

***St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School***

711 & 805 W 5<sup>th</sup> St., Neillsville, WI 54456

**Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



***Easter 5 -- May 2 & 4, 2021***

***“Welcome Visitors and Members!”***

*(Visitors, you may find helpful information on the back cover.)*

*Focus: The risen Savior produces fruit in His branches.*

## 141

## At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
 2 Might - y Vic - tim from the sky,  
 3 Now no more can death ap - pall,  
 4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy!  
 5 Fa - ther, who the crown shall give,



Praise to our vic - to - rious King,  
 Hell's fierce pow'rs be - neath you lie.  
 Now no more the grave en - thrall;  
 This a - lone can sin de - stroy;  
 Sav - ior, by whose death we live,



Who has washed us in the tide Flow - ing  
 You have con - quered in the fight; You have  
 You have o - pened par - a - dise, And your  
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, New - born  
 Spir - it, guide through all our days, Three in



from his pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 brought us life and light. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 saints in you shall rise. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 souls in you to be. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 One, your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th century, abr.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.  
 Tune: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT (77 77 4) *Kirchengeseng*, Ivancice, 1566.

**M** In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** *(spoken)* Amen.

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**M** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

### LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie*



**M** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (☩) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** *(spoken)* Amen.

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

**M** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### GLORY TO GOD

*Gloria in Excelsis*



Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



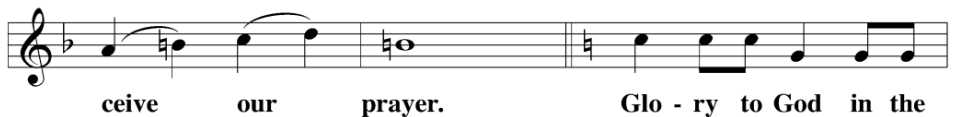
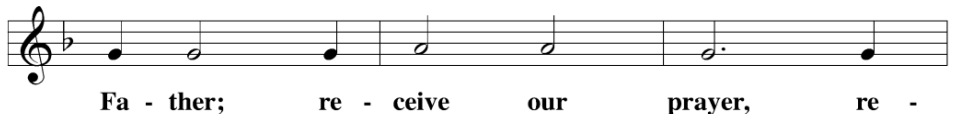
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the  
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.  
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**M** Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** *(spoken)* Amen.

## THE WORD

### **First Reading: Acts 16:11-15**

*<sup>11</sup>After we put out to sea from Troas, we sailed straight to Samothrace, and the next day to Neapolis. <sup>12</sup>From there we went to Philippi, which is a leading city in that part of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We stayed in this city for a number of days.*

*<sup>13</sup>On the Sabbath day we went outside the city gate alongside the river, where we thought there was a place of prayer. We sat down and began to talk to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup>A woman named Lydia, who worshipped God, was listening. She was a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira. The Lord opened her heart to pay close attention to what Paul was saying. <sup>15</sup>When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, "If you consider me a believer in the Lord, come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.*

## Psalm 67

### Refrain

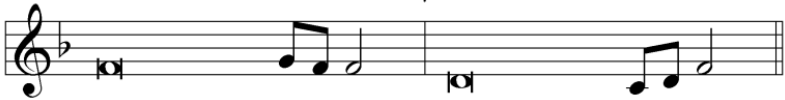


Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

### Psalm tone



May God be gracious to us and bless us\*  
and make his face shine upon us;

may your ways be known on earth,\*  
your salvation among all nations.

May the nations be glad and sing for joy,\*  
for you rule the peoples justly  
and guide the nations of the earth. *Refrain*

Then the land will yield its harvest,\*  
and God, our God, will bless us.

