

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

*Welcomes You!*



**"SEE, HERE IS  
WATER!"**

**WHAT PREVENTS  
ME FROM BEING  
BAPTIZED?"**

**ACTS 8:36, ESV**

**Thursday, April 25, 2024**

**@ 7PM**

**Sunday, April 28, 2024**

**@ 8AM & 10:45AM**

**4333 Cleveland Ave, Stevensville, MI 49127**

**Sunday Services @ 8AM & 10:45AM**

**Sunday Bible Class 9:30AM**

**Thursday Evening Service at 7PM**

**Christian Day School: PreK – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

## As We Gather

The New Testament uses many different images to express the intimate relationship between Jesus and those who believe in Him, and John gives us many of the most familiar expressions of this relationship: Jesus is the shepherd and we are the sheep; He is the vine and we are the branches ... In this passage, however, language is pressed to the limits to express the indissoluble union and inextricable participation of one life in another. For those who receive Jesus, the whole Jesus, His life clings to their bones and courses through their veins. He can no more be taken from a believer's life than last Tuesday's breakfast can be plucked from one's body. (Martin B. Copenhaver, *Receiving Jesus The Christian Century*, July 27-August 3, 1994, 719)

## "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now" ..... Hymn 902



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in  
2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less  
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, "O ho - ly,  
4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly  
true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with  
hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and  
ho - ly Lord Most High!" And in the light of  
Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed  
light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.  
light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.  
that blest place We then shall see You face to face.  
Trin - i - ty, Be praise through - out e - ter - ni - ty!

# Confession and Absolution

Stand

## Invocation

*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.

*Matthew 28.19b; [18:20]*

**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.**

*1 John 1:8-9*

*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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*[John 20:19-23]*

# Service of the Word

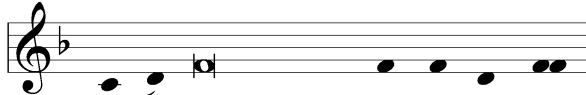
## Introit



- P** A little while, and you will see me no | longer;\*  
and again a little while, and you will | see me.
- C** **I will extol you, my | God and King,\***  
**and bless your name forever and | ever.**
- P** Every day I will | bless you\*  
and praise your name forever and | ever.
- C** **The LORD is gracious and | merciful,\***  
**slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.**
- P** All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,\*  
and all your saints shall | bless you!
- C** **My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,\***  
**and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.**  
**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.**
- P** A little while, and you will see me no | longer;\*  
and again a little while, and you will | see me.

*Psalms 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16*

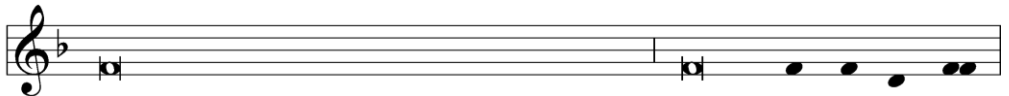
## Kyrie



**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.



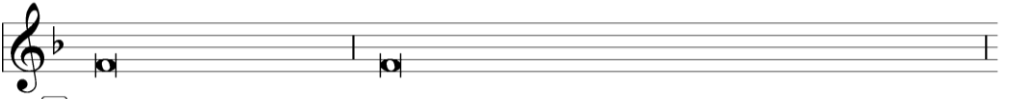
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



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



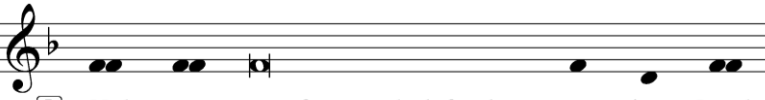
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



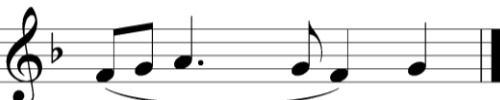
let us pray to the Lord.



