

“BECAUSE I LIVE,
YOU ALSO WILL LIVE.”

JOHN 14:19, NIV

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
May 10, 2026

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com
Sanctuary Worship 10:30 a.m. Live streamed to Facebook

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

May 10, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter/Youth Led Worship

Welcome to Worship! Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the celebration of Holy Communion as he is God with us. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to come to the Lord's table. We commune children of any age who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received communion instruction will receive a blessing. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered to accommodate various traditions. Gluten free wafers are provided for those with dietary restrictions. Please make the pastor aware of your need.

If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

We give thanks to God for our youth and their willingness to lead our worship this morning. Thank you to each of you for leading our worship today!

Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Noisy Offering

Second Harvest Snacks for kids for summer break

Ellie Bell, Geneva Cepec, Mallory Snook, Sophia Scovanner

1 Hear the pennies dropping!

Listen while they fall;

Ev'ry one for Jesus,

He will get them all,

Refrain:

Dropping, dropping, dropping, dropping;

Hear the pennies fall!

Ev'ry one for Jesus,

He will get them all.

2 Dropping, dropping ever. From each little hand;

'Tis our gift to Jesus, from his little band. Refrain

3 Now, while we are little. Pennies are are store;

But, when we are older, Lord, we'll give you more.

Refrain

4 Tho, we've little money. We can give him love;

He will own our off'ring, Smiling from above. Refrain

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand if you are able

Thanksgiving For Baptism

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

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,

and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"We are Marching In the Light"

ELW 866

Tr. and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing . . .
We are praying . . .
We are singing . . .

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the
Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be
peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*
This is the feast of
vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -
le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Please be seated

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

Lucas Snook

A reading from Acts.

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

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.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 66:8-20 (Read responsively)

Geneva Cepec

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

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Mia Scovanner

A reading from 1 Peter.

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

- 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: John 14:15-21

Herine Antoine

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

[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.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Youth Time

Sermon

Please stand if you are able

Hymn of the Day

“This Little Light of Mine”

ELW 677

Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress

1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

The Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

Prayers of the people:

Mary Snook

Response: Merciful God. receive our prayer.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Youth Bell Offering

"I Will Call Upon the Lord"

Please stand if you are able

Offertory

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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Offering Prayer

Sophia Scovanner

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

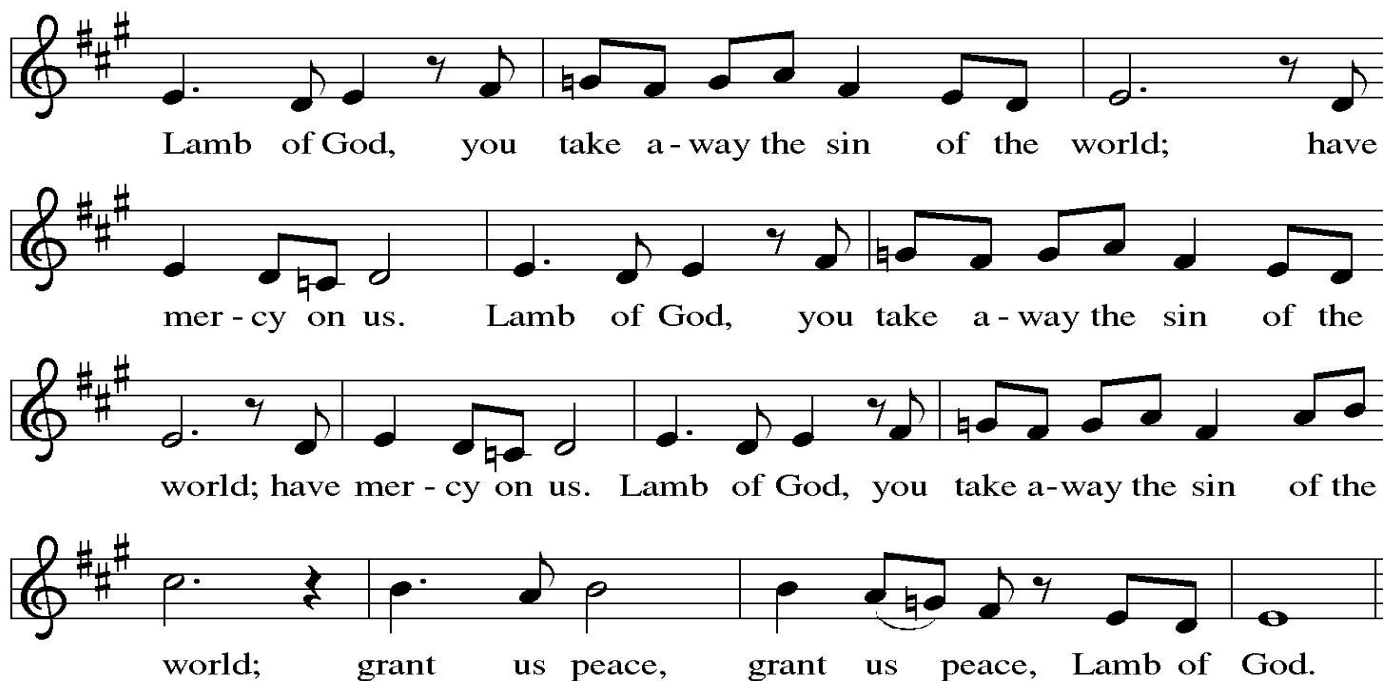
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please be seated

