



## **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**May 18, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.**  
*Worship with Holy Communion*

### **ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

2415 Silas Creek Parkway  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
336-725-1651  
[www.stjohnswws.com](http://www.stjohnswws.com)

**St. John's Mission: To help one more person get to Heaven  
by pointing them to Jesus Christ.**

*"Be Still and know that I am God." We greatly enjoy our Sunday morning times to catch-up with each other in fellowship and conversation, both before and after worship. The worship service begins with the playing of the Prelude. Once the prelude begins, please be seated, stop conversing, and prepare your heart for worship. Thank you. Please silence all devices. If at any point you need to or prefer to sit, please feel free to do so.*

**Prelude:** Daniel Peña Cruz, flute

## **Welcome**

## **Announcements**

*(Stand)*

## **Opening Hymn: "For the Beauty of the Earth"**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. For the beauty of the earth,<br>for the glory of the skies,<br>For the love which from our birth<br>over and around us lies.                      | 3. For the joy of human love,<br>brother, sister, parent, child,<br>Friends on earth, and friends above,<br>for all gentle thoughts and mild.<br>(refrain) |
| Ref: Christ, our Lord, to you we raise<br>this, our hymn of grateful praise.   | 4. For yourself, best gift divine,<br>to the world so freely giv'n,<br>Agent of God's grand design:<br>peace on earth and joy in heav'n.<br>(refrain)      |
| 2. For the wonder of each hour<br>of the day and of the night<br>Hill and vale and tree and flow'r,<br>sun and moon and stars of light.<br>(refrain) |  |

## **Invocation, Confession, and Absolution**

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

**C: Amen.**

### Kyrie

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

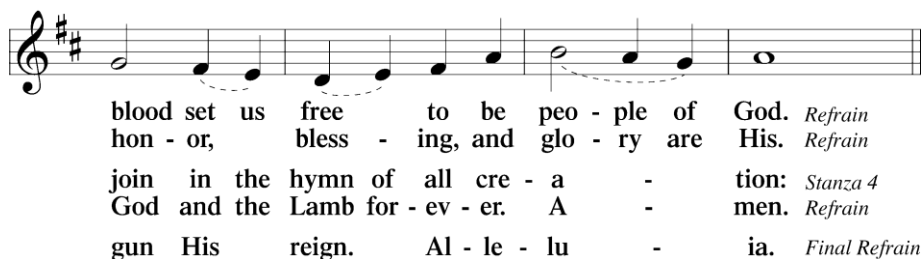
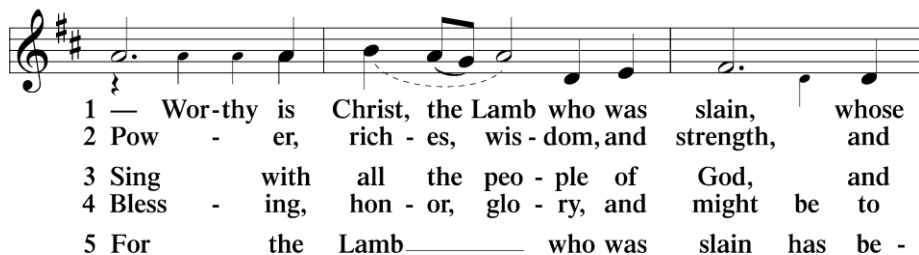


**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



## This Is the Feast



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.



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

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*(Be Seated)*

## First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, <sup>3</sup> "You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them." <sup>4</sup> But Peter began and explained it to them in order: <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. <sup>6</sup> Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I said, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But the voice answered a second time from heaven, 'What God has made clean, do not call common.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. <sup>11</sup> And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. <sup>12</sup> And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.' <sup>15</sup> As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'

<sup>17</sup> If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Epistle: Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup> And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. <sup>7</sup> The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Stand)*

### Alleluia and Verse



The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for the first line of the verse. The second staff continues the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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: John 13:31-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.



