



Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023 | 10:30 AM



Hear God's Word. Reflect God's Grace.
Share Christ's Love.

All are welcome at Saint John's regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic position, immigration path, or faith journey. We believe that a diverse and inclusive congregation benefits all, and that we grow when we listen to and learn from those who are different from us. Scripture teaches us to do good and seek justice, and we invite you to join us in striving for a just world. We are committed to continuing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care. We look forward to learning from one another and growing together on this journey of faith, grace, and love.

Jesus said: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. So that we may be in contact with you, we invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate. We hope you will worship with us again soon.

Children are welcome. We encourage them to attend worship with their parents—even their noise and restlessness are surely a delight to God. Children's bulletins are available.

To assist you during worship: Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. Please inform an usher if you would like the pastor to commune you at your pew.

Offerings: St. John's is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the NJ Synod of the ELCA and to many other mission partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

Assisted Listening: To access assisted listening, Connect to the StJohnsALS WiFi network. Download the free WaveCast app to your phone. Tap ST_JOHNS_ALS to connect. Please use your own headphones to listen.



Ministers: The People of Saint John's

Clergy & Staff

| | |
|---|--|
| The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor | pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org |
| Christopher Harlow-Jennings, Director of Music | charlowjennings@stjohnssummit.org |
| Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator | crothman@stjohnssummit.org |
| Jama Bowman, Communications Coordinator | jamabowman@stjohnssummit.org |
| Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation | wk154linda@gmail.com |
| Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton | |

We're delighted you're worshiping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

Prayer Before Worship

Almighty God, Jesus, our risen Lord, was made known to the disciples in the breaking of the bread. Open the eyes of our hearts that we may recognize his presence, and with his disciples cry, "The Lord has risen, indeed!" Through Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 1

Gathering

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

ELW *Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Red Book*

ACS *All Creation Sings: Purple Book*

PRELUDE I. Allegro (from *Sonata in g minor*, BWV 1020)
Randall Wolfgang, oboe

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

Please stand.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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 welcomed and restored as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in these waters we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture every living thing. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 369 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt.
Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1781–1821

APOSTOLIC 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

Assisting minister



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

All



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



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. 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 and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, 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.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Acts 2:42–47

⁴²[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

Refrain sung first by choir, thereafter by all.

Light verses choir. Bold verses all.



The LORD is my shep-herd; I shall not be in want.

¹The Lord¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not¹ be in want.

²**The Lord makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹ side still waters.**

³You restore my¹ soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me. R**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is¹ running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the¹ Lord forever. R**

SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:19–25

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

James Chepponis

Refrain sung first by choir, thereafter by all. Verse sung by choir.

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

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

V. Your words, O Lord, give joy to my heart; your teaching is light to my eyes.

GOSPEL John 10:1–10

The Holy Gospel according to John.

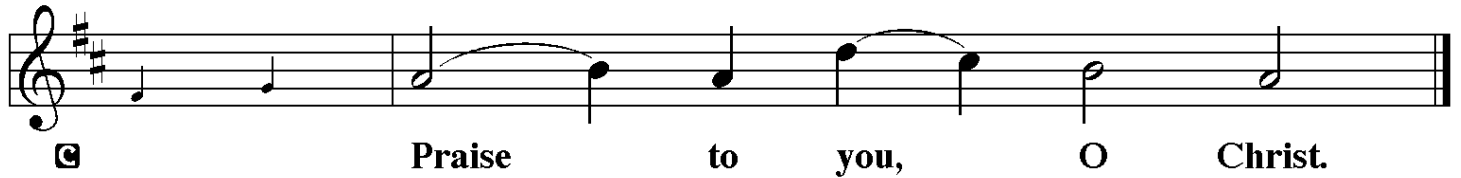
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came

before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

Please stand.

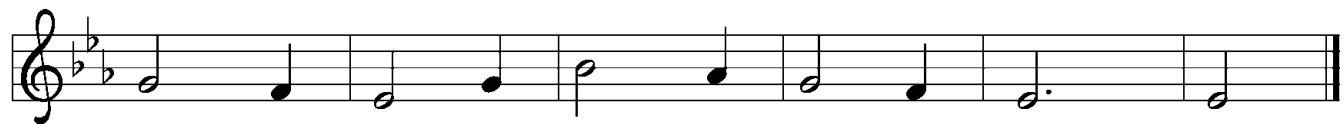
HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 502 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death’s dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, we confess our faith:

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

God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MISSION

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We present offerings for God's mission in the world through this congregation. Both visitors and members alike may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit www.stjohnssummit.org or scan this code.



