

# St. John Lutheran Church

Were not our hearts  
burning  
within us?

LUKE 24:32



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20260419-EAS3 ITEM014752 ELCA-K

# ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER • APRIL 19, 2026

## Reverent Reflection

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Church Announcements

## Confession and Forgiveness

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. Most merciful God,
- C. **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**
- Amen.**
- P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:** As We Gather At Your Table (#522)

## Apostolic Greeting

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

## Kyrie p. 147

- P. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**

- P. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.  
 C. **Lord, have mercy.**  
 P. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
 C. **Amen.**

### **Canticle p. 149**

- P. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.  
 C. **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**  
**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:  
 Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**  
**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**  
 P. The Lord be with you.  
 C. **And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

*O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

### **Word**

#### **First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>36</sup>“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19**

**Response: “I will call on the name of the Lord.”**

<sup>1</sup> I love the Lord, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup> **for the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup> The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called upon the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray you, save my life.” R**

<sup>12</sup> How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things God has done for me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God’s people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in your sight, O Lord, is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup> O Lord, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>17</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the Lord. R**

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people,

<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah! R**

## **Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation p. 151**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## **Gospel: Luke 24:13-35**

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." <sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

### Children's Sermon

## Anthem

### Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

### Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick (especially). Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal Light, we give thanks for (Olavus Petri, Laurentius Petri and) all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

### Sharing of the Peace

## Offering

## **Great Thanksgiving p. 152**

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 our thanks and praise.**

## **Preface p. 153**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Words of Institution**

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. p. 153**

## **Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray:

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## **Communion p. 154**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## **Distribution of Holy Communion**

**Communion Hymns:** Amazing Grace (#779)

Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us (#789)

Let Us Break Bread Together (#471))

## **Prayer after Communion**

## **Blessing**

**Sending Hymn:** Christ Is Risen. Alleluia (#382)

## **Dismissal**

## **Postlude**

**ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>**

*In Honor of Alexis Rappleye's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday! With Love, BePop and MeMom X O!*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:30 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service
	10:30 am	Band Rehearsal
	10:45 am	Sunday School/CIA
	11:15 am	Youth Chime/Vocal Choir
	11:30 am	Bell Choir ( <i>every other Sunday</i> )
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Thursday	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
Tuesday, May 5th	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Saturday, May 9th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building
Wednesday, May 13th	2:00 pm	Afternoon Tea in the Parish House Tea Room
Wednesday, May 20th	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room
Saturday, May 23rd	8:00 am	Craft Fair (Ed Building)/Yard Sale (Parish Grounds)
Sunday, May 31st	2:00 pm	Faith250 Workshop at First United Methodist Church

*Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.*

## PRAYER LIST

*Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:*

Jen Bailey	Tracey Drew	Ed Kagen	Renate Murray	Bill Steel
Krystal Booras	Indie Fisher	Tracey Kelly	Erica Polito	Carol Taylor
Michael Botti	Stephanie Friant	Carl Knopp	Samantha Reed	Henry Tesone
Brian Byrnes	Rhea Fryor	Deb Kuhn	Kimberly Rickert	Bill Todt
Meadow Cantoral	Ashley Fuhrman	Donna Leek	Ashley Rosser	George Vaneman, Sr.
Randy Cantoral	Bob Garner	Bob Lindamood	Dorcas Schellhas	George Van Wagner
Janet Cappuccio	Angela Guedes	Tim McCarthy	Jean Schlotz	Beverly Warming
Joe Condoli	Stan Harmer	Joanne McVelli	Finn Schureman	Mary White
Sandra DeRitis	Michelle Walk Hewitt	Melanie Miles	Gladys Sheppard	Helen Yezusko
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Kent Montford	Meilani Showell	Bob Zielsdorf
Frank Donovan	Makenzie Jack	Sue Murphy	Frank Siderio III	
Marie Lentine Douglas	Quincy Jones	Bill Murray	Eric Sprengel	

*Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.*

## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please leave payment in the Church Office.

## WORSHIP BULLETIN DEDICATION

The cost (\$23) of the Weekly Worship Bulletin to fully cover the cost of paper and printing is donated by Henry and Marie Fickenscher in memory of their loved ones.

This Worship Bulletin is printed on paper that is made with renewable resources from third-party certified, sustainably managed forests.

Please place any Worship Bulletins to be discarded in the recycle bin in the narthex.

## SAVE TIME . . . no need for checks or envelopes

ELCA-Endorsed Tithe.ly giving platform enables you to tithe online or using the app.

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# faith250

Sacred Bonds, Shared Hopes

**First United Methodist Church**  
**159 S. Main Street • Williamstown, NJ**  
**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> • 2:00 PM**

**Session #3 of 4**

**faith250** is 4 workshops hosted and facilitated by different clergy members of the ministerium. It is an American Scripture Project focused on "The Spiritual Side of American Democracy" using sacred, traditional Scripture along side American texts (i.e., The New Colossus, The Declaration of Independence, What to the Slave is the Fourth of July, and America the Beautiful).

## **BIBLE STUDY!**

**TUESDAY, MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>**  
**AT 7:00 PM IN**  
**THE PARISH HOUSE**  
**PLEASE JOIN US!**



## **COMMUNITY LUNCHEON**

**Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**11:30 in the Ed. Building**  
**All are welcome!**



*Afternoon Tea*  
*in the Parish Tea Room*  
*Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>*  
*at 2:00 pm*



## **GRIEF GATHERING**

**Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00 pm in the Parish House Tea Room**  
**All Are Welcome!**



**We are accepting donations of**  
**Shelf Stable Milk for Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.**  
**Donations in the form of cash or check will also be welcome.**

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - umphant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

# Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound 779

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

# Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

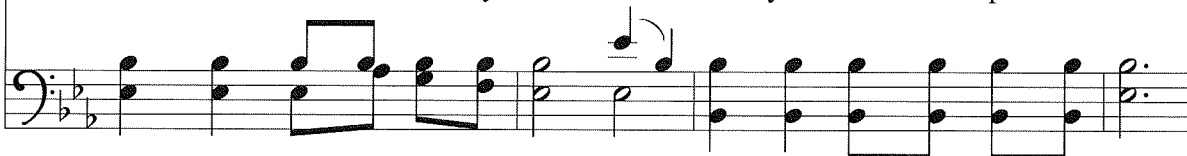
789



1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.  
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;  
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;  
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.  
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.  
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



# Let Us Break Bread Together

471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

## Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!  
 2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness of our Lent - en fast is o'er;  
 3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row that last eve - ning round him lay  
 4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.

Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!  
 through the o - pen gates of glad - ness he re - turns to life once more;  
 now has found a glo - rious mor - row in the ris - ing of to - day.  
 We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed o - ver all.

Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;  
 death and hell be - fore him bend - ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,  
 See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;  
 All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;

bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.  
 an - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.  
 Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.  
 hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

## **ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**1002 S. Main Street Williamstown, NJ 08094**

**Pastor: The Rev. Tammy Harmer**

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**Website: [www.stjohnselc1002.org](http://www.stjohnselc1002.org)**

### **ST. JOHN'S STAFF**

**Deacons: Betsey Eley/Ken Weaver**

**Treasurer: Henry Fickenscher**

**Music Director/Choirmaster: Janice Smith**

**Instrumental Music Director: Ken Weaver**

**Head Usher: Ted Adams**

**Sexton: Betsey Eley**

**Webmaster: Tom Schofield**

**Publications Director: Marie Fickenscher**