

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Palmer, Kansas 66962

Rev. Joshua Hayes, Pastor

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Mrs. Sheila Stuenkel, Organist

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Member – Linn Lutheran School Association

Email: linnluth@bluevalley.net

Phone: (785) 348-5792

Principal & Teacher: Mr. David Beikmann; Teachers: Mrs. Laura Stunkel,

Mrs. Kelsey Hatesohl, Mrs. Kim Burke, & Mrs. Renae Bott

April 30, 2023

The Fourth 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 (pg. 184)

Opening Hymn: 487 "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

Hymn of the Day: 483 "With High Delight Let Us Unite"

Distribution Hymn: 155 "This Is the Feast"

Distribution Hymn: 533 "Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure"

Distribution Hymn: 809 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Distribution Hymn: 818 "In Thee Is Gladness"

Closing Hymn: 475 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"

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.

Angie Reinert, Lula Stuenkel, Marilyn Ohlde, Loraine Oldehoeft, & Lorna Heitman (in the nursing home);

Carter John & Allie Elizabeth Meier (thanksgiving for coming home)

Acolyte today - Deavon Ohlde

Acolyte next Sunday - Emmitt Tiemeyer

Ushers today - *Elijah Meier, Dylan Ohlde, Mason Tiemeyer, Aiden Sweet

Ushers May 7th - *Eli Thalmann, Ethan Bott, Zac Hiltgen, & Ryan Stuenkel

LYF Fellowship Hour today & May 7th - Claire & Camryn Beikmann

LYF Fellowship Hour May 14th & 21st - Conner Ohlde & Mason Tiemeyer

Upcoming Events

- April 30** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School
- May 1** 6:30 - 7:15 a.m. Men's Club Breakfast event
- May 7** 9:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School

Announcements

- * The men of the congregation are invited to a special "Sunrise with the Bible" breakfast event on Monday, May 1, in the parish hall. The event is sponsored by the St. John Men's Club and will be an opportunity for men's fellowship along with devotions and a breakfast buffet featuring a variety of breakfast casseroles, special coffee, and more. Breakfast and fellowship will be from 6:30-7:15 a.m. followed by a devotion. We will break by 7:30 a.m. so people can get to work and school. Please consider bringing your sons before school!
- * St. John has \$18,402.02 left to match in the Linn Lutheran Endowment Fund Matching for 2023. Matching program runs until July 15, 2023, and whatever isn't matched by St. John by July 15, 2023 will go into the 4th Teacher Fund.
- * **Linn Lutheran School News:**
 - * Preschool Graduation: Mon., May 8th, at 6:30 p.m. in Zion's basement
 - * 8th Grade Graduation: Wed., May 17, at 6:30 p.m. at St. John. Refreshments to follow in the Parish Hall.
 - * Last day of school is Thursday, May 18, with 12:30 p.m. dismissal
 - * LLS is looking for a bus driver (full- or part-time) for the 2023-24 academic year. Please contact the school office at (785) 348-5792 with any questions or if you're interested in serving LLS in this way.
- * **St. John Sunday School News:**
 - * Sunday School is winding down, and our last classes will be May 7. Thank you to all the parents who have taught this year!
 - * "God's Living Water VBS" will be June 19-23, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Registration sheets are now available in the narthex. Please return them to the basket in the narthex by May 14th so materials can be ordered.
 - * VBS teachers and volunteers are needed! Please sign up on the Sunday School bulletin board. High School students can use this for their required community service hours. Keep checking the board for snack donation requests!
- * Linn Lutheran Preschool Enrollment is open to the public for the 2023-2024 school year. Students entering preschool must be 3 years old by August 31, 2023. Incoming and returning students may call the school starting at 8:00 a.m. at (785) 348-5792 or stop in the school office to sign up their student. Questions, please contact teacher, Mrs. Laura Stunkel or LLS.

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 40:25-31*

²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.
²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?
He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name,
by the greatness of his might,
and because he is strong in power
not one is missing.
²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.
³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
³¹ but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

Epistle Reading: *1 Peter 2:11-20*

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

¹³ Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵ For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.

¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

¹⁸ Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. ¹⁹ For this is a gracious thing,

when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly.
²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

Alleluia Verse (*Psalms 111:9a; Luke 24:26*)

Alleluia.

He sent redemption to his people. Alleluia. Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: *John 16:16-22*

¹⁶ [Jesus said:] “A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” ¹⁷ So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” ¹⁸ So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” ¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’?” ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.”

As We Gather . . . Those Who Wait on the Lord Shall Rejoice

The people of God are pilgrims and sojourners in this world, looking ahead to a destination yet to come. Though we are now children of God, the fullness of what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We are those who wait on the Lord. “*The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him*”. Jesus tells us that the wait is just a little while. “*A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me*”. Though you must experience sorrow for a time, though you must live as strangers in a world that is at enmity with Christ, yet your sorrow will be turned to joy when He returns. “*But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength*”. The little while of weeping shall be replaced with an eternity of rejoicing in the presence of Christ the crucified and risen Savior. “*And no one will take your joy from you*”.

CATECHETICAL REVIEW

Section 4

CHRISTIAN QUESTIONS WITH THEIR ANSWERS*

(Part 3)

PREPARED BY DR. MARTIN LUTHER FOR THOSE WHO
INTEND TO GO TO THE SACRAMENT

After confession and instruction in the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, the pastor may ask, or Christians may ask themselves these questions:

19. *What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?*

First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.

20. *But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?*

To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in **Galatians 5** and **Romans 7**. Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in **John 15-16** and in **1 John 2** and **5**. Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in **John 8** and **16**; **1 Peter 5**; **Ephesians 6**; and **2 Timothy 2**.

NOTE

These questions and answers are no child's play, but are drawn up with great earnestness of purpose by the venerable and devout Dr. Luther for both young and old. Let each one pay attention and consider it a serious matter; for St. Paul writes to the Galatians in chapter six: "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked."

* The "Christian Questions with Their Answers," designating Luther as the author, first appeared in an edition of the Small Catechism in 1551.

* LCMS memory verse challenge for this week: **Ephesians 2:13-14** - **"Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility."**

*"...but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice,
and no one will take your joy from you."*



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