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

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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

*(Be Seated)*

## Children's Message

*(Pew Pad Distribution)*

**Hymn of the Day: #706 “Love in Christ Is Strong and Living”**

*(Pew Pad Collection)*

## Sermon

*(Stand)*

## The Apostles' Creed

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

**And 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.**

**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. Amen.**

## **Installation of Tiffany Banks as Principal of St. John's Lutheran Church & School**

P: Beloved in the Lord, according to the Church's usual order, Tiffany Banks has been called to the office of principal at St. John's Lutheran Church & School. This office has been established in love by the Church to support the Office of the Holy Ministry and to assist and strengthen Christian fathers and mothers in their God-given responsibility to bring up their children in the nurture and instruction of the Lord. Tiffany has been prepared for this office by prayer and study. She has been examined and declared ready to undertake this sacred responsibility and public trust. Hear the Word of God concerning this office.

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. <sup>6</sup> Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; <sup>7</sup> if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; <sup>8</sup> the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

*Romans 12:3-8*

<sup>25</sup> But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. <sup>26</sup> It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, <sup>27</sup> and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, <sup>28</sup> even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

*Matthew 20:25-28*

<sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*Colossians 3:15-17*



### **Questioning the candidate**

- P: Do you believe and confess the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
- R: *Yes, I believe and confess the canonical Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.*
- P: Do you believe and confess the three Ecumenical Creeds, namely, the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds, as faithful testimonies to the truth of the Holy Scriptures, and do you reject all the errors which they condemn?
- R: *Yes, I believe and confess the three Ecumenical Creeds because they are in accord with the Word of God. I also reject all the errors they condemn.*
- P: Do you confess the Unaltered Augsburg Confession to be a true exposition of Holy Scripture and a correct exhibition of the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? And do you confess that the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Small and Large Catechisms of Martin Luther, the Smalcald Articles, the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, and the Formula of Concord—as these are contained in the Book of Concord—are also in agreement with this one scriptural faith?
- R: *Yes, I make these Confessions my own because they are in accord with the Word of God.*
- P: Do you solemnly promise faithfully to serve God's people in the office of teacher in accordance with Holy Scripture and with these Confessions?
- R: *Yes, I promise, with the help of God.*
- P: Will you, trusting in God's care, seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills, and adorn the Gospel of Jesus Christ with a godly life?
- R: *Yes, I promise, with the help of God.*

### **Address to the Congregation**

- P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, you have heard the confession and solemn promise of Tiffany Banks, who has been called to the office of principal in the Church. I ask you now, in the presence of God: Will you receive [him/her], show [him/her] fitting love and honor, and support [him/her] by your gifts and fervent prayer? If so, then answer: We will, with the help of God.

**C: We will, with the help of God.**

- P: The almighty and most merciful God strengthen and assist you always.

### **Questioning the candidate**

P: Are you ready and willing to assume this office and work?

R: *I am.*

### **Installation**

P: Tiffany Banks, I commission you to the office of principal and install you at St. John's Lutheran Church & School in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us pray.

Gracious and most merciful Lord, we thank You for providing faithful men and women in Your Church to assist and support the Office of the Holy Ministry and its work among us. Grant Your Holy Spirit to Tiffany and adorn her with wisdom and power from on high. Incline both young and old to godliness and obedience, and let them so benefit by instruction in Your holy Word that they may serve You all their days and finally obtain eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

P: Go in peace and joy. The almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you, and bless and strengthen you for faithful service in His name.

