



Fifth Sunday of Easter
Saturday, April 27, 2024 5pm
Sunday, April 28, 2024 10:30am
St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
3101 Tyson Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19149
Office Phone (215) 624-5505
Office Fax: 215-624-2938

Church Email: office@stjohnsmayfair.org
Church Web Site: www.stjohnsmayfair.org
Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church

Reverend Daniel K. Eisenberg
Patrick, D'Amato, Music Director
Mark Klingler, Administrative Assistant
Charity McNatt, Sexton
Heather Mann, Preschool Director
Every Member of St. John, Ministers

Welcome to St. John's, a Reconciling in Christ congregation

"We at Saint John's Lutheran Church welcome all who seek to follow Jesus wherever they are in their faith journey, regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical or mental ability, family configuration, political affiliation, or economic circumstance.

We strive to follow Jesus' command to love one another as he has loved us (John 13:34). Led by the Holy Spirit, we are committed to God's liberating word to the world working for environmental stewardship, racial justice, and gender equity. All children of God are welcome to worship, learn, serve, and lead in this church. Jesus never turned anyone away from his table and we're not about to start here."

Questions about our welcome or for more information about St. John's, feel free to reach out to our office during business hours of Monday through Friday 9am to 2pm.

Music used with permission under license #A-901200 OneLicense.net and #1277881
CCLI.com
Streaming License provided through CCLI.com, license #20726633

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our life and our joy.

A: Amen.

P Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for
us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the
beginning your voice thundered over the
deep and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's nourishing
rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the
flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people
passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

At the river your beloved Son was baptized
by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and
resurrection you opened the floodgates of
your reconciling love, freeing us to live as
resurrected people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living
water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

A: Amen.

Gathering Song

There in God's Garden



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it,
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
self - hood feed on its life - blood.
stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending
this my resurrection;
into your hands, Lord,
I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for;
now I can possess it.
This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose passion
offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations,
take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: SHADES MOUNTAIN, K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

Text © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

Music © 1987 Birnamwood Publications, a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Kyrie

Spoken Saturday Only

P: Lord have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Christ have mercy.

C: Christ have mercy.

P: Lord have mercy.

C: Lord have mercy.

The Worship Leader sings the verses, the assembly sings the refrain.

Refrain

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the

u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you

this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Gloria—Sunday only

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and



hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his. This is the feast of

Refrain



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-



le-lu-ia. 2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or,



glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

Prayer of the Day

P: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, 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 Lesson: Acts 8:26-40

A reading from Acts, the 8th chapter

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to

prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:25-31

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise!**

May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow ^l before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

Second Lesson: I John 4:7-21

A reading from 1st John, the 1st chapter

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation-Sunday only



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

Gospel: John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Rev. Daniel K. Eisenberg

Hymn of the Day

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her
2 To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, to the branch - es of the
3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of



flight, like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the
vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to our
prayer, with the pow'r to love and wit - ness, with the



new flame's ea - ger might: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
midst as gift and sign: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
peace be - yond com - pare: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BRIDEGROOM, Peter Cutts, b. 1937

Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company.

Music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Nicene Creed

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the
virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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 giv-
er of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified,
who 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.**

The Prayers Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

The Meal

Offering Announcement

Offertory Song

Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray:
Risen One, 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.

C: **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

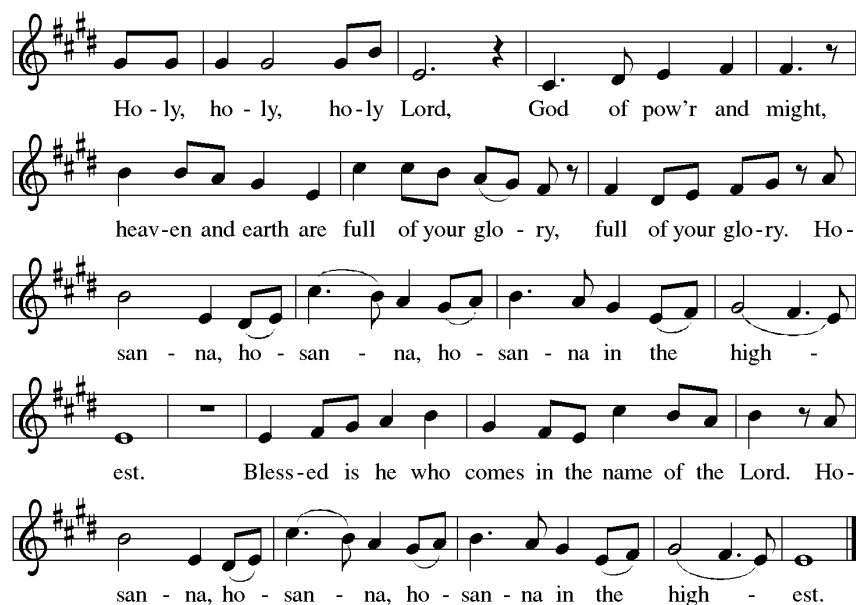
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...
...praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy Holy Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table and Words of Institution

