

³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter – April 28, 2013

P.O. Box 411

Mars, PA 16046-0411

www.stjohnchurchmars.org

Phone: 724-625-1830 email: office@stjohnchurchmars.org

Pastor's cell: 724-766-6686 Pastor's email: pastormarkbringman@gmail.com

Rev. Mark Bringman, Pastor

Megan Rabenstein, Student Organist

- *John 13:34*

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION
Fifth Sunday of Easter – April 28, 2013

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Lord is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today the Lord Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light – through the lens of love.

PRELUDE: *L'Organiste Pièce 1 in C Major* by César Franck

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.**

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN #367: *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

***GREETING**

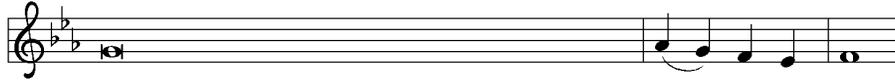
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



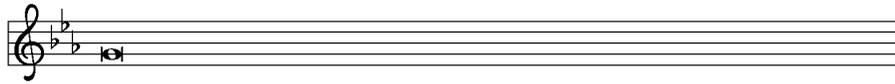
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

***THIS IS THE FEAST**

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING: Acts 11:1 - 18

In defense of his earlier baptism of pagan believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' own testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148**Psalm 148**

Mark Mummert



¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.
²**Praise the LORD, | all you angels;**
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.
³Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.
⁴**Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,**
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.
⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,
⁶**who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,**
giving them a law that shall not | pass away. R
⁷Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;
⁸**fire and hail, | snow and fog,**
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;
⁹mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;
¹⁰**wild beasts | and all cattle,**
creeping things and | flying birds;

¹¹sovereigns of the earth¹ and all peoples,
princes and all rulers¹ of the world;

¹²young¹ men and maidens,
old and¹ young together. **R**

¹³Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over¹ earth and heaven.

¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people
and praise for all¹ faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD.¹ Hallelujah! **R****

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1 - 6

John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

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.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

***GOSPEL READING: John 13:31 - 35**

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY #452: *Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

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 giver 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing with all the witnesses of the resurrection, let us pray in confidence for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Inspire your church to embody the love you reveal in grace through acts of kindness, generosity, and care for each other, the community, and the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Renew the face of the earth and heal the wrongs we have done to your creation. Keep us from squandering the abundant resources you provide. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant visions of justice and peace to leaders of the nations of the world. Put an end to the divisions that cause violence and hatred. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Renew the spirits of those who suffer in mind or body. Grant hope in the midst of despair, companionship to those who are alone, and healing to those who are sick, especially Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Winnie, Helen, Margaret, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Break down the barriers that prohibit us from reaching out in love to all God's children. Move us beyond economic, racial, and class distinctions in our service to those in need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reveal your promise of a new heaven and a new earth in times of mourning and death. Comfort us with the joy of Christ's resurrection and renew in us the hope of everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In resurrection hope we commend to you all for whom we pray, trusting in the promise of new life; through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING**OFFERING HYMN #462: *Now We Join in Celebration******OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray,

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings.

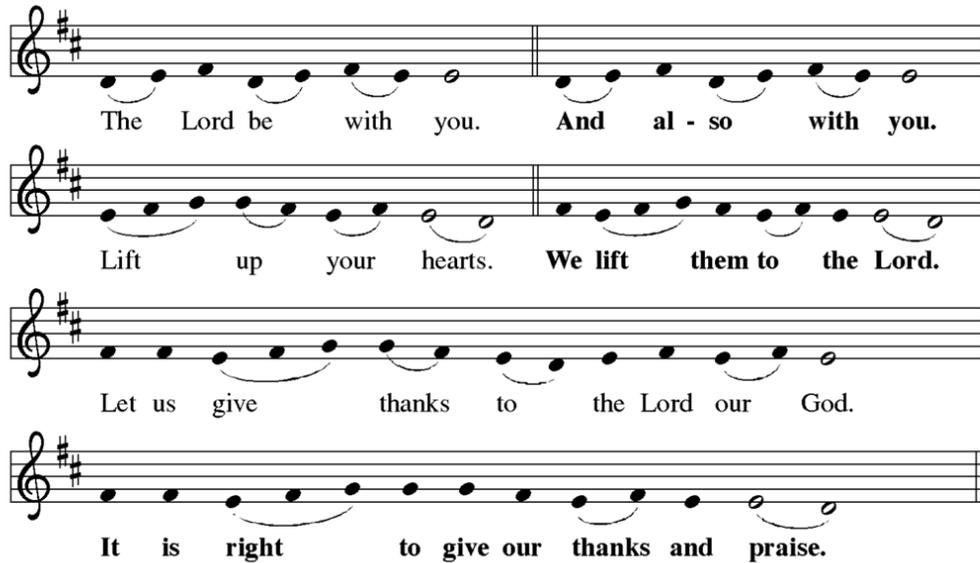
As you have raised us to new life in Christ,

