



ST. GEORGE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

803 West Main St, Brighton, MI 48116

Website: www.stgeorgelutheran.org

April 28, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Phone 810-229-6670

stgeorgebrighton@gmail.com

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

Welcome! We are glad you're here!

A warm welcome is extended to all!

Your presence enriches us at this time of celebration together.

Prepare Hearts for Worship

Welcome and announcements

Sharing of the Peace

Confession and Forgiveness (inspired by John 13:34-35; 1 John 4:7)

Come with what you have. For you weighed down by too many “should” and “what-ifs” know that here you may lay down the burdens of guilt and shame.

Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.

Come with what you have. For you who grieve this day know that you are invited to bring the broken pieces of your heart.

Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.

Come with what you have. For you who come with gladness know that your rejoicing is a blessing.

Accepting God's love for us, we are called to love one another.

Come with what you have. For you who come seeking, know that your questions are safe in the presence of God.

Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.

Whatever our situation and state of mind, we ask for forgiveness and mercy, in the name of Christ our Lord.

~ adapted from a litany written by Katherine Hawker, and posted on **Outside the Box**. <http://liturgyoutside.net/>

Assurance of Forgiveness

Jesus said: "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will and it shall be done for you." Friends, we have asked for forgiveness and correction. It has been truly done for us. It is being done for us. And it will be done for us.

Thanks be to God!

Entrance Hymn:

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!

#377

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

gift of the future now flowing to me.

Trumpets resounding in glorious light!

Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!

Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.

Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!"

Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise:

Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.

Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Walking the way, Christ in the center
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.
Jesus the vine, we are the branches;
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
heaven to earth, Christ to the people,

City of God, Easter forever,
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life, saints and archangels,
sing with creation to God the I AM!
the strain which our feebler voices raise:
Glory to our God above and on earth His
peace and love!

Apostolic 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

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of the Day:

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Youth Message

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he

does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

L: The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**

Psalm 22

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;

before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn.

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of

the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

L: The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**

All: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord **All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:

The King of Love my Shepherd Is

#502

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.

my ransomed soul he leadeth
and, where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.
Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,

Where streams of living water flow,

and home, rejoicing, brought me.

from thy pure chalice floweth!

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me,
thy rod and staff my comfort still;
thy cross before to guide me.
Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight

And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877

Apostle's Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic*church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*catholic here meaning "universal"

Prayers of Intercession:

A Lord, in your mercy.... C Hear our Prayer

Offertory:

Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer:

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer:

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lamb of God: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

#362

At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious king, who has
washed us in the tide flowing from his
wounded side. Alleluia!

Praise we Christ, whose love divine
gives his sacred blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia!

Where the paschal blood is poured
death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe.
Alleluia!

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
paschal victim, paschal bread; with
sincerity and love eat we manna from
above. Alleluia!

Mighty victim from the sky, hell's fierce
pow'rs beneath you lie; you have
conquered in the fight, you have brought
us life and light. Alleluia!

Now no more can death appall, now no
more the grave enthrall; you have opened
paradise, and your saints in you shall rise.
Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy, this alone can
sin destroy! From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us
free, newborn souls in you to be.
Alleluia!

Father, who the crown shall give, Savior,
by whose death we live, Spirit, guide
through all our days: Three in One, your
name we praise. Alleluia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-1868, alt.

The Day of Resurrection

#361

The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad,
the passover of gladness,
the passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over
with hymns of victory.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful,
let earth its song begin,
the round world keep high triumph
and all that is therein.
Let all things, seen and unseen,
their notes of gladness blend;
for Christ the Lord has risen,
our joy that has no end!

Let hearts be purged of evil
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light,
and list'ning to his accents,
may hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and hearing,
may raise the glad refrain.

All praise to God the Father,
All praise to Christ the son,
All praise to God the Spirit,
Eternal Three in One!
Let all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne,
And honor, pow'r and glory
Ascribe to God alone!

© John of Damascus, John Mason Neale, German melody, 18th Cent.

Post Communion Blessing:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen

Post Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord and sing his praise, tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Benediction Go now, and love one another, because love is from God.

Proclaim God's salvation to every generation. Remain in Jesus Christ, and like branches of a vine, draw your life from him.

And may God the vine grower tend you and make you fruitful; May Christ Jesus abide in you and give you life; And may the Holy Spirit cast out all fear and fill you with God's love.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Sending Hymn *Here I Am, Lord*

#574

"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

"I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

"I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

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Dismissal A: Go in peace, serve the Lord, C: **Thanks be to God.**

Current Budget Report: as of 4/21/2024

Last week's giving: \$3,772.15

Needed to meet budget: \$5,425.96

Year to Date: \$91,947.00

Ahead (Behind) Budget: \$5,131.62

Announcements

Adult Sunday School: Today at 10 AM.