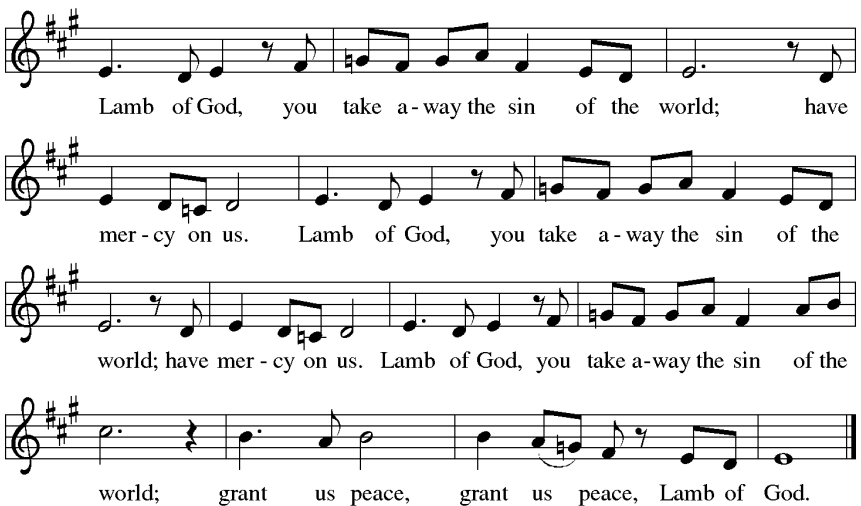
The Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation to Communion

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

Lamb of God *Sunday Only*



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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Song

All who are hungry for the real, life-giving presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ are welcome to this meal. The usher will invite you forward to receive Communion. The pastor will give you the bread/wafer. Please take a small cup for the wine.

Where Charity and Love Prevail



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre -vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.

- 5 For love excludes no race or clan
that names the Savior's name;
his family embraces all
whose Father is the same.
- 6 We now forgive each other's faults
as we our own confess,
that we may love each other well
in Christian gentleness.

Text: Latin hymn; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

Text © 1960, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
C: **Amen.**

Prayer After Communion

- A: Divine Shepherd, 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.**

Sending of Holy Communion

Announcements

Benediction

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 everlasting hope
+ bless you now and always.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Song

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
set heart and will on things a - bove that we
and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad!

C: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

Announcements

Bible Study: Heavenly Bodies

Mondays at 7pm beginning April 8

God has created an incredibly vast and beautiful universe! Throughout Scripture, prophets, psalmists, and other people of God have marveled at the wonder of sun, moon, and stars as a testament to the power and mercy of our God. Join us as we explore the various witnesses to God's incredible heavenly work. We will try to have a field trip to the Widener Observatory to go stargazing on May 20. Let Pastor know if you need remote access to the Bible Studies.

Property Work Day

Second Saturdays of the Month, 9:00am-12:00pm

Each month we take on various cleaning/fixing up projects around the church. We usually have coffee, tea, and treats available. Come give a hand!

Trivia and Pizza Night

Join us on Saturday, May 18th at 6:00 p.m. for our last Saturday fellowship until September. Dave Speece will once again challenge us with his Jeopardy style questions and we will have pizza to enjoy. We will meet in Room A following the 5 p.m. worship service. Come out for some fun, food and fellowship.

Coffee Hour

Sunday April 21

Room A Fellowship Hall

Stick around after worship, eat some goodies, and hang out with your St. John's friends! We'll have coffee, tea, and some treats. Feel free to bring something to share!

Worship Leader Training

April 27, 4pm & April 28, 9am

If you are currently or interested in starting to serve as a worship leader, please come to this training. This is great for complete newbies and for seasoned veterans who need a refresher. This is for ushers, worship assistants,

readers, pray-ers, and cup washers. We'll go over reading strategies (like how to exude confidence when reading something like "Abimelech"), where to find various worship elements, how to make the most of our recording, how to dispose of used Communion elements and more!

Sign Up for Online Giving

Online giving is a simple, secure, and more accessible way to support your church financially. You can sign up right through our website at www.stjohnsmayfair.org/donate or download the Tithely App. If you go through our website, just click the green "Give" button and then the "Sign Up" button. If you use the app, you can search for St. John's to select us as your giving designation.

You can set up recurring gifts or make one time donations. Contact the office or Pastor if you are having any trouble setting it up and we'll be happy to help!

Senior Exercise Class

Thursdays, 6:00-6:45pm, Room A

This free class is for all seniors looking to get into better shape and take of their health! The class will feature gentle stretching and exercise standing and seated on chairs. Please let Janice Barnett (215-379-8330) know if you are interested in joining.

Movie Night: Napoleon

Saturday May 11, 8:30pm

Outdoor movie nights are back! We'll be watching family-friendly movies out on the courtyard on the 2nd Saturday of every month May-October. Bring something comfy to sit on and we'll bring the snacks. This month we are watching Napoleon- the one about a puppy on an adventure, not the one about the French emperor/military strategist! See you then!



Want to help support St. John's mission? Consider making a financial contribution. Simply scan the QR code below with your smartphone's camera and follow the prompts. It really is that easy!

Worship Assistants

This Saturday: John H
This Sunday: Vicki S

Next Saturday: Doreen K
Next Sunday: Marie H

Ushers

This Saturday: Beverly H
This Sunday: Mildred R

Next Saturday: Joanna H
Next Sunday: Sue T

Cantors

This Sunday: Jess C
Next Sunday: Marie H

Cup Washers

This Sunday: Bette
Next Sunday: Deb

Pray-er

This Saturday:
This Sunday:

Lock Up

04/21/2024 Marie H
04/28/2024 Jon R
05/05/2024 Doreen K
05/12/2024 Kim B
05/19/2024 Marie H



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
A Reconciling in Christ congregation.