

A silhouette of a cross stands on a dark hill against a bright blue sky filled with white, fluffy clouds. Sunbeams radiate from behind the cross, creating a dramatic, ethereal effect. The cross is positioned on the right side of the frame, with its vertical post extending from the bottom of the hill towards the top of the image. The horizontal arms of the cross are slightly angled. The overall mood is one of hope and spiritual light.

A little while,  
and you will see Me  
no longer

## **ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A North American Lutheran Church  
1764 Meyersville Road  
Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

**CHURCH OFFICE: 361-277-8653**

[stjohnvlutheran@juno.com](mailto:stjohnvlutheran@juno.com)

**PARSONAGE: 361-275-9895**

(Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373)

[jboor1@juno.com](mailto:jboor1@juno.com)

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Water Sunday**

April 24, 2016

**Greeter This Week:** Cheryl Bramlette

**Greeter Next Week:** Daren & Dawn Otto

**Reader This Week:** Rylan Dreier

**Reader Next Week:** Jeffery Bennett

**Acolytes This Week:** Marlee Blain

**Acolytes Next Week:** Will Green

**Altar Guild This Month:** Pam Haun & Nikki Nagel

**Altar Guild Next Month:** Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

**Communion Assistant This Month:** John Swannack

**Communion Assistant Next Month:** Margie Swannack

**Large Print Bulletins** are available on the narthex table.

Please ask an usher for a copy if you would like one.

**Busy Bags** are available in the Narthex for all children to enjoy.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We the members of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Meyersville, strive to be witnesses for Christ, a Christian family striving to be models and examples to others, loving one another and trying to be friendly to all; acknowledging that we are sinful, but being patient, faithful, giving, caring, forgiving, and forgiven believers.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*The Service begins with the first notes of the prelude. Please show your respect with silent meditation at this time.*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISES AND CONCERNS

*Stand as you are able.*

OPENING HYMN: LBW #377 "Lift High the Cross"

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

P The word is near you,

**C on your lips and in your heart.**

P If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

**C and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**

P Faith comes from what is heard,

**C and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.**

SCRIPTURE SONG

WOV p. 47

**Salvation belongs to our God**

**and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.**

**Great and wonderful are your deeds,**

**O God of the universe;**

**Just and true are your ways,**

**O Ruler of all the nations.**

**Who can fail to honor you,**

**Lord and sing the glory of your name?**

**Salvation belongs to our God**

**and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.**

**For you alone are the Holy One.**

**All nations will draw near, and worship before you,**

**For your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**Salvation belongs to our God**

**and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray

**All O God, you make the minds of the faithful to be of one will. Grant that your people would love what you command and desire what you promise, that, among the manifold changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### FIRST READING

Acts 11:1-18

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, <sup>3</sup>“You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” <sup>4</sup>But Peter began and explained it to them in order: <sup>5</sup>“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. <sup>6</sup>Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup>But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup>But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ <sup>10</sup>This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. <sup>11</sup>And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup>And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to

Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ <sup>15</sup>As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup>If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” <sup>18</sup>When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 148

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights.

<sup>2</sup>**Praise him, all you angels of his;  
praise him, all his host.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup>**Praise him, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the Lord;  
for he commanded, and they were created.

<sup>6</sup>**He made them stand fast forever and ever;  
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

<sup>7</sup>Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup>**Fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

<sup>9</sup>Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;

**<sup>10</sup>Wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and winged birds;**

**<sup>11</sup>Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;**

**<sup>12</sup>Young men and maidens,  
old and young together.**

**<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and  
heaven.**

**<sup>14</sup>He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.  
Hallelujah!**

## SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-7

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." <sup>5</sup>And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. <sup>7</sup>The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

*Stand as you are able.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

WOV p. 48

**Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you!**  
**Word of life, Jesus Christ, all praise to you!**  
**Our hearts burn with-in us**  
**while you open to us the Scriptures.**  
**Word of life, Jesus Christ, all glory to you!**  
**Word of life, Jesus Christ, all praise to you!**

GOSPEL READING

John 16:12-22

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.** (*spoken*)

{Jesus said to the disciples,} <sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>16</sup>A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” <sup>17</sup>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?’” <sup>18</sup>So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” <sup>19</sup>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’? <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*spoken*)

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

HYMN: LBW #346 “When Peace, Like a River ”

*Stand as you are able.*

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

**P** In Christ, you have heard the Word of truth, the Gospel of your salvation.

**C** **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

*Stand as you are able.*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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



## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith.

**C Pray in the Holy Spirit.**

P Keep yourselves in the love of God.

**C Look forward in the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

**C Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*Silence for reflection.*

P Gracious God,

**C Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in the newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**C Amen**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us share that peace.

