

5th Sunday in Lent

April 2, 2017

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome new sisters and brothers at the baptismal font, as we renew our baptismal promises.

- Gathering -

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude, Musical Meditation, and Welcome

(8:00 a.m.) Thanksgiving for Baptism – Page 97

(10:30 a.m.) Confession and Forgiveness – Page 94

Gathering Hymn – #327 Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow

Greeting

Kyrie – #155

Prayer of the Day – see insert

- Word -

God speaks to us in Scripture, reading, preaching and song.

Scripture Readings – see insert (*Response: **Thanks be to God.***)

Gospel Acclamation – **I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me will never die.** (*John 11:25, 26*)

Gospel (*before reading: **Glory to you, O Lord.** after: **Praise to you, O Christ!***)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – #666 What Wondrous Love Is This

(8:00 a.m.) Apostles' Creed Page – Page 105

(10:30 a.m.) Sacrament of Holy Baptism – Page 227 (*Braysen Michael Alan Ross*)

Hymn - #677 (V.1) This Little Light of Mine

Prayers of the People

Sharing the Peace (*Response: **And also with you.***)

- Meal -

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering 10:30 a.m. Special music by the Senior Choir: "We Are Called"

Offertory Hymn – #451 (V. 2) We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – Page 180-181

Lord's Prayer

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 – Page 182

Distribution of Bread and Wine

All who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Hymns – #328, #629, #886

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

- Sending -

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Closing Blessing (*Found in the baptism liturgy*)

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us up to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn – #453 (V. 1 & 4) Baptized and Set Free

Dismissal (*Response: **Thanks be to God!***)

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dickinson, North Dakota

www.stjohnelc.org (701)225-6747

Mission Statement: "Living in Service to Christ"

Welcome to Worship at St. John!

Worship is the most important thing we do together. It involves all those who gather, making each gathering a unique assembly. Our worship roots are shaped by a time nearly 500 years ago during the Protestant Reformation. Martin Luther believed two sacraments proclaim Christ's promise of forgiveness in worship: Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

Holy Baptism splashes you with new life and unites you with the Body of Christ through God's rich mercy.

Holy Communion is "for you", giving you a taste of God's mercy. The bread and wine, (Christ's true presence), unite you with the communion of saints throughout time.

We recall at the baptismal font and the Lord's Table that you are *abundant and free* to love and serve your neighbor. **To learn more about worship and St. John's story, click on the GET TO KNOW US page at www.stjohnelc.org.**

~ TO ASSIST YOU AT WORSHIP ~

- *If you are considering becoming a member at St. John*, we ask that you begin by visiting with a pastor and attending a *new member coffee*, held four times each year. For details, click on the MEMBERSHIP link on the GET TO KNOW US page at www.stjohnelc.org.
- *Personal amplifiers for the hearing impaired are available*. Please ask an usher.
- *Children's worship bags* are in the narthex and the Commons Area.
- *Childcare*: Children are always welcome in worship, but if a parent feels that little hands, feet and voices are making it difficult for others to worship, the nursery is supervised during the 10:30 a.m. service. If a child needs a shorter break, there is a wiggle room and a glider chair in the narthex.
- *Holy Communion* is celebrated at each worship service. The table is open to all who believe in the redeeming power of Christ's love. You may stand or kneel and receive the bread and wine. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer or grape juice, simply ask the person serving.
- *The decision about when a child should commune is made by the parent*. We encourage families to visit with a pastor to learn about the sacrament before communing for the first time. Children communing should extend their hands. Children not communing are invited to fold their hands.
- *Coffee is served* in the Commons Area before Sunday worship services.
- St. John is a member congregation of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** and part of the **Western North Dakota Synod**. St. John is a corporate member of Badlands Ministries Bible Camp and St. Luke's Nursing Home. Congregations in the WND and Eastern North Dakota Synods, including St. John, own Lutheran Social Services of N.D., a private, nonprofit social services agency.

~ Introductions to Sunday's Readings ~

- **Ezekiel 37:1-14** *Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the Lord."*
- **Romans 8:6-11** *For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*
- **John 11:1-45** *Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.*

~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching	Marcia Frank	Thursday
Preaching Minister.....	Pastor Joe Natwick	Sunday
Presiding Minister.....	Pastor Lisa Lewton	Sunday
Assisting Minister.....	Gayle Homiston	Thursday
	Dream O'Brien	8:00 AM
	Chip Poland	10:30 AM
Deacons.....	Susan Moberg	8:00 AM
	Jon Tangen	10:30 AM
Organist.....	Barb Arneson	Thursday
	Cheryl Hewson	Sunday
Servers.....	Kaden Selle	Thursday
	Jackson Steiner & Austin Barnhart	8:00 AM
	Tanner Anderson & Ashley Richey	10:30 AM

WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*. Wednesday **85**, Thursday **88**, and Sunday **332**.