Communion Song



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Distribution Hymn

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

ELW 857

Text and music © 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc., admin. Capitol Christian Music Group

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,

From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

Distribution Hymn

“Awesome God”

Text and music © 1988 BMG Music Publishing

Our God is an awe - some God, he
 reigns from heav - en a - bove with wis - dom,
 pow'r, and love— our God is an awe - some God!
 Our God is an awe - some God! Our God is an awe - some God!

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His care.

Amen

Prayer After Communion

Mallory Snook

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn

“I Will Call Upon the Lord”

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I will call upon the Lord
who is worthy to be praised.
So shall I be saved from my enemies.
I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock,
and let the God of my salvation be exalted.
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, and
let the God of my salvation be exalted.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“I Will Call Upon the Lord”

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St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church is:

“A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known”

And a congregation of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN’S, MINISTERS

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Lay Readers: Lucas Snook, Geneva Cepec

Usher: Lucille Boger, Ray Witt

Mia Scovanner, Herine Antoine

Audio/Visual Tech: Jon Baaske

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Communion Basket: Hayley Livingston, Hunter Boger

Acolyte: Ellie Bell

Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

Attendance: May 3 - 51

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2026 The Year of the Way of Love. “We love because he first loved us.”

Bible Verse for May: 1 John 2:17 “And the world and its desires are passing away, but those who do the will of God abide forever”.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by the Semon family in honor of Yvonne Semon’s birthday.

Thank you to our mothers and all women gathered here this morning. Please accept a small token of our gratitude for all you do in love and service for the sake of the children who are in your lives.

Council asks the congregation to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the enthusiasm of our new members and appreciation for the traditional wisdom of our longtime members, that we are now one in following Jesus and doing his work in the world.

Communion Clean-up today: Elizabeth Libben

May 17 – Set-up – Jolene Dillender Cleanup – Sue & Lynn Schlessman

24 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben Cleanup – Sandy Thompson

31 – Set-up – Paula Hoffman Laws Cleanup – Elizabeth Libben

Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help, please see Elizabeth Libben or Sandy Thompson.

Favorite Hymn Sunday: July 12th, we will have a special worship service. We will focus on six favorite hymns. If you would like to submit yours, please do so before May 31. We will then draw the submitted hymns out of a hat to choose our final six. If your hymn is chosen, we will ask you to please share very briefly with the congregation on July 12 why this is your favorite hymn.

May Upcoming Events!

Sunday, May 17th – We honor our 2026 graduates Cassidy Lane, Margareta H.S., Wade Ruggles, EHOVE and Edison H.S., Joshua Thompson, Edison H.S. and Cole Ruggles, Owens Tech and John Deere. Keep our young adults in your prayers as they enter higher education and as they begin their place of employment.

Sunday, May 24th – We will share in the Confirmation of Harper Bell, daughter of Jenn and Mike Bell and Victoria Cepec, daughter of Stephanie and Joe Cepec. Harper and Tori will claim for themselves the faith in which they were baptized and promise to follow Jesus Christ in a life of discipleship.

Sunday, May 31st – We will share in the Baptism of Jackson William Fink, infant son of Michael and Christina Fink and grandson of Bill and Connie Deehr. The Deehr family and the Faith Life team invite you to join them for a luncheon immediately following worship to celebrate and meet our newest baptized member, Jackson and his family.

Are you Interested? St. John’s Council would like to offer a CPR Instruction class but need to know if you are interested in taking the course. If you are interested, there is a sign-up sheet at the rear of the sanctuary.

Scholarship Fund Drive: During the month of May we will be raising funds for the St. John’s Scholarship Fund. The funds benefit members of the congregation who are continuing their education beyond high school. We need your financial support to ensure that scholarships will continue to be available. Donations can be mailed to the church at 106 Scheid Rd., Sandusky Oh. 44870. Be sure to make the check out to St. John’s Lutheran Church and on the memo line put Scholarship Fund. Scholarships will be available in June.

Happy Birthday to Yvonne Semon and Lisa Johnson.

Happy Anniversary to Lisa and Ron Fryer.

ST. JOHN’S CALENDAR FOR MAY 10TH THRU MAY 24TH

Sunday, May 10	9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Youth practice for Mother’s Day Worship
Wednesday, May 13	5:30 pm 6:15 pm	Choir Practice Bell Practice
Sunday, May 17	9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Catechism Class Worship
Wednesday, May 20	10:00 am 5:30 pm	Love Is the Way Book Study Upper Rm Choir Practice
Sunday, May 24	9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Worship/Confirmation Sunday