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

*Stand as you are able.*

## OFFERTORY

WOV p. 50-51

**Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
Yours the hosannas, the dying rebirth.  
Ours the rejoicing of nature reclaimed;  
Ours the thanksgiving to your Holy name.  
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done;  
Yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Gracious God,

**C in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P As God's people called to love one another let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

*After each prayer or petition, we respond:*

P God of mercy

**C Hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**C Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

BLESSING

**P** Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless us now  
and forever.

**C Amen.**

HYMN: WOV #690 "Shall We Gather at the River"

DISMISSAL

**Pastor:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God**

*Please stand as you are able.*

THE DOXOLOGY HYMN

LBW #565

POSTLUDE

St. John Meyersville

<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>



## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

<b>Today 4/24</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship <b>*Water Sunday</b>
<b>Mon 4/25</b>	8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Office Hours
<b>Tue 4/26</b>	8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
<b>Wed 4/27</b>	8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:30 p.m. Quilters
<b>Thurs 4/28</b>	<b>Office Closed</b>
<b>Fri 4/29</b>	<b>Office Closed</b>
<b>Next Sun</b>	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship - with standard communion

*Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors. If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would consider St. John's.*



**Sunday, April 17, 2016:**

**Total Offering:** \$2,974.00

**Attendance:** Worship- 93 Sunday School- 18 Children, 18 Adults

## **St. John's Mission of the Month:**



### **Mission of the Month of April:**

**Water Missions International**

#### **Mission Statement**

Water Missions International is a nonprofit Christian engineering organization providing sustainable safe water and sanitation solutions for people in developing countries and disaster areas.

Safe water is the source of life. It is the foundation for health, education and viable economies. Through the generous support of individuals, churches, our corporate partners and many others, Water Missions International has brought relief and hope to more than 2.5 million people across the globe.

Our faith and belief in the sanctity of life compel us to develop and implement the best technologies and community development programs so God will be honored and glorified through our work.

#### **Mission**

Our mission is to be a best in class Christian engineering ministry that transforms lives through sustainable safe water solutions.

#### **Vision**

Water Missions International will be a Christian engineering ministry that is recognized as a global leader in transformational safe water solutions by 2017.

**\*\*Today is Water Sunday at St. John's.**



**SAVE THE DATE – Sat. May 7, 2016**

**8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON**

**Spring Workday**

We are planning a spring workday and encourage everyone to participate. There are a lot of odd jobs around the Church, pariah hall, parsonage, and grounds that are hard to contract out, but need to be done. Please consider giving one Saturday morning of your time to help us care for God's House. The following are jobs that need to be done:

- Remove ball moss in newly planted trees.
- Brush removal along east property line fence.
- Trim trees.
- Dust parish hall fan blades.
- Remove dead tree at the AT&T easement area.
- Remove steel posts at trees planted last year in cemetery.
- Mulch trees

If anyone has noted other areas around the church, parish hall, parsonage, and grounds that need our attention, please contact someone on the property team. Property team members are as follows: Dickie Bettge, chm, Marv Sager, Pastor John, Clay Haun, Vance Egg, Glenn Ruschhaupt, and Will Roeske.

### **NATE BOEHL BENEFIT**

**Saturday, May 7, 2016 Cuero Park & Clubhouse:**

5K, golf tournament, garage sale, blood drive, raffle, silent auction, sausage meal plates & a live auction. Contact Haley Cowey at 210-621-8879 for more information.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, contact Evelyn Diebel. And please update your request at least once a month so the list can be kept current and up to date. If you wish to receive the Prayer Chain requests, please contact Evelyn Diebel (361-275-5979)

**Our Military and their families:**

Nicholas Jacobs - Deployed to Afghanistan

Russell Copeland - Reserves, preparing to deploy

John Otto - USMC, Norfolk, VA

Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, preparing to deploy

Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, USS Philippines

Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy, preparing for Boot Camp



**Please Pray for:** Lisa Kincart

Adam Womble

Nate Boehl

**Homebound:** Cleo Wendel, Helen Mae Egg and Bette Jo Haun

Prayer request cards are available in the pews and can be filled out and handed to an usher during the first hymn for your request to be included in the day's prayer. If you have a private prayer request please fill out the appropriate side and give to the pastor.

# **Easter 5**

April 24, 2016

## **Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year C)**



When we find ourselves in the midst of grief, pain, and sorrow, it is almost impossible to dream of better days. We may know intellectually that things will turn around and healing will begin, but our hearts are broken and we mourn. Jesus spoke to those raw emotions as he told his followers that their sorrow would soon turn to joy. Our Lord turns mourning into dancing as he brings new life out of death.