

STAFF

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The Pastors are off on Fridays



Notice of live streaming:
 Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.

 stjohnsparkville
  St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville
  stjohnsparkvill

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

stjohnsparkville.org

(410) 665-1234

office@stjohnsparkville.org

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

Introduction to the Day

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

*(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)
(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)*

WELCOME

PRELUDE *We're Marching to Zion* *arr. Wilbur Held*
(© 1984 Hinshaw Music)

(Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.
Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

This week's schedule

Today	9 am Handbell Choir (Music Room) 9 am Sunday School and Faith & Fellowship 10 am Live & Online Worship 11:30 am Youth Group (meet in Youth Room)
Mon.	
Tues.	5:30 pm The Chosen Series (Smith Building)
Wed.	9:30 am Busy Bees (Smith Building) 7 pm Adult Choir Rehearsals (Music Room)
Thurs.	
Fri.	11 am Bible Study (Smith Building)
Sat.	8 am-2 pm Preschool Plant Pickup (Parking lot) 9 am Property Mtg. (Fellowship Hall) 1 pm Member Function (Fellowship Hall)

Counting our Blessings

		2024	
Sun.	Attendance: 107	February Offering Income	\$25,380
4/28	Offering: \$ 4,043	February Other Income	\$ 6,936
	Homebound: 16	February Total Income	\$32,316
		February Expenses	\$41,541
		YTD Offering Income	\$55,715
		YTD Other Income	\$16,407
		YTD Total Income	\$72,122
		YTD Expenses	\$74,289

"The Chosen" Discipleship Series



Join us on Tuesday's through June 4 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm as we explore the first season of this acclaimed TV series focusing on the life of Jesus and the people whom he encountered! This event, sponsored by CLAIM (Coalition of Lutherans Advancing In Mission) and partner Lutheran churches, is not just about watching a series together. It's a chance to strengthen our bonds, discuss our faith and mission and invite friends and family to join this inspiring experience. Come early for a light meal at 5:30 pm.

Remaining dates:

May 7 @ St. John's: That's us! 8808 Harford Rd.

May 14 & May 21 @ People's Community: 6200 Loch Raven Blvd.

May 28 & June 4 @ Christus Victor: 9833 Harford Rd.



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Diane Carroll, Eleanor McLaughlin, Mary Jo Rother, Ginny Wehr, Mary Gude, Doris Rye, Richard Souders, Oluseye Fowode, Robert Suznick, Lisa Duerling, Joan Swank, Rosalie Coffman, Pat Hurley, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Tim Hartman, Bill Beck, Chris Newman, Pierce Newman, Coralee Myrtle, William Bold, Sr., Fran Eliopoulos, Eleni Bowden, Laney Stowell, Mary Margaret Wroten, Butch Kahl, Pearl Johnson, Nancy, Donna Joseph, Harriet Miller, Maeve Webster, John Bryan, Joe Federline, Pastor John Burk, Tiffany Webb, Mary & Barry McCain, Bonnie Franklin, Jamie Kirschner, Rob Graff, Alice Evans, Trish Pizza, Betsy Shock, Julie Bramble, Donna Bobloch and Yung-Mee Rhee

For the military and their families: Kalib McCann, Mason Ledbetter, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, and all those in harm's way

For those grieving family & friends of: Mike McDonough

For St. John's Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Betty Creutzer, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Patricia Hurley, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Patrick O'Connell, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, and Emma Volz

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

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN

Come, We That Love the Lord

ELW 625 (vv. 1-2)

(Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, stanzas; Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, refrain; Music: Robert Lowry)

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these

people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses.)

Psalm 98

- ¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- ²**O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**
- ³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- ⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**
- ⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- ⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**
- ⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
- ⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**
- ⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

- ¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
- ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

Our next Wednesday Night Worship will take place on June 5th after the Community Meal at 6:45 pm. This is a brief communion service held in the Smith Building with blended music featuring piano and guitar, as well as an interactive reflection. We hope you can join us and invite your friends and neighbors!



Community Yard Sale...Saturday, June 1st from 8 am—1 pm in St. John's parking lot. Cost is \$20 for one space and \$30 for 2 spaces. To register, fill out a form located on the third floor bulletin board and return it to Chris Hills or the church office.



Attention all High School and College graduates...contact the church office at office@stjohnsparkville.org with your name, school you are graduating from, college/university you will be attending in the fall, and your major/degree. We will be offering a blessing and small gift later this summer. We will also recognize you in our weekly email and newsletter.



