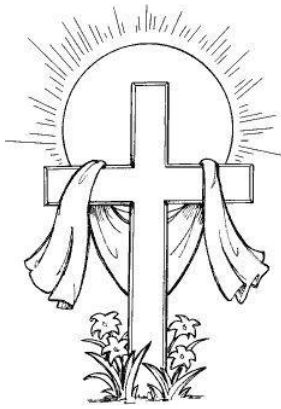


**Sunday, April 5, 2026, 8 am**  
**Sunday, April 5, 2026, 11:15 am**

**EASTER SUNDAY**



# Easter Blessings to You and Your Loved Ones!

Welcome Guests!

We're glad you're with us for worship!

We hope you'll introduce yourself to the Pastor at the Church door after worship.

## Worship Schedule

Our regular worship times are:

**Saturdays** at 5:30 pm

**Sundays** at 8:30 & 10:00 am

Serving in the Lord's house today:

8am: Christine Eriksen and Pete Campisi / 11:15am: Carol Chirco and Sharon Haase

Pastor Neil Mittelstaedt

Pastor Conner Forbes

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

631- 584-5212

Ministers: All the people of St. James

## Prelude 8am: Rejoice! (Chancel Chimes)

*Cynthia Dobrinski*

## 11:15am: Trumpet Prelude (Matthew Raskin, trumpet)

*J.H. Roman, arr. S. Drumond Wolff*

### Hymn: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which He en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
△ 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where the an - gels ev - er sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

### Welcome and Invocation

#### Easter Acclamation

**P** Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

**P** Jesus said "Everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day." [John 6:40]

**C** Alleluia!

## Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast

*Refrain*

**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Easter Proclamation

- P** "Do not be afraid," says the Lord.  
 "I am the First and the Last.  
 I am the Living one;  
 I was dead, and now look, I am alive forevermore." [Rev 1:17-18]

## **C** Alleluia

## The First Reading

*Acts 10:34-44*

<sup>34</sup>So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup>you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." <sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia and Verse



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel Reading

*John 20:1-18*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup>So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." <sup>3</sup>So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup>Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

<sup>5</sup>And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, <sup>7</sup>and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples went back to their homes.

<sup>11</sup>But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup>And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." <sup>14</sup>Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Prayer of the Day

- L** *Almighty, ever-living God, on this door opening day...*
- C** **...the stone is rolled away...**
- L** *...You raised Your Son to life. On this door opening day*
- C** **the gates of heaven are flung wide open to all who believe**
- L** *and one day even the cemeteries shall be opened and our own bodies shall be raised, as was Jesus.*
- C** **Satan is crushed! Death is defeated!**
- L** *Now, dear God, open still wider the doors to our hearts*
- C** **that we may die every day to sin and be alive to Christ.**
- L** *Open, too, the doors of opportunity*
- C** **that we may live Your love.**
- L** *Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now*
- C** **and forever. Amen.**

## Hymn: Thine Is the Glory



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ri - sen, con quering Son;  
2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ri - sen from the tomb;  
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life!



end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.  
lo - ving - ly he greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom.  
Life is nought with - out thee; aid us in our strife.



An - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,  
Let his church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph sing,  
Make us more than con - querors through thy death - less love:



kept the fol - ded grave - clothes where thy bo - dy lay.  
for her Lord now liv - eth: death hath lost its sting.  
bring us safe through Jor - dan to thy home a - bove.

### *Refrain*



Thine is the glo - ry, ri - sen, con quering Son;



end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

## Sermon: Witnesses

### Affirmation of Baptismal Covenant

**P** *Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**C** **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**P** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** *We thank You, Almighty God, for the gift of water.*

*Over water the Holy Spirit hovered in the beginning of creation.*

*Through water You led the children of Israel out of slavery in Egypt into the freedom of the Promised Land.*

*In water Your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Christ, to lead us through His death and resurrection out from the kingdom of darkness into Your Kingdom of life.*

**C** **We thank You, Father, for the water of baptism.**

**In it, we were buried with Christ in His death.**

**By it, we share in His resurrection.**

**Through it, we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.**

**P** *Then let us, on this holy Easter, confess again the faith into which we were baptized. Do you believe in God the Father?*

**C** **Yes, I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**P** *Do you believe in Jesus Christ?*

**C** **Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty.**

**From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**P** *Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?*

**C** **Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**P** *Do you renounce Satan and all spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?*

