

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. Joshua Hayes, Pastor
E-mail: pastor.hayes@outlook.com
Pastor Hayes - Home: (785) 692-4228; Cell: (720) 897-6829 (call or text)
Website: www.stjohnpalmer.net

Member – Linn Lutheran School Association

Principal & Teacher: Mr. David Beikmann; Teachers: Mrs. Laura Stunkel,
Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl, Mrs. Jessie Uffman, & Ms. Robyn Meyer
Email: linnluth@bluevalley.net

May 16, 2021

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Welcome to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church. If you are a guest or visitor with us today, we welcome you and invite you to come and worship with us again. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Pastor Hayes, and we hope to see you again soon.

Remember that the Worship Service begins when you enter. As the Music for Meditation begins, you are invited to join in quiet, preparation time for worship. Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

Liturgy – Divine Service Setting Three (Page 184)

Opening Hymn: 500 "Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid"
Hymn of the Day: 493 "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"
Distribution Hymn: 763 "When Peace, like a River"
Distribution Hymn: 461 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"
Distribution Hymn: 661 "The Son of God Goes Forth to War"
Closing Hymn: 643 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please e-mail prayer requests to Pastor Hayes at pastor.hayes@outlook.com.
Prayer requests will remain for 2 weeks unless you specify a length of time.
Raymond Ohlde, Angie Reinert, LaVon Hornbostel, Lula Stuenkel,
Marilyn Ohlde, Loraine Oldehoeft, & Lorna Heitman (in the nursing home)
Tiffany Snyder (cancer) Ladonna Hornkohl (cancer)
Robbie Oelschlager (chronic pain) Kelly & Quinn Rhoades
Charlotte Voelker (recovery) Pamela Poppe

Acolyte this Sunday - Aiden Sweet
Acolyte next Sunday - Noah Thalmann
Ushers this Sunday - *Brady Kolle, John Bott, Eli Thalmann, & Aaron Stuenkel
Ushers next Sunday - *Tyler Ohlde, John Bott, Eli Ohlde, & Nathan Ohlde
LYF Fellowship Hour duty today & May 23rd - Elijah Meier & Ryan Stuenkel
LYF Mowing - May 22nd - Ethan & Sophia; May 29th - Conner & Daniel

Upcoming Events

- May 16** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School
- May 17** 7:00 p.m. PTL Meeting @ Zion
7:30 p.m. LLS Board Meeting
- May 23** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School

Announcements

- * **From Linn Lutheran School:**
 - * 8th Grade Graduation is **Wednesday, May 19th**, at 7 p.m. at St. John; a cake reception will follow. The graduates are Ethan Bott, Camryn Beikmann, and Conner Ohlde.
 - * Our last day of school will be a full day on **Thursday, May 20th**.
- * Remember to turn in your VBS registrations this Sunday! God's Wonder Lab will be here at St. John on June 28-July 2, from 9-11:30 am. Preschool through those entering grade six are eligible to attend. Children who have completed grades 6-8 are welcome to sign up as helpers! **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! Please sign up on the Sunday School bulletin board!** High school students can use this as community service hours. We need leaders for the different stations in order for VBS to happen.
- * Next **Sunday, May 23**, is the last Sunday of Sunday School. Thank you to all those who have helped teach this year! We'll have a short Bible lesson next week and finish on the playground next week, weather permitting.
- * Linn Lutheran is seeking a full-time 3rd & 4th grades elementary teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. This person should be motivated to work with our wonderful elementary school students and help them grow in their knowledge and faith of our Lord. Qualifications include a bachelor's degree with a Kansas Teaching License or ability to obtain one. Other qualifications include: the passion to work with elementary students; exceptional verbal, written, and interpersonal skills; creative; resourceful; and a flexible team member. If you have a name to submit, please contact a member of the school board, which is serving as the call committee.
- * St. John has \$12,458.72 left to match for the Endowment Matching Program. Matching goes until **July 15, 2021**, and what funds haven't been matched will go in the "4th Teacher Fund." Thank you for using the matching program!

As We Gather... The Spirit of Truth Bears Witness to Jesus

The Spirit of Truth bears witness to Jesus, who is the truth. But the world does not receive the truth. It loves its own and hates those who are of the truth. Just as Jesus was scorned, so is His Church. "The hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God" (**John 16:2**). Yet it is by Jesus' suffering and death that we are saved. Therefore we rejoice to share in His sufferings, that we may also share in His resurrection glory (**1 Peter 4:7-14**). Through the ministry of the Spirit of Truth, we are cleansed from the deceit of our idols and given a new heart and a new spirit, the heart and Spirit of Christ (**Ezekiel 36:22-28**). He now works in us fervent, self-giving love for one another, love which covers a multitude of sins, "that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen" (**1 Peter 4:11**).

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His Table those who trust His words, repent all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily, according to Holy Scripture, do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from communing with us until such a time as they are properly instructed.

A short, more detailed explanation of our Confessional practice is available from our Ushers or Elders. If you would like to learn more about the Sacrament of the Altar and our confessional position, I would be happy to visit with you.

-Rev. Joshua Hayes, Pastor, St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

In preparation for Holy Communion, you may use the following statements as part of your self-examination:

- I admit that I am a sinner. **(1 John 1:8-10)**
- I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, from Satan and death. **(Acts 4:10-12; John 14:6)**
- I desire to live as God wants me to. **(John 14:15; 1 John 2:6)**
- I am sure of my eternal salvation because Jesus died for me and rose again. **(John 3:16; Romans 8:14; & 1 John 5:11-12)**
- I believe the Risen Christ is really present in Holy Communion and that with the bread and wine I receive His Body and Blood. **(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 4:22-24; 1 Cor. 10:16, 22:23ff; Luke 22:17-20)**
- I forgive those who have wronged me.