OFFERING ANTHEM The Lord is My Shepherd (*Requiem*)

John Rutter

Randall Wolfgang, oboe

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:

thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

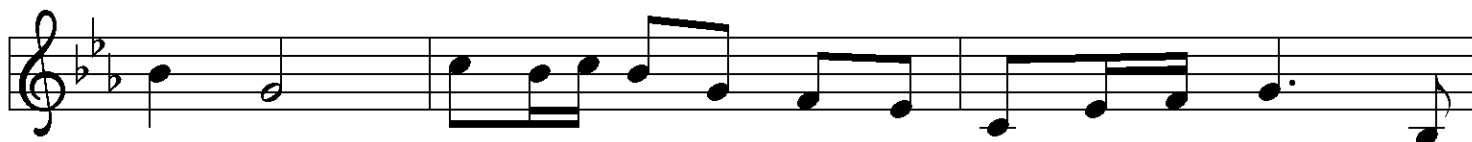
But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Psalm 23 (Miles Coverdale Translation)

*Please stand.***OFFERTORY**

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

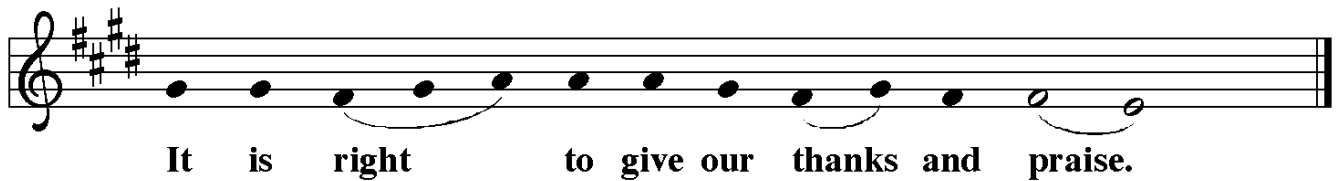
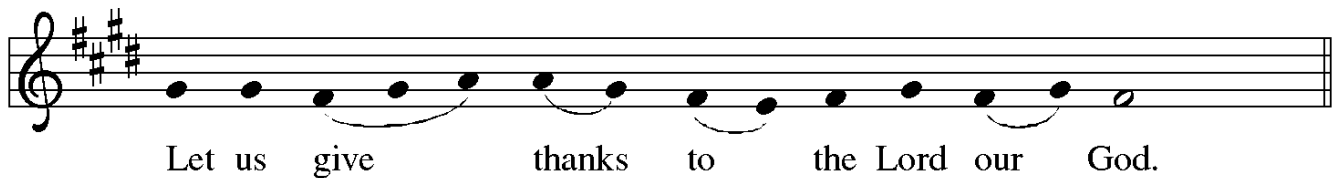
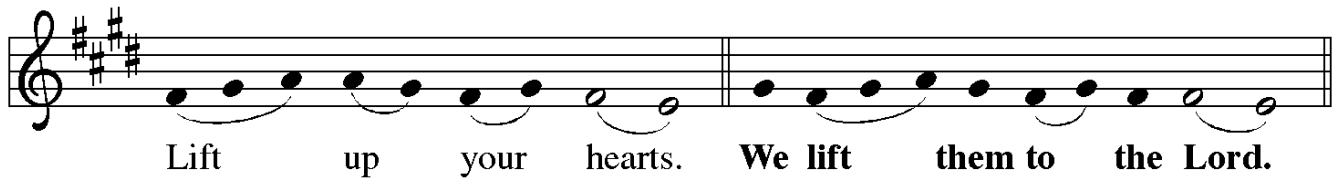
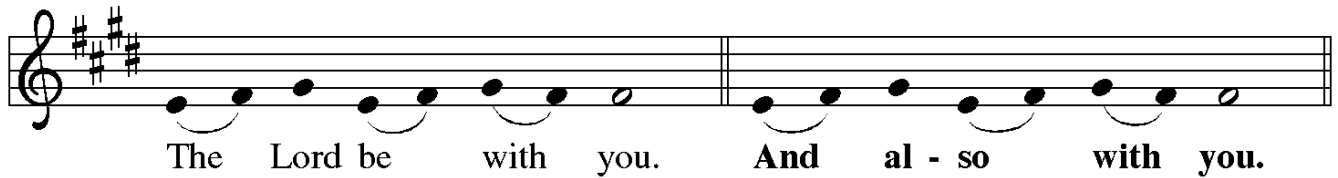
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. **Be present Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.**

