

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

246 Benjamin Street.....Romeo, Michigan 48065
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER.....MAY 15, 2011
Church Office.....752-4588 Hotline.....752-1067
Pastor Mark Evans... ..752-2498
Email Address.....stjohnlutheranromeo@comcast.net Website.....www.stjohnromeo.org

WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:30 AM

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP P=Presiding, A=Assisting, C=Congregation

Prelude..... Karen Palmer

SPECIAL MUSIC..... *“Amazing Grace”*..... **CAN-DO RINGERS**

Congregational Greeting and Theme of the Day:
“It Doesn’t Get Any Better Than This!”

ENTRANCE HYMN (stand): *“For the Beauty of the Earth”* **Green Book #561**

GREETING:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

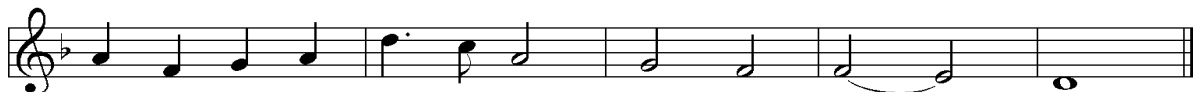
KYRIE: WOV Page 28



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy:
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy:
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy:
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN OF PRAISE: WOV Page 29

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: WOV Page 30

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray...

C: **Lord, we yearn for a perfect world and search far and wide to find it while it's been right here all the time in Your Holy Word. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC (2)..... "Borning Cry".....PRAISE SINGERS

CHILDREN'S SERMON (2)

Pastor Mark Evans

PRAISE HYMN:

I Will Lift High

I will lift high the Lord God at all times.
I will sing His praise the rest of my years.
I sought the Lord and He graciously answered.
He took away from me my greatest fear.
He took away from me my greatest fear.

For the eye of the Lord is upon me;
His ear is attentive to my every cry.
His face shines upon me;
His strong arm surrounds me.
By grace He has saved me and I'll never die.

I will lift high the Lord God at all times.
I will sing His praise the rest of my years.
I sought the Lord and He graciously answered.
He took away from me my greatest fear.
He took away from me my greatest fear.

BAPTISM: (1) *(No photographs, please until after worship. The Service of Baptism is an opportunity for all of us to remember our Baptisms.)*

P: Dear Parents and Sponsors, you have brought **Ashlyn Lily O'Neill** to this place because God wants her to be washed and cleansed. Through sin, we live in a broken world, but in baptism, by water and the spirit, we are reborn children of God and made members of Christ's Body.

S: *We present **Ashlyn Lily O'Neill** to be washed in God's Baptismal water.*

P: As parents and sponsors, you are now asked to see that this child grows up in the Christian Faith; that she learn the stories of our Faith. See to it that through your lives she understands the meaning of the Creeds, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments. Make sure that she experiences the love of Christ through your love, for it is Christ's love which shall sustain her throughout her life. Will you keep these promises?

Parents & Sponsors: We will.

P: Together, with this Congregation of Believers, will you affirm your faith and the Faith into which **Ashlyn** is baptized?

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (congregation together)

God is love, and in God is the source of all goodness and truth. God is the creator of the universe and continues to recreate with us a kingdom of compassion for all humankind. Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was born of Mary, lived a life of kindness and concern, died a cruel death on an executioner's cross, and was raised on the third day to a new life. Jesus' life is our life. We can now live a life of kindness and concern; we can die and be raised to new life; we can

live as forgiven sinners, confident of our place in eternity. We can respond to the call of Christ to follow him. The Holy Spirit is the spirit of God, alive and at work, establishing and building the realm of God on this earth. The Spirit of God leads us into the true faith, guides us through the difficult choices of life, and comforts us when we feel as if we cannot go on. God is with us, living inside of us, through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE BAPTISM: *Ashlyn Lily O'Neill*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

P: *Ashlyn*, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the Cross of Christ forever.

A: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME: We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.

