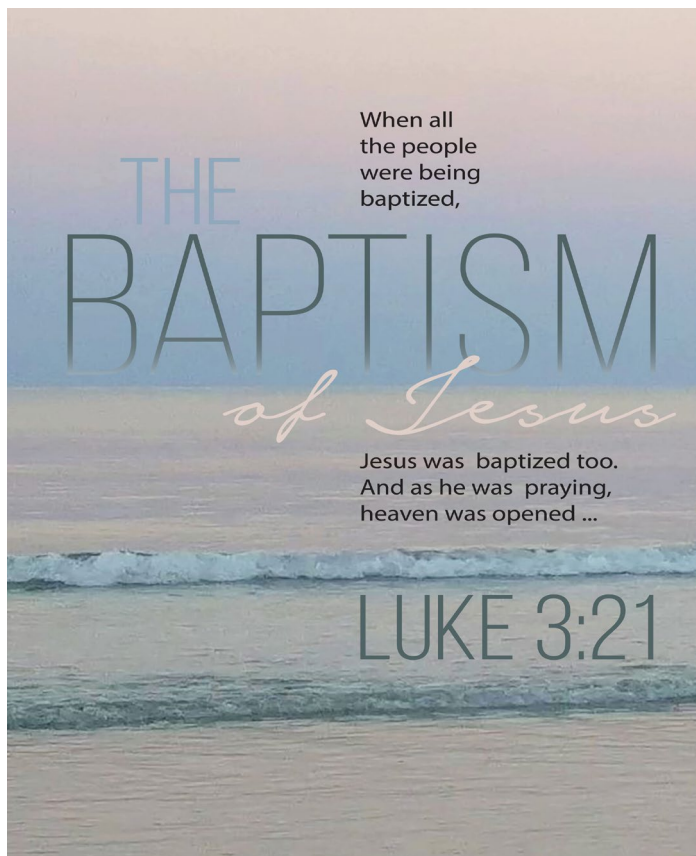


St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Third Sunday of Easter
May 1 and 4, 2025

Serving Us Today:
Pastor Robert Busse - Thursday
Pastor Rob Schrader – Sunday
Organist: Amanda Tetzlaff
920-361-9935
www.stjohnberlin.org

Large Print Bulletin

As We Gather... Though Jesus walks on water, He was testing the limit by telling seasoned fishermen where to cast their nets. The disciples knew it was the Lord—it could only be the Lord. Then, when He broke the bread and gave thanks, they rejoiced that the crucified and risen Savior had showed Himself to them again. This is what we do every week. Jesus presumes to tell us what life is and how to live it, and we are weary of all the things that have disappointed us. But Christ can never disappoint us. He fills our nets with His life, addresses us with the voice of hope, and feeds us to everlasting life, and by this Word and Sacrament we know it is the Lord.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HELPS... Please know we have two children's worship bulletins available for young non-readers and older children. Both bulletins have activities that go along with the weekly theme. We also have activity bags for children hanging on the rear wall of the church for use throughout the worship service. If needed we have a cry room/nursery (with changing table) behind the organ in the southwest corner of the church.

Confession and Absolution

483 With High Delight Let Us Unite

1 With high delight

Let us unite

In songs of great jubilation.

Ye pure in heart,

All bear your part,

Sing Jesus Christ, our salvation.

To set us free

**Forever, He
Is ris'n and sends
To all earth's ends
Good news to save ev'ry nation.**

**2 True God, He first
From death has burst
Forth into life, all subduing.
His enemy
Doth vanquished lie;
His death has been death's undoing.
"And yours shall be
Like victory
O'er death and grave,"
Saith He, who gave
His life for us, life renewing.**

**3 Let praises ring;
Give thanks, and bring
To Christ our Lord adoration.
His honor speed
By word and deed
To ev'ry land, ev'ry nation.
So shall His love
Give us above,
From misery
And death set free,
All joy and full consolation.**

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536–99; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76

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Stand

*The sign of the cross may be made by all
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is
not in us.

**C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will
forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and
unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your
present and eternal punishment. 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 Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 145:4–7, 9; antiphon: v. 10

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints shall bless you!

**One generation shall commend your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.**

On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

**They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.**

They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

**The LORD is good to all,
and his mercy is over all that he has made.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints shall bless you!

Kyrie

LSB 186

**C Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

This Is the Feast *LSB 155*

**C This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set
us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing,
and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all
creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb
forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 36:24–28

²⁴I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶And 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.

²⁷And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees. ²⁸You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Acts 2:37–39

³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

³⁸And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse *LSB 156*

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13–17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

1 "Come, follow Me," the Savior spake,

"All in My way abiding;

Deny yourselves, the world forsake,

Obey My call and guiding.