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



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




**C** A - men.


# "This is the Feast"

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9


*Refrain*



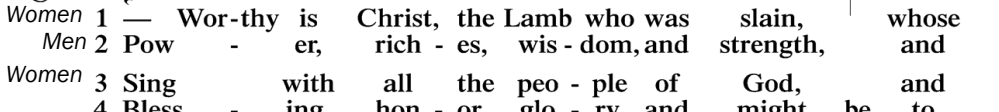
**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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




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



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



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

## Salutation

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

## Collect of the Day

**P** Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

Sit

## Reading from the Book of Concord

*An explanation of what we believe as Lutheran*

*Luther's Large Catechism; Part II  
The Apostles' Creed, Article III. 55, 56*

Everything, therefore, in the Christian Church is ordered toward this goal: we shall daily receive in the Church nothing but the forgiveness of sin through the Word and signs, to comfort and encourage our consciences as long as we live here. So even though we have sins, the grace of the Holy Spirit does not allow them to harm us. For we are in the Christian Church, where there is nothing but continuous, uninterrupted forgiveness of sin. This is because God forgives us and because we forgive, bear with, and help one another [Galatians 6:1-2].

But outside of this Christian Church, where the Gospel is not found, there is no forgiveness, as also there can be no holiness. Therefore, all who seek and wish to earn holiness not through Gospel and forgiveness of sin, but by their works, have expelled and severed themselves from this Church [Galatians 5:4].

## Readings from Holy Scripture

### First Lesson

**Acts 8:26–40**

<sup>26</sup>Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>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 before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

*(Continued)*

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

**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*

### Epistle Reading

### 1 John 4:1–11

<sup>1</sup>Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup>Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.


**P** This is the Word of the Lord

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*



## Alleluia



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.

## Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

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

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

*Sit*

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” ..... Hymn 633



1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing Praise to  
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His  
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death’s dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—  
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael’s hosts tri - umphant go  
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 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!

7 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!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
 Now no more the grave enthrall;  
 You have opened paradise,  
 And Your saints in You shall rise.  
 Alleluia!

△ 8 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, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.  
 Tune: Kirchengesang, 1566, Ivancice  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**  
**“Spiritual Bad Breath”**  
**1 John 4:1-11**

Stand

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

*(You may be seated if necessary.)*

## Prayer of the Church

Sit

### Gathering of Our Tithes and Sacrificial Offerings

*There will be no passing of the offering plates.  
Please place your offering in the plates in the narthex.*

Offertory

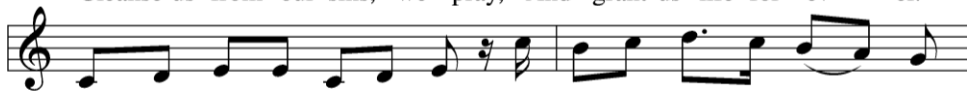
“Triune God, Be Thou Our Stay” ..... Hymn 505



Tri - une God, be Thou our stay; O let us per - ish nev - er!  
 1 God the Fa - ther be our stay; O let us per - ish nev - er!  
 2 Je - sus Christ, be Thou our stay; O let us per - ish nev - er!  
 3 Ho - ly Spir - it, be our stay; O let us per - ish nev - er!



Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, And grant us life for - ev - er.  
 Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, And grant us life for - ev - er.  
 Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, And grant us life for - ev - er.  
 Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, And grant us life for - ev - er.



Keep us from the e - vil one; Up - hold our faith most ho - ly,  
 Keep us from the e - vil one; Up - hold our faith most ho - ly,  
 Keep us from the e - vil one; Up - hold our faith most ho - ly,  
 Keep us from the e - vil one; Up - hold our faith most ho - ly,



And let us trust Thee sole - ly With hum - ble hearts and low - ly.  
 And let us trust Thee sole - ly With hum - ble hearts and low - ly.  
 And let us trust Thee sole - ly With hum - ble hearts and low - ly.  
 And let us trust Thee sole - ly With hum - ble hearts and low - ly.