God will bless us,\*  
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

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. *Refrain*



**Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24**

<sup>18</sup>*Dear children, let us love not only with word or with our tongue, but also in action and truth.*

<sup>19</sup>*This is how we know that we are of the truth and how we will set our hearts at rest in his presence:* <sup>20</sup>*If our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.* <sup>21</sup>*Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God.* <sup>22</sup>*We also receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commands and do what is pleasing in his sight.* <sup>23</sup>*This then is his command: that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another just as he commanded us.* <sup>24</sup>*The one who keeps his commands remains in God and God in him. This is how we know that he remains in us: We know it from the Spirit, whom he has given to us.*

**Verse of the Day: John 14:6**

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Jesus said, "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life." Alleluia!*

**Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8**

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>Every branch in me that does not bear fruit, he is going to cut off. And he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so that it will bear more fruit.*

*<sup>3</sup>"You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.*

*<sup>4</sup>Remain in me, and I am going to remain in you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Likewise, you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me.*

*<sup>5</sup>"I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him is the one who bears much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers. Such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this: that you continue to bear much fruit and prove to be my disciples.*

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true  
God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from  
heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the  
Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the  
dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped  
and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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## With High Delight Let Us Unite



1 With high de-light Let us u-nite In songs of sweet  
 2 True God, he first From death has burst Forth in-to life,  
 3 Let prais-es ring; Give thanks and bring To Christ our Lord



ju-bi-la-tion. You pure in heart, Each take your part,  
 all sub-du-ing. His en-e-my Shall van-quished lie;  
 ad-o-ra-tion. His hon-or speed By word and deed



Sing Je-sus Christ, our sal-va-tion. To set us free  
 His death has been death's un-do-ing. "And yours shall be;  
 To ev-'ry land, ev-'ry na-tion. So shall his love



For-ev-er, he Is ris'n and sends To all earth's  
 Like vic-to-ry O'er death and grave," Said he, who  
 Give us a-bove, From mis-er-y And death set



ends Good news to save ev-'ry na-tion.  
 gave His life for us, life re-new-ing.  
 free, All joy and full con-so-la-tion.

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536–99; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.  
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Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART (448 448 44 44 8) *Cinquante Pseaumes*, Geneva, 1543, alt.

**SERMON TEXT: 1 John 3:18-24**

## **HOW YOU CAN BE CERTAIN THAT YOU BELONG TO GOD**

**I. Depend on what God knows.**

**II. Depend on the Spirit that God gave you.**

*After the sermon, the congregation sings:*

Cre - ate in me a

pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -

in me. Do not cast me a - way from your

pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from

me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -

hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**C** Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

## THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

**M** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**M** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up to the Lord.

**M** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C** It is good and right so to do.

**M** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,  
God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -  
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -  
ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my  $\text{\textcircled{I}}$  body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my  $\text{\textcircled{I}}$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**M**  
**C** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
(spoken) Amen.

# O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

*Agnus Dei*



O Christ, Lamb of



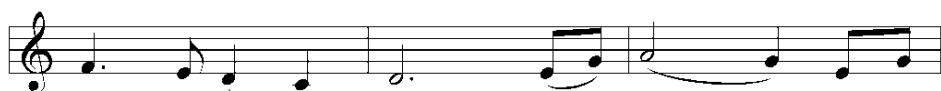
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.

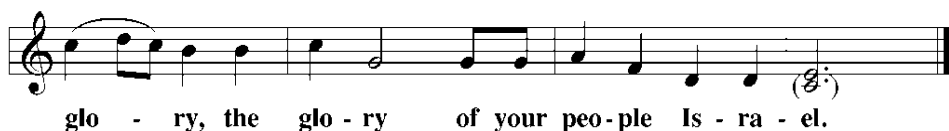
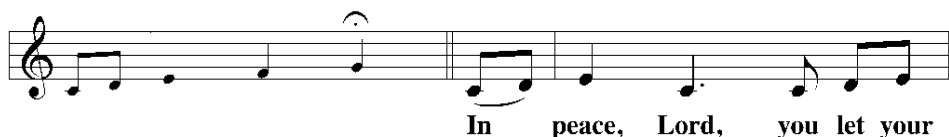
## DISTRIBUTION (no distribution hymn)

*St. John's practices "member communion." We ask, therefore, that only those who are members of St. John's or another WELS/ELS congregation partake of the sacrament.*



# SONG OF SIMEON

*Nunc Dimittis*



**M** O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C** And his mercy endures forever.

**M** We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** *(spoken)* Amen.

**M** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**C** *(spoken)* Amen.

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Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con -  
 2 With praise and thanks - giv-ing, To God ev - er -

fess-ing, The peo - ple of God from his dwell-ing take  
 liv-ing, The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will

leave. The sup - per is end - ed; Oh, be now ex -  
 face. Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er

tend - ed The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be -  
 car - ing, Em - brac - ing his chil - dren of each tribe and

lieve. The seed of his teach - ing, Re - cep -  
 race. With your feast you feed us; With your

tive souls reach - ing, Shall blos - som in ac - tion for  
 light now lead us; U - nite us as one in this

God and for all. His grace did in - vite us; His  
 life that we share. Then may all the liv - ing With

love praise shall u - nite us To work for God's  
 and thanks - giv - ing Give hon - or to

king - dom and his an - swer his call.  
 Christ and his name that we bear.

## ***This Week at St. John's: May 2, 2021***

### **SERVING US TODAY**

Greeters: Ron & Linda Rogus & Eileen Bell

Ushers: Team 4- Rex Roehl's team

Altar Guild: Rachel Anderson & Jenny Shadrick

Donating Bulletins: Henry & Julie Berry

Donating Website in May: Bob & Bernice Cords for their anniversary

### **SERVING US NEXT SUNDAY**

Greeters: Betty Nemitz & Dianne Buettner

Ushers: Team 1- Joel Zschernitz' team

Altar Guild: Dianne Buettner & Judy Trunkel

### **CHURCH NEWS**

***Sunday School:*** Sunday School will be held today from 10:15-11:30 in the school for Grades 1-8. Children in PreK and Kindergarten are invited down to the church basement from 10:15-11:15 for a Bible story, activities, and play time.

***Bible Class:*** Bible Class will be held as normal today. Please join us in the church basement after the worship service.

***Ascension Service:*** We will be having an Ascension Day worship service on Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, at **6:00 p.m.** Mark your calendars.

***Conference:*** Pastor Biebert will be gone tomorrow and Tuesday attending a joint pastor's conference in Hayward.

***Playground Fundraiser:*** We wanted to give the members of our congregation, along with families and children in our school and ELC, a chance to help raise money for our playground over the month of April. We are offering Berres Brothers coffee, personalized to our school with special names. We are selling 10 oz. bags and K-cups of a variety of coffees for \$10 each. Order forms are available on the table in the entryway. Please spread the word and ask family members and friends to help us out. **The last day to order is May 6<sup>th</sup>.** Order forms and checks can be turned in to the school office. All proceeds will go to the ELC playground fund.

**Outdoor Garden:** We thank those who donated soil and mulch for our ELC outdoor garden. Should be a fun project for the daycare children this summer!

**Science Fair:** This past Thursday, Mr. Allard videotaped the students as they presented their science fair projects. This will be available online, both on our website and our Facebook page, very soon. If you would like to stop in to see the projects in the school gym, you can do so after church or Bible Class this morning, or anytime during the week.

**Congratulations:** We congratulate Mr. Allard, who has finished his course of study for a master's degree. He will be getting his degree at the graduation ceremony at Martin Luther College in New Ulm this month. Congratulations Mr. Allard!



**Student of the Week:** The student of the week is Chesni Brown. Chesni is in Kindergarten. She is a hard worker, is friendly and respectful, and sets a good example in the classroom. **Congratulations Chesni!**

**Upcoming Events:** May will be a busy month. Below is a list of some upcoming events. Please watch for further details and more information as these events get closer.

**Arbor Day:** We are planning to have the students do some indoor and outdoor cleaning. This will happen early in May; no specific date has been set.

**3K/4K Graduation:** This will be separated into two different nights. We are planning 3K graduation for May 19 (6:00 p.m.), and 4K graduation for May 20 (6:00 p.m.).

**Music, Literature, Skit Night:** This will be held on Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. here in church.

