The image features a religious painting of a hand, likely representing the hand of Jesus, emerging from a white, flowing robe. The hand is positioned in the lower right quadrant, with fingers slightly spread. The background is a textured, aged surface with a grid of light-colored rectangular panels and scattered brown stains, suggesting an ancient wall or parchment. The overall tone is solemn and historical.

*By believing
you may have life
in His name*

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Second Sunday of Easter
April 11, 2021

Greeter This Week: Dickie & Cathie Bettge

Greeter Next Week: Candy Cowley

Reader This Week: Cathie Bettge

Reader Next Week: Johnna Picard

Acolytes This Week: Volunteer Needed

Acolytes Next Week: Volunteer Needed

Altar Guild This Month: Dawn Otto & Kaley Coker

Altar Guild Next Month: Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

Communion Assistant This Month: Dickie Bettge

Communion Assistant Next Month: Pam Haun

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.

Worship Notes regarding Today's Service:

Thank you for attending. We thank God that we are once again able to gather inside the church. For those who are not comfortable entering the church we are also broadcasting as we have for the past several weeks and you are more than welcome to remain in your car. The service, the organ music, and Pastor John's message will be routed through the church's sound system and broadcast on your car radio on FM channel 101.5. Please follow the service in the bulletin.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS PRAISES AND CONCERNS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

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

L Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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

L Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

HYMN:

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

LBW #315

**Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav’n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation, Enter ev’ry trembling heart.**

**Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving spirit Into ev’ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit; Let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of Faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.**

**Come, Almighty, to deliver; Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish then thy new creation, Pure and spotless let us Be;
Let us see thy great salvation Perfectly re-stored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, Till in heav’n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

GREETING

L 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.

KYRIE

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their mercy and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

L Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship you, we give you thanks,

We praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world'

Have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father;

Receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One,

You alone are the Lord, You alone are the

Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray;

Help us, almighty God, that our joyful celebration of the resurrection feast may be reflected in our daily work and conversation. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

PSALM READING

Psalm 148

¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.

²**Praise him, all you angels of his;
praise him, all his host.**

³Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars.

⁴**Praise him, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

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

⁶**He made them stand fast forev-er and ever;
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

⁷Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;

**⁸Fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

⁹Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;

**¹⁰Wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and winged birds;**

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

**¹²Young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

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

**¹⁴He 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: 1 John 1:1-2:2

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — ²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us — ³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

GOSPEL VERSE

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING: John 20:19-31

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

¹⁹On 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.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.” ²⁴Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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." ²⁶Eight 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but 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 The Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

WOV #674

**Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light! Splendor, the Lamb,
heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

Refrain:

**Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
give God the glory! Alleluia!**

**Walking the way, Christ in the center,
telling the story to open our eyes; breaking our bread,
giving us glory: Jesus, our blessing, our constant surprise.**

Refrain:

**Jesus the vine, we are the branches;
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree; heaven to earth,
Christ to the people, gift of the future now flowing to me.**

Refrain:

**Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:
death put asunder, and Easter is bright. Cherubim sing:
"O grave, be open!" Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.**

Refrain:

**City of God, Easter forever,
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb, river of life,
saints and archangels, sing with creation to God the I AM!**

Refrain:

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father, the 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 arose 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 the life everlasting.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always,
And also with you

Offering – If you wish to give an offering it will be received as you leave.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a
Right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your
Presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from' me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
And uphold me with your free Spirit.**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

**Lord, listen to Your children praying, Lord, send Your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to Your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace!**
(after each petition "Lord in your mercy," RESPONSE "HEAR OUR PRAYER")

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord
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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

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**

HYMN:

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!”

LBW #144

**Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**The Lord of Life is ris'n this day;
Bring flow'rs of song to strew his way; Let all the world rejoice and say:**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Praise we in songs of victory
That Love, that life which cannot die, And sing with hearts uplifted high:**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord, The life laid down, the life restored:**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

THE DOXOLOGY

HYMN:

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 4/11	Second Sunday of Easter 8:00 a.m. Property Team Meeting 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship ~ <i>Called Congregational Meeting</i> re: A/C Following Worship
Mon 4/12	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Tues 4/13	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Wed 4/14	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
Thurs 4/15	~ <i>Office Closed</i> ~ 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
Fri 4/16	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
Next Sun	Third Sunday of Easter 8:00 a.m. Parish Ed Meeting 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship ~ Under the Trees



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.

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.

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2021 General \$250.00, Building \$100.00 **Total: \$350.00**
Attendance: 28 **Good Friday Attendance: 42**

Sunrise Service, Sunday, April 4, 2021 General \$405.00, MOM-Water Missions \$50.00, CAMAL House \$100.00, Organ \$50.00, Youth \$193.00, Building \$100.00 **Total: \$898.00**
Attendance: 78

Sunday Easter Service, April 4, 2021 General \$2,318.00, MOM-Water Missions \$100.00, Organ \$45.00, Sunday School \$19.10, Youth \$5.00, Cemetery \$5.00, Building \$85.00, Reno. \$150.00 **Total: \$2,727.10**

Attendance: Worship - 104 Sunday School - 30 - Children, 4 - Adults Confirmation - No Class (Easter)

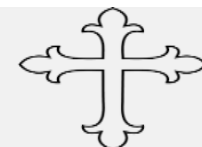


Called Congregational Meeting

There will be a called congregational meeting following worship TODAY, April 11th in the Sanctuary. This meeting will be regarding the air conditioner unit that needs to be replaced.