RIDE-SHARING AND PARKING AT CHURCH

We are grateful for a vibrant congregation of worshippers! To help all of us access the building as easily as possible, here are some tips:

- ✓ If you have *no* trouble walking, would you be willing to park a little farther away to leave the closer spaces for people with young children, and for those who may have a little more trouble walking from their cars to the church?
- ✓ We encourage you to carpool. If you would like a ride to make it easier for you to get to church, the church office may be able to find someone to drive you. Please ask.
- ✓ Church Council Trustees are currently researching ways to increase accessibility to the building.

~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, Apr. 3	7:00 PM	Scouts & Den 5
Tuesday, Apr. 4	8:30 AM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting
	7:00 PM	Financial Peace University
Wednesday, Apr. 5	9:30 AM	Staff Meeting
	5:20 PM	Supper
	6:00 PM	Worship
	6:30 PM	Church School
		Confirmation Class
Thursday, Apr. 6	5:30 PM	Lenten Supper
	5:45 PM	Reformation 2.0
	6:00 PM	Backpack Prep
	7:00 PM	Worship
Friday, Apr. 7	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins
	9:00 AM	Backpack Delivery
	Noon	Trust Fund Meeting
Saturday, Apr. 8	9:00 AM	Altar Guild – Spring Cleaning
Sunday, Apr. 9	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Sr. Choir Practice, Adult Education-Learning in Service to Christ
		Reformation 2.0
		Welcome Coffee – New Members
	10:30 AM	Worship
	11:30 AM	Fellowship Potluck
	3:30 PM	Handbells
	7:00 PM	Senior High Youth



"For freedom Christ has set you free."

Galatians 5:1

*(If you are young or old, busy or bored,
God has a better something for you.)*

Often, Lent is known as a time to give something up. We might choose something that distracts us from our dependence on Christ. Yet, Lent is more than a time of self-sacrifice. It is also a wet and wonderful time of baptismal renewal. Throughout these weeks, we hope you are renewed in the promises of baptism. Because water is abundant and free in Holy Baptism, you are a beloved child of God forever, set free from the despair of sin and death to live abundantly for your neighbor.

BAPTIZED SUNDAY

On Sunday, we celebrate the baptism of Braysen Michael Alan Ross. His parents are Terence and Kari Ross. The sponsors are Kandice and Jamie Evenson, and Amanda Abrams.

~SERVE & CONNECT~



EASTER MEMORIAL FUND

The Easter Memorial Fund is a way to give a gift in memory or in honor of someone. There are pink half-sheets on the tables at the sanctuary doors that you can fill out and leave in the offering plate, fill out a form online (stjohnelc.org/Give/Memorials) or in the church office before Friday, April 7th. Easter lilies will be purchased from the fund, with the additional money supporting Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry. The recommended donation for a lily is \$10.

LENTEN STUDY- Mondays thru April 9th

Exploring the Way, An Introduction to the Spiritual Journey is written to help you understand and deepen your experiences of God. It consists of six sessions exploring the most basic concepts and language of the Christian spiritual life: prayer, the Bible's message for our lives today, spiritual gifts, listening, journaling, and more. *All are welcome to join the sessions to be held at Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA (1550 21st St. W., Dickinson) for six Mondays at 7:00 p.m.*



During the season of Lent, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger will be going toward the purchase of water wells. Envelopes are in the

pews and unique containers for contributions are located in the Narthex and Commons Area. Contributions received will

Devotional calendars are available at the Sanctuary entrances and you can receive a daily Lent devotion via email by signing up at <http://www.elca.org/40days>.



GIVE BACK DAY

St. John will be participating in DSU's "Give Back Day" on May 6th from 8:30-11:00am. St. John will be responsible for cleaning up Rocky Butte and Optimist Park areas. There will be hot dogs and chips when the job is finished! Call the church office at 225.6747 to participate.



PHOTO DIRECTORY SIGN-UP!

Available on our website by clicking on the homepage icon "PORTRAIT SIGNUP" or you can call the church office to set your family appt. time. There will also be a sign-up table in April located in the Commons area. Families participating will receive a free Church Directory and 8x10 photo. *No purchases are required.*

PHOTO DIRECTORY HOSTS NEEDED!

If you would like to "meet & greet" families for their photo sessions, please sign up for a timeslot by going to "When Am I Scheduled?" on the website and click "Photo Directory Host Schedule" and choose a time that works in your schedule. Your smiling face is greatly appreciated!

5th GRADE MILESTONE MINISTRY

Thank you to the following families who took part in the "My Body, God's Gift" Milestone Ministry event: Owen Bittner, Kaci Davis, Damon Glasser, Nathan Klein, Thomas Lewton, Sofia Mackey, James Reger, Molly Robb, Mina Soggie, & Mason Stroh.

WELCOME COFFEE

If you are interested in joining St. John, come to the Welcome Coffee in the church basement on April 9th at 9:15 am!



APRIL 9TH - PALM SUNDAY

Fair Trade Sales!

Purchase your coffee & treats for Easter!

Welcome Coffee!

For anyone interested in learning more about St. John. The next New Member Sunday will be May 7th!

Family Potluck!

Bring a favorite dish to share and have lunch following 10:30 am worship!