Bible Study: Thursdays at 10 AM.

Needleworks: Friday, May 3rd & 17th at 10:00 AM. All are welcome!

Mother's Day Brunch: Tuesday, May 7th at 11:00 AM in the lower level. This free, flower-arranging event is open to all.

Friends and Family Breakfast: Sunday, May 12th at 10 AM.

Birthday Celebration: May 19th at 10:00 AM.

Love Inc, Buckets of Blessings: We are asking for scrubbing cleanser for May.

Sunday 04/28	9 AM Traditional Worship, 10 AM Sunday School; 11 AM Contemporary Worship;
Monday 04/29	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM
Tuesday 04/30	7:30 PM AA
Wednesday 05/01	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM; 8 AM Men's Club;
Thursday 05/02	Bible Study 10 AM; 7:00 PM AA
Friday 05/03	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM; Needleworks 11 AM
Saturday 05/04	

	April 28	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
Asst. Min	Joan V.	Lorna D.	Bob S.	Keith B.	Joan V.
Lay Reader	Joan V.	Lorna D.	Bob S.	Keith B.	Joan V.
Greeter					
Usher	Bob S.				
Media	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn
Fellowship			Friends & Family Breakfast	Birthday Celebration	
Altar Care	Linda G.	Nancy & Sharon	Joanne	Linda F.	Linda G.

Prayers of Grace & Support

For Our Church Members, especially:

The family of Al Voss, following his passing.

Greg Gottfried and family, following the passing of his mother.

Cindy, John, and Jon Brach, with health concerns.

Kathy Boyes with health challenges.

Barb Gienapp with health concerns.

Theo Evans being treated for leukemia.

For Friends and Family of our Church Members:

Carol Pacheco, in hospice.

Dan Herbst's and Ann Dilloway's, and Linda Fox's sister Karen, who lost her son.

Wyatt, Gail's student who broke his wrist.

Karla Shaffer, best friend of the Petersburg's daughter, diagnosed with stage 4 lung and brain cancer.

Keegan, 18-year-old with recurring cancer.

Karin, heart valve replacement surgery.

Juanita Fox, George's mom, for healing.

Hudson Bennett, George Fox's nephew, for healing.

Kimberlie Gilbertson, Jeanie Petersburg's cousin, dealing with eye damage/temporary blindness from an interocular lens removal.

Carl Loerwald, friend of Joanne Bellmard, recovering from back surgery and other medical issues.

Dian Kolis, friend of Linda Fox, with Parkinson's and scheduled for brain surgery.

Nick Hodgin, Jim Hartman's friend's 12-year-old son, following brain cancer surgery.

Matt B., Linda Walton's son's best friend, diagnosed with stage 4 liver disease.

Nathan, friend of the Petersburg's, paralyzed in a diving accident.

Lydia, Gail's adult piano student, recovering from brain surgery.

Norma Topp, Michele Hirschman's friend, as she prepares for upcoming surgery.

Victor, Gail's 82-year-old student's wife, in hospice.

Alicia Gardner, Linda Walton's niece, awaiting a liver transplant.

Trey Martin, cousin of Bryan Rush, in Europe in the military. Pray for his safety.

John D., friend of Bryan Rush, suffering from Diabetes Type II.

Melissa Aloffalter, Angela Martin's friend, battling an unknown medical issue.

Margaret Doane, Kristiina H.'s friend, with breast cancer.

Micah, Alia's nephew, with a chronic infection and declining health.

Ethan and his mom, Marianne, friends of Linda Walton, as they are dealing with major physical and emotional struggles.

Jackie, Gail's piano student, diagnosed with throat cancer.

Theresa Knight, spouse of Michael Knight, for her battle with breast cancer.

Terry Pitt, Collene Hedden's brother-in-law, with auto-immune disease.

Vicki, Kristiina Herbst's neighbor, with health concerns.

Beulah & Mark who are having health and life difficulties.

For Our Community and Beyond:

Help the weak and bold in Jesus' name.

Cats and dogs that do not have a home.

Prayers for peace in Ukraine

Prayers for peace in the Middle East

Calling all cooks!

As part of St. George's 180th anniversary celebration, we are creating a cookbook. It will include recipes from every St. George family member and/or friend who wants to contribute. Share your favorites or honor a loved one with theirs.

There are three options for submitting your recipes. The preferred option involves going to typensave.com and creating a free account. Username: `stgeorge180`. Password: `seasalt454`. Log in and enter your recipes online, please proofread for accuracy.

Choice two involves emailing your recipes to the church office at stgeorgebrighton@gmail.com

The third option is using the pre-printed Recipe Collection Sheet and copying your recipe accurately. Submit to the collection box in the fellowship area.

The first two options ensure that your recipes will be recorded with complete accuracy.

The deadline for submission is May 19, 2024.