

# St. John Lutheran Church

# Because I live, you also will live

JOHN 14:19



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# ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER • MAY 10, 2026

## Reverent Reflection

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Church Announcements

## Confession and Forgiveness

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. Most merciful God,
- C. **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:** Come Thou Almighty King (#408)

## Apostolic Greeting

- P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C. **And also with you.**

## Kyrie p. 147

- P. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- 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 mercy.**

- P. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.  
C. **Lord, have mercy.**  
P. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
C. **Amen.**

### **Canticle p. 149**

- P. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.  
C. **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**  
**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:**  
**Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**  
**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**  
P. The Lord be with you.  
C. **And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

*Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

### **Word**

#### **First Reading: Acts 17:22-31**

<sup>22</sup>Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.' <sup>29</sup>"Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalms 66:8-20**

**Response: "Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard."**

<sup>8</sup> Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

<sup>9</sup> **Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip. R**

<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

<sup>11</sup> **You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

<sup>12</sup> You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

<sup>13</sup> **I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—**

<sup>14</sup> those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

<sup>15</sup> **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats. R**

<sup>16</sup> Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

<sup>17</sup> **I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

<sup>19</sup> **but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me. R

## **Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, <sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation p. 151**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## **Gospel: John 14:15-21**

The holy gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup> "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Children's Sermon**

**Anthem**

## **Apostles' Creed**

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill (especially).

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families..

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

## **Sharing of the Peace**

### **Offering**

## **Great Thanksgiving p. 152**

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.**

## **Preface p. 153**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Words of Institution**

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. p. 153**

## **Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray:

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## **Communion p. 154**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## **Distribution of Holy Communion**

**Communion Hymns:** I Come With Joy (#482)  
God Love The World (#323)  
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471)

## **Prayer after Communion**

## **Blessing**

**Sending Hymn:** O Zion Haste (#668)

## **Dismissal**

## **Postlude**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:30 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service
	10:30 am	Band Rehearsal
	10:45 am	Sunday School/CIA
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
Monday, May 11th	7:00 pm	Council Meeting in the Parish House
Wednesday, May 13th	2:00 pm	Afternoon Tea in the Parish House Tea Room
Sunday, May 17th	11:00 am	Summer Sundays begins (casual youth activities)
Wednesday, May 20th	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room
Saturday, May 23rd	8:00 am	Yard Sale (Parish Grounds)
Sunday, May 31st	2:00 pm	Faith250 Workshop (Location TBD)

*Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.*

## PRAYER LIST

*Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:*

Jen Bailey	Tracey Drew	Ed Kagen	Renate Murray	Bill Steel
Krystal Booras	Indie Fisher	Tracey Kelly	Erica Polito	Carol Taylor
Michael Botti	Stephanie Friant	Carl Knopp	Samantha Reed	Henry Tesone
Brian Byrnes	Rhea Fryor	Deb Kuhn	Kimberly Rickert	Bill Todt
Meadow Cantoral	Ashley Fuhrman	Donna Leek	Ashley Rosser	George Vaneman, Sr.
Randy Cantoral	Bob Garner	Bob Lindamood	Dorcas Schellhas	George Van Wagner
Janet Cappuccio	Angela Guedes	Tim McCarthy	Jean Schlotz	Beverly Warming
Joe Condoli	Stan Harmer	Joanne McVelli	Finn Schureman	Mary White
Sandra DeRitis	Michelle Walk Hewitt	Melanie Miles	Gladys Sheppard	Helen Yezusko
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Kent Montford	Meilani Showell	Bob Zielsdorf
Frank Donovan	Makenzie Jack	Sue Murphy	Frank Siderio III	
Marie Lentine Douglas	Quincy Jones	Bill Murray	Eric Sprengel	

*Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.*

## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please leave payment in the Church Office.

## WORSHIP BULLETIN DEDICATION

The cost (\$23) of the Weekly Worship Bulletin to fully cover the cost of paper and printing is donated by Henry and Marie Fickenschner in memory of their loved ones.

This Worship Bulletin is printed on paper that is made with renewable resources from third-party certified, sustainably managed forests.

Please place any Worship Bulletins to be discarded in the recycle bin in the narthex.



**We are accepting donations of  
Shelf Stable Milk for Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.**

**Donations in the form of cash or check will also be welcome.**



**Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm in the Parish House**

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING



*Afternoon Tea  
in the Parish Tea Room*

*Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>  
at 2:00 pm*



**Every Sunday from May 17<sup>th</sup> to September 13<sup>th</sup>  
after the Worship Service in the Ed. Building.**

**Bible verse theme every Sunday with  
crafts and outdoor games.**

**Please come and join the fun!**



## GRIEF GATHERING

**Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 pm in the Parish House Tea Room**

**All Are Welcome!**

**SATURDAY, MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> • 8AM TO 2 PM RAIN DATE: MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>**

## YARD SALE

**To donate treasures for the Church Table contact Stephanie (856-912-9875) by May 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
For spaces contact Gail (609-313-0800).**

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH • 1002 S. MAIN ST. • WILLIAMSTOWN, NJ**

## faith250

**Sacred Bonds, Shared Hopes**

**faith250** is 4 workshops hosted and facilitated by different clergy members of the ministerium. It is an American Scripture Project focused on "The Spiritual Side of American Democracy" using sacred, traditional Scripture along side American texts (i.e., The New Colossus, The Declaration of Independence, What to the Slave is the Fourth of July, and America the Beautiful).

**Location TBD**

**Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> • 2:00 PM**

**Session #4 of 4**

# Come, Thou Almighty King

408



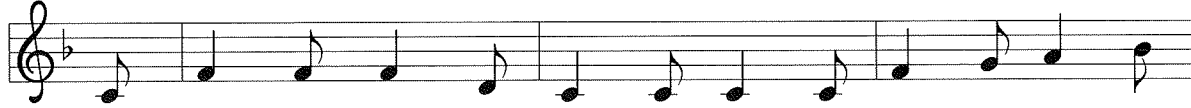
1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;  
2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;  
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear  
4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be



help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -  
our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy  
in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in  
hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in



to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.  
ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

DOVE OF PEACE

86866

1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son, for - gives all  
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly

Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

# Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,  
 2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion  
 3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is light;  
 that God, in whom they live and move, is love;  
 make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing  
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion  
 let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,

one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.  
 and died on earth that we might live a - bove.  
 through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

*Refrain*

Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,

tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp-tion, and re - lease.

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL**

**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**

Ice Cream 🍓 Cake 🌸 Strawberries 🍓 Hot Dogs 🌸 Beverages  
 Freewill Donation 🍓 Music by "St. John's Little Big Band"

**SUNDAY, JUNE 7<sup>th</sup> 🌸 11:30 AM TO 1:00 PM**  
**1002 S. MAIN STREET, WILLIAMSTOWN, NJ**

**ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**1002 S. Main Street Williamstown, NJ 08094**  
**Pastor: The Rev. Tammy Harmer**  
**Phone Number: 1-856-875-8742 • Email: stjohndlutheran1002@yahoo.com**  
**Website: www.stjohnselc1002.org**

**ST. JOHN'S STAFF**

Deacons: Betsey Eley/Ken Weaver	Head Usher: Ted Adams
Treasurer: Henry Fickenscher	Sexton: Betsey Eley
Music Director/Choirmaster: Janice Smith	Webmaster: Tom Schofield
Instrumental Music Director: Ken Weaver	Publications Director: Marie Fickenscher