MORNING PRAYER

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Please email any announcements for the bulletin to Theresa at theresa_meier@yahoo.com by noon on Friday.



Introit *(Psalm 27:1, 11a, 12; antiphon: vv. 7a, 8b, 9a)*

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.*

Your face, Lord, do I seek; hide not your face from me. Alle- | luia.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

Teach me your way, | O Lord;*

**give me not up to the will of my adver- | saries;
for false witnesses have risen against me,*
and they breathe out | violence.**

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

**and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.*

Your face, Lord, do I seek; hide not your face from me. Alle- | luia.

Collect for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

* To join the audio broadcast from the parking lot during the service, tune in to FM 107.9. You may also come and listen from the parish hall, if it makes you more comfortable. Pastor can bring Holy Communion to you either way.

* CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org: study Jeremiah 3-5 on Sharper Iron **(weekdays at 8 a.m.)**, dig into 1 Kings 17-20 on Thy Strong Word **(weekdays at 11 a.m.)**, and hear a practical application of our Lutheran Confessions on Concord Matters **(Saturday at 10 a.m.)**. Download our new KFUE Radio iOS or Android app to listen live or on demand!

Old Testament Reading: *Ezekiel 36:22-28*

²² “Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³ And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴ I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees. ²⁸ You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.”

Epistle Reading: *1 Peter 4:7-11*

⁷ The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading: *John 15:26-16:4*

²⁶ [Jesus said:] “When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

¹ “I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ² They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³ And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. ⁴ But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.”

Martin Luther’s Words About Today’s Gospel

This is the comfort that Christ gives the apostles to strengthen their faith (which they certainly needed) about their preaching and confession of Him. By so doing, He promises to His whole Church that after His resurrection and ascension the Word or preaching of the Holy Spirit will always (as long as He sits at the right hand of the Father) be heard through the apostles and their successors and that this testimony will remain in the world, no matter who hears it. They are not to be concerned about who does or does not hear and accept it, but to know that because it is the Holy Spirit’s testimony, He will be and work with it so that some believe it, and that the world will be unable to prevent and hinder this, even though it rages against it with hatred and persecution.

So in this text we are presented with a picture of what happens to the kingdom of Christ in the opposing kingdom of the world. This was prophesied in the first promise of the Gospel, when the Church had its first beginning, when God said to the serpent: “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed. He will trample your head, but you will bite His heel” [Gen. 3:15]. This “enmity” must always continue in the world; it remains a perpetual “enmity” and a perpetual fight. When Christ comes with His preaching and meets the serpent, he quickly begins to rage against Him and to bite and sting with his poisonous tongue and teeth, for he is afraid for his head. But he has not yet won anything and still lies under the feet of this Seed of the woman, who tramples on his head and continues so long that his poison and wrath are used up on Him, and his power comes to nothing so that he can no longer do any harm.

The comfort and victory we have in Christ is that He will nevertheless preserve His Church against the devil’s wrath and power. But in the meantime we suffer from the bites and murderous stings of the devil, which hurt our flesh and blood. The worst is that we must see and suffer these things from those who want to be and are even called “God’s children” and “the Christian Church.” We must learn to become accustomed to such things, for Christ Himself and all the saints have not had any better.

It was also hard and painful for our first father, Adam, that he had to learn to understand the words “I will put enmity between you” [Gen. 3:15], etc., in his own children, when his firstborn son, given to him by God, struck his brother dead because of his sacrifice and worship [Gen. 4:3–8]. Similarly, later, the dear fathers Abraham, Isaac, etc., had to experience in their own houses (which then were the true Church) that one brother persecuted the other (even though from one father they had seen, learned, and received the same faith, Word of God, and worship) [Gen. 25:23–34; 27:41]. Therefore, it should not seem surprising or strange to us when we have to experience the same thing.

CATECHETICAL REVIEW

An Explanation of the Small Catechism The Apostles' Creed - The Third Article

II. The Church, the Communion of Saints *(Continued)*

175. *In what other sense is the word church used?*

The word *church* is also used to indicate

- A. the visible church of God;
- B. a denomination;
- C. a local congregation;
- D. a house of worship.

176. *Why does Scripture call local congregations "church"?*

Local, visible gatherings around the means of grace are called churches because there believers are gathered around Word and sacrament.

611 **Matthew 18:17** - If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

612 **Matthew 28:19-20** - Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

613 **1 Corinthians 1:2** - To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ - their Lord and ours.

Note: Paul wrote to the churches in Galatia (**Galatians 1:2**). He wrote to the church of the Thessalonians (**1 Thessalonians 1:1**). John wrote to the seven churches of Asia Minor (**Revelation 1-3**). A group of congregations is also called "church" (**Acts 9:31**).

177. *What is the visible church?*

The visible church is the whole number of those who use the Word of God and profess the Christian faith, but among whom, beside the true Christians, there are also unbelievers.

176. *Are there then two churches, one visible and the other invisible?*

There is only one church - all believers in Christ. The visible gathering is called church because of the believers gathered around the means of grace in an assembly in which there are also hypocrites.

Bible narratives: The net that caught all kinds of fish (**Matthew 13:47-48**). A man without wedding clothes (**Matthew 22:11-12**). Ananias and Sapphira (**Acts 5:1-11**).

The Sunday After the Ascension



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