

# ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



**SELC**  
**LCMS**



**Sunday, April 7, 2024, at 9am**



## **Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

6<sup>th</sup> & N. Vine St., Hazleton, PA 18201

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[stjohnshazleton.org](http://stjohnshazleton.org)

**Rev. Gordon Naumann - *Pastor***  
**Karen Ann Kowalczyk - *Organist***  
**David Trovitch - *Deacon***  
**Vaughn Naumann - *Acolyte***  
**Maci Evancho - *Crucifer***

### **WELCOME TO WORSHIP TODAY!**

**It is a joy to worship our Savior, Jesus, with you! In the pews there are blue cards for guests and members. Please fill one out and the ushers will collect them after the offering. And if you are looking for a church home, you've just found it!**



## To Our Visitors



### What is Communion/the Lord's Supper?

As members of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, members of St. John's Lutheran Church hold to the biblical and historic understanding of holy communion; that in this sacrament the bread and wine, having been consecrated, are Christ's real, risen, and glorified body and blood, just as Jesus really said, 'Take, eat, this is my body', and 'take, drink... this is my blood' (Matthew 26:26 ff). Holy Communion is received for the forgiveness of sins, for unity with Christ, and for the unity within the 'body of Christ' – that is His Church. This is why it is reserved for those who hold a common confession of faith. Those who share with us in this Holy Supper must be members of a congregation of the LCMS, or of a congregation in full fellowship with the LCMS, thus bearing public witness that they agree with our teaching in general and with the following two teachings in particular:

1. When consecrated, again, the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper are the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, given to us for the remission of sins.
2. Those baptized and confirmed Christians who come to Holy Communion in repentance and faith, grateful for God's forgiveness, are also committed to offering their personal forgiveness to all others.

Guests communing with us for the first time should see the pastor or an elder before the service when possible, to confirm that we are in fellowship. If you are interested in becoming a communicant member or if you have any questions regarding our beliefs and practice, please see the pastor.



## **Easter II Sunday – Quasimodo Geniti**

Processional Hymn: 470 O Sons and Daughters of the King (s. 1-4)

**Confession and Absolution** – *LSB p.184*

Stand

## Service of the Word



**Introit** - Psalm 81:1, 7a, 10, 16b; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2a

**P** Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk of the Word.

**C** **Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to our God!**

**P** In distress you called, and I delivered you;

**C** **I answered you in the secret place of thunder.**

**P** I am the LORD Who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

**C** **Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it;**

**P** And with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.

**C** **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.**

**P** Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk of the Word.

**C** **Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to our God!**

**Kyrie** - *LSB p.186*

**Gloria in Excelsis** - *LSB p.186*



**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

Sit

## First Reading – Ezekiel 37:1–14

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones.

<sup>2</sup>And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.”

<sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

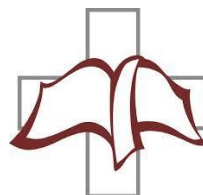
<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

<sup>8</sup>And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



**Gradual** – adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

**L** Christ has risen from the dead.

**C** [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

**L** He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

**C** He has put all things under his feet.

**Epistle Reading** – 1 John 5:4–10

<sup>4</sup>For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. <sup>9</sup>If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. <sup>10</sup>Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Alleluias** - *LSB p. 190*



**Holy Gospel** – John 20:19-31

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being

locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.



