

First Reading: Acts 5:29–42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Epistle: 1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you

have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Holy Gospel: John 20:19–31

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

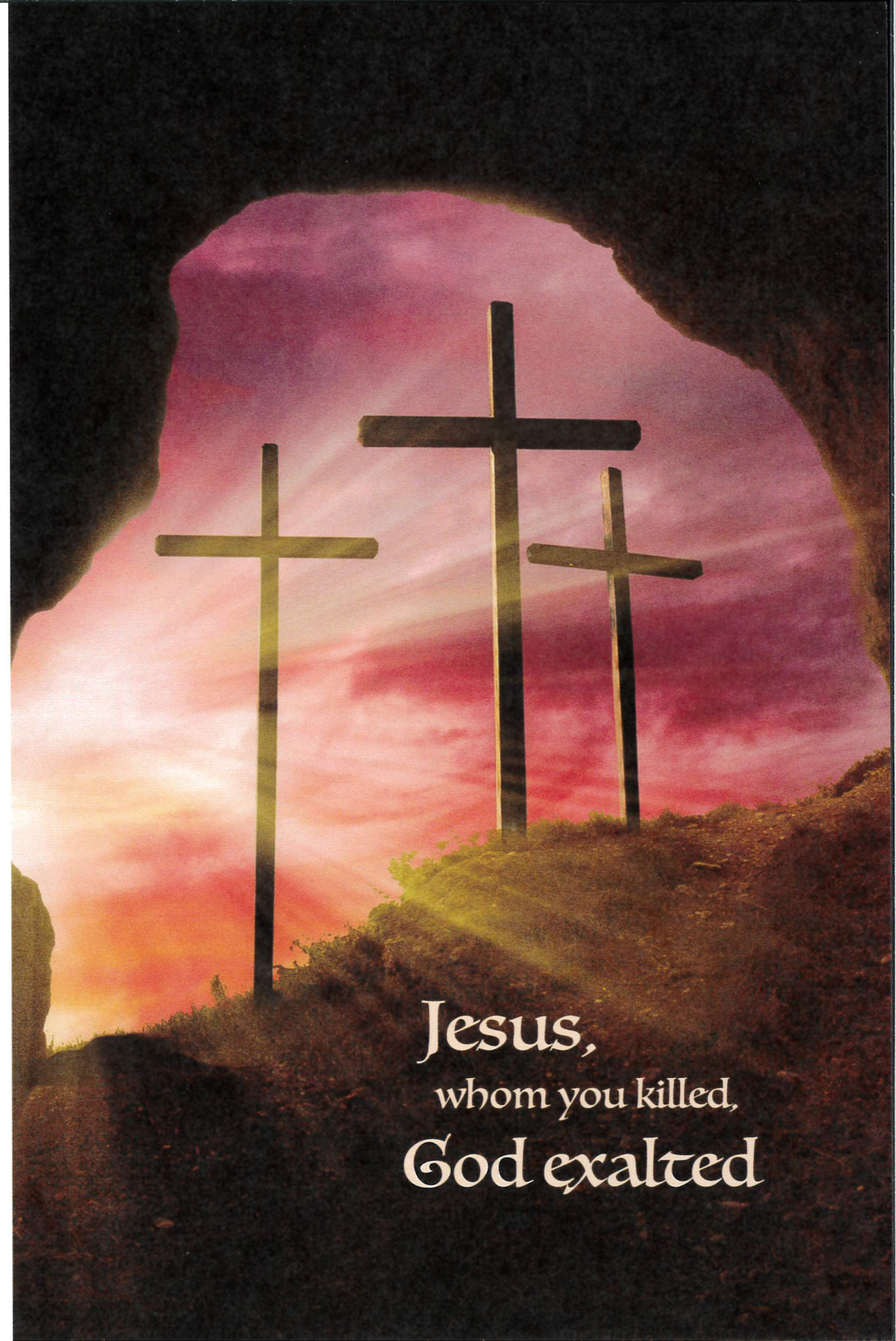
²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



Easter

About the Cover: Peter’s convicting words that were given to the leadership to bring about repentance are applied to us as well. For God exalted Christ to deliver the forgiveness of sins by faith in Him. All of us have been born into and contributed to the sin that put Christ to death. When we are convicted of our sin by the work of God’s Law on our hearts, it is always in order to bring about repentance and faith in Christ, our Savior, who has been raised for our justification.



Jesus,
whom you killed,
God exalted

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

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Website: www.stjohnsgeneseo.org

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AVAILABLE

Rev. Timothy Nerud, Pastor 815-989-2025 (Office)
612-940-8138 (Cell)

Elder: Larry Kane

Hymn Leader: Larry Kane or Bobby Wolfe

Greeter: Janet Bertso

Videographers: Joel Werling, Nicole Nerud, or Heidi Nerud

WE PRAY: Beloved Jesus, Christ of God, Redeemer of our souls and Assurance of our salvation, hear our fumbling attempts to put our praise and gratitude into words and know our unutterable and exalted joy that in faith we hold You and that You hold us now and forever; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever.. Amen

WELCOME TO ALL!

We are anxious to share with you the Christ-centered ministry at St. John's. Our Liturgy follows closely the pattern of Word and Lord's Supper handed down from the ancient Church. It is our hope that you will make the Church's life of prayer your own. If you have difficulty following our order of service, please ask someone sitting near you for assistance. We pray that you will receive rich spiritual blessings from your presence here. May the peace and power of our risen Christ be yours always.

