



Fifth Sunday of Easter
St. John's Lutheran Church- Red Bud, Illinois
May 6-7, 2023



PRELUDE: "Simple Gifts" *arranged by Charles W. Ore*

THE RINGING OF THE BELL calls us to holy worship.

OPENING HYMN: 912 "Christ Is Our Cornerstone" (*stand for 3rd stanza, "A-men"*)



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;
 2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,
 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;



With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His
 And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til
 Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus



great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
 that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.
 pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

(10:30 a.m.) Holy Baptism, page 268ff.

Divine Service Three, page 184ff.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: page 184

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

**that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-on us.
 For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY:

P: The Lord be with you. **C:** *(sung)* **And with thy spir-it.** **P:** Let us pray.
C: O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (please be seated)

THE FIRST READING:

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me.... You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your father’s persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law

as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL:

L: Christ has risen from the dead.

C: God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,

L: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

C: He has put all things under His feet.

THE EPISTLE READING:

1st Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to Him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame.” So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the Excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(please stand if you are able) **ALLELUIA and VERSE:** page 190 *(sung)*

Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL:**John 14:1-14**P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.**C: (sung) Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said: "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him."

Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know Me, Philip? Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own authority, but the Father who dwells in Me does His works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: (sung) Praise be to Thee, O Christ.****OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH:** *(inside back cover of the hymnal)**(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.) Nicene Creed (page 191)*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I

acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen. *(please be seated)*

(10:30 a.m.) **Apostles' Creed** *(page 192)*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(please be seated) *(10:30 a.m.)* **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE SONG: LSB 861**

**Christ be my Lead-er by night as by day:
Safe through the dark-ness, for He is the way.
Glad-ly I fol-low, my fu-ture His care,
Dark-ness is day-light when Je-sus is there.
Christ be my Sav-ior in calm as in strife;
Death can-not hold me, for He is the life.
Nor dark-ness nor doubt-ing nor sin and its stain
Can touch my sal-va-tion: with Je-sus I reign.**

HYMN OF THE DAY: 526 "You Are the Way; through You Alone"



1 You are the way; through You a - lone Can
2 You are the truth; Your Word a - lone True
3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb Pro -
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant



we the Fa - ther find; In You, O Christ, has
wis - dom can im - part; You on - ly can in -
claims Your con - qu'ring arm, And those who put their
us that way to know, That truth to keep, that



God re - vealed His heart and will and mind.
 form the mind And pu - ri - fy the heart.
 trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.
 life to win Whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

SERMON: “Jesus Gets Us From Here to There” John 14:1-14

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*please stand if you are able*)

(*Each petition ends “Lord, in Your mercy” and we respond, “hear our prayer.”*)

HEALING AND COMFORT: Lorine Reinhardt, Barb Ladwig, Darlene Lohman, Carol Stoll, Ruth Hecht, David Guebert, Gerald Hanebutt, Rick Horrell, Tim Deien, Sherry Winkelmann, Susie Harms, Marcy Watters, Paul Mollet, Zac Carnahan, Ashlynn Crafton, Loxton Sutton; *Family/Friends of St. John’s Members:* Ava Kern, Gary Hollmann, Roger Hartmann, Tony Tweedy, Sr., Kevin Conboy, Deloris Stirnamann, Kathy Wolter, Gary Hayes. *Help us keep this list current!*

MILITARY: (*Please call with names.*) Army- Casey Vallett, Tanner Valleroy, Brandon Voss, Adrienne Vallett, Easton Lucht, Ethan Summers, Tim Healy, Jacob Adams, Donald Roberts, Matthew Kraus, Paul Craft, Jr., Austin Scheibe, Trevor Buckner, Jessica DeMarco, Christopher Dupertius, Garrett Carnahan, Tyler Wahlman, Gavin Roche-Voss; Navy- Carl Muehler; Air Force- Gage Baldwin, Jason Nehrt, Curt Hatten, Terry Koester, David Livingston, Matt Sabo, Ryan Kozarich; Marines- Alex Renner, Cody Koch, Josh Butterworth, Keenan Turnure, Austin Grohmann; National Guard: Jeremiah Brandt

