

Never Alone

It is not over. Easter is not over. Christ's mission is not over. Peace and pardon are not over. Even as we gather to commemorate the ascension of our Lord, nothing ends today. It is not as if Christ ascends to heaven and takes all His blessings with Him! This world remains forever marked by His grace and love. And now, reigning over all things, our ascended Lord intercedes for us at His Father's right hand. Christ remains present for us in His Word and Sacraments, and Christ's Body, the church, continues the joyful proclamation that Christ is risen, and indeed, He is coming again!

PRELUDE: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

arranged by John A. Behnke

THE RINGING OF THE BELL calls us to holy worship.

OPENING HYMN:

"Up through Endless Ranks of Angels" (*LSB 491, please stand for last stanza*)



1 Up through end - less ranks of an - gels, Cries of tri - umph
2 Death - de - stroy - ing, life - re - stor - ing, Prov - en e - qual
3 To our lives of wan - ton wan - d'ring Send Your Spir - it,
△ 4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to breathe the



in His ears, To His heav'n - ly throne as - cend - ing,
to our need, Now for us be - fore the Fa - ther
prom - ised guide; Through our lives of fear and fail - ure
Spir - it's grace! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Hav - ing van - quished all their fears, Christ looks down up -
As our broth - er in - ter - cede; Flesh that for our
With Your pow'r and love a - bide; Wel - come us, as
Oh, to see the Fa - ther's face! Al - le - lu - ia,



on His faith - ful, Leav - ing them in hap - py tears.
world was wound - ed, Liv - ing, for the wound - ed plead!
You were wel - comed, To an end - less Eas - ter - tide.
al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to feel the Son's em - brace!

INVOCATION:

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES:

Psalm 141:1-2

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: O Lord, I call upon You; hasten to me!

C: Give ear to my voice when I call to You!

P: Let my prayer be counted as incense before You,

C: and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

Philippians 2:1-11

P: Blessed Lord God, King of the universe, You rule and reign over all things.

C: And yet, we arrogantly elevate ourselves above others and above You.

P: You sent Your Son, Jesus, as a model of humility, as a servant of all.

C: And yet, we neglect the needs of others and prioritize our interests above Yours.

P: Jesus became human like us in all respects.

C: And yet, we refuse to see others' struggles, withholding our affection and sympathy.

P: Christ offered Himself as our substitute, giving His very life for us.

C: And yet, we stubbornly and selfishly hoard our gifts from others and from You.

P: Now exalted above all things, it is at the name of Jesus that every knee should bow.

C: And yet, it's our heart's sinful condition to seek its own glory.

Pause for silent reflection

P: We confess our sins:

C: Forgive our sins, O Lord. Make our ambitions model those of our Savior, Jesus, that our words and deeds might confess that He is Lord, to the glory of Your name. Amen.

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, having all authority in heaven and on earth, has given Himself for you. Bearing the marks of His sacrifice in His own body, He has made a place for you in eternal glory, declaring your sins forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

INTROIT:

Psalm 110:1, 4-5; antiphon: Psalm 47:5

P: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

C: The Lord says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

P: The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

C: The Lord is at your right hand;

P: he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

KYRIE: (*spoken*)

C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

“Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus” (*LSB 529*)



1 Since our great High Priest, Christ Je - sus, Bears the name a -
2 Since we have a priest who suf - fered, Know - ing weak - ness,
3 Sac - ri - fice and suf - f'ring o - ver, Now He sits at
4 Love's ex - am - ple, hope's at - trac - tion, Faith's be - gin - ning



bove all names, Reign - ing Son of God, sur - pass - ing
tears, and pain, Who like us was tried and tempt - ed,
God's right hand, Crowned with praise, no more an out - cast,
and its end, Pi - o - neer of our sal - va - tion,



Oth - er ti - tles, pow'rs and claims— Since to heav'n our
Un - like us, with - out a stain— Since He shared our
His pre - em - i - nence long - planned; Such a great High
Might-y ad - vo - cate and friend; Je - sus, high in



Lord has passed, Let us hold our wit - ness fast!
low - ly place, Let us bold - ly seek His grace.
Priest we have, Strong to help, su - preme to save.
glo - ry raised, Our as - cend - ed Lord be praised!

