

# Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Welcomes You



**May 17, 2020– 8:00 A.M.**

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church & School  
4333 Cleveland Avenue, Stevensville, MI 49127  
Phone: (269) 429-7222 - Church (269) 429-7111 - School  
[www.christ-luth.org](http://www.christ-luth.org)**

**Sunday Services: 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.**

**Sunday School and Bible Class: 9:30 a.m..**

**Thursday Evening Service at 7:00 p.m.**

**Christian Day School: Preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

## *The Sixth Sunday of Easter*

### **As We Gather**

About our Gospel Lesson John 14:15 Luther says:

Therefore if you want to keep My commandments, see that you love Me, and think of what I have done for you. It is proper that you should love Me, who am about to give My life for you and to shed My blood for you. Do this for My sake. Live in harmony and friendship with one another. At the same time adhere steadfastly to Me in your preaching, bear with one another in love, and do not introduce schisms and factions.

“For I have richly deserved your loyalty. It is hard for Me to accomplish your redemption, and it costs Me My life. I am hurling Myself into death and into the jaws of the devil to deliver you from sin and death, to destroy the power of hell and the devil, and to present you with heaven and all that I have. I will gladly pardon you if you err and sin at times, even if you fall grossly, also if you are weak and frail, but only if you return to Me, manifest your love again, and also forgive one another, as I do you, so that your mutual love will not be destroyed.” (Luther’s Works V24: page 102)

Hymn ~ “This Joyful Eastertide” .....Hymn 482

1        This joyful Eastertide  
          Away with sin and sorrow!  
          My love, the Crucified,  
          Has sprung to life this morrow: Refrain.

### *Refrain*

Had Christ, who once was slain,  
Not burst His three-day prison,  
Our faith had been in vain:  
But now has Christ arisen,  
arisen, arisen;  
But now has Christ arisen!

2       Death's flood has lost its chill  
          Since Jesus crossed the river;  
      Lover of souls, from ill  
          My passing soul deliver: Refrain.

3       My flesh in hope shall rest  
          And for a season slumber  
      Till trump from east to west  
          Shall wake the dead in number:

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# Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**Invocation**.....Page 151

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P**     In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C**     **Amen.**

**P**     If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C**     **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P**     Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C**     **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and Unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Introit



Your word is a lamp | to my feet\*  
and a light | to my path.

**Forever, O | Lord, your word\*  
is firmly fixed | in the heavens.**

Your faithfulness endures to all gener- | ations;\*  
you have established the earth, and it | stands fast.

**By your appointment they | stand this day,\*  
for all things are your | servants.**

If your law had not been | my delight,\*  
I would have perished in my af- | fliction.

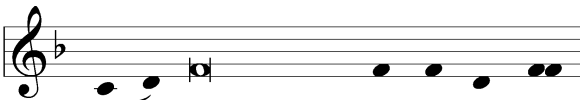
**I will never forget your | precepts,\*  
for by them you have giv- | en me life.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Your word is a lamp | to my feet\*  
and a light | to my path.

*Ps. 119:89–93; antiphon: Ps. 119:105*

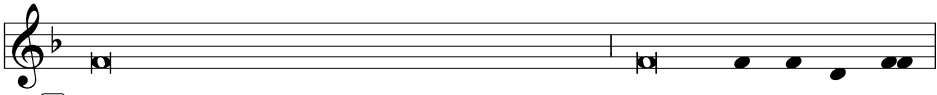
Kyrie.....Page 152



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



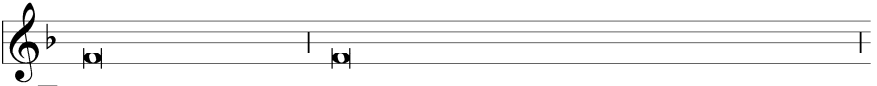
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



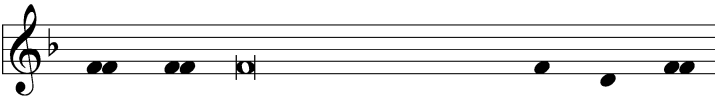
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