EMERGENCY PERSONNEL: Fire/EMS- Jerre Atchison, Tom Beshoar, Kevin Biffar, Breanna Bingel, Savannah Cowell, Chad Crafton, Steven Falkenhain, Chad Grohmann, Curt Guebert, Jason Guebert, Scot Heller, Blake Koppel, Chad Langrehr, Matt Liefer, Kevin Miller, Alan Piel, Jason Rippelmeyer, Brad Stechmesser, John Valentine, Mike VanDorn, Tanner Winkelman; Police- Abigail Browne, Ralph Sievers, Chris Hewitt, Nick Mounts, Doug Brennan, Jason Roscow, Aaron Runge.

+the 40th wedding anniversary of Bob and Joyce Carnahan on May 6
 +thanksgiving for the 30 years of preschool teaching of Cindy Steele
 +those who mourn: the families of David Burgdorf and Ralph Henry
 +favorable weather for farming and safety in the fields

OFFERTORY: pages 192-193

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir-it with-in me.

Cast me not a-way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it from me.

**Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it.
A-men.**

The 10:30 a.m. service concludes with a Closing Prayer, Benediction and Hymn 739.

P: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

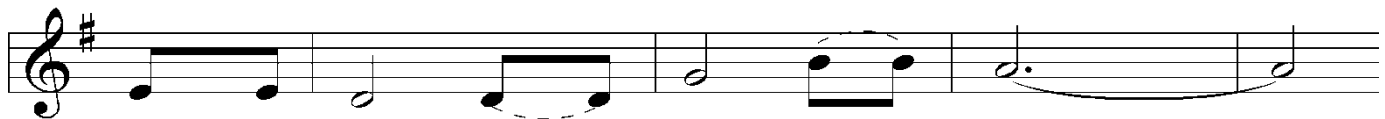
P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and (+) give you peace.

C: (*sung*) **A-men, a-men, a-men.**

CLOSING HYMN: 739 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"



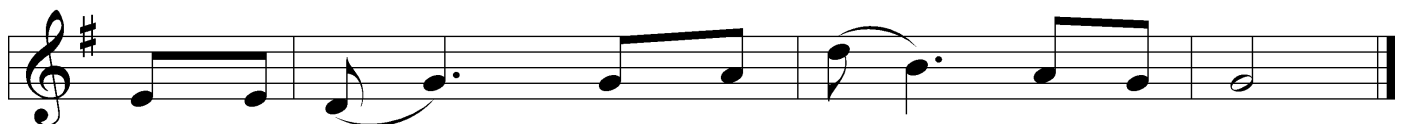
1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
When my life is al - most gone,
And the day is al - most gone,



Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,



Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

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(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.) **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT:** page 194ff.

P The Lord be with you. C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. **C** It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: (*sung*)

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo-ry.

Ho-san-na, ho-san-na, ho-san-na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san-na, ho-san-na, ho-san-na in the high-est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Pastor prays the prayer; congregation sings the Doxology*)
 ...For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glor-ry for-ev-er and ev-er. **A-men.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD AND THE PAX DOMINI

P: ...The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C:** (*sung*) **A-men.**

AGNUS DEI (*sung*)

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est away the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A-men. (*please be seated*)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: (*please be seated*)

829 "Christ the Eternal Lord"



1 Christ the e - ter - nal Lord, Whose prom - ise here we claim,
 2 Christ the un - chang - ing Word To ev - 'ry pass - ing age,
 3 Christ the re - deem - ing Son, Who shares our hu - man birth,
 4 Christ the un - fad - ing Light Of ev - er - last - ing day,



Whose gifts of grace are free-ly poured On all who name Your name;
 Whose time-less teach-ings still are heard Set forth on Scrip-ture's page;
 And by His death sal - va - tion won For ev - 'ry child of earth;
 Our Morn-ing Star in splen-dor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;



With thank - ful - ness and praise We stand be - fore Your throne,
 Trans - form our thought and mind, En - light - en all who read,
 In - spire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love a - broad,
 That light of truth You give To ser - vants as to friends,



In - tent to serve You all our days And make Your glo - ry known.
 With - in Your Word by faith to find The bread of life in - deed.
 That all may hon - or Christ to - day And fol - low Him as Lord.
 Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth's brief jour-ney ends.

