

The Divine Service w/ Holy Communion

Fifty Sunday in Easter

April 20th, 2008 ~ 9:30am

St. John's Lutheran Church
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Howard, South Dakota
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Easter

About the Cover: When we have a vision problem, most of us turn to glasses, contact lenses, or laser surgery. Stephen turned his eyes to the heavens, where he saw the Lord Jesus standing at the right hand of God, the same Jesus who was his Savior. In His Word read and proclaimed, and His Word with the water of Baptism and the bread and wine of His Supper, we see the same Jesus.

WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Ushers: *Wally Jacobsen, Craig Hoyer, Maynard Hahn, David Callies* Elder: *Gary Huenders*
Greeters: *Ed and Donna Meyer, and Joanne Beyer* Acolyte: *Maria Schwader*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Study Every Wed at 9:00am Church Basement.

Bible Study Sunday Morning: Every Sunday Morning following worship we gather to study God's Word. Please join us as we review Luther's Small Catechism as a window to Scripture.

Main Street Living is seeking volunteers to help with the production of the new Kid's Crossing program. They are looking for people to run: Teleprompter - some computer experience helpful but not required; Camera - some photography experience helpful but not required; Sound - some experience helpful but not required; Video Switcher; Equipment setup/take down; If you are interested, or know of someone who might be interested and are willing to commute to Sioux Falls, please contact Dutch Teslaa at dteslaa@yahoo.com or call him at 605/351-2227.

Announcement: LWML Fall Zone Rally "Ingathering" please bring the following items to church by June for distribution through LWML. Personal Hygiene Items; Personal Care Products; Paper Products;

Life Quote: "There . . . continues to be, enormous fallout from the deaths of over 48 million unborn children . . . with damage not only to women's health and psyche, but also to her relationship with the baby's father . . . The good news is that as more post-abortion healing and helping takes place, there will be more mothers and fathers to stand beside us and spread the word that abortion kills children and hurts their parents." *Olivia Gans, director, American Victims of Abortion.* A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life / www.lutheransforlife.org / 888-364-LIFE

Stewardship: 1 Peter 2:2-10: St. Peter reminds us in this text that at one time we were "no people" (that is, people without Christ), but now we are the people of God who are equipped for every good work. Among other things, that means

using all we are and have for God's purposes. That's at the heart of Christian stewardship.

Spaghetti lunch planned for Sunday, April 27 (*servicing from 11-2*) Adults \$6.00 children 12 and under \$3.00 Proceeds will be targeted for church operations and maintenance; Thrivent Care and Congregation funds have been requested. Families A-K are asked to bring salads - L-Z are asked to bring desserts In addition a listing of items needed for the supper is posted on the bulletin board (donations are very much appreciated!) A listing of helpers and work schedules is also posted. Please contact Kathy Callies, Helen Sprecher, Bonnie Hemmer or Wendy Eich if you are not able to help out as noted on the list. Thank you for participating!

HOLY LAND NOUR TOUR Please join Pastor Nabil Nour, a native from Israel on his upcoming Holy Land Nour Tour. The dates are September 30th - October 11, departing from Minneapolis, MN. The price is \$3250.00 This includes Flight, hotel accommodations, two meals a day and all your entry fees.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today **9:30am**—Worship w/ Holy Communion
10:30am—Sunday School / Adult Bible Class
2:pm—Circuit Forum, Wentworth.
Monday *Pastor's Day Off*
Wednesday **9:00am**—Bible Study
3:45pm—Junior Confirmation
Thursday **9:00am**—Bible Study Sunrise Terrace
2:30pm—Worship Service at Sunrise Terrace
Saturday **9:00am**—Lutheran Lecture Series, Marcus, IA
Next Sunday: **9:30am**—Worship
11:00am—Spaghetti Lunch

GOD'S PEOPLE AT PRAYER

Brock West, Jennings Kuhle, Luke Watt, Trevor Gluhm, Tyler May, Maynard Hahn, Jon Albrecht, Judy Lucht, Marvel Wombacher, Lila Hurry

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only the bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because his Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to make an appointment to speak with the Pastor. For further study, see Matt 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34;

Worship next week.

April 27, 2008 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Ushers: *Wally Jacobsen, Craig Hoyer, Maynard Hahn, David Callies* Elder: *Gary Huenders*
Greeters: *John and Deanna Nelson* Acolyte: *Maria Schwader*

Divine Service II (p. 158)

‡ Sit - † Stand

♥ Favorite Hymns

Service of the Word

Processional Hymn **LW126**
† Invocation p. 158
Confession / Absolution p. 158
Psalm 146 p. 364
Kyrie p. 159
"This is the Feast" p. 161
Salutation / Collect inside
‡ First Reading *Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a; 51-60*
Epistle *1 Pet 2:2-20*
† Gospel *John 14:1-14*
‡ Hymn of the Day **LW365**
Sermon
† Nicene Creed p. 166
Prayer of the Church p. 167
‡ Offering
† "Let the Vineyards" p. 168

Service of the Sacrament

Preface p. 170
The Our Father p. 171
Words of Institution p. 171
Pax Domini p. 171
Agnus Dei p. 172
‡ Distribution Hymns
LW381; LW304
† "Thank the Lord" p. 173
Post Communion Prayer p. 174
Benediction p. 174
‡ Recessional **LW445**

DAILY READINGS

April

20: Lev 20:1-16, 22-27; Luke 11:37-54;
21: Lev 21:1-24; Luke 12:1-12;
22: Lev 23:1-22; Luke 12:13-34;
23: Lev 23:23-44; Luke 12:35-53;
24: Lev 24:1-23; Luke 12:54-13:17;
25: Lev 26:1-20; Luke 13:18-35;
26: Lev 26:21-33, 39-44; Luke 14:1-24

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Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. And Stephen said: “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.” Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep. (Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 7:51-60, ESV)

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. (1 Peter 2:2-20, ESV)

**St. John’s Lutheran Church
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