St. John's Family Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 9th after worship. We will gather on the Pastors' lawn. Hospitality & Fellowship will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, tossed salad, iced tea and lemonade. We will be doing a potluck for sides and desserts. Flyers are located on the third floor bulletin.



St. John's night at the Ironbirds game is coming up on Friday, June 28th at 7:05 pm. Tickets are \$13 and checks should be made payable to St. John's. There will be fireworks after the game. For tickets contact David Evans at ravenfan79@yahoo.com.



Registration is open for Vacation Bible School! This years program is Camp Firelight "A Summer Camp Adventure with God" and will be held July 8-12 from 9 am—12:30 pm. Registration forms are on the third floor bulletin board, in the weekly email, in the newsletter and on our social media sites.



Music Camp....We are now accepting registration for Music Camp. Registration forms are located on the third floor bulletin board, in the weekly email and in the newsletter. We are looking for experienced volunteers. Contact Martha at mreuard1@gmail.com if you can help.



Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Andy Rother
Crucifer	James W.
Acolyte (s)	Simon B., Jack W.
Lector	Michelle Alkire
Communion Assistant	Michelle Alkire
Dismissal Assistant	Jack W.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Next Week— Sunday, May 12th—Seventh Sunday of Easter

† 9 am—Handbell Choir
† 9 am—Sunday School and Faith + Fellowship
† 10 am—Worship in-person
and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel
Visit stjohnsparkville.org



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Charles and Sheila Bender's 51st wedding anniversary with love from their family.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2024. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Available dates are June 2nd, 23rd, and 30th, July 14th, and 21st, August 4th, 18th, and 25th, September 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th, October 6th, and 13th, November 3rd, 10th, and 17th, December 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 24th, and 29th.

Nursery Care for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten.



YOUTH GROUP St. John's Youth Group meets in the Youth Room on the first Sunday of the month, from about 11:15 am—12:30 pm. This group is for middle and high school students. Join us as we have fun, get to know one another and grow in faith. See you there!

Faith and Fellowship meets in the Fellowship Hall on the first floor from 9 am—9:45 am each Sunday. This is an opportunity for adults to gather for light refreshments and to grow in faith.



BIBLE Bible Study takes place on Friday mornings at 11 am in the Smith Building. We are studying 1st Corinthians. All are welcome.



The Food for Thought Program is in need of Chef Boyardee single serving meals, tuna & chicken salad kits, and pudding cups. Monetary donations will also be accepted.



COMMUNITY DINNER Join us for our next Community Meal on Wednesday, June 5th beginning at 5:30 pm. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors! We need volunteers. There is a sign up sheet on the third floor bulletin board. A special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped with the May meal.



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 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly is seated.)

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY *Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness* **ELW 488 (vv. 1-2)**

(Text: Johann Franck, 1618-1677; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship; Music: Johann Cruger, 1598-1662; Text © 1978 Luthern Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress)

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition God of grace.
Hear our prayer.

Beautiful Savior **ELW 838**

(Text: Gesangbuch, Munster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904; Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.)

(Please remain seated.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The God of resurrection power,
Jesus Christ, source of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW 836

(Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.)

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

arr. Richard Warner

(© 1971 G. Schirmer, Inc.)

*We welcome Gail Jochen as our organist today,
and thank her for sharing her God-given gifts with us in worship.*

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as we forgive; 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.

(The assembly is seated.)

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

*If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing,
crossing your arms over your chest.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

Be known to us, Lord

ACS pg.40

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION HYMN

Jesus Loves Me!

ELW 595

(Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.; Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868)

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(We offer each other a sign of Christ's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC

I Love to Tell the Story

arr. Wilbur Held

(© 1984 Hinshaw Music)

Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.

Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website stjohnsparkville.org. Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville

(Please stand as you are able.)

OFFERING HYMN

Come to the Table

ELW 481

Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.

All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.

Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

(Text: Claire Cloninger, 1942-2019; music: Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956; Text and music © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Juniper Landing Music, admin. Word Music; and Word Music)

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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 *You are Holy (See insert)* **ELW 525**
*(Text and music: Per Harling, b. 1948; Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin.
Augsburg Fortress)*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God,
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.
We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,

for freeing your chosen people from the bonds of slavery,
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus
who, living among us,
healed the sick,
fed the hungry,
and with a love stronger than death,
gave his life for others.
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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:
carry us in your arms from death to life,
that we may live as your chosen ones,
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.
Amen.

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

(Sung call-and-echo)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins**