# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER RESURRECTION REALITY: JESUS' BUSINESS IS LOVE; THEREFORE, SO IS OURS



Pastor Zietlow's Sermon: 1 John 4:7-11,19-21 "Just What Is Christian Love?"

# WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We pray that you find comfort, peace, and motivation through God's Word today. In our worship bulletin, you will find an outline of **today's order of worship**. The entire service can be found in the hymnal, up on the screen on Sunday at St. John's and Emmanuel and livestreamed at <a href="www.stjohnsmontello.org">www.stjohnsmontello.org</a> and also at St. John's in the Lower Level. At St. John's, the **restrooms** are located in the link way, out the church entry way, to the left and down the stairs. At Emmanuel, they are located in the Parish Hall. You may also find a **nursery changing station** in the lower level of St. John's.

# ST. JOHN'S & EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCHES

May 4 & 5, 2024

Emmanuel: Sun. 8:00am

St. John's: Sat. 4:30pm & Sun. 10:00am

I

#### **RESURRECTION REALITY**

St. Paul writes, "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Big word: Indeed! Paul is stressing that we must not think of Jesus' resurrection like a happy ending to another epic fable. The resurrection is not legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. Easter is history. On time's infinite line, Jesus' resurrection is the punctiliar moment that defines reality for us all. If Christ remained dead, he is a fraud and failure. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality is Jesus' resurrection proves that "all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life now. The greatest theologian of the early church, Augustine, called the season of Easter "a joyful week of weeks"—seven wonderful weeks, each seven glorious days long. In this glorious season, let us meditate upon the breath-taking implications of the resurrection reality.

### THEME OF THE DAY: JESUS' BUSINESS IS LOVE; THEREFORE, SO IS OURS

The entirety of God's Word can be summed up in one word: love. God's Law is all about love. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart..." and "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:37,39). The gospel is all about love: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son..." (John 3:16). From his compassion for the sick and broken, to his sacrificial death on the cross, to the peace he provided after his resurrection, Jesus was the perfect embodiment of love. Love is his business. Therefore, love is our business too. The resurrection reality is that with the same supernatural power by which God raised Jesus from the dead, God now enables us to live a new life—one marked by radically selfless love. The motivation and ability to do this comes from seeing the endless love Christ has for us. We love only because he first loved us.

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** Setting Three, Hymnal Pages 188-198,171

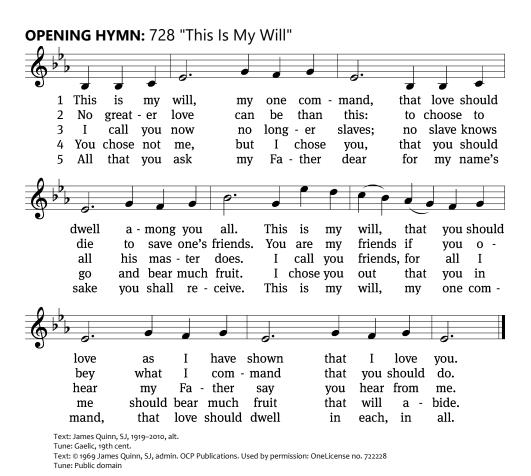
**HYMNS:** 728, 471 v. 1-2, 557, 730 (Hymns also posted on the screen)

**PSALM:** Psalm 89 "Forever I Will Sing" (Hymnal/Screen)

**SERMON:** 1 John 4:7-11,19-21 "Just What Is Christian Love? 1. It's the love God

shows sinners 2. It's the love God's children show others"

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** (Sunday at SJ) Little Lambs 3-4K & CALA 5K-8th grade children sing: "He Came Down"