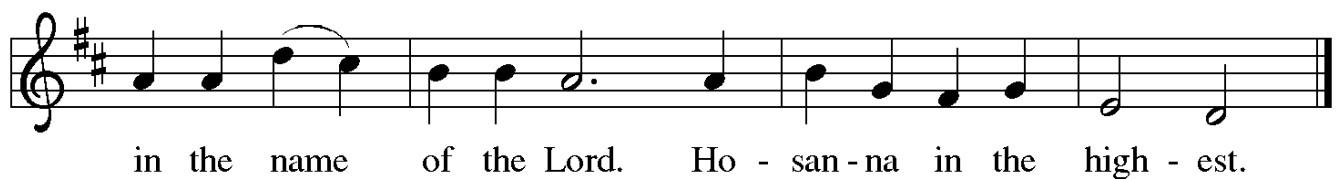
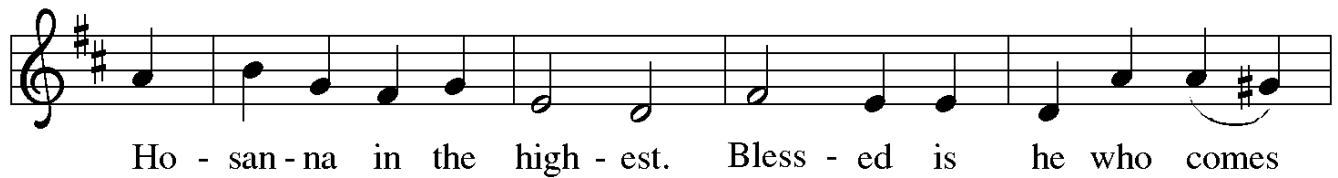
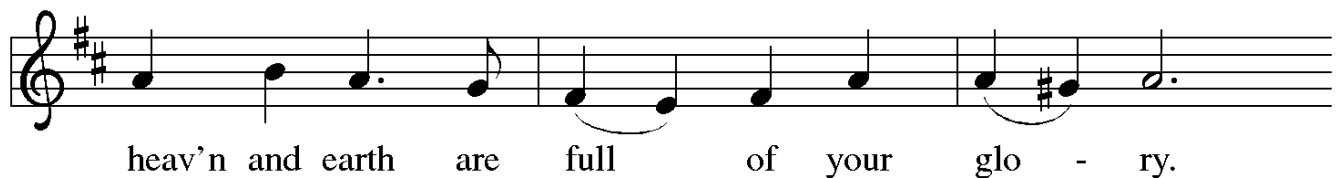
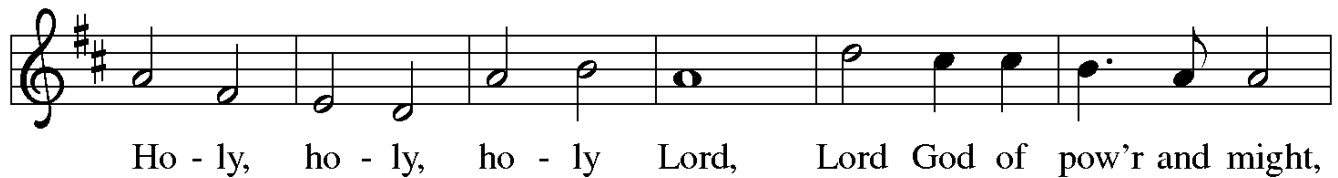
Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



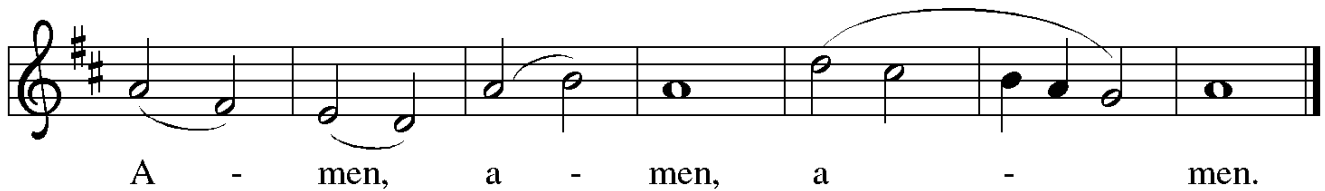
PROPER PREFACE



Blessed are you, O God of the universe . . . With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



O God of resurrection and new life: pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine . . . With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



Please be seated.

RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time.

The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer.

Wine is served from the chalice—either by intinction or drinking from the common cup.

Wine and grape juice are available in pre-filled individual cups.

All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table.

If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC From *Sonata in g minor*, BWV 1020)

J.S. Bach

II. Adagio

III. Allegro

Please stand.

BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



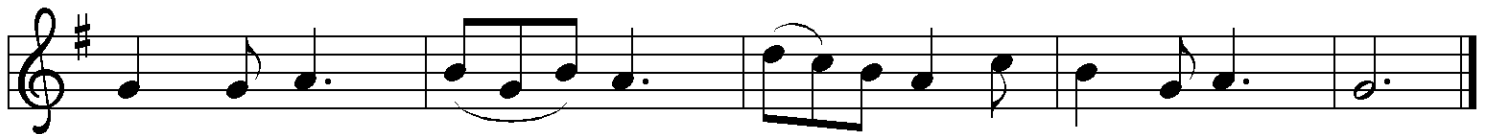
Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice 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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sending

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

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Christ, who in rising from the dead has defeated death, bringing us new life and a new future, fill you with all joy and hope in believing; and the blessing of God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW 544 Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.

Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.

Text © Oxford University Press.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Improvisation on *Alles ist an Gottes Segen*

Christopher Harlow-Jennings

SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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stjohnssummit.org | 908-273-3846



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April 30, 2023

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Katie & Zach Bowler's anniversary by the Sharpe family.

Children's Choir TODAY at 9:30 AM and Faith Formation at 10:00 AM. All children are welcome. Contact Christopher Harlow-Jennings or Deacon Walker for more information.

Welcome to Randall Wolfgang, our guest oboe player at the 10:30 service today. Randall is an internationally renowned oboist. He was the principal oboist for the NYC Ballet Orchestra for over 37 years, a member of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and principal for the NYC Opera Orchestra. He has made over 30 recordings, earned a Grammy Award, and served on the faculty of Queens College and the Manhattan School of Music. Today he accompanies the choir in John Rutter's beloved setting of Psalm 23 from his *Requiem* and offers a Bach Sonata originally for flute and often adapted for oboe.

ASP Training, TODAY, Noon–3:00 PM.

Family Promise, TODAY–May 7: Meals or gift cards (groceries or Uber/Lyft) are needed. Sign up to volunteer at familypromise.org/what-we-do/fp-union-county, scroll to the bottom of the page to Volunteer Opportunities. Amy Jones, volunteer coordinator, will email you details. Digital gift cards can be emailed to ajones@familypromise.org. Physical cards can be mailed to Family Promise Union County, Attn: Amy Jones, 402 Union Ave., Elizabeth, NJ 07208. Questions may be directed to [Marifel Calis](mailto:Marifel.Calis).

Pastor Blake and Shai Dromi invite all members of St. John's to their wedding on **Sunday, July 2 at 5:00 PM** at St. John's. For the complete details, please visit their website theknot.com/blakeandshai. You **MUST RSVP by May 15**. Please see the weekly email for more details.

Cross Roads Open House, May 13 or June 10: Take a tour of camp, hear stories, ask questions, and finish with a delicious lunch in the dining hall. To learn more, visit: <https://bit.ly/41ibJNg>

The Caritas Chamber Chorale present two concerts of sacred a cappella choral music, entitled *Sacred Tribute*, for the benefit of Adorno Fathers' African Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa., **Saturday, May 20, 2023**, 7:30 PM Christ Church, 561 Springfield Ave., Summit. The concerts are free and open to the public. For more details, visit www.caritaschamberchorale.org.

Organ Concert, Sunday, May 21 at 4:00 PM: St. John's Director of Music Christopher Harlow-Jennings will play a solo organ concert on the Holtkamp pipe organ entitled "Toccatas and Flourishes." A reception will follow. The concert is free and open to the public.

Bethlehem Build Lent Collection. Our partner congregation, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, New Orleans, is building the 2nd affordable house on their property. Our Council has challenged us to raise \$25,000 and we can match dollar for dollar up to \$6,000 to support this project. Give online or by check, **payable to St. John's**, "Bethlehem Build" in the memo line.

We are hiring a Livestream Coordinator for Sunday services from 7:45–Noon including religious holidays. Approximately 5 hours a week. Experience with livestream and audio equipment. Open to high school and college students with TV production experience. Please contact Linda Mesenbrink at Linda.mesenbrink@verizon.net or 973-202-2773.