5 Christ the ascended King Exalted high above,
 Whose praise unending ages sing, Whom yet unseen we love;
 When mortal life is past Your voice from heaven's throne
 Shall call Your children home at last To know as we are known.

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722 "Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
 For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
 I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



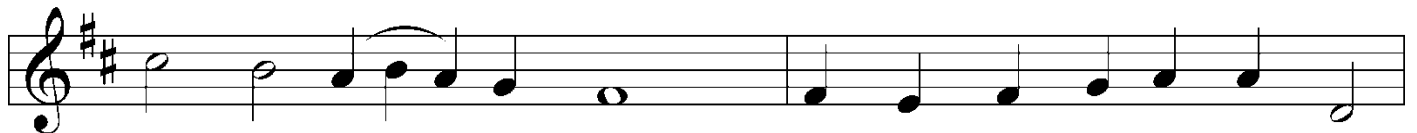
So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
 For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
 So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

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633 “At the Lamb’s High Feast” (*please stand for the last stanza, sing “A-men”*)



1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death’s dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael’s hosts tri - um - phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;
 You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

Please stand if you are able

8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia! A-men.

NUNC DIMITTIS: "Song of Simeon" pages 199-200 (*please stand if you are able*)
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de-part in peace ac-cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre-pared before the face of all people, a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

THANKSGIVING

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C (*sung*) **and His mercy endureth for-ev-er.**

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C (*sung*) **Amen.**

SALUTATION, BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P The Lord be with you. C (*sung*) **And with thy spir-it.**

P Bless we the Lord. C (*sung*) **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and (+) give you peace.

C (*sung*) **A-men, a-men, a-men.**

CLOSING HYMN: 739 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 When my life is al - most gone,
 And the day is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
 Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
 At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

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THE POSTLUDE: “Christ Is Our Cornerstone” *arranged by Benjamin M. Culli*

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This Week With Our Lord, May 7-14, 2023

SUNDAY, May 7-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth and Adult Bible Classes

10:30 a.m. Divine Service

Noon Senior Youth gather in their church basement hangout

Noon Cindy Steele Retirement Dinner (by invitation)

1-3 p.m. Cindy Steele Retirement Open House (old gym)

Monday, May 8- Grades 2 & 3 field trip to Science Center

9-11 a.m. David Burgdorf visitation at church; 11 a.m. funeral

3:15 p.m. Faculty meeting in the school library

7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the school music room

Tuesday, May 9-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service at Red Bud Care Center

5:00 p.m. Board of Parish Education meeting in school library

6:30 p.m. Worship Committee meets in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 10-

8:30 a.m. School Chapel service at church with Pastor Nowak

9 a.m. to Noon Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

3:00 p.m. Office Staff meeting

7:30 p.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall (1st Chronicles)

Thursday, May 11- Grades Kdg-1 field trip to St. Louis Zoo

7:15 a.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall (Matthew)

1:00 p.m. Sight Ministries Center in Baldwin

6:30 p.m. Men's Club Gathering & Fish Fry in the church garage

Friday, May 12-

8:30 a.m. Early Childhood Chapel service at church

Saturday, May 13- Southern Illinois District Track Meet

9 a.m. to noon(ish) Junior Youth to SkyZone in Fairview Heights

5:00 p.m. Divine Service; Acolyte- Addy Schloemann

SUNDAY, May 14- Happy Mother's Day!

8:00 a.m. Divine Service; Acolyte- Brody Stellhorn

9:30 a.m. Adult and Youth Bible Classes and Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte- Olivia Candler

Grades 3-8 sing

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL:

+The flowers on one pedestal are given to the glory of God in honor of Mrs. Cindy's Steele's 30 years of faithful service as a teacher of St. John's Lutheran Preschool. We thank God for her dedicated service to her students and to her Lord!

