*To refrain*

may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre-a-tion shares this feast with you.


# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Presider:* *Congregation:*



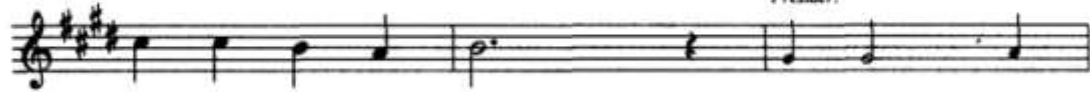
The Lord be with you. And al - so with

*Presider:* *Congregation:*



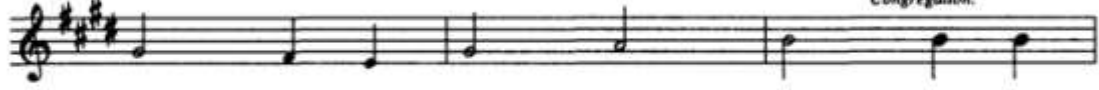
you. Lift up your hearts. We

*Presider:*



lift them to the Lord. Let us give

*Congregation:*



thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY

*Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the  
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION 1

*Presider:* Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

*Congregation:*

Christ has died. Christ is  
ris - en. Christ will come, come a - gain.

## EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION 2

*Presider:* Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen, Come, Lord Jesus.

*Congregation:*

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -

men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

## EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION 3

*Presider:* Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

*Congregation:*

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A -

men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

## THROUGH CHRIST, WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST

*Congregation:*

The image shows a musical score for a congregational hymn. It consists of four staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with the word 'Through' and ends with 'in the'. The second staff continues with 'u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is'. The third staff continues with 'yours, O God, now and for ev - er.'. The fourth staff concludes with 'A - men.'.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the  
u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is  
yours, O God, now and for ev - er.  
A - men.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen**

## LAMB OF GOD

*Congregation:*      *Congregation or Assistant:*

Lamb of God,      you take a - way the sin of the

*Congregation:*

world:      have mer - cy on us,      mer - cy on us,

mer - cy on us.      Lamb of God,      you

*Congregation:*

take a - way the sins of the world:      grant us peace,

grant us peace,      grant us peace.

## HOLY COMMUNION



### TABLE BLESSING

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

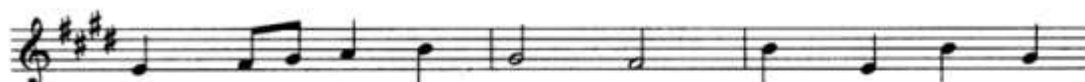
**C: Amen.**

# THANKS BE TO YOU

*Congregation:*



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!



3 Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.



3. 4. se to you O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: 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.**

## **BLESSING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless you now and always.

**C: Amen**

## **SENDING SONG**

Now the Green Blade Rises

Hymn #379

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

### ***Welcome!***

St. John practices "open communion". All who are baptized and instructed are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us today. Starting with the right side of the church, followed by the left when they are finished, the Pastor will distribute the bread and the communion assistant will serve the wine. We will also have pre-sealed elements available for those who would prefer the more hygienic option (or those who wish to receive grape juice instead of wine). Indicate to the Pastor that you would like pre-sealed elements and skip the wine server. Those who wish to receive a blessing should indicate their wishes to the Pastor by crossing their arms over their chest.