

Second Sunday of Easter

April 8, 2018

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

- Gathering -

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

Musical Meditation, Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Just as God's work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day. Let us give thanks together for life given in baptism. *(Pause for reflection.)*

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life to our planet.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: for water from our tap, for rain and snow, for Lake Sakakawea and the Heart River.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

We give you thanks for your salvation through water: for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters, for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom, for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought, for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land, for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized, and for all who gather here; for godparents and baptismal sponsors, for children and grandchildren, for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit: for our entry into Jesus' death through these waters, for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Processional Hymn – #379 Now the Green Blade Rises

Greeting and Hymn of Praise *(Come, let us join our cheerful songs...)* – Page 204

Prayer of the Day

- Word -

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

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – #359 Where Charity and Love Prevail

Nicene Creed – Page 104

Prayers of the People and Sharing the Peace (*Response: And also with you.*)

- Meal -

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Offertory Hymn – #650 (V. 1 and 3) In Christ There Is No East or West

Offering Prayer, Great Thanksgiving and Holy, Holy, Holy – Page 206-207

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.

Distribution of Bread and Wine

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

Lamb of God – Page 208

Hymns – #461, #392, #658

Blessing and Post-Communion Prayer

- Sending -

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

Blessing

Sending Hymn – #729 (V. 1-3) The Church of Christ in Every Age

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!

If you are worshipping for the first time, we hope you feel joyfully welcomed! Worship is the most important thing we do together: Gathering in God's Name, Hearing God's Word, Sharing in the Holy Meal, and then Sending You to Shine Christ's Light in the World.

We believe worship brings abundant life and freedom to you and to your neighbor. There are four worship services offered each week at St. John, providing a variety of ways to worship. We encourage you to try them all to find the right fit for you.

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 staffed during the 10:30 a.m. service. If a child needs a shorter break, there is wiggler 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. ELCA and LCMS congregations in western and eastern North Dakota own Lutheran Social Services of N.D., a private, nonprofit social services agency.

~ Introductions to the Readings ~

Acts 4:32-35 - While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

~ Worship Leaders ~

Preaching Minister	Pastor Joe Natwick	
Presiding Minister	Pastor Lisa Lewton	
Assisting Ministers	Gayle Homiston	Thursday
	Marci Murphy	8:00 AM Sunday
	Don Brugamyer	10:30 AM Sunday
Deacons.....	Jennifer Jung	8:00 AM Sunday
	Linda Splichal	10:30 AM
Organist	Barb Arneson	Thursday
	Barb Arneson	Sunday
Servers	Gavin Steckler	Thursday
	Beau Krueger & Davin Seibel	8:00 AM
	Alexander Meier & Courtney Roller	10:30 AM



LEARNING IN SERVICE TO CHRIST: Adult class on Sundays @ 9:15 am

This weekly class is open to anyone interested in lifelong learning. Each week, led by the pastors, the class will engage the reading from Acts you hear at worship. We encourage you to bring your own Bible from home to mark it up. We *really* encourage you to read the whole book of Acts in April!

April 8 – “Denominations: How the Church Went From ‘Everything In Common’ to Denominations”.

April 15 – Badlands Ministries Presentation. Camp Director Brent Seaks from Badlands Ministries Bible Camp will share a brief presentation and be available for questions. St. John is a corporate owner of the camp. When you share an offering at church, 1.5% of your gift is passed along to Badlands Ministries.

April 22 – “God Loves All of You: The Problem With Sorting By Sexuality”.