O bear the cross, whate'er betide,

Take My example for your guide.

2 "I am the light, I light the way,

A godly life displaying;

**I bid you walk as in the day;
I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show
How you must sojourn here below.**

**3“My heart abounds in lowliness,
My soul with love is glowing;
And gracious words My lips express,
With meekness overflowing.
My heart, My mind, My strength, My all,
To God I yield, on Him I call.**

**4“I teach you how to shun and flee
What harms your soul’s salvation,
Your heart from ev’ry guile to free,
From sin and its temptation.
I am the refuge of the soul
And lead you to your heav’nly goal.”**

**5Then let us follow Christ, our Lord,
And take the cross appointed
And, firmly clinging to His Word,
In suff’ring be undaunted.
For those who bear the battle’s strain
The crown of heav’nly life obtain.**

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695. Text: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Stand

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

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 Him thanks and praise.

P Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 161*

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

Pax Domini

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei*LSB 163*

C 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.

Distribution Hymns

732 All Depends on Our Possessing

1 All depends on our possessing
God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart.
They who trust with faith unshaken
By their God are not forsaken
And will keep a dauntless heart.

**2 He who to this day has fed me
And to many joys has led me
Is and ever shall be mine.
He who ever gently schools me,
He who daily guides and rules me
Will remain my help divine.**

**3 Many spend their lives in fretting
Over trifles and in getting
Things that have no solid ground.
I shall strive to win a treasure
That will bring me lasting pleasure
And that now is seldom found.**

**4 When with sorrow I am stricken,
Hope anew my heart will quicken;
All my longing shall be stilled.
To His loving-kindness tender
Soul and body I surrender,
For on God alone I build.**

**5 Well He knows what best to grant me;
All the longing hopes that haunt me,
Joy and sorrow, have their day.
I shall doubt His wisdom never;
As God wills, so be it ever;
I commit to Him my way.**

**6 If my days on earth He lengthen,
God my weary soul will strengthen;
All my trust in Him I place.
Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding;
Safe I anchor in His grace.**

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

**1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended.
O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching,
Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.**

**2 With praise and thanksgiving
To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing,
In love ever caring,**

**Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us,
With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.**

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Stand

Thank the Lord *LSB 164*

**C Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

1 Thine the amen Thine the praise

Alleluias angels raise

Thine the everlasting head

Thine the breaking of the bread

Thine the glory Thine the story

Thine the harvest then the cup

Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

2 Thine the life eternally

Thine the promise let there be

Thine the vision Thine the tree

All the earth on bended knee

Gone the nailing gone the railing

Gone the pleading gone the cry

Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

3 Thine the truly Thine the yes

Thine the table we the guest

Thine the mercy all from Thee

Thine the glory yet to be

Then the ringing and the singing

**Then the end of all the war
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.**

**4 Thine the kingdom Thine the prize
Thine the wonder full surprise
Thine the banquet then the praise
Then the justice of Thy ways
Thine the glory Thine the story
Then the welcome to the least
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.**

**5 Thine the glory in the night
No more dying only light
Thine the river Thine the tree
Then the Lamb eternally
Then the holy holy holy
Celebration jubilee
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.**

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009 Text: © 1983 Augsburg
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Acknowledgments

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Attendance Last Week: 232
General giving last week: \$6695.00
Budget giving needed: \$7500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

8 Thursday Ladies Aid Spring Luncheon 1:00 pm

8 Thursday Worship Service/HC 6:30 pm

11 Sunday Worship Service/HC 9:00 am

11 Sunday Adult Bible Class 10:30 am

11 Sunday Sunday School 10:30 am

****Plant Sale Sunday****

DOOR COLLECTION FOR HUMAN CARE: Today a free will collection will be taken at the door. All funds collected will be used by the St. John Human Care Committee to assist in the various ministries they are involved in.

CHURCH PICNIC: Our church picnic for 2025 has been scheduled for Sunday, June 29th. Worship at **10:30 am. Lunch at 11:30 am.** The main course of smoked pork butt will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. Beverages will be provided. *If you have corn hole boards, bring them. We are looking to get a couple of games going. Kids games will also be provided. Bring your super soakers.*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! SECOND TIME-AROUND SHOP: Over the last 40 years the Second Time-Around Shop in Berlin has supported Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of WI (LCFS) with nearly \$3 million of their profits so that people in our community and around our state can receive life-changing Christian counseling and adoption services. Our thrift store has played a major role in bringing Christ and his love to numerous people! To provide so much money to LCFS, the Second Time-Around Shop relies on volunteers to run and organize their store, and they could use your help! A few hours of your time each week would be hugely beneficial for the store and for the ministry of LCFS. There are various duties available for people of all skills and ages. To ask about volunteering, call the store at: (920) 361-0334.

