

***At the end of the Distribution we stand and continue with  
Nunc Dimittis on p. 165***

✠ CLOSING HYMN NO. **412**: *"The People That in Darkness Sat"*

✠ SILENT PRAYER

✠ POSTLUDE: Improvisation on 'Herr Christ, der einig Gotts Sohn' (LSB 402)

SERVING US AS WE WORSHIP TODAY:

Lay Assistants – William Schneeloch & Dan Provost

Lay Reader – Matthew Talmadge

Acolyte – Daniel Provost

Music Director – Jeff Windoloski

Altar Care – Jane McClure

"A **special thank you** to everyone who helped with the concert this past weekend! The concert was a huge success. We had a few short of 100 people in attendance! If you missed the concert, be sure to visit our website to listen to some of the performances: [www.stjohnsmusic.org](http://www.stjohnsmusic.org). The next concert in the 'Soli Deo Gloria' Concert Series at St. John's will be held on Sunday, April 29, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. This concert will feature Evening Vespers in the Tradition of J.S. Bach with the concert series chamber choir, the Kantorei. We hope that you will join us to experience excellent music here at St. John's!"

**2018 ALTAR CARE:** A sign-up sheet is located in the foyer for those who are willing to volunteer to clean our church altar. If you are unable to do a full month, two weeks would be fine. All are encouraged to help with the task. Training will be provided if needed.

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS** are needed each Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet located in the foyer to host a coffee hour after church. This activity is wonderful way to share in fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Please see Erika Slozak if you have any questions.

**2018 ALTAR FLOWERS:** The flower book pages for the New Year are now in the book. The cost for each bouquet is \$21.00. We can do up to three bouquets per Sunday. If anyone would like to have flowers for a particular Sunday, please sign up in the flower book located in the church foyer or see Jane McClure (562- 0492). Please make checks payable to St. John's Flower Fund.

**RADIO MINISTRY:** There are many Sundays coming up that are available for sponsorship. Please help in the continuing outreach mission project of our Radio Broadcast of Sunday morning Worship. Broadcasts can be heard each Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on WHYN (560 AM). The cost for the program is now \$125 per week. If you are interested in sponsoring a broadcast (or a part of a broadcast) in memory of or in honor of anyone please call the church or sign up on the sheet outside the office door.

**Sunday Worship  
Bulletin  
Fifth Sunday  
After  
Epiphany  
10:00 a.m.  
February 4,  
A.D. 2018**



## Saint John's Lutheran Church

---- Missouri Synod ----

60 Broad Street, Westfield, MA

(413)568-1417

Website: [stjohnswestfield.org](http://stjohnswestfield.org) e-mail: [info@stjohnswestfield.org](mailto:info@stjohnswestfield.org)

Music Ministry Website: [stjohnsmusic.org](http://stjohnsmusic.org)

**Radio Broadcast at 7:30 AM on WHYN 560 AM**

Rev. David Riley, Pastor

125 Glenwood Drive

Westfield, MA 01085

**Cell phone # 870-814-4828**

### **WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS, OUR LORD**

We pray that our worship this day will be an inspiration to every one of us. If you are a visitor or the guest of someone, please sign our Guest Book at the round table in the Foyer. Requests for prayers in this morning's service may be made by writing them on the Prayer Request form in the entryway of the church. A Nursery for infants and toddlers is available in Room 4 on this level.

***Jesus said: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you are also to love another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35***

## The Order of Holy Communion

**TO OUR VISITORS AND GUESTS:** The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at this congregation is administered in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive into our mouths, not just bread and wine, but as our Lord promises His true Body and Blood "through and in which we obtain the forgiveness of sins". If you are not a member of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we kindly ask that you arrange for a time to speak with Pastor Riley if you are interested in receiving Holy Communion.