**Sports Day:** This will be held; tentative date is Monday, May 24, depending on weather and other factors.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation will take place during our worship service on Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Last Day of School:** Last day is Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be giving out awards for Honor Roll and Attendance at our chapel service that morning (8:15), to which parents are invited.

We would like to have our picnic/potluck lunch for parents and students on the last day, hopefully outside (weather permitting).

**Hot Lunch Program:** The hot lunch program is in need of more hot pads and spoons (regular "eating" size). Does anyone have extras they wouldn't mind donating? Thanks!!

**Special Gifts:** \$150.00 was donated to the ELC playground fund in memory of Tom Maciejczak. Thank you!

**College Graduates:** If any of you have children (or grandchildren) who will be graduating from college, please let us know so that we can acknowledge them this month. Thanks!

**Meditations:** The new Meditations are available in the entryway this morning. The devotions start on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Please consider a \$3.50 donation to help our GPS group cover the cost of providing these.

**Retirement:** Some of you may remember Paul Tess, a former teacher and principal here at St. John's. Paul is retiring this spring after 45 years in the ministry as a teacher, principal, and college professor. As a surprise for Paul (and his wife Beth), their family would like to reach out to as many current and former coworkers, students, friends, and family as possible, and request that you send in funny stories, good memories, updates, pictures, or just congratulations to an email address selected for this big moment. The email address is [ptess.retires@gmail.com](mailto:ptess.retires@gmail.com).

The family would like this to remain a surprise to Paul as well as Beth, so if you have any questions feel free to send them to the email address listed above.

If you'd like to send a message the old fashioned way, you can mail a letter to:

Stephanie Grow  
375 N Main St  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527

**Luther Prep Summer Camps 2021:** *Luther Prep tentatively plans to hold its usual slate of summer camps this June and July. Covid modifications and precautions will be in place. Day camps and overnight camps will be offered. For more information and to register, visit*

*[http://www.lps.wels.net/apps/pages/summer\\_sports\\_camps](http://www.lps.wels.net/apps/pages/summer_sports_camps) or call 920-261-4352. Hope you can join us this summer!*

**WELS Weekly Prayer:** *WELS – Lord, we praise you for "church"—fellow believers who gather amidst the troubles of this world to encourage one another in your Word. Thank you for providing technology to allow us to continue to do church and Bible study online over the past year even when we could not meet in person. We also thank you for providing a vaccine that is protecting many from further spread of the COVID-19 virus. If it is your will, allow us to safely return to gathering in-person once again to enjoy the full benefits of being together as the communion of your saints. Amen.*

**Worship the Lord with Gladness:**

Sunday: 101; Tuesday: 15

**Worship with Our Care of God's Wealth:**

Thankoffering Given Last Week: \$5,808.00

# **St. John's Lutheran Church & School**

711 & 805 W 5<sup>th</sup> St., Neillsville, WI 54456

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Facebook (school): [www.facebook.com/stjohnshornets/](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnshornets/)

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--Church Office: 715-743-2944

Mike Allard, Principal: 715-937-7534; [allardmj1@gmail.com](mailto:allardmj1@gmail.com)

--School Office: 715-743-2501

John Hagedorn, Chairman: 715-743-4653;

[hagedornjohnw2@gmail.com](mailto:hagedornjohnw2@gmail.com)

Worship Schedule: Sundays at 9:00am & Tuesdays at 6:00pm

Worship Broadcast-Cable Ch. 977: Sun-10:30am & Mon-7pm

## "Welcome Visitors & Members!"

To those who are visiting us for the first time, we extend our sincere welcome; to our friends who know us we renew our welcome; to those who seek a church home we invite you to be part of our family and enjoy fellowship with our Savior.

To assist you in worship, personal listening devices are available for anyone to use. Please talk to the ushers for assistance.

*Visitors, if you would like to know more about our church or school, please introduce yourself to our pastor. He would be delighted to speak with you and serve you in whatever way he can.*

**We love seeing young children in church** as we want families to worship together. We also love to hear children making a "joyful noise to the Lord." If you need some privacy for feeding an infant or changing a diaper, please make use of our parents' room off the north side of the entryway where you can still listen to the service.