OFFICE HOURS

Terri Monday—Friday, please call ahead
Pastor Tuesday—Friday please call ahead

STREAM SERVICES <https://www.facebook.com/St.Johns.Geneseo/>
and on the website: www.stjohnsgeneseo.org.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Sunday school— NA Adult Bible class—NA Worship —66

OFFERING

Offering last Sunday	\$1,595.00
Easter Offering	\$2,280.00
Weekly Budget for 2026	\$4,379.13

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT ST JOHN'S

Today	8:45 am	SS/Adult & Youth Bible Study
	10:00 am	Divine Worship
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Confirmation
Thursday	6:30 pm	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	8:45 am	SS/Adult & Youth Bible Study
	10:00 am	Divine Worship/Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Youth meeting

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." Psalms 122:1

SPECIAL OFFERING will be taken for the next 3 Sunday for St. Paul Lutheran Church in Dallas TX who had severe fire damage to their church and school Jan. 29, 2026 (full story on the bulletin board). All gifts will be matched up to a total of \$2,500 with funds from Karna Holatz estate. Let us reach out to our fellow Christian church in their time of need.

Building Healthy Families: Listen to the news on any given evening and you will be inundated with accounts of terrible things that are happening, around the world and close to home. It's easy to become distressed and overwhelmed. And it's possible for a traumatic news story to trigger memories of your own trauma – experienced recently or in your personal history long ago. This week, take a few minutes to commit Jesus' words to memory and recall them whenever you hear distressing news: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Know that we're here for you and others you know to help overcome the hardships of life – bringing professional supportive counseling grounded in our shared worldview and Christian faith. Call us – it's why we're here! Learn more at www.LutheranFamilyService.org **Lutheran Family Service**



ALTAR FLOWERS—Please consider providing Altar flower for a Sunday. Sign the flower chart found on the bulletin board next to the rest

rooms. Sign your name for the date of your choice. Use the yellow envelope write the occasion you are celebrating and to pay for the flowers (\$30 for two arrangements, checks made out to St. John's church). Place the envelope in the offering plate. The rest will be taken care of.

VOTERS' ASSEMBLY after the worship service on April 26th.

THANK YOU—Thank you for helping with the Easter Breakfast. Your help was awesome. Thanks to the Lenten supper ladies who helped rolling the silverware and added a bow to them, Thanks to Paula Chapa for asking me to do breakfast. I have so much joy doing this. Thanks to my kitchen gals Kindra, Barb, and Jan for volunteering without me asking them! Thanks to the youth who help gathering trays and clean-up. Thanks to Bob Erdman and Dan for serving the casseroles. Thanks to other who helped with clean-up. Many hands make it quick and easy work. Thanks to all who donated to Cristo Rey Lutheran Church. We received \$512.

The best part was seeing the members having fellowship together. This fellowship helps to increase our faith. The apostles said to the Lord "Increase our faith (Luke 17:5). As we think about the uncertainty of the future and the possible trying experiences that may challenge our faith, I know of nothing better than to wish for us that the Lord would increase our faith. God grant that this week be a week famous for believing. May our faith increase not only today but every day.

Thanks again, Carolyn Werner

PRAYER MINISTRY

Remember how God works to strengthen the faith of His people as you pray:

MISSION—*Pray with thanksgiving for faithful parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and other role models who help to "train up a child in the way he should go" (Prov. 22:6)*

ST JOHN'S—**Miss Sandra Rahn**—We offer before You our common request for the well-being of Your church throughout the world that it may be so guided and governed by Your good Spirit that all who profess themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit in the bond of peace, and the righteousness of life. Specifically, we pray for Sandy asking Your blessings on her.

ST. JOHN'S FAMILY—O Lord, You are the great Physician of soul and body. We pray that You would show mercy to Your servants:

Linda Aper	Paula Chapa	Joyce DeFauw
John Erdman	Betty Firch	Marcia Helke

Jessica Johnson	Rosalie Jorgensen	Linda Lundquist
Mary Jayne Nash	Aaron Raschke	Drew Schillinger
Dave Schmidt	Carolyn Werner	Denice Winchell
Carolyn Wildermuth		Marilyn Woods

Jon/Anita Clausing (missionaries in Kenya)
Jodi Martins (daughter of Gary & Darla Johns)
Justin Rittenhouse (grandson of John/Nancy Wickwire)
Marty Cavato (cousin of Mary Jo Gehn)
Ellen Bauer (grandmother of Joel Werling)
Joline Parrish (sister of Gayla Kroll)
Ann Behrendt (daughter of Carolyn Wildermuth)
Lyll Talarico (niece of Mary Jo Gehn)
Cindy Davenport (cousin of Terri Hock)
Chad Gehn (nephew of Brad Gehn)
Jeff Schreck (cousin of Terri Hock)

MILITARY—Pray for our military and their families:

Luke Thompson (son of John/Kindra Thompson)
Karl Flynn (son of Mr/Mrs Paul Flynn)
Casey Powers Jr. (step son of Lisa Powers)
Brittany Lenni (daughter of Gabe Loenser)
Rylie Hallendorff (grand-daughter of Carolyn & Dan Werner)
Chase Werling (nephew of Joel Werling)
Carter Martwig (nephew of Joel Werling)

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

"The cross that held Jesus' body exposed all the sin, violence, and injustice of this world for what it is. At once, the cross revealed what kind of world we have and what kind of God we have: a world of gross unfairness but also a God of sacrificial love." *Rev. Gregory Seltz, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*