+The flowers on the other pedestal are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for Olivia Schmitz' 80th confirmation anniversary, April 18, 1943, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Renault. They are a gift from her family.

+To have flowers in worship please call the office at 282-2394 to notify the committee and to have proper thanks in the bulletin of those donating.

HOLY BAPTISM:

We welcome Crew Scott Grohmann into the Body of Christ through the water and word of Holy Baptism in the late service on Sunday. He is the son of Nicholas and Emily (Hartman) Grohmann. His baptismal sponsors are Erick and Megan (Grohmann) Thien and Claire Grohmann. Thanks be to God for His gift of new and eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY:

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of St. John's member David Burgdorf who died in the Lord on Wednesday and will receive his Christian burial here Monday at 11 a.m. with visitation here from 9-11 a.m. Thanks be to God for His gift of life everlasting in our Lord Jesus Christ!

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Worship: 297; Communion: 233; Adult/Youth: 30; Sunday School: 29

And let us consider how to stir one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Heb. 10:24-25)

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN, WHATE'ER THE GIFT MAY BE:

We join together in the grace of giving. 4/30- General: \$10,166; School: \$75; Automatic Giving: 2,570. *Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2nd Cor. 9:7)*

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: LCMS Stewardship Resources

1st Peter 2:9 – “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.” God has called us to be His own. He has chosen us out of love, mercy, and sheer, divine joy. The apostle Peter says that God chose us so that we might share in His glory and “proclaim the excellencies of Him” who has made us His own. And truly, this is our delight! His joy brings joy to our hearts as well.

EPISTLES:

The May edition of our congregation’s newsletter, *The Epistle*, is in paper copy on the tables in the entryway. It also is on our website and has been sent by email to all those for whom Pastor as an email address.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Adult Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall meets Sunday from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. with Pastor Nebel leading the topic of “Eternal Election to Salvation.”

THE LUTHERAN HOUR: "Sojourn"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#) says that prosperity preachers promise health, wealth, and happiness--but that's not what Christians should expect (1st Peter 2:11-12). Listen on KFUE AM 850 Sundays at 12:30 & 5 p.m. or on Bott Christian Radio Sundays at 8 a.m. on KSIV 1320AM or 91.5FM.

CINDY STEELE RETIREMENT CONGRATULATIONS:

This Sunday, May 7, we are observing the upcoming retirement of our Pre-School teacher Cindy Steele after 30 years of teaching at St. John’s. There is an invitation-only dinner from noon to 1 p.m. in the school’s old gym followed by an Open House with cake and cookies from 1-3 p.m. All school children are invited to sing at 1:15 p.m. A stained-glass window has been put up in the main lobby of the school in honor of her great service to St. John’s.

CLASS NOTES: from DCE Bill Becker

+The 8th Grade class of 2023 thanks all who supported our fundraisers these past few years! Without your support our recent class trip east would not have been as successful! A special thanks to the many dedicated parents who organized these fundraisers and made things happen!

+The 5th grade class thanks all those who made our recent Euchre tournament, SLAM catered lunch concessions, and Ted Drewes sales so successful.

WEEKDAY BIBLE CLASSES IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:

Wednesday Women meet at 9:30 a.m. Their topic is Deb Burma’s recent book, “Be Still and Know” (cost is \$21). Wednesday’s class on 1st Chronicles meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursday’s class

on Matthew meets at 7:15 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast next meets on Saturday, May 20 to study "Proverbs: God's Ancient Wisdom for Our Modern Living."

KINDERGARTEN SCREENING:

Screening for Kindergarten students for 2023-24 school year will be on May 24-25. Please call our school office to schedule an appointment for your child on those dates. Thank you!

CALLING ALL GRADUATES:

Please contact our church office (282-2394) with the names of St. John's members who have graduated or are graduating from any level of education this school year. We will highlight them in our own graduation service folder, in a weekend worship folder and in our June *Epistle*.