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

#### Amen.

### **CONFESSION**

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

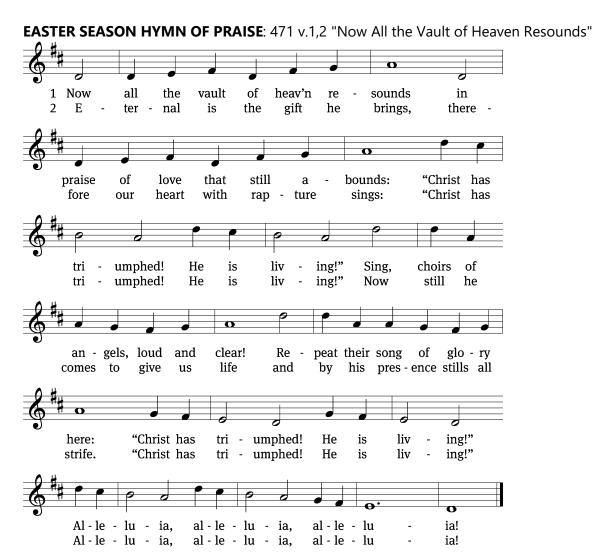
Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But

# Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ 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.

Amen.



Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623
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Tune: Public domain

### **THE WORD**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-42

(Because Tabitha loved Jesus, she was always helping the poor in the town of Joppa. Because Jesus loved the people of Joppa, he had Peter raise Tabitha from the dead.) <sup>36</sup>In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. <sup>37</sup>About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. <sup>38</sup>Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" <sup>39</sup>Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

# PSALM: 89 "Forever I Will Sing"

Refrain



For - ev - er I will sing the good - ness of the



**Tone** 



I will sing of the LORD's great love for- / ever;

with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all gener- / ations.

I will declare that your love stands firm for- / ever,

that you have established your faithfulness in / heav'n itself.

The heavens praise your / wonders, LORD,

your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the / holy ones. Refrain

Who is like you, LORD God Al- / mighty?

You, LORD, are mighty, and your faithfulness sur- / rounds you.

Blessed are those who have learned to ac- / claim you,

who walk in the light of your / presence, LORD.

They rejoice in your name / all day long;

they celebrate your / righteousness.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be-/ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

Tune: Marty Haugen

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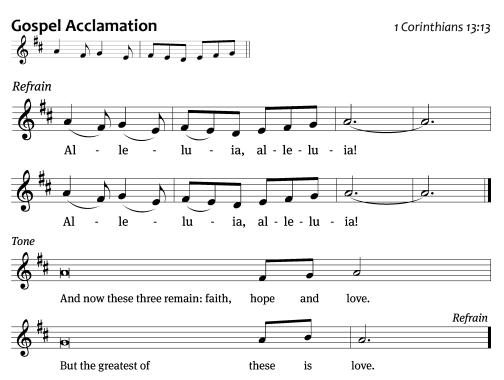
# SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-11,19-21(Sermon Text)

(Friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.)

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

The Word of the Lord

#### Thanks be to God.



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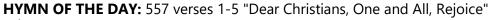
#### **GOSPEL READING:** John 15:9-17

(The living Lord gives us this command. Remain in his love so that we might also love each other.)

<sup>9</sup>"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup>I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup>This is my command: Love each other.

The Gospel of the Lord.

# Praise be to you, O Christ!





- 1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, with ex-ul-ta-tion
- 2 Fast bound in Sa tan's chains I lay; death brood-ed dark ly
- 3 My own good works a vailed me naught, no mer it they at
- 4 But God be held my wretch-ed state be fore the world's foun-
- 5 He spoke to his be lov ed Son: "It's time to have com -



spring-ing, and, with u - nit - ed heart and voice and ho - lv o'er me. Sin was mv tor - ment night and day; in sin mv a - gainst God's judg-ment fought, no tain - ing; my will hope for tion, and, mind - ful of his mer-cies great, he planned for pas - sion. Then go, bright jew - el of my crown, and bring to