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: **O** ascended Lord Jesus, You promise to not leave Your disciples as orphans, for as You ascended into heavenly glory, so You shall return. Meet us here also in Word and Sacrament, that we might never doubt Your presence nor our place in Your eternal kingdom, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ANTHEM: (*8 a.m.*) “Nations, Clap Your Hands”

Choir

1. *Nations, clap your hands; shout with joy, you lands! Awesome is the Lord; spread His fame abroad. He rules ev'ry land with a mighty hand. God brings nations low; He subdues each foe. From His mighty throne, God protects His own. Our inheritance is our sure defense.*

2. *God goes up on high with a joyful cry, with a mighty shout; people sing it out! Let your voices bring praises to our King. Praise Him with a song; praise with heart and tongue; Praise with ev'ry skill; praise with heart and will. God rules all the earth; magnify His worth.*
3. *God reigns over all rulers, great and small. Leaders of the world, servants of the Lord, Rally round His throne, He is God alone. Sing before Him now, in His presence bow. God of Abraham! God of ev'ry land! Worship and adore God forevermore.*

FIRST READING:

Acts 1:1–11

(As He ascends to heaven, Jesus instructs the disciples to anticipate the coming Holy Spirit.)

P: ¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL:

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

P: Christ has risen from the dead.

C: [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

P: He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

C: he has put all things under his feet.

EPISTLE:

Ephesians 1:15–23

(Paul rejoices in those who have been embraced within the story of the risen, ascended, and reigning Christ.)

P: ¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“Crown Him with Many Crowns” (LSB 525)



1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;
 2 Crown Him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born,
 3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Be - hold His hands and side,
 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave
 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove,



Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.
 Whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won Which now His brow a-dorn:
 Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save.
 Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And
 Fruit of the mys - tic rose, Yet of that rose the stem, The
 No an - gels in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But
 His glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who
 Crown Him with man - y crowns As thrones be - fore Him fall; Crown



hail Him as thy match-less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem.
 down-ward bend their won-d'ring eyes At mys - ter - ies so bright.
 died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.
 Him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He is king of all.

SERMON

OFFERTORY:

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” (LSB 549, vs. 1 & 5)



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
 5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get The worm-wood and the gall,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

HEALING AND COMFORT: David Blankenship, Margaret Hanebutt, Brendan Harms, Ruth Hecht, Beth Kilpatrick, Rev. Russell Koen, Barbara Korves, Kortney Moll, Norma Preston, Joan Prigge, Mary Schultz, Eugene Stamm, Bennett Wright, Trudy Woolbright; *Family/Friends of St. John’s Members:* Andy Amann, Allana Chamness, Mary Gibson, Virgil Gramenz, Shirley Hartmann, Gerald Hitzemann, Andrea Kuehner, Izzy McDermott, Tyson Moonier, Virgil Palm, Ron Pflueger, Ted Stellhorn, Milton Theobald III, Matthew Vallett, Amy Winkelman, Roger Womack.

MILITARY: Army- Zachary Beyer, Casey Vallett, Brandon Voss, Adrienne Vallett, Easton Lucht, Chase Lucht, Ethan Summers, Tim Healy, Jacob Adams, Donald Roberts, Matthew Kraus, Paul Craft, Jr., Austin Scheibe, Jessica DeMarco, Christopher Dupertius, Garrett Carnahan, Tyler Wahlman, Gavin Roche-Voss; Navy- Carl Muehler, Abbey Vallett; Air Force- Gage Baldwin, Jason Nehrt, Curt Hatten, David Livingston, Matt Sabo, Ryan Kozarich; Marines- Alex Renner, Cody Koch, Josh Butterworth, Keenan Turnure, Austin Grohmann; National Guard: Jeremiah Brandt; U.S. Coast Guard: Brock Earl

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

- ✠those who have graduated or are graduating from any level of school
- ✠favorable weather for farming and safety in the fields
- ✠for Nathan Koen (and his family) being deployed to Alaska in June for a year

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE AND PROPER PREFACE:

(LSB 160)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS: *“Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious” (LSB 495, vs. 1-2)*



1 Look, ye saints, the sight is glo - rious; See the Man of
2 Crown the Sav - ior! An - gels, crown Him! Rich the tro - phies



Sor - rows now! From the fight re - turned vic - to - rious,
Je - sus brings; On the seat of pow'r en - throne Him



Ev - 'ry knee to Him shall bow. Crown Him! Crown Him!
While the vault of heav - en rings. Crown Him! Crown Him!



Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crowns be - come the
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown the Sav - ior



vic - tor's brow. Crowns be - come the vic - tor's brow.
King of kings. Crown the Sav - ior King of kings.

LORD'S PRAYER:

(LSB 162)

C: **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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD AND THE PAX DOMINI:*(LSB 209)*

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **A-men.**

AGNUS DEI:*"Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious" (LSB 495, vs. 3)*


3 Sin - ners in de - ri - sion crowned Him, Mock - ing thus the
Sav - ior's claim; Saints and an - gels crowd a - round Him,
Own His ti - tle, praise His name. Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Spread a - broad the
vic - tor's fame. Spread a - broad the vic - tor's fame.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

Anthem: (8 a.m.) "Jesus, My All, to Heaven Has Gone" Choir

1. *Jesus, my all, to heav'n is gone, He whom I fix my hopes upon;
His track I see, and I'll pursue the narrow way, till Him I view.
The way the holy prophets went, the road that leads from banishment,
The King's highway of holiness, I'll go, for all His paths are peace.*
2. *Lo! Glad I come; and Thou, blest Lamb, shalt take me to Thee, as I am;
Nothing but sin have I to give, Nothing but love shall I receive.
Then will I tell to sinners round, what a dear Savior I have found;
I'll point to Thy redeeming blood, and say, "Behold the way to God." Amen*

“

“See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph” (LSB 494)



1 See, the Lord as - cends in tri - umph; Con - qu'ring King in
2 Who is this that comes in glo - ry With the trump of
3 While He lifts His hands in bless - ing, He is part - ed
4 Now our heav'n - ly Aar - on en - ters With His blood with -
5 He has raised our hu - man na - ture On the clouds to



roy - al state, Rid - ing on the clouds, His char - iot, To His
ju - bi - lee? Lord of bat - tles, God of ar - mies, He has
from His friends; While their ea - ger eyes be - hold Him, He up -
in the veil; Josh - ua now is come to Ca - naan, And the
God's right hand; There we sit in heav'n - ly plac - es, There with



heav'n - ly pal - ace gate. Hark! The choirs of an - gel voic - es
gained the vic - to - ry. He who on the cross did suf - fer,
on the clouds as - cends. He who walked with God and pleased Him,
kings be - fore Him quail. Now He plants the tribes of Is - rael
Him in glo - ry stand. Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels;



Joy - ful al - le - lu - ias sing, And the por - tals
He who from the grave a - rose, He has van - quished
Preach - ing truth and doom to come, He, our E - noch,
In their prom - ised rest - ing place; Now our great E -
Man with God is on the throne. By our might - y



high are lift - ed To re - ceive their heav'n - ly King.
sin and Sa - tan; He by death has crushed His foes.
is trans - lat - ed To His ev - er - last - ing home.
li - jah of - fers Dou - ble por - tion of His grace.
Lord's as - cen - sion We by faith be - hold our own.

“A Hymn of Glory Let us Sing” (LSB 493, please stand for last stanza)



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, “Why
 4 “You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up



hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,
 on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia,
 stand and gaze up - on the sky?” Al - le - lu - ia,
 to the por - tals of the sky.” Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
 al - le - lu - ia! And with His faith - ful fol - l’wers
 al - le - lu - ia! “This is the Sav - ior,” thus they
 al - le - lu - ia! “Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall



trod, As - cends un - to the throne of
 see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -
 say; “This is His glo - rious tri - umph
 see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 day!” Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty.” Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



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

5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
 And be our future great reward. Alleluia, alleluia!
 Then, throned with You forever, we
 Shall praise Your name eternally.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
 All praise to You let earth accord: Alleluia, alleluia!
 You are, while endless ages run,
 With Father and with Spirit one.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: “*Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious*” (LSB 495, vs. 4)

4 Hark, those bursts of ac - cla - ma - tion! Hark, those loud tri -
 umphant chords! Je - sus takes the high - est sta - tion;
 Oh, what joy the sight af - fords! Crown Him! Crown Him!
 Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! King of kings and
 Lord of lords! King of kings and Lord of lords!

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING:

P: Let us pray: O Father of glory, we praise You for enlightening the eyes of our hearts through the Supper of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us cling to the immeasurable greatness of Your power toward us who believe, that we might attain the riches of His glorious inheritance among the saints, with faith for this age, and hope for the age to come; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who rules and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION:

Psalm 47:5–6, 8; 1 Thessalonians 5:23–24

P: God has gone up with a shout!

C: Christ died, Christ is risen, Christ shall come again.

