

# resurrection **REALity**

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GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 21, 2024

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
4911 Brauer Road - Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

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Welcome to our worship service! In our services here at St. John we have two chief goals. Our first goal is to be built up in our faith through the only means God has given to us, the gospel found in God's Word and Sacraments. Our second goal is to give praise to God—Father, Son, & Holy Spirit—alone. As we seek these two goals we are equipped to carry out our mission—*Come, Grow, Live, and Share Christ!* May the Lord bless our worship today.

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### Guests

We welcome you to St. John with joy in our hearts that you chose to worship with us today! Instructions for worship are found in the bulletin and will be announced by pastor. There is a **calming room** in the back of church available for parents to calm and care for their children during the service. **Bathrooms** are located downstairs and to the left. A **changing table** is available in the women's bathroom. Should you have any other questions, please speak with one of the ushers or with pastor.

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### Guidelines for Worship

- The order of service is called *The Service: Setting One*. It begins on page 154 in the blue pew hymnal: *Christian Worship*.
  - The hymns can be found in the hymnal.
  - Worship Folders: We encourage you to take them home for weekly review of worship or to share with a friend.
  - **Communion**—At St. John we practice membership communion. That means we invite to the altar those who have expressed their agreement with the biblical teachings of this church through current membership here at St. John or other WELS or ELS congregations. Any visitor desiring communion needs to speak to pastor before worship. Communion will be distributed at the communion rail. If you require communion in the pew, please speak with pastor or one of the ushers before worship.
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### Resurrection REALity

If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, Jesus' resurrection proves that "all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but also the way we look at life now. The a great theologian of long ago, Augustine, called the season of Easter "a joyful week of weeks"— seven wonderful weeks, each seven glorious days long. In this glorious season, let us meditate upon the breath-taking implications of the resurrection.

Our Easter season worship concludes with this pattern.

Fourth Sunday of Easter 4/21

Fifth Sunday of Easter 4/28

Sixth Sunday of Easter 5/5

Seventh Sunday of Easter 5/12

The Risen Savior Provides Good Shepherding

The Living Lord Produces Active Faith

Jesus' Business Is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours

We Will Overcome This Hostile World

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**THEME OF THE DAY:** *Resurrection REALity: The Risen Savior Provides Good Shepherding*

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Scripture frequently pictures spiritual care in terms of a shepherd watching over sheep. Even folks unfamiliar with shepherding are able to grasp the meaning. Jesus goes over and above ordinary shepherds. He laid down his life for his sheep. His care is real!

The word “pastor” comes from the Latin word for “shepherd.” Today, there are plenty of people —pastors, religious leaders, etc.—who claim they provide healing for your soul. Yet, Scripture warns that “many” of these are “false prophets” (1 John 4:1) who “distort the truth” (Acts 20:30). Many! The resurrection reality, however, is that our Good Shepherd is faithful. He has given his Word which identifies faithful sub-shepherds of Christ, and is faithfully used by them.

**HYMN—913** *Come Away from Rush and Hurry*

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*Please stand and turn to page 154 in the hymnal.*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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M: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father’s house forevermore; for you live and reign with the Father and the holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON:** *Acts 20:28-32*

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<sup>28</sup> “Always keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has placed you as overseers, to shepherd the church of God, which he purchased with his own blood. <sup>29</sup> I know that after my departure savage wolves, who will not spare the flock, will come in among you. <sup>30</sup> Even from your own group men will rise up, twisting the truth in order to draw away disciples after them.

<sup>31</sup> Therefore be always on the alert! Remember that for three years, night and day, I never stopped warning each one of you with tears.

<sup>32</sup> “And now I entrust you to God and to the word of his grace, which has power to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

M: The Word of the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 23**

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## SECOND LESSON: 1 John 4:1-6

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Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit who does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard is coming and is already in the world. <sup>4</sup>You are from God, dear children, and you

have overcome the false prophets, because the one in you is greater than the one in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world. That is why they speak from a worldly perspective and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. The one who knows God listens to us, but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. That is how we can distinguish between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

M: The Word of the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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Alleluia. Praise God for a living hope: Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia.

## GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

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<sup>11</sup> "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired man, who is not a shepherd, does not own the sheep. He sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep, and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> Because he works for money, he does not care about the sheep.

