

May 24, 2026

Seventh Sunday of Easter

THEME: Stories That Matter – So That They May Be One

10:15 AM Worship

The season of Easter, or Eastertide, is a time of embracing the promise and hope of Resurrection. It is a time of leaning into the stories that matter. Come and gather around the stories of those who wrestled with the Easter event and some of the words of preparation that Jesus gave to help us live the reality of eternity now. It is clear from these stories that Jesus wanted to equip us to thrive in a season of Easter promise. Jesus prays for our unity and glorification in him. This service invites creative engagement with what it means to live as answers to Christ's prayer for oneness in the world.



**Our Mission:
Ignited by Spirit, Growing in Love**



We strive to be a community that is open to the Spirit of God that moves, changes and inspires us to connect with God and one another, everyday, everywhere.

+ GATHERING +

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Voluntary in G - Henry Heron

CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people, Christ has completed the work of salvation, reconciling us to God so that we may know eternal life.

Through Christ, we are made one with God.

In life, death, and Resurrection, Christ guides us into eternal life with God here and now.

Through Christ, we are made one in God.

Through prayer and teaching, healing and serving, Christ draws us together as the people of God, diverse members of the one body.

Through Christ, we are made one with God and one another.

So, come, let us worship God who saves us into eternal life with God and one another!

Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN ELW 393 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

GREETING

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE –



1 Praise the Lord! O heav'ns, a - dore him; praise him, an - gels, in the height;
2 Praise the Lord, for he is gra - cious; nev - er shall his prom - ise fail.



sun and moon, re - joice be - fore him; praise him, gleam - ing stars and light.
God has made his saints vic - to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.



Praise the Lord, for he has spo - ken; worlds his might - y voice o - beyed;
Praise the God of our sal - va - tion; hosts on high, his pow'r pro - claim;



laws which nev - er shall be bro - ken for their guid - ance he has made.
heav'n and earth, and all cre - a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his name!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

+ WORD +

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

FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

At the conclusion of the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

READING: I Peter 4:12-14: 5:6-11

At the conclusion of the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION –

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 17:1-11

At the beginning of the reading:

The holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the reading:
This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM pg. 227

BAPTISM HYMN ELW 482 I Come with Joy

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING If with all your hearts - Felix Mendelssohn
Kevin Schanely, tenor

OFFERTORY



Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

OFFERING PRAYER

Unifying God of Grace, you have entrusted us with the joy of community and the calling of witness. As Jesus prayed that we might be one, we bring these gifts as a sign of our shared commitment to your mission in the world. Let our giving reflect our love, our unity declare your glory, and our generosity embody Christ's presence among us. Use these offerings to strengthen the church, to bless our neighbors, and to glorify your name. In Christ, we belong to you. In Christ, you are glorified in us. In the name of Christ we pray. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each prayer petition will end with the phrase:
Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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, forever and ever. Amen.

+ SENDING +

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Beloved, go now in the blessing of the Triune God to live as diverse members of the one body of Christ, choosing unity over division, cooperation over conformity, and collaboration over exclusion as we work together for the flourishing of all creation.

Amen

SENDING HYMN ELW 826 Thine the Amen

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE March in C - David N. Johnson

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This morning, we celebrate and welcome Bennett Cooper Papay into the family of faith at St. John's through the sacrament of baptism. Bennett's parents are Aaron and Alexa (Mack) Papay. His sponsors are Jonathan and Lauren Baccari.

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, May 24	10:15am Worship
Monday, May 25	Office is closed, Memorial Day
Tuesday, May 26	Executive meeting, 7:30 pm
Wednesday, May 27	Confirmation, 7-8:15 pm
Friday, May 29	Red Cross Blood drive, 12 – 5 pm SEPA Synod Assembly
Saturday, May 30	SEPA Synod Assembly

Sunday Morning Coffee Bar - Join us at the coffee bar at the back entrance for coffee, hot tea, breakfast treats and conversation starting at 8:30AM.

The **first food truck night** of the 2026 season is coming up on Wednesday, May 27th from 5-8 PM. Watch the weekly email for the ability to sign up for set up and clean up shifts!

Graduate Recognition Sunday is coming on Sunday, June 7th! Do you have a graduate in your family? Then we want to celebrate with them – whether it's preschool thru high school or graduate school and beyond. Submit the graduate's name, where they are graduating from and what comes next to the church office by Sun. May 31.

Heavenly Helpers next event is June 3 Moccia's in Schwenksville: Available all day, when you stop in just mention Heavenly Helpers to waitress staff and we will receive a portion of the proceeds.

SAVE THE DATE – Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic with Friedens UCC will be held here at St. John's on Sunday, June 14th. Worship at 10:30 AM with the picnic to follow. Sign-up sheet outside Pastor Becky's office

The Open Link: Our next food collection will be on Saturday June 6 from 9 to 11 am.

Below is a list of the most needed items on the pantry's spring list:

Pasta sides, canned fruit, canned cream style corn, beets and mushrooms.

Granola and breakfast bars. Fruit juices and juice boxes and yogurts.

Produce items needed: Bags of potatoes, oranges, clementines, grapes and apples.

Two non-food items are also requested: men and women's deodorants and dish soap.

If you can bring along a can of soup or stew that would also be great!

Outreach Committee: Thank you all who helped with our Hoagie meal to Upper Perk Manor and Penn Assisted Care. Upon delivery the lobbies were full of smiling faces!

Memorial gifts received for Audrey Sell: Carl Bardman, Dave & Debrah Haberle, Edgar Stauffer, Evan & Sharon Moll, Joanne Hersh, Craig Bardman, Marion Bardman, Hope Long and Nelson & Sheila Weber.

Family Bathroom The family bathroom project has started. If you feel it in your heart, we have a designated fund for donations. Just write “Family Bathroom” on an envelope. Thank you!
Family bathroom donations can now be made online through St. John’s website!

St. John’s VBS 2026
June 22–26
(yes, Monday thru Friday!)
9:00 AM –12:00 Noon

#KidsConnect

Connecting hearts, minds, and faith

Join us for a joyful week where children explore God’s love through music, storytelling, art, science, games, and hands-on activities. Each day sparks curiosity, builds friendships, and creates a strong sense of belonging.

At #KidsConnect, children will:



Connect with Jesus in meaningful ways



Create through art, building, and hands-on exploration



Sing, move, and celebrate through music and worship



Build friendships and feel a true sense of belonging



Grow in kindness, confidence, and community

Everyone is welcome as we learn, create, and grow together.

** We especially need junior guides – middle school/high school age youth who can serve as helpers – confirmation service hours available (up to one hour a day) **

We can’t wait for an amazing week this summer!
Space is limited so register NOW before we fill up!