✠ Today we welcome *Ashlyn Lily O'Neill* into our family of Christ. Ashlyn is the daughter of Joshua and Corinne (Sherman) O'Neill of Macomb Twp. Ashlyn's sponsors are Adam and Megan Gruenberg.

THE WORD OF GOD:

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Psalm 24

- 1 The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;
- 2 **for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.**
- 3 Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?
- 4 **He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.**
- 5 He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Savior.
- 6 **Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**
- 7 Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- 8 **Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.**
- 9 Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- 10 **Who is he, this King of glory? The LORD Almighty-- he is the King of glory.**

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. ²⁰But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (stand): WOV No. 613

C:

Celtic Alleluia

Al – le – lu – ia, al – le – lu – ia!

Al – le – lu – ia, al – le – lu – ia!

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th Chapter.

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

The Holy Gospel: John 15:12-17

¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I 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. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON: ***"It Doesn't' Get Any Better Than This!"*** **Pastor Mark Evans**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: (*Stand, if you are able, and sing*).....LBW 565

C: **Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

A: Let us pray. Merciful God,

C: **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us--ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Please keep the following individuals in your prayers:

Bill Adams, Margaret Allemon, Bob Barke, Dennis Barke, Rosalie Blackett, Michelle Blaskay, Jennifer Buckley, Pat Cabala, Amy (Barr) Carbeck, Matthew Decker, Tom Dixon, Melvin Dyker, Martin Falker, Ed Goebel, Ernestine Hagedorn, Al & Velma Jean Havers, Bill Higgins, the Family of Ted Hillman, Margaret Hotchkiss, Jennifer Hudson, Harold Joyce, Lorolei Kahl, Pat Koleda, Amy Krawciw, Mike, Brigitte Maday, Ellen Maddin,, Helen Mangold, Mike, Bob Neubacher, Brooklynn Oland, Jerry Olson, Lillie Oming, The Family of John Paulina, Don & Betty Pinnick, Gary Prudian, Ruth Rohm & Family, Clarence Samuel, Eric Schorling, Rick Schwartz, Chris Seablom, Bob See, Ron Seglund, Debbie Shepak, Virgene Shreves, the family of Donna Smith, Jim Smith, Louise Trombley, Joyce Vestrand, Ed Werderman, Suzanne Wilson, Kenneth Wizinsky Sr., Kim Wizinsky, Peter Yelick, and our servicemen overseas, Garrett Chandler, Brian Frink, Dan Hier and Steve Horney.

After the updates of the People Concerns, the Congregation will stand and sing together:

Lord, Listen to Your Children

Lord listen to Your children praying,
Lord send Your Spirit in this place
Lord listen to Your children praying
Send us love, send us power, send us grace!

THE PRAYERS (stand):WOV Page 34

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
and for all people according to their needs.

Each portion of the prayers concludes with these words:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with these words:

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

THE LORD’S PRAYER: (Stand if you are able).....WOV Page 39

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

THE BENEDICTION:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: “Lord of All Hopefulness” Green Book #469

DISMISSAL:

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

Postlude Karen Palmer

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To Our Visitors and Guests: Thank You for joining us for worship today. Please fill out a visitor card and give to the usher, or sign our guest register book in the front entrance when you leave. Please come and join us again!

*All
the
Believers
were One
in **Heart**
and **Mind.***

Acts 4:32

VOLUNTEER MINISTERS FOR MAY 15, 2011

Assisting Minister: Courtney Carleton

Acolyte: 1) Volunteers Please
2) Nick Howard, Hunter Long

Greeters: 1) Vi Ladner
2) Ralph & Libby Wilson

Reader: 1) Shirley Wilburn
2) Mike Phillips

Nursery: 1) Volunteers Please
2) Angie Farkas

Ushers: 1) Pat Hahn, Volunteers Please!
2) Jim Long, Greg Howard, Volunteers Please

Counters: DROP BAG

Coffee Hour: Steve Hunt Family