<sup>14</sup> "I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me <sup>15</sup> (just as the Father knows me and I know the Father). And I lay down my life for the

sheep. <sup>16</sup> I also have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have the authority to lay it down, and I have the authority to take it up again. This is the commission I received from my Father."

M: The Gospel of the Lord!

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**HYMN—641** *Lord Jesus Christ, with us Abide*

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**SERMON:** *1 John 4:1-6*

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*After the sermon, please stand and turn to page 162 in the hymnal as we confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.*

**Offering Hymn— 466 v.4** *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*

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| 4. "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave; he has arisen this world to save. Jesus' redeeming labors are done. Even the battle with sin is won." | Let us sing praise to him with endless joy; death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.<br>Our sin forgiving, alleluia!<br>Jesus is living, Alleluia! |
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**COMMUNION HYMN—555** *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*  
**563** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing*

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*After Holy Communion, we continue on page 170 in the hymnal.*

**HYMN—721** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

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**Pastor:** Peter Martin - 920.743.5343 - pastor@stjohnvalmy.com

**Website:** stjohnvalmy.com

**Organist:** Phyllis Simon

**Office Administration Assistant:** Barb Schaefer—office@stjohnvalmy.com

**Treasurer:** Chuck Ott—treasurer@stjohnvalmy.com

**Scripture:** Scripture is taken from: *The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version™* (EHV™) © 2016 *The Wartburg Project*. All rights reserved. [www.wartburgproject.org](http://www.wartburgproject.org)

## **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**Our Shut-ins:** Margaret Evenson, Dianne Teddleton. Sandy Hillmer

**Our Leaders,** local, state, and federal.

**Our Providers,** those in healthcare, emergency, medical, research, food supply, etc.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Bake Sale**

Thank you to everyone who brought baked goods or bought baked goods. We were able to send a check for \$370 to LWMS Spring Rally Mission Fund. Thank you.

### **Quarterly Voters Meeting**

Today after the worship service. Reports and items of business at the voters meeting will include a final decision on worship times, a copier replacement, repairing cracked plastering in the sanctuary, and a bequest designated for an organ fund.

### **Five Favorite Hymns**

We still have three left, continuing next Sunday right after worship. Learn the captivating stories behind these hymns, study the hymns, and then appreciate them in a whole other light the following Sunday when we sing them in worship! 4/28 - Amazing Grace; 5/5 - How Great Thou Art; 5/12 Silent Night.

### **Soccer Camp**

We will be participating in a soccer camp the second week of July. This year it will be paired with St. Peter's and held at the fairgrounds. We are looking forward to building up and reaching out!

### **Spring Cleaning**

We will be giving God's house that extra level of care in the week of April 22-27. People can sign up to clean specified areas.

**Pastor Martin** will be out of town April 22-26 visiting family.

**ST. JOHN WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**April 21, 2024**

**Schedule**

Today 10:00 a.m. - Quarterly Voters Meeting  
Wednesday 6:30 a.m. - Joint WELS Bible Class @ St. Peter's  
3:30-5:00 p.m. - Catechism Class  
Sunday 9:00 a.m. - Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School & Bible Class

**Birthdays**

April 15-Jeff Peterson; 27th-Dian Teddleton & Keith Magle

**Anniversaries**

April 22-Lynn and Margie Nelson; 25th-Bob and Jane Goggins & Terry and Wendy Bittorf

**Altar Guild**

April 21-Carrie Petersilka; May 5-Phyllis Simon; 19th-Barb Schaefer

**Ushering**

April - Dave Tomjanovich & Darrel Viste  
May - Kevin Wilke & Ed Staats

**Communion Server**

April - Mike Nolte  
May - Brian Schram

**Church Cleaning**

Week beginning: April 22-Otto family; 29th-S. Tanck & M. Kramer; May 6-Ehlers/Grasse Family; 13th-Wilke Family; 20th-Lynn Nelson Family; 27th-Tomjanovich Family; June 3-J. Schumacher & R. Ott; 10th-B. Schaefer & D. Luedtke; 17th-A. Gilbert & P. Simon; 24th-Andreae/Staats Family

**Scrip**

Please remember that Scrip is available in our library before and after services. They are honored by many area businesses at face value, and a portion goes to our church's Christian Education Fund. Or you can contact Jane at [jane@door-web.com](mailto:jane@door-web.com) or call (920) 743-1964.