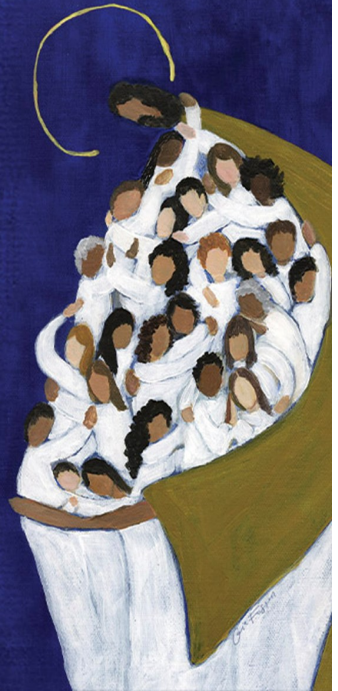


**Because
I live,
you also
will live**

JOHN 14:19



**Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2026**

St. John Lutheran Church

Powellsville
5600 Junior Furnace-Powellsville Road
Franklin Furnace, Ohio 45629-8937
574-8028 or email: stjohn1875@gmail.com



St. John Lutheran Church

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

May 10, 2026
SIXTH 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

All Things Bright and Beautiful

#767

Refrain

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun-tains, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum - mer sun,
4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Refrain

God made their glow-ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky.
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - 'ry one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895. alt.

Music: ROYAL OAK, English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875–1958

+ 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,



+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Let us pray. . . Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHOIR

Count Your Blessings

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.' ²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

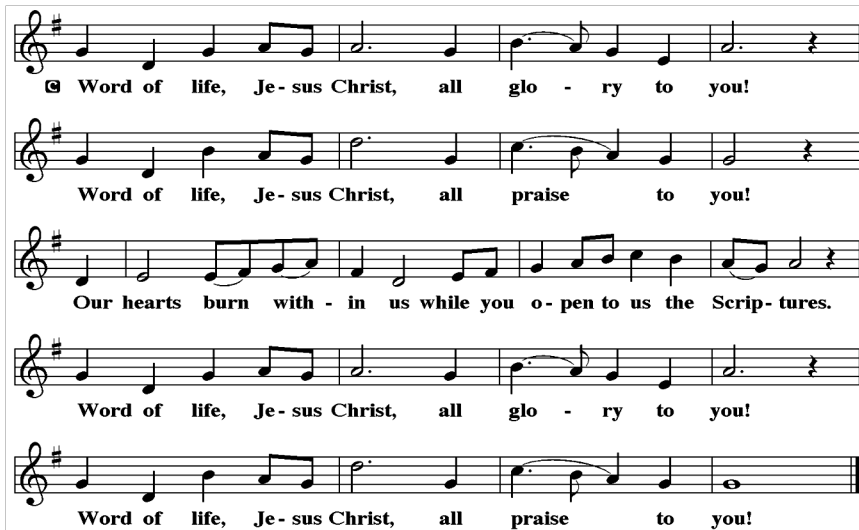
PSALM: 66:8-20

- P ⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.
- C ⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**
- P ¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- C ¹¹ **You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**
- P ¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- C ¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**
- P ¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- C ¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**
- P ¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.
- C ¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**
- P ¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;
- C ¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**
- P ²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

+ 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: John 14:15-21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

Pastor Francis

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voice - es,
 2 Oh, may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa-ther now be giv-en,



who won-drous things has done, in whom his world re-joice-es;
 with ev-er joy-ful hearts and bless-ed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in high-est heav-en,



who, from our moth-ers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e-ter-nal God, whom earth and heav'n a-dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev-er-more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878
 Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

+ 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

Honoring Our High School Graduates

OFFERING

+ OFFERTORY

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–1561

+ 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 God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill (*especially*). Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P O Holy Spirit, We pray for our next pastor. 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 God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. 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

+ BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

+ SENDING SONG

How Great Thy Art

#532

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ae-cla-ma-tion, and take me

all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-

thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
 gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
 bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
 ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain
 Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou
 art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to
 thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Bohberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
 Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine
 Text and arr. © 1953 S.K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc., 35255 Brosten Road, Pacific City, OR 97135 (ASCAP).
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+ 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

<i>Organist</i>	<i>Leigh Ann Henry</i>
<i>Lay Reader</i>	<i>Sam Tieman</i>
<i>Prayer Leader</i>	<i>Vicki Floyd</i>
<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Vicki Floyd</i>
<i>Acolytes</i>	
<i>Altar Committee</i>	<i>Nancy Williams, James & Kym Hayman</i>
<i>Council President</i>	<i>Rick Williams</i>

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, 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, Chris Parish, 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 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

THE BLANKET PROJECT GROUP will meet this Tuesday, May 12 at 10:00 a.m. Come and join as we meet every Tuesday morning! Everyone is welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS to our high school graduates whom we honor today: Ryleigh Blagg, Cole Castenda, Bethany Gorby, Amanda Hatfield, Leslie Hunt, Callie Long, Laura Oakes, Colton Stafford, and Jurzi Williams all will graduate this year. May God continue to guide their steps in service to him and to others, wherever their path

YOUTH NIGHT Wednesday, May 20 at 6:00 p.m. All youth and their friends are invited to join in for an evening of fun!

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—*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

9:15 a.m. Lite Breakfast in Honor Our High School Graduates
10:00 a.m. **Worship**

Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Choir

Next Sunday—*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

10:00 a.m. **Worship**—*Holy Communion*

Attendance

2026 Average:	69
2025 Average	62

Serving Next Sunday, May 17

Organist
Lay Reader
Prayer Leader
Greeter
Acolytes
Altar Committee
Council President

Leigh Ann Henry
Dawn Scott
James Hayman

Vicki Floyd, Vivian Riffel
Rick Williams

CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS: Becky Maggard, Hayley Ramey

BAPTISMS: Adam Gleim, Andy Otworth, Brandon Cline

ANNIVERSARIES: Kevin & Lacy Hunt

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

Coming Events

Sunday, May 10 at 9:15 a.m. Graduation Sunday.
Join our graduates for breakfast and share in their accomplishments.

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

Wednesday, May 20 at 6:00 p.m. Youth Night

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

Sunday, May 31 Special Guest with Potluck/carry-in dinner
following worship. Please bring a dish or two to share.

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.

Honoring Our High School Graduates

Sunday, May 10

Join us for breakfast with the Graduates. Each graduate will have a table of picture and accomplishments. You will be able to stop by each table and congratulate them.

Youth Night

Wednesday, May 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 31

**Special Guest with a potluck/carry-in dinner
following worship. Please bring a dish or two to share.**

Vacation Bible School Rainforest Falls

June 22 -26

**Kid friendly light supper for children and families.
VBS Program June 28 during worship**

Vacation Bible School Closing Program

Sunday, July 20 during worship