April 29 – “Refugees and Why the Wall is a Tricky Concept for Christians”

~ This Week at St. John ~

Monday, Apr 9	5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Scouts Scouts
Tuesday, Apr 10	8:30 AM 6:30 PM	Lutheran World Relief Quilting Worship & Music Meeting
Wednesday, Apr 11	9:30 AM 5:15 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Staff Meeting Fellowship Meal Church School Worship Mentor Groups
Thursday, Apr 12	5:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Faith in Action Meeting Backpack Prep Worship
Friday, Apr 13	6:30 AM 9:00 AM 5:30 PM	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast at Perkins Backpack Delivery Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday, Apr 14	2:30 PM	Praus – Heiser Wedding
Sunday, Apr 15	8:00 AM 9:15 AM 10:30 AM 1:00 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Adult Education- <i>Learning in Service to Christ</i> Senior Choir Worship Handbells Senior High Youth

WORSHIP LIFE

At worship services this past week, these numbers reflect how many people were sent to *Live in Service to Christ*. Wednesday No service, Maundy Thursday 208, Good Friday 175, and Easter Sunday 777.



WELCOME DINNER (a meal for curious people)

SUNDAY, APRIL 8th @ 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Anyone curious about joining St. John is encouraged to come for dinner in the church basement. Childcare will be provided. Please RSVP to staff member Amy Graves at agraves@stjohnelc.org or 225-6747 by April 4th. You are not obligated to join by attending the dinner.

The evening will be led by both pastors and include:

- What it means to be a Christian who is Lutheran.
- The mission and vision at St. John.
- What is going on at St. John and ways you might wonder about sharing your own passions.

EASTER PREACHING SERIES

The Day After the Resurrection

The eight weeks of Easter include a reading from the book of Acts. To invite you to deeply engage in this book, we encourage you to read it at home. In worship, you will only hear a Scripture reading and sermon from Acts, which picks up Jesus story after his resurrection.

The Christian Church in the first century asked the same questions we do today: Does the church matter? If it does, how do we tell people about it? How does our Christian faith bind us together through the death and resurrection of Christ? Come and wonder about ancient stories from Acts that we continue to embody today.

BADLANDS MINISTRIES CAMPERSHIPS

If you would like to utilize a campership to help pay for Bible Camp this summer, contact Pam Weidner, Finance Admin. Assistant at 701.225.6747 or pweidner@stjohnelc.org to get signed up! *Only one campership per person is allotted.*



SUMMER DAY CAMP

August 5th-9th

It's hard to imagine that summer is near! You can now register your child(ren) for Summer Day Camp. Preschoolers (age 4 by 8/1) through 6th grade (completed) can participate. Older students can register as a "Staff in Training" (SIT) if they are interested in helping out! There is no charge for this camp, however donations are welcome to help with supply costs. Sign up on the website or pick up a registration form from the bulletin board.

Volunteers are needed: If you are able to help out by bringing a meal for the counselors (lunch or supper), or by hosting a counselor please contact Kaitlyn Olson at kolson@stjohnelc.org.

NAME THAT SPACE!

Yes the "space" located east of the parking lot! Do you have a thoughtful, creative and descriptive name for this "space" that St. John shares with the neighborhood? Go to the St. John website and submit your ideas! The Council will meet on April 17th to review all submissions, and a "name reveal" will take place on Earth Day, April 22nd!



MILESTONE MINISTRY

Lord's Prayer - Kindergarten

Apr 18 & 25 @ 6:00 pm

One of the most important prayers we learn in our lives is the Lord's Prayer – it is what Jesus taught the disciples to pray! Since we are Christ's disciples, we pray it too! Student and parents will discuss the importance of the Lord's Prayer, as well as other prayers we say.

IT'S FAIR TRADE SUNDAY! (Commons area)

Shop for fair trade tea, chocolate, coffee, or gifts before and after worship service. Fair Trade sales support small scale farmers in remote places in the world through Lutheran World Relief.

CHURCH POTLUCK!

Come to the basement and join the church potluck today (even if you forgot to bring something!). Enjoy a variety of items and great conversation with your friends!



BIBLE CAMP SUNDAY

April 15th

Celebrate all of the great things the Badlands Ministries Bible Camp does – wear a favorite camp shirt to worship! Representatives from the Bible camp will share a brief presentation and Q&A during the *Adult "Learning in Service to Christ"* class at 9:15 am!