A PLACE OF REFUGE MINISTRIES JOINING US: On Sunday, May 4, Deaconess Grace Rao, Executive Director from A Place of Refuge Ministries, will be joining us to give a short presentation after the service and a longer one during the Bible study hour to share information about the important work this ministry is doing to care for pregnant mothers and their unborn children. Additionally, she'll share the joy of serving the Triune God as a deaconess.

THE PIZZAS ARE HERE! If you ordered pizzas from the 7th & 8th grade class, they are in the freezers in the church basement. They are in bags labeled with names.

A PLACE OF REFUGE LIFE WALK 2025:

Support this important ministry by walking for life! The event, held at Elm Grove Lutheran Church on Saturday June 21, includes breakfast,

an opening prayer service, the walk, prizes, music, and lunch. Friends and family are encouraged to support your walk; children are welcome. Registration opens May 1, 2025. Please go to aplaceofrefuge.org to register.

FREE FUNERAL PRE-PLANNING PRESENTATION: Barbola and Barbola-Hempel Funeral Chapels will be hosting a free pre-planning presentation on *Wed., May 7*. There will be presentations in 3 different locations for convenience.

10 a.m. Barbola-Hempel Funeral Chapel (Poy Sippi)

2 p.m. Redgranite Lions Hall

6 p.m. Barbola Funeral Chapel (Berlin)

Pick a time and RSVP by phone to 920-361-2755 or email barbolafc@yahoo.com. Refreshments will be served.

GET MORE OUT OF THE SERMON:

On the wood box underneath the "Hearing Loop" sign in the Narthex are a stack of sheets used by our confirmation students to take notes on the sermon. The sheets ask three basic questions that will help you focus on what the sermon is about, learn more, and grow in your faith. Please give it a shot to get more out of each sermon!

PLANT SALE AND HANGING BASKET PICK-UP: The hanging basket orders will be arriving on Thursday, May 8th. Please plan to pick up your orders between noon and 4pm. There will tomato and pepper plants for sale and petunias and geraniums for sale.



**A Gospel focused service
Reaching out to women
With the love of
Jesus Christ with
words and actions**

A Place of Refuge Ministries is a network of volunteers and staff who are committed to life and to caring for women facing crisis pregnancy in South Wisconsin. They have a house where mothers may stay throughout their pregnancies and while preparing to transition to independent living arrangements. The three components are the Advocacy Program, Blessed Again and the Refuge House.

REACH women with needs during pregnancy, Telephone, hotline, online, volunteers and staff identify the callers and ...

RECEIVE them into God's care through His people. If needed, bring them into Refuge House where they may feel safe and loved. If they are already in a safe and independent environment, their volunteer Advocates then work one on one with others and...

REFER them to community resources available for their physical and emotional care and to churches throughout South Wisconsin...

RESPOND by providing what is not available in the community by sharing God's love for us in His Son Jesus Christ. And every day...

REJOICING in the opportunity to share Gospel and in the joy of a baby born.

Sermon Notes – 5-4-25 – Jesus' Baptism to Your Baptism

[SUNDAY ONLY]

-Because Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness, we can be baptized into that righteousness.

-“When Jesus was baptized, this _____ the water for use in later, Christian baptism.”

-There is one problem behind all of our other problems: _____.

-In a cosmic sort of way, that fixing of our sin problem begins at Jesus' baptism.

-It was Jesus dying on the _____ that fixed our sin problem.

-The waters of baptism are like a portal in time that connects to the cross.

-Now that we know that our baptisms are connected to Jesus' baptism through the cross, and that our baptisms are made possible by Jesus' baptism through the cross, we can proceed to look at Jesus baptism and see what else that tells us about our own _____.

-Because our baptisms are connected to Jesus' baptism through the cross, we receive the forgiveness of our sins.

-“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.” (Acts 2:38)

-Because our baptisms are connected to Jesus' baptism through the cross, _____ is opened to us, too.

-“He saved us...by the washing of regeneration...so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.” (Titus 3:5-7)

- Because our baptisms are connected to Jesus' baptism through the cross, the Holy Spirit also comes to rest upon us.
 - “Repent and be baptized...and you will receive the gift of the _____.” (Acts 2:38)
- Because our baptisms are connected to Jesus' baptism through the cross, we also become _____ of God.
 - “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” (Matthew 28:19)