*Refrain*

**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb ——— who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**P** The Lord be with you  
**C** **And also with you.**

**Collect of the Day**

**P** Let us pray  
O God, the Giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**Reading from the Book of Concord**

*Luther’s Small Catechism  
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism  
The Second and Third Parts*

*What benefits does Baptism give?*

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

*Which are these words and promises of God?*

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” [Mark 16:16]

*How can water do such great things?*

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God’s word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:

“He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.” [Titus 3:5–8]

**Readings from Holy Scripture**

**First Lesson**

**Acts 17:16-31**

<sup>16</sup>Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup>So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup>Some of the Epicurean and Stoic

philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbling wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.<sup>19</sup> And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?”<sup>20</sup> For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.”<sup>21</sup> Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup>So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious.<sup>23</sup> For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.<sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,<sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.<sup>26</sup> And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,<sup>27</sup> that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,<sup>28</sup> for

“In him we live and move and have our being”;  
as even some of your own poets have said,

“For we are indeed his offspring.”

<sup>29</sup>Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.<sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,<sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

**P** This is the word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** Christ has risen from the dead.

**C** **God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor,**

**P** He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

**C** **he has put all things under his feet.**

*adapt. from Matt. 28:7; Heb. 2:7; Ps. 8:6*



<sup>13</sup>Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup>Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

**P** This is the word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia.

**C** **Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.**

*Rom. 6:9; John 16:33b*

Alleluia and Verse

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup>even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day**

“Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice” .....Hymn 556  
(Stanzas 1-5, 10)

- 1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,  
With exultation springing,  
And with united heart and voice  
And holy rapture singing,  
Proclaim the wonders God has done,  
How His right arm the vict’ry won.  
What price our ransom cost Him!
- 2 Fast bound in Satan’s chains I lay;  
Death brooded darkly o’er me.  
Sin was my torment night and day;  
In sin my mother bore me.  
But daily deeper still I fell;  
My life became a living hell,  
So firmly sin possessed me.
- 3 My own good works all came to naught,  
No grace or merit gaining;  
Free will against God’s judgment fought,  
Dead to all good remaining.  
My fears increased till sheer despair  
Left only death to be my share;  
The pangs of hell I suffered.

- 4 But God had seen my wretched state  
 Before the world's foundation,  
 And mindful of His mercies great,  
 He planned for my salvation.  
 He turned to me a father's heart;  
 He did not choose the easy part  
 But gave His dearest treasure.
- 5 God said to His beloved Son:  
 "It's time to have compassion.  
 Then go, bright jewel of My crown,  
 And bring to all salvation.  
 From sin and sorrow set them free;  
 Slay bitter death for them that they  
 May live with You forever."
- 10 "What I on earth have done and taught  
 Guide all your life and teaching;  
 So shall the kingdom's work be wrought  
 And honored in your preaching.  
 But watch lest foes with base alloy  
 The heav'nly treasure should destroy;  
 This final word I leave you."

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**Sermon**  
**"If . . . Then . . ."**  
**John 14:15-21**

Apostle's Creed .....Page 158

**☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

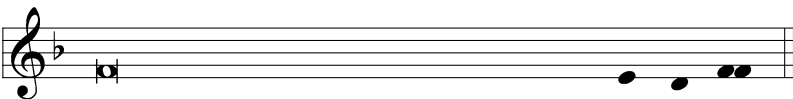
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer for the Church

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Benediction .....Page 166



**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.



Hymn - "We Know That Christ is Raised" .....Hymn 603

- 1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death, He broke its fearful hold;  
And our despair He turned to blazing joy.  
Alleluia!
- 2 We share by water in His saving death.  
Reborn, we share with Him an Easter life  
As living members of a living Christ.  
Alleluia!
- 3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.  
The Spirit's power shakes the Church of God.  
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.  
Alleluia!

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+ Silent Prayer +

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