Let us put God's ar - mor on, With all true Chris - tians run - ning  
 Let us put God's ar - mor on, With all true Chris - tians run - ning  
 Let us put God's ar - mor on, With all true Chris - tians run - ning  
 Let us put God's ar - mor on, With all true Chris - tians run - ning



Our heav'n - ly race and shun - ning The dev - il's wiles and cun - ning.  
 Our heav'n - ly race and shun - ning The dev - il's wiles and cun - ning.  
 Our heav'n - ly race and shun - ning The dev - il's wiles and cun - ning.  
 Our heav'n - ly race and shun - ning The dev - il's wiles and cun - ning.



A - men, a - men! This be done; So sing we, "Al - le - lu - ia!"  
 A - men, a - men! This be done; So sing we, "Al - le - lu - ia!"  
 A - men, a - men! This be done; So sing we, "Al - le - lu - ia!"  
 A - men, a - men! This be done; So sing we, "Al - le - lu - ia!"

# Service of the Sacrament

(Please see our Communion Statement in the announcements on Page 17.)

Stand

## Preface



**P** The Lord be with you.



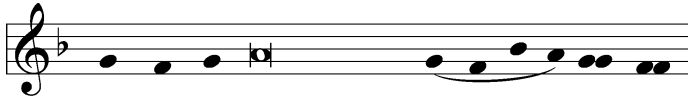
**C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



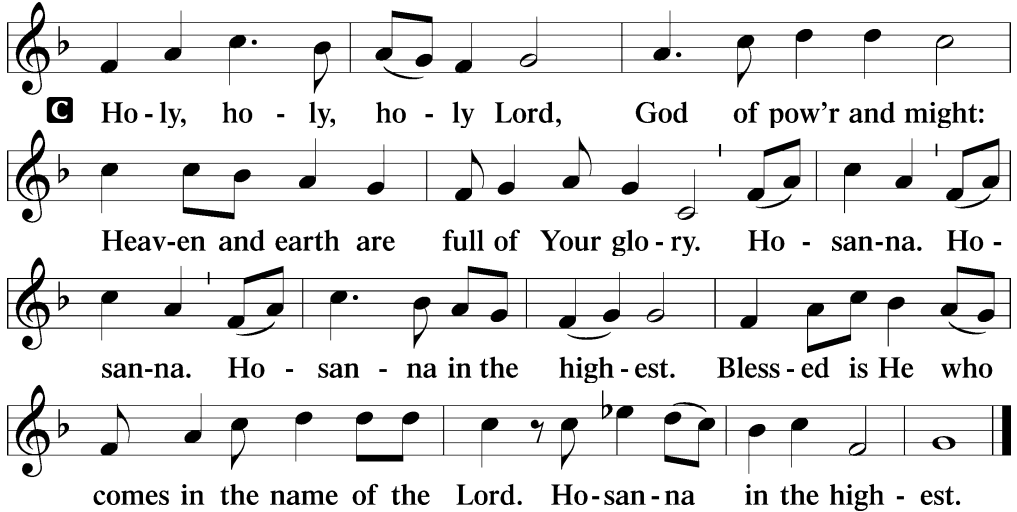
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

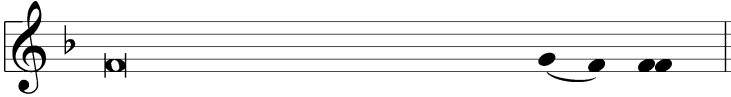
**C** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

### Pax Domini



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

### Agnus Dei



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

Distribution Hymn

“Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free”..... Hymn 473



1 Our Pas - chal Lamb, that sets us free, Is sac - ri - ficed. O keep  
2 Let all our lives now cel - e - brate The feast; let mal - ice die.  
3 Let all our deeds, u - nan - i - mous, Con - fess Him as our Lord



The feast of free - dom gal - lant - ly; Let al - le - lu - ias leap:  
Let love grow strong a - new, and great, Let truth stamp out the lie.  
Who by the Spir - it lives in us, The Fa - ther's liv - ing Word.

