



Were not our hearts
burning
within us?

LUKE 24:32

Third Sunday of Easter
April 19, 2026

St. John Lutheran Church

Powellsville
5600 Junior Furnace-Powellsville Road
Franklin Furnace, Ohio 45629-8937
574-8028 or email: stjoh1875@g mail.com



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April 19, 2026
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Service of the Word

Leader: People of St. John, what is our purpose?

All: To live for the Lord who made us, to love as Jesus taught us, and
to serve where the Spirit leads us.

PRELUDE

+ GATHERING SONG

For the Beauty of the Earth

#561

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For your - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly giv'n;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
a - gent of God's grand de - sign, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

Refrain
Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

+ GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*2 Corinthians 13:13*)

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,

P **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



☐ Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.



☐ Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O God of the u - ni - verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na - tions.



Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and sing the glo - ry of your name?



☐ Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.



☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All



na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,



for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.



☐ Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. . O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHOIR

Because He Lives

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children will be dismissed to Children's Church following the Children's Sermon

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ³⁶ "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

PSALM: 116:1-4, 12-19

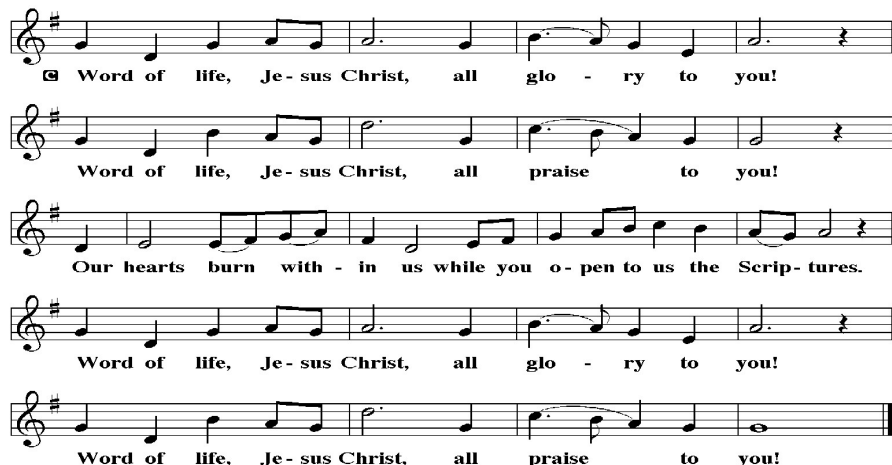
- P ¹¹ I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹supplication,
C ² **for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.**
- P ³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.
C ⁴ **Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**
- P ¹² How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has done for me?
C ¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.**
- P ¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God’s people.
C ¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants.**
- P ¹⁶ O LORD, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my
bonds.
C ¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.**
- P ¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God’s people,
C ¹⁹ **in the courts of the LORD’s house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person’s work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

Our hearts burn with - in us while you o- pen to us the Scrip- tures.

Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

+ THE GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 24th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29 But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" 33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34 They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" 35 Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Francis

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

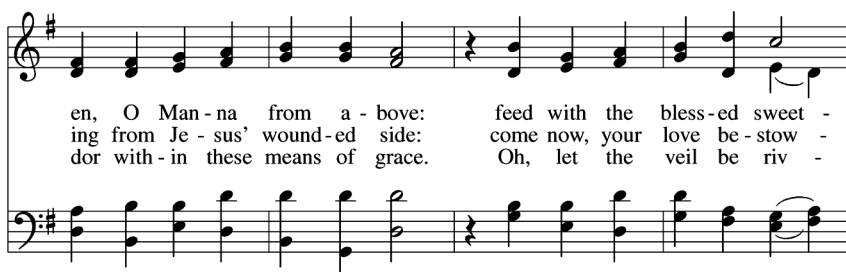
HYMN OF THE DAY

O Bread of Life from Heaven

#222



1 O Bread of life from heav - en, O Food to pil-grims giv -
2 O Fount of grace re - deem - ing, O Riv - er ev - er stream -
3 We love you, Je - sus, ten - der, in all your hid - den splen -



en, O Man - na from a - bove: feed with the bless - ed sweet -
ing from Je - sus' wound - ed side: come now, your love be - stow -
dor with - in these means of grace. Oh, let the veil be riv -



Text: Latin hymn, c. 1661; tr. Hugh T. Henry, 1862–1946, sts. 1, 3; Philip Schaff, 1819–1893, st. 2; alt.
 Music: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN, Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517

+ RESPONSE TO THE WORD: CREED AND CONFESSION

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. (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C 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 the life everlasting. Amen**

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C pray in the Holy Spirit. (*Jude 20*)

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Jude 21*)

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

C Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!
 (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

C **Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.**

Silence for reflection and self examination.

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 newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

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

C **Amen**

+ PEACE

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

Peace be with you.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

OFFERING

+ OFFERTORY

Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -

it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take

not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the

joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray.

P God, our Creator,

C you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

+ THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

P Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick (*especially*). Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P O Holy Spirit, We pray for our next pastor. We know not who you are making ready to come and be with us, but we ask that you speed our meeting with one another, and that you make us ready to seek new adventures with a new shepherd at our side. Grant that we might make ready today to find the new tomorrow you desire for St. John Lutheran Church. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Eternal Light, we give thanks for (*Olavus Petri, Laurentius Petri and*) all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

C 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 you now and forever.

