



*“<sup>19</sup>...Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.”*

*-John 20:19-20*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter – April 11, 2021**

PO Box 411

Mars, PA 16046-0411

[www.stjohnchurchmars.org](http://www.stjohnchurchmars.org)

Phone: 724-625-1830

email: [office@stjohnchurchmars.org](mailto:office@stjohnchurchmars.org)

Pastor's cell: 412-585-1628

Pastor's email: [pastor@stjohnchurchmars.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnchurchmars.org)

Rev. Robert Zimmerman, Pastor

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

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.

**\*GATHERING HYMN #382 –Christ is Risen! Alleluia! (All)**

**\*GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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 defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - - - men.

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

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

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

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

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

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

##### FIRST READING: 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.*

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL READING: John 20:19-31**

*The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.*

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."<sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."<sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."<sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"<sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #635 – *We Walk by Faith (All)***

**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.**

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

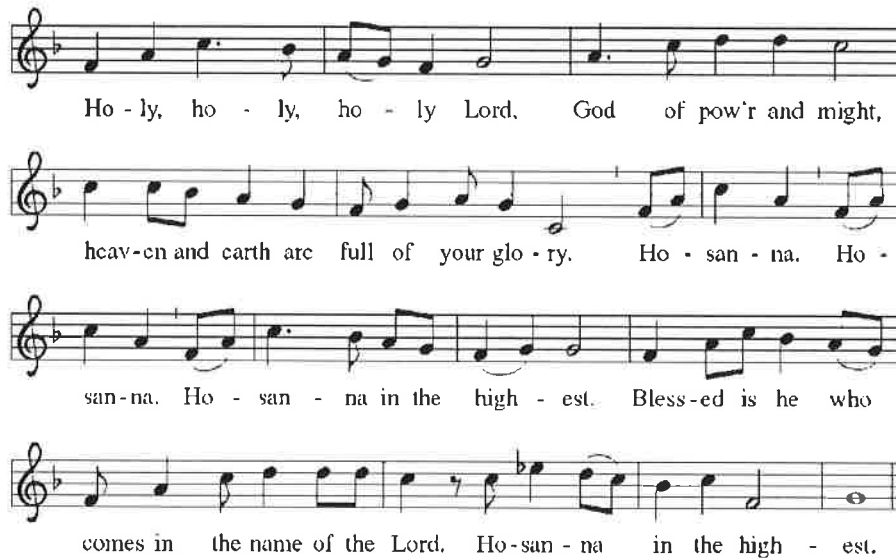
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
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.

### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

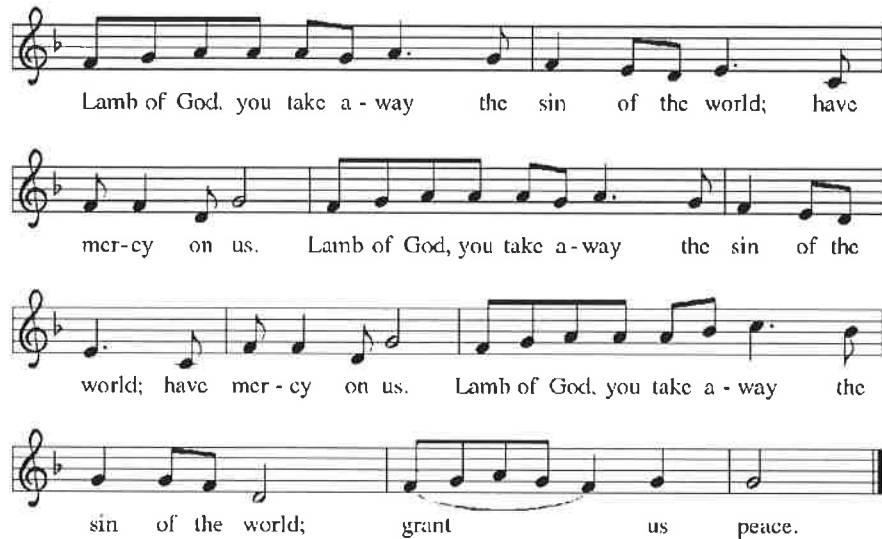
Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,  
gives everyone a place at the welcome table.  
Alleluia! Come to the feast.