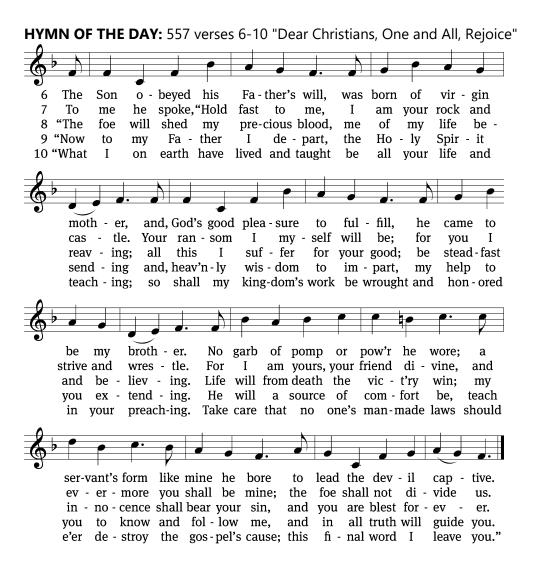


Text and tune: Public domain

**SERMON**: John 15:1-8 "Remain In Jesus The Giver Of Life"

# **APOSTLES CREED:** Hymnal Page 197/Screen

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



#### **EASTER SEASON & INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

# OFFERING, CARE CARDS, FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS (St. John's) & ALTAR PRAYER

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting

life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Amen.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

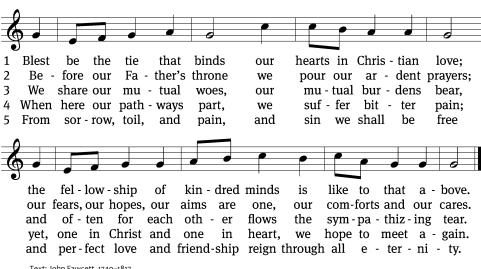
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

#### Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN:** 730 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"



Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817 Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

#### **FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

WELS Connection Video (Sunday at Emmanuel & St. John's)

#### THEME FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

# Mothers' Day/Seventh Sunday of Easter RESURRECTION REALITY: WE WILL OVERCOME THIS BROKEN WORLD

# Acknowledgments

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St. John's	Usher's	
	Schedule	
Saturday, May 4	Saturday, May 11	
Sunday, May 5	Sunday, May 12	
Ben Jaster	Matthew Kath	
Jacob Jaster	Glen Bubolz	
Jeff Reimer	Martin Schmanke	
Mark Emond	Mike Kempley	

# Next Hands in Prayer Meeting: is Monday, May 6 at 2:30pm!

ST. JOHN'S LADIES, PLEASE VOTE! All confirmed women are eligible to vote for officers on the International Board of Directors of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) and for mission projects for 2024-2025. A voting station is located in the Information Room. <a href="Voting ends on Sunday, May 19">Voting ends on Sunday, May 19</a>. Results of this voting will be announced at the LWMS Convention, June 27-30, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. If you have questions, please contact Reporter Linda Wachholz. Your vote is very much appreciated!

# **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

- For the sick and others facing trials, including: Gale "Blackie" Boyd, Mike Brown, Bob Buehrens, Michael Cox (Marjorie Fabian's brother), Vicki Davis (Marilyn Riemer's sister), Edith Duesterhoeft, Don Ebert, Ken Elmer (Sally's husband), Earl Ewert, Judy Fandrey, Bob & Christine Ferber, John Gaedke (Dan Finger's uncle), Donna Gatzke, Dennis Gray (Mary Dahlke's brother), Kelleen Grucza (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Kim Hanko (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Randy Hardell, Del & Jean Henke, Jerry & Darlene Hunter (Bonnie Chapman's parents), Xzander Jahr, Orlene Johnson, Ruth Jones, Kris Kemp (Diane Hintz' daughter), Dale Kozlowski, Emily Krueger, Jeff Krueger (Diane Hintz's son), Darren Marceau, Julie Moran, Debbie & Steve Parrish, Milo Petrick, Sharon Priewe, Melissa Prater, Sharon Priewe, Karen Radke, Roxanne Schmanke, Ashley Schroeder, Eloise Schultz, Bob Sluga (Sherry's husband), Pat Sommerfeld, Amanda Stalker, Tom Stempniak, James & Suzanne Weber, Cheryl Wegner, Stacy Weisensel, Paul Weldon, Tom Zietlow (Pastor's brother), Tama Zuehls (Zeb's mother) (added this week: \_\_\_)
- For Mrs. Kathy Noeldner from St. Martin's School--Watertown, SD called at the 4/10 SJ Voter's meeting to serve as our Little Lambs director/teacher
- For our Emmanuel members, Dave and Karen Radke, who will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday (5/9)