P: Sing praises to our King, sing praises,

C: for God sits on His holy throne.

P: Now may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

C: Amen.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CLOSING HYMN:

“On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build” (LSB 492)



1 On Christ’s as - cen - sion I now build The hope of my as -
2 Since Christ re - turned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me ob -
3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing Your as -



cen - sion; This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled All doubt and
tain - ing, My heart will rest in Him a - lone, No oth - er
cen - sion, That I may serve You faith - ful - ly In thanks for



ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the Head is, there as well I
rest re - main - ing; For where my trea - sure went be - fore, There
my re - demp - tion; And then, when all my days will cease, Let



know His mem - bers are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.
all my thoughts will ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.
me de - part in joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

POSTLUDE: “On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build”

arranged by Benjamin M. Culli

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This Week with Our Lord, May 17-24, 2026

SUNDAY, May 17- *Ascension Day Observed*

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday School

LSA Track Meet

Monday, May 18- *Last Day of School – 11:00 a.m. Dismissal*

8:30 a.m. All School Chapel

7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting in Library

Tuesday, May 19- *Pastor Winkelman’s day off*

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

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

12:00 p.m. Volunteer Luncheon at School

6:00 p.m. Evening Guild Gathering at 1860 Public House

6:00 p.m. Bible Recap Class in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 20-

9:00 a.m. to Noon Quilting in Fellowship Hall

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

6:30 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

Thursday, May 21-

3:15 p.m. Office Staff Meeting

Class of 2028 Yard Sale Begins

Friday, May 22- ***June Epistle Articles Due!!***

Saturday, May 23- ***Day of Pentecost Observed***

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Aubrey Valleroy

Class of 2028 Yard Sale Ends

SUNDAY, May 24- ***Day of Pentecost Observed***

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Henry Schnepel

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion; Acolyte – Amelia Cheek

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

May 9-10: Worship: 375; Communion: 80; Adult Bible Classes: 38; Sun. School: 33

May 12-13: Women's Bible Study: 12; Bible Recap: 16; All School Chapel: 236

May 13: Worship: 8; Communion: 7; May 15: *No Chapel*

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

We join together in the grace of giving. 5/10/26- General: \$24,245.00; School: \$5,230.00.

ELECTRONIC OFFERINGS:

Did you know that we do electronic funds transfer from your account to ours on a bi-weekly or monthly basis? It's a simple process! Complete the form with your contribution request and we'll do that for you. Those can be changed at any time, that works best for you, just contact the office with any changes. Feel free to pick up a form in church or school office. Please have completed form(s) turned into the office.

PASTOR MARK ON VACATION:

From Monday, May 25-Sunday, June 7th, Pastor Mark will be on vacation. If you have need of pastoral care during these days, please contact Pastor Nowak.

EVENING GUILD GATHERING:

Evening Guild Gathering, **Tuesday, May 19** at 6:00 p.m. We will gather at the 1860 Public House Restaurant, Red Bud, in the Texaco Room for a Dutch Treat dinner. Everyone will order from the menu. Guests & husbands are welcome. Join us for an evening of fellowship.

CALLING ALL GRADUATES:

Please contact our office with the names of St. John's members who are graduating from any level of school this year. We will include them in the June Epistle.

FLOWERS IN CHANCEL:

✠ To have flowers in worship please call the office at 618-282-2394 to notify the committee and to have proper thanks in the bulletin of those donating.

BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER:

To celebrate Pastor Mark Winkelman's birthday on **Tuesday, June 2**, please send him a birthday card to him at school or at church in the Narthex. We are blessed that Pastor Mark is our shepherd here at St. John's. Happy birthday, Pastor Mark!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

5/17- Kimberly Valentine, Madison Pensoneau, Carson Bowles; 5/18- Megan Rohlfing, Stacia Clifford, Wyatt Clifford; 5/19- Joyce Mesnarich, Candace Horrell, Julia Tribo; 5/20- Robert Turner Jr., Dylan Minemann; 5/21- Denis VanBuren, John Tepe, Kevin Florreich, Trenton Wagner, Paxton Hoffman; 5/22- Sandra Mueth, Janet Papenberg, Kent Liefer; 5/23- Brendan Harms, Ellessandria Sutton, Henry Schnepel.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY THIS SUMMER:

Women's Bible Study this summer starts on **Wednesday, June 3 @ 9:30a.m.** For more details and a free copy of Donna Snow's study text or call Chris Doerr @ 618-343-5329 or email chrisdoerr9@gmail.com.