ADULT INSTRUCTION:

Those who are interested in learning the doctrines of the Christian faith as taught in the Lutheran Church are welcome to contact Pastor Nebel to take part in an information class leading to the Rite of Confirmation and communicant membership at St. John's for those who so desire. This class will meet once a week for 12 weeks based on the schedule of class members.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: *June 12-16, 9-11 a.m.*

"God's Living Water" is for those who finished 3-year-old preschool through 5th grade. No fee is required but donations are welcome. Questions can be directed to: Bill Becker (618-282-2958 cell#). Please signup using this link: <https://vbsmate.com/StJohnsRedBudIL>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

5/7- Sophia Zeiger; 5/8- Loren Harms (80th), Jason Hick, Henry Liefer, Lillian Guebert, Eve Guebert; 5/9- Wil Krick, Curtis Schrieber, Connor Liefer; 5/10- Joan Ruwald; 5/11- Kevin Hartmann, Danette Miller, James Ratz, Danielle Liefer, Henry Roy; 5/12- Alyce Niklich, Jesse Crafton, Noah Tepe; 5/13- Marlene Deterding, Meike Hoock, Jackie Quintin, Carla Hess, Jackson Muench, Alexa Cheek, Coral Hess, Henry Veath. *Call our office with corrections!*

CONGRATULATIONS:

+St. John's member and Red Bud High School senior Aubrey Piel was student of the month for March, nominated for her helpfulness, kindness and dependability.

+St. John's members and Red Bud High School seniors Carlyne Mulherin, Madison Falkenheim and junior Dustin Salger were on the court for last Saturday's prom.

PARISH NURSE NOTE: from LCMS *Better Health- Food for Thought:*

Asparagus contains potassium, an important nutrient for managing blood pressure by reducing the negative impact of sodium.

CASEY'S REWARDS:

Cash for Classrooms- When you shop at Casey's using its rewards program you can donate your points to our St. John's school. Thank you for this!

THE PRAYER CHAIN:

Vickie Heller is our Prayer Chain Coordinator. To serve in the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please contact her at dvheller@htc.net or 618/521-7417. Call our office to add someone to our worship prayers. *Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective (James 5:16).*

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH CONFINED IN-HOME:

Wil Guebert, Don/Betty Fausz, Nancy Holmstrom, Rick Horrell, Joyce Lopez, Ed Luttmann, Edna Moeller, Viola Muench, Harold Thies, John/Eunice Wiatr.

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT:

Red Bud Care Center: Alice Smith, Jody Winkelmann; Ruma R&R: Kenny/Geri Koester; Waterloo Magnolia Terrace: June Lawrence, Jean Menke; Randolph County Nursing Home: Don Kueker

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT GARDEN PLACE:

Kathryn Chunn, Elaine Guebert, Margaret Hanebutt, Dorothy Heizer, Omer/Neva Liefer, Vernon Muench, Lorine Reinhardt, Paul Schrieber, Arlin/Helen Winkelmann, Carl/Flo Zschiegner

OPEN HOUSES IN ST. JOHN'S FELLOWSHIP HALL:

+On Saturday, May 20, 2-4 p.m. we will celebrate Carl and Flo Zschiegner's 65th wedding anniversary which they will observe on May 11. In lieu of gifts, please share a note of your fond memories with this couple.

+On Sunday, May 21, the 80th birthday of Loren Harms will be celebrated from 2-4 p.m. No gifts please. Your presence is the only present requested.

LIFE THOUGHTS: (from Lutherans for Life) www.lutheransforlife.org

The God of the Scriptures displays a decided preference for precisely the kind of lives our world despises. He devotes particular attention to infants and elderly persons (Psalm 146:9), with no thought for who might find them "unwanted" or "burdensome." He would even have us emulate their dependency upon Him (1st Peter 2:2). And He invites us to know this – and make it known – as real life (John 14:6).