*Refrain*



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A -



gain Sing al - le - lu - ia, cry a - loud: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76  
Tune: Walter L. Pelz, 1926  
Text and tune: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002731

Stand

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



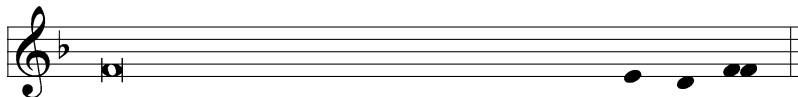
## Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## 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.



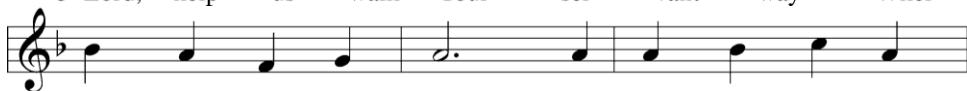
**C** A - men.

## Closing Hymn

“Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way” ..... Hymn 857



1	Lord,	help	us	walk	Your	ser - vant	way	Wher -
2	You	came	to	earth,	O	Christ,	as	Lord,
3	No	gold - en	scep -	ter	but	a	towel	You
4	You	bid	us	bend	our	hu - man	pride	Nor
5	Lord,	help	us	walk	Your	ser - vant	way	Wher -



ev - er	love	may	lead	And,	bend - ing	low,	for -
pow'r	You	laid	a - side.	You	lived	Your	years
place	with - in	the	hands	Of	those	who	seek
count	our - selves	a -	bove	The	low - est	place,	the
ev - er	love	may	lead	And,	bend - ing	low,	for -



get - ting	self,	Each	serve	the	oth - er's	need.
ser - vant -	hood;	In	low - li -	ness	You	died.
fol - low	You	And	live	by	Your	com - mands.
mean - est	task	That	waits	the	gift	of
get - ting	self,	Each	serve	the	oth - er's	need.

+ Silent Prayer +

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**SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:**

THE PREACHER & THE LITURGIST.....Rev. Martin P. Measel  
PIANIST ..... Debbie Tietz  
THE ORGANIST (Thursday) .....Mary Spaulding  
ELDER(S) ON DUTY (Thursday) ..... Rich Wandel  
ELDER(S) ON DUTY (8AM | 10:45AM)..... Mike Jackemeyer & Bob Appelget | Phil Cole  
ALTAR GUILD ..... Shannon Reinschreiber, Deb Appelget  
USHERS (8AM) ..... Steve Huycke – Captain, Tom Ulmer  
.....Andrew Gerken, John Schulz, Mike Essig, Chuck Dinges  
USHERS (10:45AM)..... Tom Drews – Co-Captain, Tim Drews – Co-Captain  
..... Bob Wolfanger

**John 15:2 – “Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.”** God is interested in the fruit that we bear in good works, and He even prunes us so that we may bring forth more fruit. Trusting in our Lord’s work for us, being grafted by grace into His vine, we desire to be more like Him, to grow into His image. That’s growth in fruit bearing – and it always comes with some pruning.

**THE LORD’S SUPPER** is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood (*Matthew 26:26-28*) to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their own detriment (*1 Corinthians 11:28-30*) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at this altar, (*1 Corinthians 10:16-18*) any whom are not members, not yet instructed, or whom hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the pastor.

**THE FRONT PEW ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE SANCTUARY** is reserved during communion services for those whom have physical difficulty approaching the altar for communion. Communion services are held the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Please be seated in this pew if you want the pastor to bring you communion.

# Prayers

## Members who are ill, hospitalized or having surgery

Amee Mantei	Dave Radtke	Jenna Harvey-Kabelman	Nancy Duke
Andrea Nystuen	Don Jeschke	Ken Vieregge	Nathan Gerken
Barbara Maul	Don Hutter	Laura Geyer	Norma Priebe
Barb Rodgers	Doris Beezley	Linda Steinke	Rosemarie Castonguay
Connie Schwanger	Faith Timm	Louise Winter	Susan Jackemeyer
Dave Knuth	Ferny Rantz	Miro Virsik	