**C: Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

P: .... Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

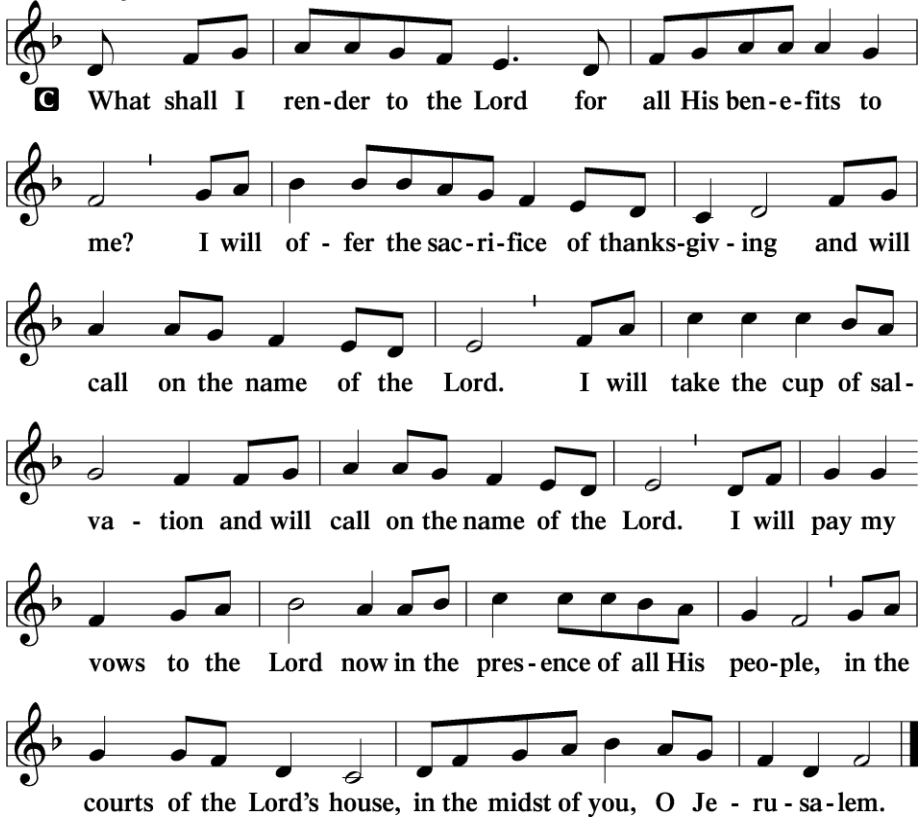
*(Be Seated)*

**Offering and Offertory Anthem: "The Gift of Love"**

set by Hal Hopson

*(Stand)*

## Offertory



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## Passing of the Peace

### TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER.

St. Paul wrote, "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup". Ask yourself: Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe that Jesus died for my sins? Am I resolved, by the work of the Holy Spirit, to use the power of Christ which is offered in this Sacrament, to amend my sinful life? St. Paul also wrote, "He who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly". Do you believe that you receive the TRUE/REAL BODY AND BLOOD of Christ in, under and with the bread and wine for the full pardon of sins? (Please use pages 329-330 in the front of your hymn book to examine yourself.) Children are invited forward to receive a blessing.

† Service of the Sacrament †

## 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 truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven 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 -



### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**P:** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **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 and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Words of Our Lord**

**P:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\nabla$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\nabla$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## The Peace of Our Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**

### Agnus Dei

**C** 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.

*(Be Seated)*

### Distribution of Holy Communion by Continuous Line

(Gluten Free wafers available upon request)

**Distribution Hymns: #845 "Where Charity and Love Prevail"**

**#864 "Shepherd of Tender Youth"**

*(Please Stand)*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C: Amen.**

## 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.

## Post-Communion Collect

P: Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## 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.



**C** A - men.

## Closing Hymn: #700 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Postlude: "Dialogue sure les Grands Jeux"

Nicolas de Grigny

**Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God, by Bruce & Kathleen Sawicki in honor of Alex's birthday.

**Worship Assistants:** 8:30am – Alex Sawicki, Andy Witner; 10:30am – Dale Mierisch,

**Lector:** 8:30am – Jackie Downey; 10:30am – Robbie Broedow

**Ushers:** 10:30am – Fred & Stephanie Black, Gary Brake, Dennis Tarnowski

**Altar Guild for May:** Reneé Henderson, Shawn Tibbits, Jackie Downey

**Crisis Control Item for May:** **Beans** (baked, canned beans, pork & beans, beanie weenees, etc. ) – **105bs. was collected for the month of April. Thank you for your donations!**



***Our Sunday Worship*** - Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
*Adult Bible Class begins at 9:45 a.m.*

***A Great Place to Grow in Christ***

*As a part of our outreach ministry, we have a  
Preschool/Pre-K program and Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.  
All programs/grades have full-time care available.*

**Pastor Tyson Labuhn**

**Tiffany Banks, Principal**

**Michael Zeoli, Director of Music for Contemporary Worship**

**Frances Burmeister, Director of Music for Traditional Worship**

*Church Office Hours Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.*