**Nicene Creed** - *LSB p.191*

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day: 603 We Know That Christ Is Raised**

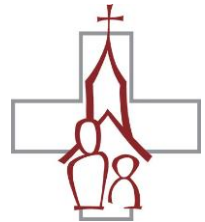
# **Sermon: “Blessed because of what He did not have to do!”**

*Stand*

**Offertory - LSB p.192**

*Sit*

**Offering**



*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

**Service of the Sacrament**



**Preface - LSB p.194**

**Sanctus**



**Lord’s Prayer**

**The Words of Our Lord & Pax Domini**

**Agnus Dei**



*Sit*

**Distribution**

**(Hymns 637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord,  
641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart)**

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis - LSB p.199**

**Thanksgiving & Post-Communion Collect**

**Salutation, Benedicamus & Benediction**

**Recessional Hymn: 470 O Sons and Daughters of the King (s. 5-9)**

## Prayers for Members

We encourage you this week to pray for:

Frank Gilham, Robert Gould, Pauline Onder, Lucille Adamoyurka, Tom, Sylvia, Stacy, and Sherry Wargo, Patti Zschunke, Peter Panco, Irene Beishline, Bob & Pat Onder, Ann Gangwer, Bob Mandak, Denae Starry, Bill Ray, Lorraine and Jack Ross, Paul Kowalczyk, The Dice family, the Mumaw family, and Bob Drummond

May the Lord continue to unite and bless us in the faith.

## Prayer Chain Request?

Contact: Lucille Adamoyurka - (570) 956-1678







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from the church's Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/stjohnshazleton](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnshazleton)

### This Week at St. John's

**Wednesday** - Catechism Class at 6pm

**Sunday** - Divine Service at 9am

- Bible Study after the service

Subscribe to the **SELC Newsletter**. Go to the website and enter your email address: [selc.lcms.org](http://selc.lcms.org) (Scroll to the bottom of the page).

### Mission/Vision Statement

“We are faith-Growing Followers of Christ,  
Reaching out in Response to God's Love”

St. John's Lutheran Church has a ‘Take it or Leave it’ food trolley. Donations received may be a welcome relief to the visitor who is looking for a little help here and there. Thank you!!

### **Altar Flowers**

Flower arrangements typically cost **\$40.**



***Thank you.***



# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



## What is a “creed”?

The Explanation of the Small Catechism says a creed “is a statement of what we believe, teach and confess.” The word “creed” comes from the Latin word “credo” which means “I believe.” Many organizations have and use creeds. The Church uses three creeds: the Apostles’ Creed, the Nicene Creed and the Athanasian Creed. The creeds of the Church are different from all other creeds because they proclaim a living and wonderful faith that comes from God!

## Why do we speak the creed in the Divine Service?

What if I told you that when you speak the creed, you are telling the whole world what you believe? It’s true! When you speak the creed in the Divine Service you are responding in faith to what God has done for you through Jesus, and you are confessing the very Gospel message that saves all who believe. What a great thing to do every Sunday!



### Parents:

Before or after the Divine Service, show your children where they can find the creeds of the Church in the hymnal. Utilize these wonderful gifts from God in your family devotions at home. Speaking the Apostles’ Creed together in the morning is a great way to start the day.

## Sharing Jesus during Lent

Greetings in Christ! Thank you for your prayers for the activities mentioned in the past newsletter.

Sunday Divine Service 10 am, and bible study at 11:30am, in attendance are 14 faithful members (Two are studying to be members). This picture was taken after church on March 17, 2024.



Gustavo, Ruth, Mikhaela and Isaiah Maita

Tuesday online English classes with LCMS volunteers teaching Puerto Rican students, just completed the semester on March 5th with an invitation to church events (not pictured).



Men's bible study and barbeque.



Wednesday fellowship (craft, supper and bible study) at church in Mayaguez with 8 to 14 present. Pictured left, Jose led the bible study for Gustavo who was at a church planting conference for LCMS missionaries in Latin America

Thursday English class in-person in Mayaguez with 4 students (pictured right). We read a psalm, work through an English workbook, share prayer requests and pray.



Pictured below is Friday's English class in Ponce for children for 20 children. Ruth leads an English class on Christian values two Fridays a month in Ponce.



In small groups, the children made Babel towers like the proud men who forgot about God, and we memorized, "Always be humble and gentle." Eph. 4:2

To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to [ruth.maita@lcms.org](mailto:ruth.maita@lcms.org) with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.