LCMS FOUNDATION:

Can my estate plans change over time? The answer is yes! The family to whom you choose to share God's gifts in inheritance and the ministries you look to support with God's gifts are always evolving. It is best practice to look over your plan for gifting regularly, at least every five years, to see how your intent may have changed. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor Scott Radden can help. Contact him by calling his cell phone at 618-977-4049 or by emailing scott.radden@lfnd.org.

ISSUES, ETC.:

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Vocation of Elder; The U.S. Constitution & Natural Law; C.F.W. Walther's Law & Gospel Theses; The Marks of the Church and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:

KFUO Radio AM 850 & kfuo.org, a media ministry of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you on AM 850 & kfuo.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get podcasts! Find us on social media @KFUO.org, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This week on KFUE, begin studying the book of Revelation on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), continue studying 1 Samuel 8-12 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.),

and study the history of the Book of Concord on Concord Matters (5/13 at 10:00 a.m.). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org and the KFUE Radio app!

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL- 618/853-7300

End of the School Year Activities: Help us celebrate our seniors, Gwenyth Turner and Dillon Grah! Graduation will be May 19 at 7:00 p.m. in our gym.

Positions Available: COS is looking for an administrator and teachers who have interest in math, science, English, social studies, theology, P.E. music, and/or foreign language. We currently have flexibility in the exact areas of instruction. Full and part-time positions are available. All staff must uphold the doctrine and practice of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in teaching and in life. If you are interested, please email your resume to office@coslhs.org. If you have questions call 618-853-7300.

Registration for 2023-2024 is open! If you have or know a high school age student, encourage them to consider COSLHS. Call 618-853-7300 to schedule a tour. Download a registration form from our website, www.coslhs.org.

The mission of Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School is to provide a Christ-centered and academically excellent education.

St. John's Lutheran Church – LCMS 508 Bloom Street, Red Bud, Illinois

Church Office & School: 808 S Main Street 618/282-3873 Fax 618/282-4087

E-mail: office@stjohnsredbud.org Web address: www.stjohnsredbud.org

Senior Pastor Mark Nebel 618/237-5802 or home 618/282-3050

Associate Pastor Brian Nowak 708/369-7741

Principal – Mr. Justin Palm 618/214-1103

Director of Parish Music – Mrs. Lindsey Hudak 618/340-6055

Director of Christian Education/School Librarian–Mr. Bill Becker 618/282-2958

Secretaries – Mrs. Leslie Froemling and Mrs. Sara Shepherd

Senior Youth – Kirk and Stephanie Liefer 618/967-0804

Matthew Foster, Principal, Christ Our Savior Lutheran High, 618/853-7300

Faculty and Staff

Preschool – Cindy Steele Kindergarten – Betty Schmitz

Aides: Nola Jean Vallett, Shawn DeRousse, and Elizabeth Schaefer

First Grade – Rachel Miller Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade and Junior Youth – Stephanie Valleroy

Fourth Grade and Before/After School Care – Cindy Nebel

Fifth Grade – Amanda Ruhmann Resource Teacher – Judy Stephens

Sixth Grade Homeroom (6th-8th) – Doreen Schnepel

Seventh Grade Homeroom (6th-8th) – Nancy Whelan

Eighth Grade Homeroom: Bill Becker Athletic Director – Scott Voss

School Custodians – Wil Krick and Bob Schramm

Cooks – Jill Gross and Marilyn Oettle

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher/Liturgist: Pastor Mark Nebel

Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

Lector: (*Saturday*) DCE Bill Becker; (*Sunday*) Seminarian Lucas Frauenhoff

Acolytes: (*5 p.m.*) Olivia Valleroy; (*8 a.m.*) Eve Schwartzkopf; (*10:30 a.m.*) Maya Macbeth

Greeters: (*5 p.m.*) Ron and Diane Kunkelmann; (*8 a.m.*) Olivia Schmitz and Cindy Steele; (*10:30 a.m.*)

Gerald and Jill Hanebutt

Video: Eric Fritsche/Justin Palm Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

Flower Servers: Vernitta Wolter and Pam Stellhorn Paraments: Ella Hemmer