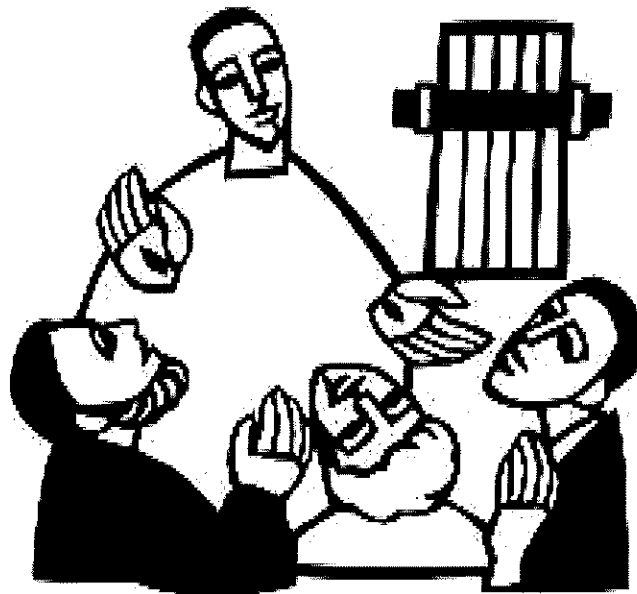


Joy Lutheran Church



Second Sunday of Easter
April 7, 2024
10:30 am

Serving Today

Pastor: Lane Bembenek
Deacon: Chris St. Clair
Director of Music Ministries: Sydney McMath
Assistant Director of Music Ministries: Jonathan Reid
Assisting Minister: B Honbarger
Nursery: Erica Newton
Greeter: Hunter **Acolyte:** Emileigh
Reader: M Rapley **Ushers:** M Rapley, A Strong
Communion Assistants: G Cantrell, R & W Meadows
Flowers: Given by Paul and Rachel Wallender
in honor of Aven's Baptism

We are glad you chose to worship at Joy Lutheran Church today.
Please complete this form and place it in the offering plate or give
it to one of the Ushers.

4.7.24
10:30

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Children, their ages and grades in school:

Please check:

First time visitor Add me to your mailing
 Regular visitor Add me to your email
 I desire a visit from the Pastor
 Interested in membership

Welcome to Joy Lutheran Church

April 7, 2024

WELCOME TO JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH! We hope that you experience God in a wonderful way as you worship here today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, we are happy to have you here with us. Please fill out the guest card and place in the offering plate so we can stay connected.

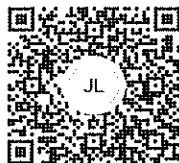
JOY WORSHIP BAGS FOR CHILDREN are located on the rack below the name tag tree in the gathering area.

NURSERY: There is a nursery provided for children under 3. You may pick up your children for Communion. We welcome children of all ages to join us in worship.

Please turn off all cellular devices during the service.

*As we prepare for Worship,
please maintain silence for prayer and meditation.*

HEARING DEVICES: We have hearing assist devices available for those who wish to use them during worship. Please see an usher for assistance with this service.



venmo

You may scan this QR code to make your tithes and offerings

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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

God of Life,
you are as near to us as our breath.

Touch our eyes,
that we may see you in one another.

Open our ears,
that we may be filled with your love toward all people.

Come, O God of life, breath, and wholeness.
**Be with us now. Show us the way to new life and grant us the courage
to be people of your Way.**

GATHERING HYMN "All Creatures of Our God and King"

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice with
 2 O rush-ing wind and breez-es soft, O clouds that ride the
 3 O flow-ing wa-ters, pure and clear, Make mu-sic for your
 4 Dear moth-er earth, who day by day Un-folds rich bless-ings

us and sing: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
 winds a-loft: Oh, . . . praise him! Al-le-lu-ia!
 Lord to hear. Oh, . . . praise him! Al-le-lu-ia!
 on our way, Oh, . . . praise him! Al-le-lu-ia!

O burn-ing sun with gold-en beam And sil-ver moon
 O ris-ing morn, in praise re-joice, O lights of eve-
 O fire so mas-ter-ful and bright, Pro-vid-ing us
 The fruits and flow'rs that ver-dant grow, Let them his praise

Refrain

with soft-er gleam:
 ning, find a voice. Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him!
 with warmth and light,
 a-bun-dant show.

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism,
we are gathered in the name of the Father,
and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

By our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ,
God raised us to new life.

Let us confess to God our sins
and all that waits for resurrection in our lives.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

God of love,
**we find it hard to believe the witness of the resurrection:
we resist your unfailing love for us and for others,
and we turn our backs on the gift of new life,
choosing instead the old way of sin,
the way that takes us away from you
and leads us back toward death.
Free us from this power of sin,
guide us by your Spirit,
and help us in our weakness,
that we may live as your children,
restored to new and everlasting life. Amen**

By God's grace you are forgiven and born anew.
May you be strengthened daily with the power
to walk in God's light and love.

Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

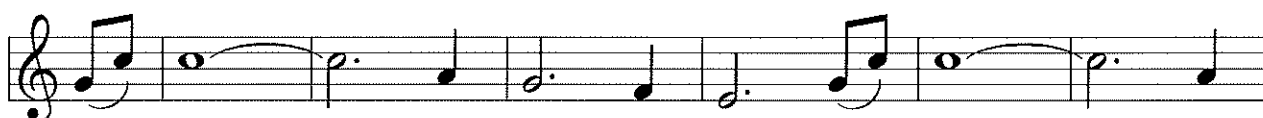
“How Majestic Is Your Name”



O Lord, our Lord, how ma-jes-tic is your name in all the earth!



O Lord, our Lord, how ma-jes-tic is your name in all the earth!



O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we



mag-ni-fy your name, Prince of Peace, might-y God, O



Lord God Al - might - y.

Text: Michael W. Smith

Music: HOW MAJESTIC, Michael W. Smith

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated.)

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 John 1:1—2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us — we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of

Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON Pastor Lane Bembenek

(Please stand as you are able.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Seek Your First"



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God and its



righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be



add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Matthew 6:33, 7:7; adapt. Karen Lafferty, b. 1948
Music: LAFFERTY, Karen Lafferty, b. 1948

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THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20: 19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated.)

THE SERMON
Pastor Lane Bembenek

(Stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Shout to the North”

Men of faith rise up and sing
Of the great and glorious King
You are strong when you feel weak
In your brokenness complete

Shout to the north and the south
Sing to the east and the west
Jesus is Savior to all
Lord of heaven and earth

Rise up women of the truth
Stand and sing to broken hearts
Who can know the healing pow'r
Of our awesome King of love

Rise up church with broken wings
Fill this place with songs again
Of our God who reigns on high
By His grace again we'll fly

We've been through fire
We've been through rain
We've been refined
By the pow'r of His name
We've fallen deeper
In love with You
You've burned
The truth on our lips

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power
of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

**or He descended to the dead.*

*** or church universal.*

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

(A moment of silence for prayer and meditation)

Each petition ends:

*God of grace,
hear our prayer.*

Concluding petition:

Into your hands most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated.)

SPECIAL MUSIC

During this time, if you haven't already, you may place your offering in the offering plate located on the baptismal font.

(Please stand as you are able.)

THE OFFERING HYMN "Seek Ye First"



Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and



yō shall find; knock and the door shall be



o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Matthew 6:33, 7:7; adapt. Karen Lafferty, b. 1948

Music: LAFFERTY, Karen Lafferty, b. 1948

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THE OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

Amen.

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Living God, on this most joyous day we offer our thanks and praise to you; creator of heaven and earth – creator and lover of all humanity. Even when we turned away from you you never rejected us. You spoke words of mercy and love through the prophets; promising to swallow up death forever and to host a banquet for all people; a feast of life-giving sustenance. And so, with all the company of heaven and earth we praise your holy name saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, this meal which we share today is indeed the celebration that death has been defeated forever. We celebrate also how the language of your love became audible through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, our beloved Lord; and how the nature of your love became visible through his life and sacrificial love. He graced lives with healing and hope, with compassion and power and as if that were not enough, he gave his very life for us.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

God of all power, breathe your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the life of Christ and that we may make that life visible through our faithful witness to him, through Jesus Christ, the risen and triumphant King and Lord of all.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now we pray the prayer of Jesus we learned as children:

**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.

(Please be seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome at the table of the Lord. Please follow the directions of the ushers. The bread and the wine will be distributed by intinction or there is a pre-sealed bread and wine option in the middle aisle if you prefer.

COMMUNION SONG "Joyful, Joyful"

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flashing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joi - ce in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt. Public Domain

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
 strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with
 your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and
 share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
 the Christ of unending joy,
 and the Spirit of Easter hope
 † bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

“Be Thou My Vision”

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tow'r,
 thou, and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish 8th-10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.
 Music: SLANE, Irish tune Public Domain

ON OUR WAY REJOICING

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



OUR VISION

As the Body of Christ at Joy Lutheran Church we are called to be God's hands and voice in our community and world.

OUR MISSION

As members of the Body of Christ at Joy Lutheran Church, we will...

Invite

Invite others to God's loving family,

Nurture

Nurture them with God's Word and love,

Build

Build with them a fellowship of friends in Christ,

Send

Send them out into service in our community and world.

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