### AS WE GATHER

Today's Readings have one point in common: There is no competition to our great God on any level. In Isaiah's day, the people feared the nations around them. But the prophet reminds them that God is in control of not only nations but His whole creation. When Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law, the people were amazed. But Jesus is ready to conquer the true opposition by preaching and casting out demons in towns throughout the area. The limited expectations about God by Jews and Gentiles alike were a challenge to Paul. But by becoming "all things to all people," he hopes to open their eyes to see the God who offers the blessings of the Gospel to everyone.

✠ PRELUDE: Improvisation on 'O Welt, ich muß dich lassen' (LSB 396)

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ OPENING HYMN NO. **396**: "Arise and Shine in Splendor"

### Confession and Absolution

p. 151

### Service of the Word

p. 152

Introit (Sung by the choir) 'In His Temple Now Behold Him' Henry Pye & Henry Purcell

Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

✠ SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

(Be Seated)

**C: Sovereign Lord, guide and direct those in the powers that be on this earth that they may govern for the benefit of all. Give courage to those who defend freedoms and protect communities. Instill wisdom in those who make, administer, and judge laws in each nation, and those who seek peace across their borders.**

P: Isaiah wrote, "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength."

Let us ask God's blessings on those near and dear to us, on all who are weary and heavy laden, all who struggle in the face of illness or injustice, all mourning the loss of family or friends, employment or home, freedom or opportunity.

**C: Strengthening Lord, give them an increase of faith to place their hope in Your power and love. Use doctors and nurses, counselors and emergency workers to answer their prayers with the relief, health, and comfort that fit Your gracious plans for them.**

P: Isaiah wrote, "They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles."

Let us ask God's blessings on the Church here and around the world, pastors and lay leaders, missionaries and evangelists, teachers and new Christians alike.

**C: Lord of the Church, protect Your people against persecution from without and indifference from within; give us all a desire to listen to Your Word, a thirst to serve with the gifts You have placed within us, and a renewal of strength to spread the news of Your gracious salvation.**

P: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### Offering

We respond to God's love with our OFFERINGS

Choir Anthem: 'Lamb of the Light'

✠ OFFERTORY (Page 159)

### Service of the Sacrament (p. 160)

At the time of DISTRIBUTION, all those wishing to receive Holy Communion will come forward as the ushers direct. The bread/Body of the Lord will be served in your hand. If you wish to receive the Lord's blood from an individual glass rather than from the common cup, indicate so when Pastor comes to you and he will hand you a glass from which you then drink and place back in the tray carried by the acolyte. If you are not a member of this congregation or a sister congregation within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, it is suggested that you speak to the Pastor before partaking of Holy Communion.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS No. **623**: "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"

## ***We Stand and sing the Alleluia and Verse (Page 156)***

† HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:29–39 (Jesus heals Simon’s mother-in-law and many others.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

**C (sung): Glory to You, O Lord.**

As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!”

Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.” So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C (sung): Praise to You, O Christ.**

***(Be Seated)***

† HYMN of the DAY NO. **402**: *“The Only Son from Heaven”*

† SERMON: *“Miracles”* Mark 1:29-39

† NICENE CREED (page 158)

† PRAYER of the CHURCH

P: Let us pray for people around the world in their various needs and for the Church wherever it gathers around Word and Sacrament. Isaiah wrote, “The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.”

Let us ask God’s blessings on all who tend fields, flocks, and fisheries, all who protect wildlife and forests, all who tend parks and gardens.

**C: Creator Lord, give them a sense of Your presence to bring forth the fruits of Your good creation. Answer their prayers with good weather and bountiful harvests.**

P: Isaiah wrote, “(He) stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and brings princes to nothing,”  
Let us ask God’s blessings on governments and citizens, on armed forces and peacemakers.

† OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 40:21–31

(The Lord reminds His people that He is willing and able to defend them.)

Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.

“To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.

Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God”? Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

† EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 9:16–27 (Paul changes his approach to win different people.)

For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights as a preacher of the gospel.

Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