SONSHINE:

Sonshine Visits Meeting, **Sunday, June 14th** at 12 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Refreshments to be served.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

We will be hosting VBS **June 15-19, 2026**, from 9-11 a.m. at school under the theme of Tropical Trek: Jesus Comes to Seek and Save. We invite all students ages 3-10 to join us for a weeklong journey featuring Bible lessons, crafts, music, snacks, and games! Many helpers are also needed to make our week of VBS a success. Register your child(ren) today, and if you want to volunteer, use the link below for both registrations.

Link: <https://vbsmate.com/StJohnsRedBudIL>

KOEN FAMILY MOVING:

Dear St. Johns Family: The LORD called us to serve Him at St. Johns Red Bud in 2001. We moved here with our family of four teenage boys. Our youngest was confirmed at St. Johns in 2002. Three of our sons graduated from Red Bud High School. Two of our sons were married at St. Johns. Our five grandchildren were baptized here as well as our great niece and nephew. God has also blessed us with five step-grandchildren. God has greatly blessed our family here in Red Bud. God has also greatly blessed us through His ministry to the members of St. Johns. He blessed us through the loving, caring members, people who will live in our hearts forever.

At this time, as most of you already know, we are preparing to move to Arnold MO. In this new adventure for us God will provide us with new and different ways to serve Him.

This move is bittersweet; leaving the first home we ever owned - our granddaughter's childhood home and leaving friends and relationships that have grown during my eighteen and a half years of ministry here at St. Johns. These twenty five years of living here in Red Bud have gone by quickly.

God has blessed St. Johns with a Biblically sound, faithful Pastor in Reverend Mark Winkelman. We pray you continue to support and take care of this faithful servant of God. We thank God for you; your friendship, your support, your faithfulness to God. We will continue to keep you in our hearts and prayers. God's continued blessings!

Pastor and Lauri Koen

THANK YOU:

I would like to express my gratitude for the wonderful retirement party I experienced on Sunday. Thank you to the committee that planned it. The meal, decorations and program, made the day so special for me. I appreciate everyone who was able to attend. Thank you to everyone for the words of congratulations, cards and gifts. The Lord has blessed me by allowing me to teach His children here at St. John's for 32 years. I praise and thank Him. My cup overflows. *Mrs. Schmitz*

ELDER ZONES FOR 2026-2027: (Chairman, Stuart Langrehr)

Zone 1: D. Adams thru R. Collins- Elder David Reinhardt (618/967-7967)

Zone 2: S. Conboy thru D/K Grohmann- Elder Louis Stellhorn (618/623-8495)

Zone 3: N/E Grohmann thru R/K Herriman-Elder Ron Liefer (618/282-3950)

Zone 4: R. Herriman thru T/E Krick- Elder Gerald Hanebutt (618/317-4574)

Zone 5: W/M Krick thru J. Maes- Elder Kollin Liefer (618/830-7140)

Zone 6 : P. Malik thru L. Pensoneau- Elder Stuart Langrehr (618/304-5082)

Zone 7: A/A Piel thru D. Schrader- Elder Kirk Liefer (618/282-8228)

Zone 8: J/D Schrader thru B/C Turner- Elder Michael Schnepel (618/363-9575)

Zone 9: D/K Uffelmann – A. Zeller- Elder Tyson Russell (618/612-6227)

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 AT:

Addington Place-Sparta: Kathryn Chunn; Oak Hill-Waterloo: Jean Menke, Martha Rohlfing, Jody Winkelmann; Magnolia Terrace-Waterloo: June Lawrence; Cedarhurst of Tesson Heights: Ruth Hecht; Freeburg Care Center: Dorothy Byers, Margaret Hanebutt.

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH AT GARDEN PLACE:

Columbia: Pat Byer, Earl (Wayne) Ellner; Red Bud: Elaine Guebert, Alice Hick, Omer & Neva Liefer, Vernon Muench, Lorna Schneider, Esther Williams, Helen Winkelman

PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH CONFINED IN-HOME:

Don & Betty Fausz, Nancy Holmstrom, LuAnn & Rick Liefer, Joyce Lopez, Trudy Woolbright.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR: “Don’t Despise Small Beginnings”

Our small efforts to become the people Jesus saved us to be might seem insignificant, but small efforts compound. (Acts 1:14) Listen on KFUE AM 850 Sundays at 12:30 & 5 p.m., on Bott Christian Radio Sundays at 8 a.m. on KSIV 1320AM or 91.5FM or on Sirius XM Family Talk 131 Sundays at 9 a.m.

