



# FIRST SAINT JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

140 West King Street, York, Pennsylvania 17401-1307 (717) 843-8597

Pastor – Rev. James A. Driskell – Cell Phone 717-386-3698 / Home Phone: 717- 542-6573

Web: [lutheransonline.com/firststjohns](http://lutheransonline.com/firststjohns) \* Email: [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)

Be Together at First St. John's – Your Community Church and Your Family in Jesus

## MORNING SUNDAY SERVICE 10:30 AM SUNDAY- APRIL 29, 2018 NON-COMMUNION SERVICE



# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ABIDE IN ME; ABIDE IN LOVE APRIL 29, 2018

## THE MISSION OF FIRST SAINT JOHNS

Lutheran Church is to proclaim His Gospel! To worship and serve our Lord Jesus Christ. Our major objective is to have a passion to lead all to Jesus and be an effective magnet involving lives for Jesus Christ.



## AS WE GATHER

In one of His several “I am” statements, Jesus says, “I am the vine. You are the branches.” Inviting His hearers to a place of rest and refuge, He says, “Abide in Me.” In the Epistle, John correlates confessing that Jesus is the Son of God with experiencing and coming to trust in the love God has for us. Abiding in Jesus means abiding in God’s love. And God Himself abides in us. This relationship of abiding in Jesus, who Himself is love, was experienced by the Ethiopian eunuch when Philip told him the Good News about Jesus and the Ethiopian was baptized.

## WELCOME WORSHIPPERS

Welcome to everyone; especially first time worshipers to our service. We are honored you have chosen to worship with us as we celebrate friendships, especially that in God's love we are disciples of our Savior, Jesus. May God bless you as you worship with us. If you have questions or need assistance, our members, Greeters, and Pastor are here to assist you. If you have no church home, please ask about membership at First St. John's. **Please fill in the names of those here today. If any address or phone numbers have changed note the changes on the card, and place our WELCOME CARD in the offering plate when it is passed.** We look forward to seeing you again.

## RINGING OF THE BELL

### PRELUDE

"Lift High the Cross"

L. Smith

### WELCOME

**P** = Pastor, **A** = Assistant, **L** = Lector, **C** = People, & **△** = Stand

✠ **LSB DIVINE SERVICE SETTING 3** ✠ *LSB 184*

### INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 150*

**P** Praise the LORD!

**C** Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens!

**P** Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

**C** Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!

**P** Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!

**C** **Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!**

**P** Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

**C** **Praise the LORD!**

**HYMN OF INVOCATION**

"Lift High the Cross"

**LSB 837**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P** God who is gracious and merciful:

**C** **We confess that we are sinful by nature and have turned away from abiding in Your love. We have been enticed by our own desires and lured away from Your love by the spirits of this age. Yet, greater is Jesus who dwells in us by faith than the spirit of the Antichrist who is in the world. For Jesus' sake, forgive our sins and bring us again to abide in Your love.**

**P** God hears you and God loves you. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** **Amen.**

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**INTROIT Psalm 145: 1-2, 8, 10, 21**

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power,

My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

**GLORIA PATRI**



**C** **Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;**



**as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.**

**KYRIE**

**P** O Lord, who sent Philip with Good News about You for the Ethiopian eunuch,

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** O Christ, who are Yourself the full manifestation of the love of God for all people,  
**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** O Lord, who tenderly invites us to abide in You as You promise to abide in us,  
**C** **have mercy on us and grant us Your peace. Amen.**

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you **C** **And with thy spirit**

**P** Let us pray...

O God, You call Your people away from the spirits of this age, which are not from You and do not confess that Jesus is Lord. Grant us faith to trust that Your indwelling presence in us is greater than any happiness we may try to find apart from abiding in You, in whom alone true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns in communion and love with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** **Amen.**

**(Sit)**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**FIRST READING** (Philip is sent to meet the Ethiopian eunuch to tell him the Good News about Jesus.) **Acts 8:26–40**

- 26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place.
- 27 And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship
- 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah.
- 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot."
- 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"
- 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.
- 32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.
- 33 In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."
- 34 And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?"
- 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.
- 36 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?"
- 37
- 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.
- 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.
- 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the

towns until he came to Caesarea.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** (Test the spirits. God is love.)

**1 John 4:1–11 (12–21)**

- 1 **Beloved, do not believe every spirit**, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.
- 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,
- 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.
- 4 Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
- 5 They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them.
- 6 We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.
- 7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.
- 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.
- 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.
- 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
- 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
- 12 **No one has ever seen God**; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.
- 13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.
- 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.
- 15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.
- 16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.
- 17 By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.
- 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.
- 19 We love because he first loved us.
- 20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.
- 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**(Stand)**

**HOLY GOSPEL** (Jesus is the vine. We are the branches. Abide in Him and abide in love.)

**John 15:1–8**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

**(The Gospel is read.)**

- 1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.
- 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
- 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.
- 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.
- 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.
- 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.
- 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

God called to us inviting us to be a part of his family. Through Holy Baptism He made us His children. As a family we live together in trust and hope confessing our faith:

### **APOSTLES CREED *LSB 207***

**C** I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence 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.

(Sit)

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      “At the Lamb’s High Feast we Sing”

**LSB 633**

**SERMON**    *There’s spirits, then there’s the Spirit*

Acts

**RITE FOR RECEPTION OF MEMBERS BY TRANSFER OR PROFESSION OF FAITH**  
**Brian and Marie Stankiewicz**

*(All gather near the font, at the chancel steps, or before the altar, as local custom dictates).*

**P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. "Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

**Matthew 10:32-33 NKHV alt.**

**P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

**R** Yes, I do.

**P** Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

**R** Yes, I renounce them.

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?

**R** Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scripture to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

**R** I do.

**P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

**R** I do, by the grace of God.

**P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

**R** I do, by the grace of God.

**P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

**R** I do, by the grace of God.

**P** Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?

**R** I do.

**P** Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?

**R** I will, with the help of God.

**P** Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are a member/members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

**(Stand)**

**P** Let us pray...

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that by Your Word and Spirit they may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (515) **C Amen.**

*The pastor may extend the right hand of fellowship, greeting each by name. The rite concludes with the following blessing:*

**P** The grace of our † Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**C Amen.**

*(The new members return to their places).*

**(Sit)**

**OFFERING** {Please fill out the BLUE CARD and place it in the offering plate.}

**VOLUNTARY**

“At the Lamb’s High Feast we Sing”

C. Ore

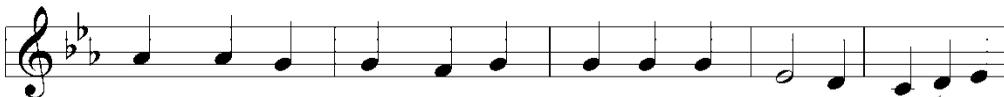
**OFFERTORY**



**C** 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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

(Stand)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray together in Christ Jesus for all people according to their needs...

Lord Jesus Christ, You are greater than all and have been given the name that is above every name. Grant us discernment to test all spirits. Tune our hearts to listen to Your voice, and draw us away from the voices that clamor to deceive us according to the spirits of this age. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

**P** Good Shepherd, Your Word is true and Your love is greater than any power on earth. Fill with Your love Matthew, our Synod president; John, our District President; James, our Circuit Visitor, and all those who speak in Your name to others. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

**P** Gracious King, Your kingdom is greater than all, and Your rule is limitless and unbounded. Grant that the rulers of the kingdoms of this world would bow their knees to Your gracious reign, seeking only the knowledge of Your will and the power to carry it out. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

**P** Great Physician, Your healing power is greater than all the technology of human invention. Be at work for good through the vocations of all healthcare professionals, workers, and caregivers that those who suffer any affliction of body, mind, or spirit, **[especially...Joyce, Bonnie, Wil, Bill, Gloria, Dawn, Ruthetta, Becky, Angie, Don, Beth, Doug, Pat, Helen, Susan, Eddie, Larry, Chris, Marianne, Graham, Patti, Nicie, Erik, Greg, Christine, Brenton, Those persecuted for Jesus' sake, prayer warriors, The ministry of First St Johns, our radio ministry of WYCO, Our Community and families, Music Ministry, "for all those who do not know Jesus as Lord"]**, would know the nearness of Your presence and experience the joy that comes from abiding in Your love. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

**P** Lord, death remains a curse until You come again, and many grieve and mourn the death of loved ones. *[the families and friends of Zachary Anthony and Ivan Flanscha, Betty Smith, Rhonda McKenzie]*. Comfort them with the knowledge that those who trust in You will dwell in Your house forever. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

**P** Hope of all the saints, You have purposed and prepared a future greater than we can imagine in Your creation of a new heaven and a new earth where righteousness dwells. Bring us together with all Your saints to experience Your love together gathered around the throne of the Lamb, who loves all people and gave Himself for us. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Christ Jesus, our Lord. **C** Amen.

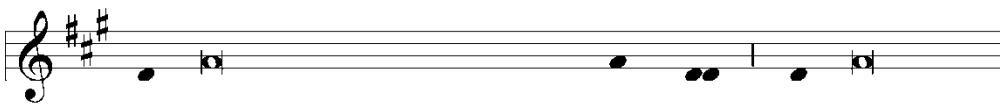
**P** Now as our Savior has taught us, we are bold to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER

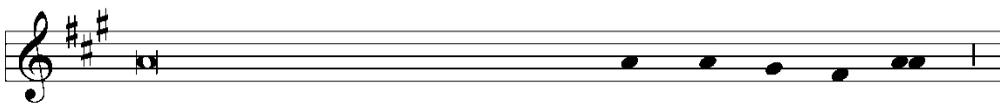
**C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass  
against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.  
Amen.

## BENEDICTION



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

LSB 680

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**C** Till all have heard! Thanks be to God!

Dios los bendigas, Gott Segne Dich, Dieu te bénisse, Shàngdì zhùfú nǐ

## POSTLUDE

“Triumphal March”

T. Dubois

**FAVORITE SUMMER HYMN SELECTIONS** The forms to request hymns for the summer services are located in the box on the table at the back of the church. Hymn selection starts with the June Services.

<b><u>SERVING IN GOD’S HOUSE TODAY</u></b>	
<b>THE PASTOR:</b>	Rev. James A. Driskell
<b>MINISTER OF MUSIC:</b>	Ken Sanders
<b>THE LAY READER:</b>	Pierre-Paul Rodriquez
<b>THE USHERS:</b>	Matt Lauer
<b>THE ALTAR GUILD:</b>	Wally and Beth Smith
<b>REFRESHMENTS:</b>	Lois Hollinger, Kimberly Thompson
<b>THE ADULT CHOIR:</b>	Sharon Hennig, Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger, Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, Wally Smith, Ding Wang, Quitao Zhang,
<b>THE GREETERS:</b>	Delores Rehmeyer, Barb Klahold
<b>THE PRIESTS:</b>	The People of 1 <sup>st</sup> St Johns

**ATTENTION** (NURSERY FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH HALL).

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the **GLORY OF GOD**.

**THE SPECIAL OFFERING** for the month of **APRIL** is LCMS World Relief/Human Care.

**THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICE OF THE MONTH** will include a healing service. *The next healing service is **May 13<sup>th</sup>**. Please contact the pastor if you would like healing attention at a different time.*

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE** meets at 12:00 Noon on the 1st Sunday of every Month.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**John 15:2** – “Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.” God is interested in the fruit that we bear in good works, and He even prunes us so that we may bring forth more fruit. Trusting in our Lord’s work for us, being grafted by grace into His vine, we desire to be more like Him, to grow into His image. That’s growth in fruit bearing...and it always comes with some pruning.

## WEEKLY WORSHIP AND CONFESSION

### THURSDAY

9:00 AM-*Matins*

5:00-6:00 PM-*Private Confession*

### SUNDAY

8:30 AM

Matins

9:00 AM

Adult Bible Study / Confirmation Class

9:15 AM

Sunday school

10:30 AM

Worship Service

### READINGS FOR THE MAY 6th SERVICE

**FIRST READING** (Peter preaches the Gospel of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit is poured out on Gentile hearers.) **Acts 10:34–48**

**EPISTLE** (We are born of God and overcome the world through faith in Jesus.) **1 John 5:1–8**

**HOLY GOSPEL** (Loving one another, we abide in God's love and experience the fullness of joy.) **John 15:9–17**

### UPCOMING SERVICES

**May 6th-Non-COMMUNION (6th Sunday of Easter) (10:30 am morning service).**

**MAY 10<sup>TH</sup>-ASCENSION DAY. THE SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT 7:00 PM.**

**PASTOR LUKE ZIMMERMAN WILL LEAD THE SERVICE.**

**May 13th-COMMUNION (7th Sunday of Easter) (10:30 am morning service).**

**May 20th-Non-COMMUNION (Day of Pentecost) (10:30 am morning service).  
(Please wear something red for this service).**

**May 27th- COMMUNION (The Holy Trinity) (10:30 am morning service).**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS** Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English (Standard Version)*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.