**C** **I do renounce them.**

**P** *Dear Friends, tell me then, who are you?*

**C** **We are God's beloved Easter people, raised with Christ, assured of eternal life.**

**P** *Yes, and given power to start becoming the persons we were made to be. Set your minds on things that are above. This Easter morning touch this water, make the sign of the cross and remember: you are baptized into Christ!*

## Prayer of the Church

### Offering

*Some time ago we stopped passing the offering plate. There is now a box in the Narthex in which you may place your offering. Even more helpful, you may give electronically either by using the QR code below or visiting [stjlc.com/give](http://stjlc.com/give). You may also give to God and the work of His Church by mailing your offering in.*



### Offering Prayer

- L** Heavenly Father, You have opened earth's good pleasures to us,
- C** **even as You have opened heaven's eternal gates.**
- L** So we open our hearts to You,
- C** **even as we offer You lives of praise. Alleluia!**
- L** Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

## ✠ Holy Communion ✠

### To Our Guests Regarding Holy Communion:

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church.  
In it, He offers His true Body and Blood in and with the bread and wine.

### ***It is the gift of Himself!***

When received in faith, Holy Communion gives forgiveness, new life & salvation.  
Those who receive the Lord's Supper at St. James Lutheran Church are baptized Christians,  
committed in their faith in Christ, who have been instructed in and believe these truths.  
*(We run classes both for young people and adults – everyone welcome.)*

God bless you!

### Preface



**P** The Lord be with you.



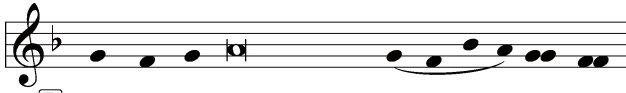
**C** And al - so with you.



**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 right and good, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give You thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.*

**C** **And now we give You thanks because through Him You have given us eternal life**

**P** *and delivered us from the bondage of sin and the fear of death into the glorious liberty of the children of God.*

**C** **Therefore with Mary Magdalene,**

**P** *with Simon Peter, and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection,*

**C** **with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,**

**P** *we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:*

## Sanctus



**C** 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.

## Lord's Prayer

### The Words of Our Lord

#### Agnus Dei



☐ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

## Distribution

### Distribution Hymn: The Day of Resurrection



- 1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
- 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil That we may see a - right
- 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, Let earth its song be - gin,
- △ 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, All praise to God the Son,



The pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The pass - o - ver of God.  
 The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light  
 Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.  
 All praise to God the Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, From sin's do - min - ion free,  
 And, lis - t'ning to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,  
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;  
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the throne



Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.  
 His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.  
 For Christ the Lord has ris - en, Our joy that has no end!  
 And hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry As - cribe to God a - lone!

### Distribution Hymn: Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:  
 △ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;  
 See the an - cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;  
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic - tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—  
 Once He died, and once was bur - ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,  
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.  
 Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor - ship and a - dore.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

## Distribution Hymn: I Know That My Redeemer Lives



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort  
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -  
 5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; He lives to  
 7 He lives and grants me dai - ly breath; He lives, and  
 8 He lives, all glo - ry to His name! He lives, my



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who  
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious  
 wipe a - way my tears; He lives to calm my  
 I shall con - quer death; He lives my man - sion  
 Je - sus, still the same; Oh, the sweet joy this



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.  
 in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.  
 trou - bled heart; He lives all bless - ings to im - part.  
 to pre - pare; He lives to bring me safe - ly there.  
 sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

## Prayer After Communion

- L** O Christ, this meal proclaims the death You once died for us.
- C** **And it gives to us now Your risen life and presence,**
- L** and the assurance that we will sit at table in the world to come.
- C** **Thank You!**
- L** Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.**

## Song After Communion: Thank The Lord



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.

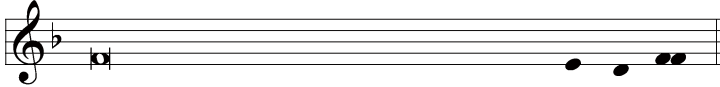


He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

### Benediction



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



**G** A - men.

### Announcements

#### Closing Hymn: Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 Hail, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!  
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
All your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



Of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!  
When con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



At the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

**Postlude: Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!**

*arr. Robert Powell*



A special thank you to all the musicians who shared their gift of music with us today. Matthew Raskin – Trumpet, Chancel Chimes, Worship Band, Festival Choir, and the King's Kids Choir.