

**Sunday, May 25, 2025  
Sixth Sunday of Easter**



**Worship Leader: Augie Bauer  
Pastor of Record: Pastor Adam Ruschau  
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St John's Lutheran Church, Boone Township  
6483 W 580 N Otwell, IN 47564**

# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**PRELUDE BY PRAISE TEAM**

*How Shall I Call You*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## WE WORSHIP THE LORD WITH SINGING

**GATHERING HYMN**

*Come, We That Love the Lord*

ELW 625



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;  
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;  
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou-sand sa - cred sweets  
4 Then let our songs a-bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;



join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with  
but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the  
be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the  
we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -



sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.  
heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad.  
heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.  
man-uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.

*Refrain*



We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on:



we're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

# HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 878

## *Soli Deo Gloria*



1 O God of bless - ings, all praise to you! Your love sur -  
2 All praise for proph - ets, through grace in - spired to preach and  
3 All praise for mu - sic, deep gift pro - found, through hands and  
4 All praise for Je - sus, best gift di - vine through word and  
5 A bil - lion voic - es in one great song, now soft and



rounds us our whole life through. You are the  
wit - ness with hearts on fire. Your Spir - it  
voic - es in ho - ly sound; the psalms of  
wit - ness, in bread and wine; in - car - nate  
gen - tle, now deep and strong, in ev - 'ry



free - dom of those op - pressed; you are the com - fort of all dis -  
choos - es the weak and small to sing the new reign where might - y  
Da - vid, and Mar - y's praise, in word - less splen - dor and lyr - ic  
love song of bound - less grace, priest, teach - er, proph - et in time and  
cul - ture and style and key, from hill and val - ley, with sky and



tressed. Come now, O ho - ly and wel - come guest:  
fall; with them may we live your gos - pel call:  
phrase, with all cre - a - tion one song we raise:  
space, your stead - fast kind - ness with hu - man face:  
sea, with Christ we praise you e - ter - nal - ly:



So - li De - o glo - ri - a! So - li De - o glo - ri - a!

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: SOLI DEO GLORIA, Marty Haugen

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## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Brief Silence*

Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

L: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

C: **Amen.**

## GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C: **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

P: O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## **WE WORSHIP THE LORD BY LISTENING TO HIS WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15**

<sup>9</sup> During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.”

<sup>10</sup> When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. <sup>11</sup> We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup> and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup> On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup> A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup> When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 67

<sup>1</sup> May God be merciful to us and bless us,  
show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

<sup>2</sup> **Let your ways be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.**

<sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>4</sup> **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations upon earth.**

<sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup> **The earth has brought forth her increase;  
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.**

<sup>7</sup> May God give us his blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

## SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

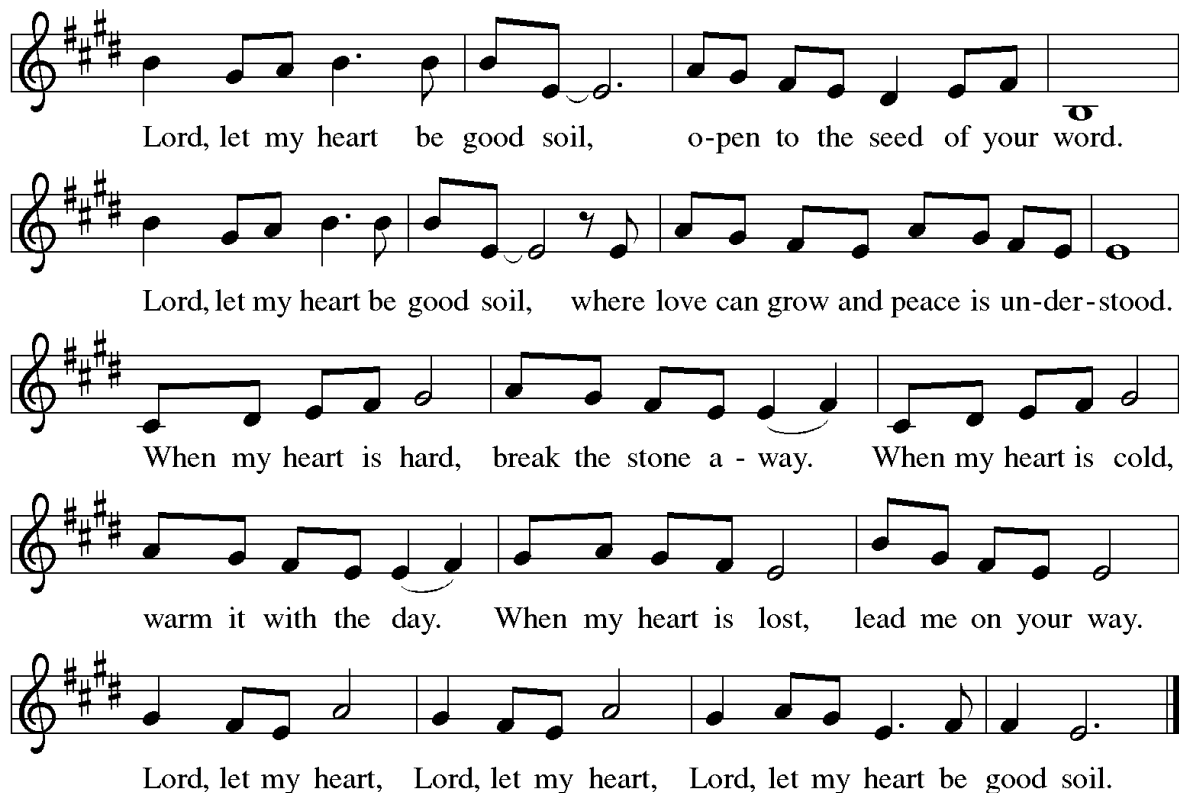
<sup>10</sup> And in the spirit, one of the angels carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. <sup>22</sup> I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup> And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup> The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup> Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup> People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup> But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. <sup>22:1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

<sup>3</sup> Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup> they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION      *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **GOSPEL: John 14:23-29**

**L:** The holy gospel according to John.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered Judas (not Iscariot), “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup> Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. <sup>25</sup> “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup> You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup> And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

**L:** The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **SERMON**



## 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

A: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: Unite your people in the community of faith. Further cooperation between people of different traditions and backgrounds, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship with one another.  
Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities to develop sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers, especially nurses, doctors, counselors, and social workers. Come alongside all who are ill or struggling (*we pray especially for family and friends of Bryar Rahman, Don Eck, Rose Leisman, Janice Schiller, Sharon Hoffman & Sharon Haas*). Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn, and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, so that war and conflict around the world might cease. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: All-wise and loving God, look with love on all those graduating this spring and bless them as they complete this season of their studies. We pray especially for all those high school and college graduates with a connection to this congregation, In your lovingkindness, guide them in their journey. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for all your saints raised to new life in Christ. Gather us, with them, into the peace only you can give. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## **PEACE**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

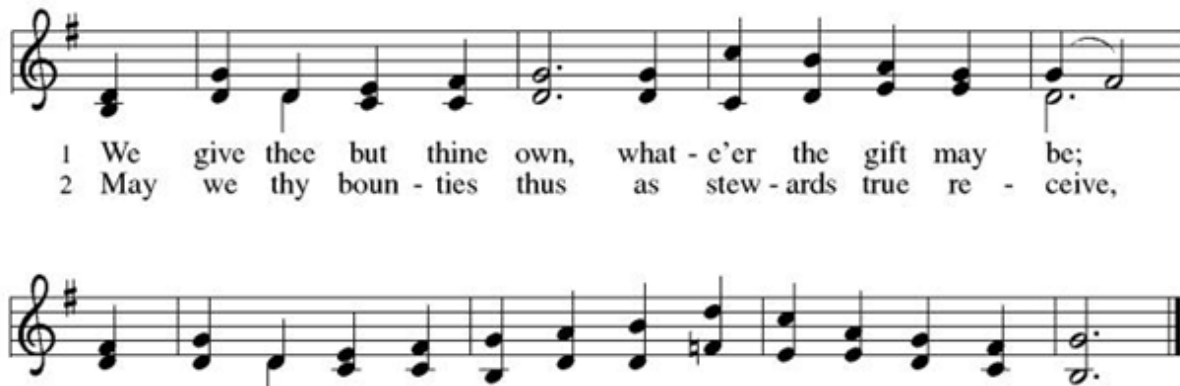
**C: And also with you.**

*Please share a sign of peace.*

## WE WORSHIP THE LORD BY GIVING

### OFFERTORY

*We Give Thee but Thine Own*



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

### OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray.

L: Blessed are you,

**C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### LORD'S PRAYER

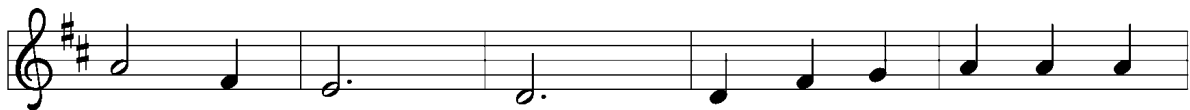
**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**  
ELW 815

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

## **BLESSING**

L: Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

C: Amen

## **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Working to Share God's Love. Thanks be to God.**

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**WELCOME VISITORS:** We welcome you to St. John's Lutheran Church and hope that you will enjoy our worship of God and consider making St. John's your worshiping community.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU** to Augie Bauer for leading Worship this morning.

**Sunday, May 25, 2025**

Worship Leader: Augie Bauer

Reader: Teresa Lents

Acolyte: Josie Englert

9:00 a.m. Praise Team Practice

9:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

10:00 a.m. Worship

**Sunday, June 1, 2025**

Presiding Minister: Pastor Adam Ruschau

Reader: Doris Eck

Acolyte: Jarrett Verkamp

9:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

10:00 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**VFW 673** will be here to honor the veterans who are buried in our cemetery on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

**FRIENDS IN CHRIST:** Once again, the congregation of St. John's have shown their generosity in helping to spread the word about Jesus Christ our Savior. Our Lenten collection for SEED (Spiritual Engagement Education & Development) a Ministry of Lutheran Child & Family Services was a great success. With the church council support by donating the Lenten offering to the project, we collected a total of \$1,467.00. Since public funds cannot be used for SEED, which is a faith-based program, all donations are greatly appreciated. Our donation alone does not seem like a lot, however, when it is combined with other gifts, lives can be changed. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Teach a child how he should live, and he will remember it all his life". Thank you so much for your generosity. God Bless You. The Outreach Team.

**THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY** 2025 Relay for Life is having a Car Show, Cars for a Cure on July 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

At Uebelhor Toyota 788 W 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Jasper, IN. (Registration is from 9:00 am till 12:00 pm for those wishing to enter a vehicle). Rain Date is 7/13 2025. Brochures, registration forms and info are on the table in the Narthex.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Bristynn Houtsch & Elijah Maxwell who have taken their first communion. We welcome them as communing members of the congregation

**THE CHURCH COUNCIL** will meet next on Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

**Sunday, May 11, 2025**

Attendance: 45

Current: \$955.00 Goal: \$2,618.00

Loose: \$81.00

Benevolence: \$30.00

Food for the Poor: \$180.00

Lutheran Family & Child Services: \$5.00

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**

Attendance: 26

Current: \$515.00 Goal: \$2,618.00

Benevolence: \$20.00

SEED: \$1,467.00

Lutheran Family & Child Services: \$5.00

**Pastor of Record: Pastor Adam Ruschau 812-631-4114**  
**St. John's Church office: 812-482-7623**

# **Working To Share God's Love**

## **Your Church Council**

Larry Harris – President (812-639-0273)  
Lisa Cundiff – Vice President (812-789-6642)  
Jada Maxwell – Secretary (812-354-2852)  
Joann Schnarr – Treasurer (812-309-0384)  
Diann Zehr – Education Team (812-481-0081)  
Steve Meyer – Facility Team (812-789-3866)  
Doris Eck – Outreach Team (812-639-0496)  
Jim Schiller – Parish Life Team (812-482-7346)  
Marlene Eck – Worship Team (812-639-1608)