## Family or friends who are ill, hospitalized or having surgery

**Ann Rausch** - *mother-in-law of Vicki Rausch*  
**Austin Arndt** - *grandson of Linda Steinke*  
**Carl Pages** - *brother of Joyce Totzke*  
**Cate Reed** - *granddaughter of Doris Beezley*  
**Chris Watson** - *son of Tom Watson*  
**Christian Myers** - *son of friend of Thelma Szoke*  
**Donna Winter** - *daughter of Sandy Dixon*  
**Erin Sage** - *friend of Thelma Szoke*  
**Grant Plath** - *friend of Joanne Ciboch*  
**Jenna Veine** - *granddaughter of Mary Spaulding*  
**Joe Lhotka** - *Judy Jackemeyer's grandson*  
**Jesse Hunnell** - *son-in-law of Barb Radde*

**Karol Syring** - *daughter of Ken Vieregge*  
**Liam Pugh** - *grandson of Paula Benner*  
**Lissa Dehring** - *niece of Joyce Totzke*  
**Matt Jones** - *friend of Chad Hartman*  
**Mel Machemer** - *son of Ellen Machemer*  
**Nancy Gerald** - *daughter of Jerry & Wilma Malinasky*  
**Rev. William Griffin** - *former member of Christ Lutheran*  
**Robert White** - *father of David White*  
**Ron Szweda** - *brother of Kathryn Robinson*  
**Sandy Spaulding** - *daughter-in-law of Mary Spaulding*  
**Sherry Orchard** - *sister-in-law of Susan Collins*  
**Tamara Ball** - *Daughter of Dennis & Lyla Metz*  
**Veronica Wilkinson** - *mother of Cindy White*

Our country, president, armed forces and all those who serve our country, including **Allison Blake**, **Luc Whitman** – grandson of Don & Pat Hutter, **James Vieregge**, USMC – grandson of Ken Vieregge, **Joseph Schafer** – nephew of Pastor Quardokus, **Matt Weiss**, nephew of Fred & Jeanne Huff, **Ethan Rieck** – nephew of David & Laura Geyer. Seminarian **Matthew Machemer** – son of Ellen Machemer.

## Missionaries

Justin and Jordan Logston in Belize and Deaconess Caitlin & Rev. Jeancarlos Ramirez in Peru.

## PRAYING FOR MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION

CJ Strohacker  
Thelma Szoke  
Christine & Wilton Terry & Family

Dean & Debbie Tietz  
Len & Faith Timm  
Joyce Totzke

## Church News!

Jesus said, "By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples." (John 15:8, ESV). Part of discipleship is worship, which strengthens us to bear the fruit of love. Welcome. If you are visiting, please sign our guest book located on the *welcome* center desk.

**FLOWER CHART** – If you want to sponsor altar flowers, be sure to add your name to the **2023 or 2024 chart in the commons**. Consider honoring a family member or special occasion by sponsoring Sunday altar flowers. The cost is **\$35.00**. After church services, the bouquet is delivered to a shut-in members or an individual on our prayer list. Thank you!

### *Altar Flowers*

The flowers on the altar today are dedicated to the glory of God,

***In honor of our 32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary (4/25/92).***

*Given by Mike & Susan Jackemeyer.*

**RADIO SPONSORSHIP** – Christ Lutheran records two radio broadcasts per month. Consider sponsoring a broadcast for \$150.00 to share with a family member or friend. Be sure to sign-up in order to secure a specific date! Our *Local Lutheran Worship Service Broadcasts* are on **WSJM 106.1 FM** on **Sunday mornings** from **9AM – 10AM**. The services can also be heard by visiting [www.wsjmsports.com](http://www.wsjmsports.com) and clicking on *listen live*.