At our April 10 call meeting the voters present cast a unanimous vote to extend a call to Mrs. Kathryn Noeldner to be our next LL preschool Director/Teacher. Following is her contact information.

Phone: 605-886-7785 (home); 605-520-3473 (cell) Email: kathy.noeldner@stmartinschurch.com (work)

1006 18th St NE

Watertown SD 57201-6771

She is 62 years old, a graduate of MLC and is presently teaching 1st grade with a class size of 23. She is licensed in South Dakota. Her preference is indicated for pre-k - 3rd grade. She is married to Rodney who is employed as a metal finisher, nickel plating. She displays a love for the Lord and for serving God's people, has an unselfish attitude, and functions well as a member of a team. Please reach out to her with encouragement through cards, texts, emails, or phone calls as she deliberates where she can best use her gifts to promote the saving Gospel. Please keep both congregations and all of our called workers in your prayers, as we work together to carry out our Gospel ministries.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This Week: May 5-11, 2024			
Today	9:00 a.m.	EM Congregational Meeting	
Monday	2:30 p.m.	Hands in Prayer Meeting SJ	
	6:30 p.m.	Adult Choir SJ	
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ	
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Joint Elders Meeting SJ	
	6:30 a.m.	CALA Meeting SJ Montello	
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Montello Care Center Devotion	
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ	
	5:00 p.m.	Public School Catechism SJ	
	5:30 p.m.	Soup & Scripture Women's Bible Study SJ	
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Ascension Worship with Communion SJ	
Saturday	4:30 p.m.	SJ Worship With Communion	

Next Sunday: May 5, 2024			
8:00 a.m.	Emmanuel Worship		
8:30 a.m.	St. John's Sunday School		
8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study St. John's		
9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study Emmanuel		
10:00 a.m.	St. John's Worship		

Attendance				
Date	EM	SJ		
4/27/24	-	14		
4/28/24	37	91		

Sunday School, Little Lambs & CALA Singing Schedule			
	5/19/24	Sunday School at SJ Montello	
	5/23/22	CALA at SJ Princeton	

Total March	Budget	March	Year to Date	Year to Date
Offerings	Needs	Expenses	Offerings	Expenses
\$25,278.62	\$33939.58	\$21,661.22	\$275,654.71	\$234,986.66

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **2 Corinthians 9:7** 

# Help us stay in touch!

Scan the code below using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information. Don't have a smartphone? That's ok! Fill out an attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate located at the entry of each church.



# Welcome to our visitors! Find & Like us on Facebook

Visit our website: www.stjohnsmontello.org

Pastor Pete Zietlow: 608-408-7830, Email: zietlowPL6@hotmail.com

Principal & 6-8 Grade Teacher: Larry Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext.102

Email: principal@christalonelutheranacademy.net

**3-5 Grade Teacher:** Beth Barenz: 920-481-9002 ext.103 bbarenz@christalonelutheranacademy.net

**1-2 Grade Teacher:** Shelley Myers: 920-481-9002 ext.201 smyers@christalonelutheranacademy.net

**Kindergarten Teacher:** Lynn Sellnow: 920-481-9002 ext.202 lynnsellnow@christalonelutheranacademy.net

**Little Lambs Director:** Barbara Stelter: 920-481-9002 ext. 203 littlelambs@stjohnsmontello.org

CALA Secretary/Office: Ciara Neuhauser: 920-481-9002 School Email: secretary@christalonelutheranacademy.net Church Office: Matthew Kath 608-297-2866/608-494-0167

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