

# Confirmation

Lead me in thy truth,  
and teach me: for thou art  
the God of my salvation.  
PSALM 25:5

**May 19, 2024**

**Day of Pentecost**

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! We offer two services with Sunday School for youth and adults and catechism. Our regular Sunday schedule is:

8:00 am	Early Worship
9:15 am	JAM Sunday School
9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
10:30 am	Late Worship
2:00 pm	Chapel Communion <i>(2nd Sunday of the month)</i>

**LIVESTREAM AND RECORDED WORSHIP:** We livestream the service on our church website at [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com). Also, the service will be recorded and published to the website.

**SMILE! YOU'RE ON CAMERA:** Please remember you may be on camera during the livestream and the recording of the service.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Please remember to silence your cell phone before church begins. Thanks!

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets at 9:15 am in the lounge every Sunday.

**CHILDREN AGES 3 THROUGH 5TH GRADE** will meet at 9:15 am for Sunday School in the basement of the church (JAM Room).

**NURSERY** is in the church basement and is currently unstaffed; you are welcome to sit with your child. A diaper changing table is available in the ladies restroom in the basement of the church.

**RESTROOMS** are in the church basement. Go to the Narthex (lobby) and take either set of steps to the basement hallway. The ladies room is at one end, and the men's room is at the other.

**FLOWERS:** If you would like to sign up for altar flowers, there is a book in the lounge. Or, you can call the church office during the week to check on availability.

**MEMORIALS:** If you wish to give a memorial in honor or memory of a loved one, you may mail it in or pick up a memorial card in the church office.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP—10:30 am**

**Prelude** Dr. Pattin

**Ring of the Bell** (Please Stand)

**Opening Hymn** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!” No.393

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: 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**

P: 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 self-examination.)*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: 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**

P: 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**

**Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share the peace of the Lord.

*The congregation may greet one another by shaking hands, fist bumping, or any other form of greeting with the words, “Peace be with you.”*

*We conclude the sharing of the peace by singing:*

*“Lord I Lift Your Name on High” No. 857*

***“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.”***

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray. Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**Announcements**

**Introduction**

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God’s mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ’s love with the world.

**FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21**

*Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God’s activity in multiple languages.*

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>'In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

Reader: Word of God, Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b** - Congregation responds in **BOLD**.

<sup>24</sup>How manifold are your works, O Lord!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

<sup>25</sup>**Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,  
living things both small and great.**

<sup>26</sup>There go the ships to and fro,  
and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

<sup>27</sup>**All of them look to you  
to give them their food in due season.**

<sup>28</sup>You give it to them; they gather it;  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

<sup>29</sup>**When you hide your face, they are terrified;  
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

<sup>30</sup>You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;  
and so you renew the face of the earth.

<sup>31</sup>**May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
O Lord, rejoice in all your works.**

<sup>32</sup>You look at the earth and it trembles;  
you touch the mountains and they smoke.

<sup>33</sup>**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will praise my God while I have my being.**

<sup>34</sup>May these words of mine please God.  
I will rejoice in the Lord.

<sup>35b</sup>**Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
Hallelujah!**

**SECOND READING: Romans 8:22-27**

*By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.*

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how

to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.<sup>27</sup> And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: 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.

### Gospel Announcement

P: The Gospel according to St. John Chapter 15.

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

### **GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

*While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as “the Helper” and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.*

[Jesus said,] <sup>26</sup>“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>16:4b-c</sup>“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

<sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he

will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

### Gospel Response

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

Pastor Rayl

Sermon Hymn

“Borning Cry”

No.732

### AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

*(Please turn to the bulletin insert, then follow along the liturgy as printed, responding as indicated. Thank you.)*

Pastoral Prayer *(Each petition concludes with this response)*

P: Hear us O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*(Please be seated)*

### The Offering

Offertory Music

“I Love You, Lord”

FSJ Chancel Choir

Dr. Joan Walldorf, Director

Dr. Anthony Pattin, Piano

### Offering Prayer

P: Our generous heavenly Father, all good gifts come from you and from these riches we bring this offering. Help us to use it for the furtherance of your purpose in this place, and for the benefit of those in need, through our resurrected and living Lord, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

### The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.


**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: 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.

P: 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

P: 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.

P: 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from the cup, we

proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: To you, O God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**The Lord's Prayer** (*prayed by all*)

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**

P: Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

**C: We come at our Lord's command.**

**The Communion** (*distribution will be continuous*)

*All baptized Christians, believing that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's table. Infants, children and others who have not been baptized are welcome to come to receive a blessing; please make an X with your arms across your chest."*

*If you wish to receive apple juice instead of wine, place your hand over your shoulder as you approach the person distributing the wine.*

*(After all have received communion, please stand.)*

P: Now may the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**C: Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: Let us pray. Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show our love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**

**Blessing**

P: The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation..

C: Amen.