give us glad and generous hearts,

ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

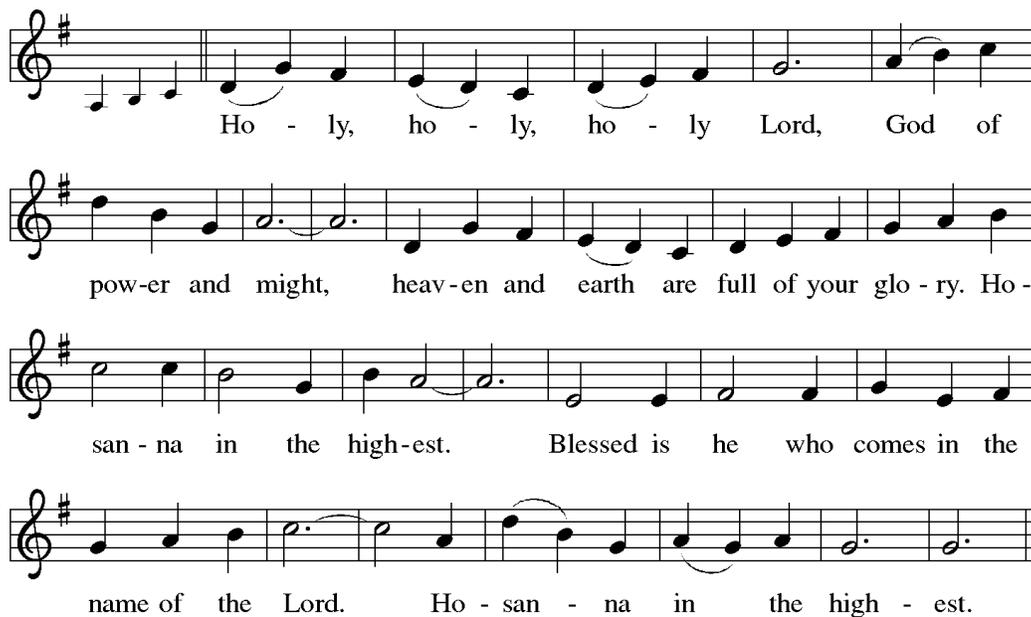
Amen.

***DIALOGUE**


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,

our living Water and our merciful Guide,
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs
we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,
and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
who joined us in our desert,
pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was handed over,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
wash away our sin,
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever. **Amen.**

***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

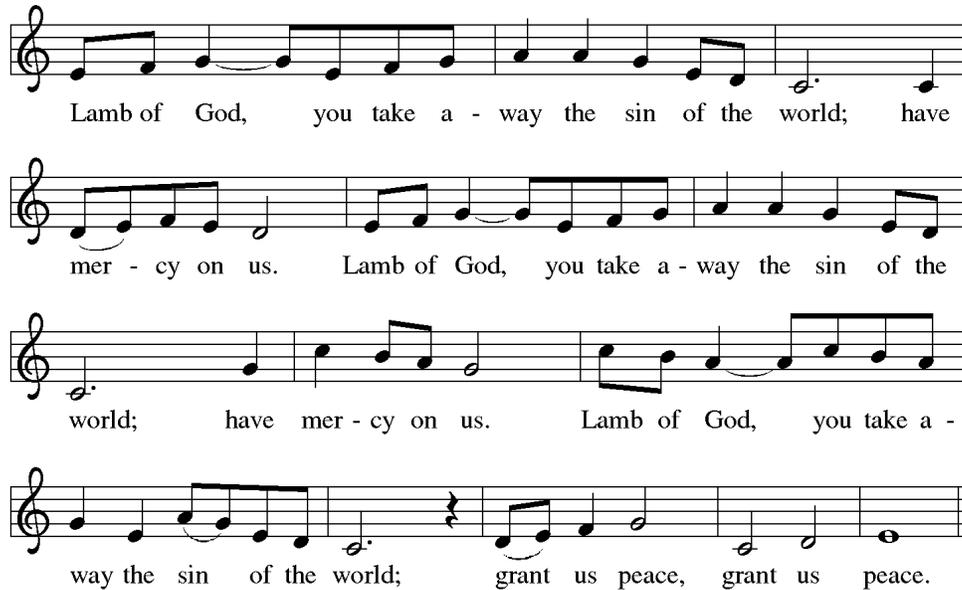
The table of life is spread before you.
Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