NALC Warehouse and Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

We will be collecting for these charities all year. Each month we will feature items to be donated. We will be collecting scrub brushes & scouring cleanser (ex. Comet) for the month of April. Thank you!



NEW UPDATE: Worship Team Notes

We will be having church in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. from now on, unless something changes. Communion will go back to the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month by stations. Any changes will be noted in this article. Please note there are certain guidelines that have to be followed. These specific guidelines are posted on our website & FaceBook page. The service will still be broadcasted on the radio station FM 101.5 for those who wish to stay in their vehicles. The service will also be videoed & posted to the church website on Sundays, after noon sometime. Please continue to check the church website & FaceBook page for updates.

Worship Team

Mission of the Month of April



Water Missions – Disaster Response

Texas Winter Storm

Mission Statement

We will specifically designate funds to go toward the Disaster Response: Texas Winter Storm. The week of freezing temperatures and severe power outages led to a plumbing catastrophe due to burst pipes. This resulted in approximately 14 million people being left without safe drinking water.

Water Mission collaborated with Plumbers Without Borders to get safe water back into the homes of the most vulnerable. They are working to stock the Austin Disaster Relief Network's warehouse with a plumbing depot so ADRN is able to continue serving where there is a need.

Bake Sale Benefit for Valerie, Jordan, Aiiwen & Emma

Please help this family out if you can by attending a benefit bake sale today in Victoria to help defray medical expenses. It will start at 11:00 at Victorian's Beauty Salon, 1915 John Stockbauer Dr. These 3 children ages 5, 7 & 8 along with their mother were in a terrible car wreck Monday. They have all been transferred to a San Antonio hospital, where the little girl, Emma age 5 is fighting for her life. The 2 boys & their mother are stable but have multiple injuries. This family is our church cleaner, Maria Ricardo's daughter & grandchildren. If you cannot attend, any donation would be greatly appreciated. Please just put "Maria" on the envelope & make any checks payable to Maria Ricardo. Thank you for your help & prayers. God bless. + + +



Please Help

The Old Stone Church Historical Committee is in search of vintage photographs of both the Old Stone Church and of St. John church. The current church (gothic structure) will be 100 year old in July 2021. We would ask permission to scan the images for upcoming projects and preservation purposes. Please contact M'Liss Moore at 275-8069 if you have any pictures tucked away in your treasures.



Special Prayers for Cole

Cole is at home doing well surrounded by the love and support of all his family. He continues to have therapy on a daily basis at his home and will soon also be doing therapy in Victoria. God continues to be with Cole each and every day strengthening his faith, patience, and courage as he travels down this long and difficult journey. We thank each and every one again for all your prayers, concerns, and support for Cole and his family. We ask for you to continue praying for Cole's healing and for strength and patience for him and his family. Thank you and God Bless.



+Please pray at 12:00 PM daily for Cole+

At his request, these are the prayers he has on his list:

Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual

To help family stay strong

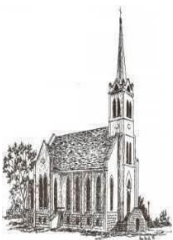
Patience

Stay positive

The drive to keep trying (perseverance)

Church Renovation Update

Remaining items for the construction progress are to complete the canopy and final grade the site. After completion, a final walk through will be held to address any items that need to be touched-up. The estimated costs for construction, change orders, materials testing, architect, and incidentals is \$599,553. We are required to pay as construction progresses so the bills are coming in on a regular basis. This project received almost unanimous support so we ask that you prayerfully consider giving generously to this project. GOAL: \$599,553 RECEIVED AS OF April 4, 2021: \$574,153.30



PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have a prayer request or wish to be on the prayer chain please contact Mary Wagner (361)275-9500 or Pastor John (361)243-0373. We ask that you would update the prayer request regularly. If we do not have an update, in an effort to keep our list current and up to date, we will presume the situation has improved and remove the request after 30 days. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Our Military and their families:

Jeff Zengerle - U.S. Army NG, Kuwait
Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Hawaii
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Virginia
Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, 2-4 CaB, Charlie Company, Black Hawk Medevac Pilot, Fort Carson, Colorado
Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force
Michael Petrash II - 1st LT, United States Army
Andrew Washington, L CPL - USMC, Pensacola, FL
Jacob Redmond - USMC, San Diego, CA
Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, North Carolina



Please Pray for: Adam Womble
Hunter Jacob
Kenny Jacob
Cole Ohrt
Carly Waters
Joy Hoy
Marie Liner
Bill Roeske
Jimmy Caskey
Britany Jank Tomas
Dugan Chandler
Samantha Hein
Bea Fagg
Bette Jo Haun
David Diebel

Nursing Home:

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Alfred Rangnow, Marjorie Ideus
Twin Pines Nursing Facility-Victoria ~ Meta Bennett
Sodalis Senior Living ~ Bette Jo Haun



Keep up with St. John online

St. John Meyersville

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

Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

Easter 2

April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter (Year B)

John's Gospel message for the Second Sunday of Easter highlights faith that is based on what is unseen. Thomas, who was absent when Jesus first appeared to the disciples, vowed not to believe in a risen Jesus unless he could see, touch, and speak to him in person. This is a common human response to things we cannot understand, and yet the very nature of faith is rooted in believing without seeing.



SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

This is the first sermon our Lord delivered after his resurrection and, without doubt, also the most comforting; although in words very brief, but exceedingly kind and tender, and spoken first of all to his beloved Mary Magdalene, and through her also to his disciples after their deep woe, grief and sorrow...that he might comfort and gladden them by his resurrection. - Martin Luther - Sermon on Mark 16