LCMS MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE:

To all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God. (John 1:12)

KFUE AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:

We're continuing our study of select Psalms on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m.)! This week, we'll take a look at Psalms 108, 116, 117, 121, and 12. On Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m.), we're diving into the book of Romans! Tune in as we unpack chapters 1-3. Don't forget to join us for Concord Matters this Saturday (4/23 at 10 a.m.)! We're studying the Power and Primacy of the Pope—the public confession of the Church matters!

LCMS FOUNDATION:

A good gift plan within an estate includes inheritance for family and gifts to ministry. Some might consider this a difficult task. How does an LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor help? You may be wishing to include a very deliberate spiritual focus to your plan. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor is a full member of the LCMS. They can discuss with you, pray with you, all with an eye toward uncovering God’s plan for great use of His gifts. Contact Scott Radden at scott.radden@lfnf.org or 618-977-4049.

LIFE THOUGHTS FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

In the Ascension of Christ, we behold the fulfillment of Psalm 47:5, “God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.” Knowing that the Lord Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God (Ephesians 1:20), where He rules all things for the good of His Church, gives us great comfort and assurance as we continue to advocate for those whose voices are being silenced by abortion. There will be a day of reckoning, when the Lord Jesus returns with the clouds in the same way as He once ascended into heaven (Acts 1:11). We thank God for the hope to which He has called us and pray for His Spirit of wisdom and enlightenment (Ephesians 1:17-18), that we may continue to speak the truth in love and call people to repentance, that they might receive the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ our Lord (Luke 24:46-47).

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: *LCMS Stewardship Resources*

Acts 1:11 – “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ is ascended, and Christ will come again. We live out our lives in this world in the sure confidence of the life to come. We live as people who know our Lord Jesus and who know that He is coming back. This knowledge makes all the difference in how we approach the things of this world.

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 Winkelman 815/499-1135

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. Sara Shepherd and Miss Cynthia Wilson

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

Junior Youth – Erin Kuehn 618/581-5928

Faculty and Staff

Preschool – Heather Nowak Kindergarten – Betty Schmitz

First Grade – Rachel Miller Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade – Stephanie Valleroy Fourth Grade – Monica Snyder

Fifth Grade – Amanda Ruhmann Resource Teacher – Lara Vause

Sixth Grade Homeroom – Doreen Schnepel Seventh Grade Homeroom – Nancy Whelan

Eighth Grade Homeroom: Kristin Sachtleben Jr High Science – Sara Shepherd

Athletic Director – Scott Voss Cooks – Catrena Heck and Marilyn Oettle

Before/After School Care – Courtney Schoenbeck

School Custodians – Wil Krick, Bob Schramm, Christian Stechmesser, and Cheryl Fehr

Day Care

Amanda Falkenhain, Director; Kellie Shields, Assistant Director; Amy Williams, Nicole Kadlec, Christy Deterding, Kristi Martel, Courtney Schoenbeck, Brittney Eichholz, Brooke Supancic, Pam Henry, Melissa Schilling, Kaitlin Schmitz, Madison Falkenhain, Kaitlyn Brown, Emma Trost, Madison Trask, Mycah Clements, Zandra Harless, Tori Muench, Molly Huether, Cailee Strong, Reagan Birkner, Olivia Noethen, and Danielle Schmitz.

Church Council

Chairman: Michael DeRousse Vice-Chairman: Kevin Guebert

Secretary: Joan Ruwald Treasurer: Connie Muench Board of Finance: Becky Biffar

Elder Chair: Stuart Langrehr Parish Education Chair: Jacob Arbeiter

Trustee Chair: Jeremy Voss Estate Fund Chair: Thomas Mulherin

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher/Liturgist: Rev. Mark Winkelman

Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak (8 a.m.) Lector: DCE Bill Becker

Acolytes: (5 p.m.) Claire Doeding; (8 a.m.) Lucy Kuehn; (10:30 a.m.) Lauren Mehring

Greeters: (5 p.m.) Stanley & Lynn Langrehr; (8 a.m.) Clyde & Kathy Rowold
(10:30 a.m.) Ron & Donna Burgdorf

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

Flower Servers: Cindy Ebers & Nola Vallett Paraments: Carol Turner