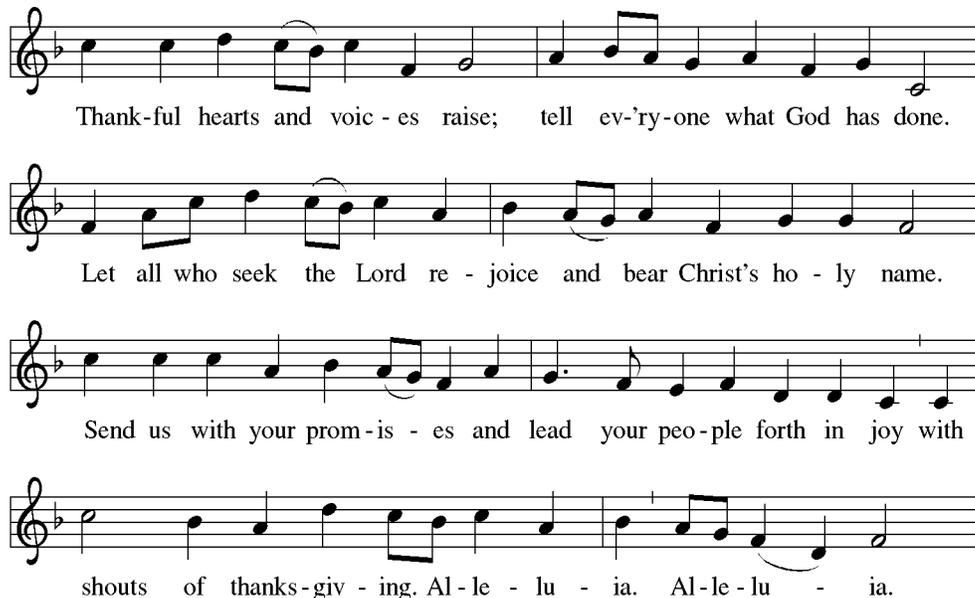
In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The inner ring of individual cups has grape juice.

COMMUNION SONG


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.

COMMUNION HYMN #471: *Let Us Break Bread Together****POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace. **Amen.**

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**


Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,
that you make your home with us,
bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal.
Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here,
that we may wipe away tears,
tend to those in mourning and pain,
seek the healing of the nations,
and bring to earth the presence of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

The blessing of the Lord God Almighty,
the blessing of + Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG #377: *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!***DISMISSAL**

Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE: *Eccossaise* by Beethoven

The flowers on the altar are given by Joe & Gretchen Baysek in honor of their 19th anniversary which is April 30th.

Assisting Minister (8:00 a.m.): Clarence Strabel

Ushers (8:00 a.m.): John Tully

Acolyte (8:00 a.m.): Danielle Dishong

Communion Assistant (8:00 a.m.): Marlene Strabel

Counters: Martha Ward and Ruth Ann Tully

Attendance Last Week (wk 3 of April): 53

Budgeted Weekly Need: \$2,669.62

(2013 Annual Budget of \$138,820 divided by 52 weeks)

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Assisting Minister (10:30 a.m.): Carolyn Jarrett

Ushers (10:30 a.m.): Zac Claus

Acolyte (10:30 a.m.): Noah Bishop

Communion Assistant (10:30 a.m.): Sally Foster

Attendance Last Year (wk 3 of April 2012): 60

Last Week's Giving: \$4414 - Earmarked: \$2496.

(This large deposit includes \$1,646 for the Calendar Tea which has been earmarked for "Women of Faith". Also, \$800 of this week's earmarked funds is for the Door Fund, and we received \$100 last week for that fund.)

Year to Date Receipts: \$51,311.05

YTD Actual Expenses: \$40,410.68

YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$45,383.46 (Weekly Expense Need multiplied by 17 weeks - as of 4/28/13)

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