C Amen

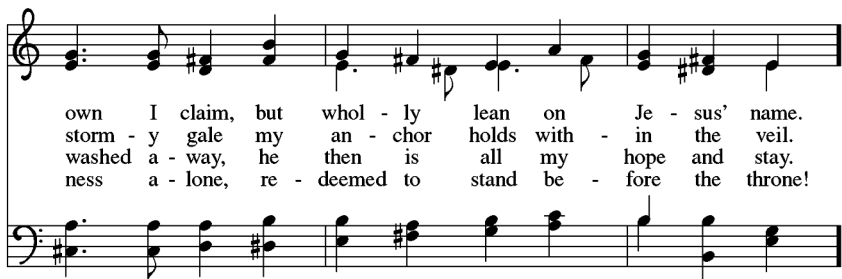
+ SENDING SONG

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

#294

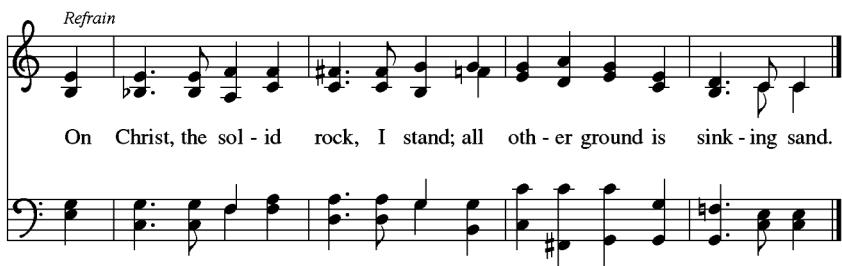
1 My hope is built on nothing less than
2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I
3 His oath, his cov- e - nant, his blood sus -
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,

Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
 Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

+ Dismissal

P	Go in peace.
Children	Serve the Lord.
C	Thanks be to God.

Postlude

+Stand as you are able

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SERVING TODAY

Organist
Lay Reader
Prayer Leader
Greeter
Acolytes
Altar Committee
Council President

Leigh Ann Henry
James Hayman
James Hayman
James & Kym Hayman

Nancy Williams, James & Kym Hayman
Rick Williams

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH. We are pleased you are here. If you are visiting with us this morning, please sign our guest book in the entrance area. We hope you will join us again very soon.

LET US PRAY FOR: Dale Ramey, Emily Smith, Peggy Butler, Roberta Sommer, Patricia Cavendish, Jim Skipworth, Galen Gleim, Grace Mootz, Marcella Mootz, Kay Staker, Kimberly Tolliver, Danica Clarkson, Bill Murphy, Linda Martin, Melaine Hawk, Patty Poole, Kent Gifford, Nicholas Young, Jason Pierce, Beth Miller, Jane Staker, Rod Schneider, Ed Hughes, Brenda Moore, Donna Arnett, Ken Staker, Pastor Dennis King, Luke White, Jim Webb, Greg Piguet, Mary McQuay, The Congregation of the Mountain Church in Asmushausen, Germany, the members of our armed forces, and those we hold privately in our hearts.

CHOIR PRACTICE will be at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

THE BLANKET PROJECT GROUP will begin meeting again on Tuesday, April 7 at 10:00 a.m. Come and join as we meet every Tuesday morning! Everyone is welcome.

YOUTH NIGHT Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m. All youth and their friends are invited to join in for an evening of fun!

CONFIRMATION CLASS for 7th and 8th graders April 26 at 9:30 a.m. We will meet downstairs in the library Sunday School room. **CONFIRMATION** will be Sunday, May 3.

CONFIRMATION is scheduled for Sunday, May 3 at 10:00 a.m. worship service. Our confirmands are Drew DeGonzague and Emmett Salyers. A reception will follow worship. Plan to come and join in the celebration of this important ministry.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Vacation Bible school is just around the corner! Plans are already in place, and we need your help! The dates for this summer 's VBS will be June 22 through the 26th from 5:30 to 8:15 pm. Again this year we will be having a kid friendly light supper for children and families.

Our theme this year is Rainforest Falls - Exploring the Nature of God!

If you are interested in helping in any way, please let Vivian know! (740.464.1914) We are looking forward to another fun filled successful year of VBS with our children!

This Week at St. John

Today—*Third Sunday of Easter*

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Choir

6:30 p.m. Youth Night

Next Sunday—*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

Attendance

2026 Average: 72

2025 Average 62

Serving Next Sunday, April 26

Organist

Leigh Ann Henry

Lay Reader

Rick Williams

Prayer Leader

Jane Bussler

Greeter

James & Kym Hayman

Acolytes

Altar Committee

Nancy Williams, James & Kym Hayman

Council President

Rick Williams

CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS: Theo Neal, Freida Otworth, Amy Fraulini, Ron Willis, Kara Tieman, Abigail Parish

BAPTISMS: Jessica Stafford, Terry Stevenson, Kasyn Thackston, Kwynn Thackston, Kymber Thackston, Roberta Sommer, Ethan Gleim, Katherine King, Norman Staker, Cole Smith

ANNIVERSARIES:

IF WE MISSED ANYONE please let Vicki Bradley know so we can add you to the list.

Coming Events

Sunday, April 19 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 21 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, April 22 at 6:00 p.m. Choir practice

Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m. Youth Night

Sunday, April 26 at 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class

Tuesday, April 28 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. Choir practice

Sunday, May 3 Confirmation

Tuesday, May 5 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Tuesday, May 12 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Sunday, May 17 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 19 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Tuesday, May 26 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Sunday, June 22-26 at 5:30 p.m. –8:15 p.m. Vacation Bible School

Kid friendly light supper for children and families.

Blanket Project

**Will begin meeting again on Tuesday,
at 10:00 a.m.**

Everyone is welcome to join.

Youth Night

Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation

Sunday, May 3 during worship.

A reception will follow worship.

Vacation Bible School Rainforest Falls

June 22 –26

Kid friendly light supper for children and families.

VBS Program June 28 during worship