**Closing Hymn**      “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”      No. 836

**Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**      Dr. Anthony Pattin

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

***PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE***

**ELDERS**

Ben Hodges, Matt Miller

**READER**

Toni Wilbarger

**SOUND BOARD**

Mark Ackerman

***GRADUATE RECOGNITION***  
***SUNDAY***  
**June 16, 2024**



We will publicly acknowledge all our graduates from high school and college at our worship service on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. Please plan on having your graduate attend this service as all graduates will be recognized. If you know of a graduate, please complete this form and drop it in the offering plate, mail it to the church office, or fax this page to 419-691-7220 by Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF GRADUATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRADUATED FROM

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEGREE EARNED

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FUTURE PLANS (SCHOOL, WORK, ETC.):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

YES, WE PLAN TO BE AT THE SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
MEMBERS OF OUR  
CONFIRMATION CLASS of 2024**

*THESE YOUNG FOLKS HAVE COMPLETED THEIR TWO YEARS OF CATECHISM INSTRUCTION AND ARE READY TO AFFIRM THEIR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST AND TAKE ON MORE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR LIFE OF DISCIPLESHIP.*

**Kimberly Rose Donley**  
Daughter of Jerid and Stacy Donley

**Kenna Lee King**  
Daughter of Keith and Shanna King

**Kyle Daniel King**  
Son of Keith and Shanna King

**Kaylee Jo King**  
Daughter of Keith and Shanna King

**Vanessa Lynn Miller**  
Daughter of Matt and Jessica Miller



**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY  
URGENT NEEDS!**

**Please purchase full size items.**

|                |                        |                    |
|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| dish soap      | shampoo, child         | *disposable razors |
| paper towel    | *laundry soap          | toothbrush, adult  |
| toilet paper   | fabric softener sheets | *toothpaste, adult |
| tissues        | *body lotion           | *sanitary pads     |
| *deodorant     | *body soap             | band aids          |
| shampoo, adult | toothpaste, child      | toothbrush, child  |

This is a list of the items that will provide a month's worth of hygiene supplies to families or individuals in our neighborhood to help them stay clean and healthy. We always welcome any donations from our congregation members.

**If you would like to donate items, please donate only full size products as sample sizes will not last a month.** If you would prefer a Pantry volunteer to do the shopping for you, we welcome monetary donations. Please make out checks to First St. John Lutheran Church and write Personal Needs Pantry on the memo line.

\*denotes high need items for this month



**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE** Our Summer worship schedule will begin on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> when we will go to one service at 9:00 am. We will stay with one service every Sunday through Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**GET READY TO DIVE INTO VBS!** Save the Date for our upcoming Vacation Bible School this summer, **July 22<sup>nd</sup> through July 25<sup>th</sup>**! Our theme will be SCUBA as kids plunge into an undersea world brimming with colorful coral, flashy fish, and abundant life! It is sure to be a SPLASH! There will be a light supper served in the gym every night PRIOR to VBS from 5:15pm-5:45pm. Registration is free and a sign up link will be shared soon on Facebook and on the church website. We will need volunteers again this year so please reach out to Jennifer in the church office at 419-691-7222 if interested and you will be added to the list!

**FSJ MUD HENS NIGHT RESERVATIONS** It's time to play ball! The Toledo Mud Hens minor league baseball team is inviting area churches to their "Faith and Family" night at 5/3 Field on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. We are currently taking reservations for tickets. Please call the church office and indicate how many tickets you will need or see Bob Haar. **The deadline for ticket reservation is June 1<sup>st</sup>**. Stay tuned for ticket prices in upcoming bulletins and newsletter. It would be great if we could get a big group to attend from First St. John and support the Mud Hens!

## Advocate for Truth

Does truth need an advocate? Isn't truth self-evident? Not really. Think of advances that came only after someone discovered a kernel of truth and advocated it to the world. It happened with Galileo and the solar system, Louis Pasteur and pasteurization, and other truths now considered self-evident.

The advocate for the truth of God is the Holy Spirit. The Spirit calls people to God's truth in Jesus, builds up Christians in love for others, and keeps the church faithful to Christ. The Spirit stirs faith in infant hearts through baptismal washing and raises the spiritually dead through the gospel of forgiveness. The Advocate turns our face toward peace, love, faith, joy, patience, and hope that endures.

Just as Jesus promised, the Spirit is our advocate, healing sick hearts, breathing daily life into believers, and enlivening the church, which would die without this nurture. The church, with Christ as its foundation, witnesses to the Spirit's presence and activity in the world.

The church, Christ's body in the world, is God's advocate for truth, peace, and justice. The Holy Advocate intercedes when our tongues get twisted, and draws out our witness for peace and justice when the poor and downtrodden cannot speak for themselves.

The Spirit resonates through the millions of Christians in Africa where AIDS threatens. It wraps millions of Asian Christians in God's truth to face challenges and persecution in a populous region. The Holy Advocate sustains the Middle Eastern church and millions of Central and South American Christians in their afflictions. The Comforter teaches humility to European and North American Christians and encourages them to heed calls for help from sisters and brothers around the world. The Advocate leads Christ's body, the whole church, to pursue peace and justice for the poor and oppressed in every land.