*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. Come forward by family to receive the elements, please keep your masks on and maintain at least six feet distance from those ahead of you. Gluten free wafers are available. When you have received the elements, proceed to the small table and then remove your mask to consume them. Replace your mask and return to your seats.*

### COMMUNION

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

### COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*



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.

### \*COMMUNION HYMN #528 – *Come and Fill Our Hearts (All)*

#### \*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

#### \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let  
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice and bear the name of Christ.  
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.

**Announcements for the week of  
April 11, 2021  
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Our Office Manager, Margie Baker, will be in the office on Tuesdays & Fridays from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM and will work remotely on Mondays and Thursdays during the same hours. Pastor Zimmerman will be available in the church office on Wednesday & Thursday mornings and is always available via his cell phone at 412-585-1628 or via email at [pastor@stjohnchurchmars.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnchurchmars.org). Phone calls to the church office during the hours listed above will be forwarded so that you may speak to someone directly.

**This Week at St. John**

**Sunday Worship – April 11 -One Service at 9:00 AM - In-person worship in sanctuary or**

**Join Zoom for 9:00 AM service: <https://zoom.us/j/5663185411> Meeting ID: 566 318 5411 PW: Luther**

Available on our new YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC35PpgMPeMgDRNmKsxxvQ>

and the church Facebook page: [St John Lutheran Church Mars PA](#) later in the day.

**Sunday School & Lifelong Learning –April 11 - 10:00 AM**

**Adult Sunday School– 10:15 AM –<https://zoom.us/j/5663185411> Meeting ID: 566 318 5411 PW: Luther**

**Mission Endowment Meeting – April 11 - 11:30 AM**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/5663185411> Meeting ID: 566 318 5411 PW: Luther

**Council Meeting – April 13 – 7:00 PM**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/5663185411> Meeting ID: 566 318 5411 PW: Luther

**Morning Prayer – April 14 – 11:00 AM**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/5663185411> Meeting ID: 566 318 5411 PW: Luther

**Sunday Worship – April 18 -One Service at 9:00 AM - In-person worship in sanctuary or**

**Join Zoom for 9:00 AM service: <https://zoom.us/j/5663185411> Meeting ID: 566 318 5411 PW: Luther**

Available on our new YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC35PpgMPeMgDRNmKsxxvQ>

and the church Facebook page: [St John Lutheran Church Mars PA](#) later in the day.

**Farewell Reception for Pastor Zimmerman- April 18 – 10:00 AM**

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**Stewardship Snippets** (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter)

*"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."* – 1 John 1:8

The Creator of all has given us responsibility for our home planet. If we say we have no responsibility for being good stewards of creation, we also deceive ourselves. May we rise to the task and work for the good that God breathes into existence.

**Farewell Reception – Next Sunday**

We will have a cake reception after worship on Sunday, April 18 to thank Pastor Zimmerman for his years of service to the St. John congregation. We wish him well in his retirement.

**Executive Committee Meeting – Date Changed**

The Executive Committee Meeting for this month will now take place on Thursday, April 22 at 7 pm.

**Mission Emphasis: Lutheran Disaster Response – Storm Damage**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Special Offerings and distribution of our Endowment fund will go to support the efforts of Lutheran Disaster Response. Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is responding to storm damage caused by natural disasters in the United States and around the world. The harsh conditions severely impacted southern states U. S. such as Texas, which lack the infrastructure to handle the freezing temperatures and record-setting snow and ice, resulting in power, food and water shortages throughout the region. Tornadoes and severe storms have recently caused damage and taken lives across the southern United States and the storm season has just begun. This quarter the Mission Endowment fund and your special offerings will go to Lutheran Disaster Response to aid those affected by storms. Our gifts will be used in full (100%) to support storm survivors.