### **THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN IS POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE.**

*We remember the following Missionary in our prayers this week:*



Justin (Loveland, CO) and Jordan (Cedaredge, CO) Logston serve the Lord through the LCMS in Belize, Central America. As a communications specialist, Justin covers events in the region, shoots video and takes photographs, and writes and edits articles. Meanwhile, Jordan's primary responsibilities include growing the English-as-a-Second-Language program in Belize, working as a business associate assisting with ministry finances, and helping with short-term mission teams. Justin enjoys Star Wars, movies, reading, video games, softball and being a father. Jordan enjoys the outdoors, reading, watching movies, drinking coffee and smoothies, and being a mom. Justin and Jordan have a son, Jamie Malachi, who joins them on the mission field. Pray for the Logstons as they serve in Belize by asking God to give them strength and courage so they can serve the people of Belize with a focus on how God is transforming their hearts to do His work and fulfill the Great Commission.

**TUES/WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASSES** – The midweek Bible class will continue studying *The Art of Dying*. Join us: **Tuesday evenings at 7pm or Wed mornings at 9:30am.**

**THURSDAY MORNING \*NEW TOPIC\* BIBLE CLASS WITH PASTOR QUARDOKUS** - Pastor Quardokus is beginning a new Bible study on **Thursday mornings at 10 a.m.** It is titled, "God's Answers to My Personal Christianity." The class will be engaged in conversations concerning important questions posed by Christians focusing on God's answers as found in the Bible.

**1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE TEACHER TO CALL** – Please submit name suggestions for a 1st or 2nd grade teacher to Neil Webb by **Monday, 05/6/24**. Thank you!

**HELP WANTED** – Our school is growing! This means our Board of Christian Education is working hard to ensure we are fully staffed to accommodate our Fall 2024 students. Due to the nationwide shortage of teaching professionals, we are exploring multiple staffing options. If you know a candidate interested in part-time or full-time work, please reach out to Principal Webb or Board Chair, Tamara Paulun.

**NURSERY STAFFED.** Angie Webb, our kindergarten teacher, has become aware that there are a few families who could benefit from someone staffing the nursery. So starting after Easter, she and her daughter Grace, will staff the nursery during the late service. All ages welcome! No reservations needed!

**BOX TOP RECEIPTS** – PTL wants to thank everyone who has turned in grocery receipts this year to earn money for our school. Remember to turn your receipts in within two weeks of purchase, otherwise they are not accepted. Thank you again!

**RUMMAGE SALE** – The rummage sale is only two months away (**June 20<sup>th</sup> thru June 22<sup>nd</sup>**). Start stacking your pile(s) of items you want to get out of your home and into our 2024 Rummage Sale! There is now a *jewelry donation* box under the church mailboxes. Our biggest “ask” at this moment is for individuals with trucks and willing (and able) to assist in picking-up larger donations (furniture, etc.) from members. If you’re interested, please contact Thelma Szoke (269-369-2821) or Alex Mast (269-944-8480). Thank you!

**SONS OF SOLOMON / DAUGHTERS OF WISDOM** – The Sons of Solomon is an ecumenical prayer habitus of catholic Christian men worldwide who daily *1. Pray the Psalms in Jesus' name 2. Ponder the Proverbs 3. Carry a bible and crucifix. The quiet heart of a chaste and trustworthy woman is worth more than rubies. Submit your fear of man to the holy trust you have in Your Almighty God. He is gracious and merciful, full of compassion, and abounding in the loyalty of love. This is encouragement for building Godly men and Godly women, started by an LCMS pastor, Rev Fisk. Help yourself to a booklet in the narthex, and check out the website: [sonsofsolomon.net](http://sonsofsolomon.net)*

**GREECE TRIP** – Are you interested in a pilgrimage to Greece? We will have an informational meeting on **Monday, May 20, at 7pm**. Pictures. Samples. Questions and answers. Come join us!

**ARE YOU GRADUATING THIS YEAR?** – Please contact the church office by **May 27<sup>th</sup>** with the following information: **High School Graduates** – *tell us where you’re going!* **College Graduates** – *where are you graduating from and what is your degree?!* We invite you to attend and take part in our graduation service happening **June 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Feel free to call the church office (269-429-7222) or send an email to [clcoffice@christstevensville.com](mailto:clcoffice@christstevensville.com). Thank you!



## MEMORY VERSE

**Peace I leave with you;** my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

**JOHN 14:27**



**CHURCH CLERK'S REPORT**

**Weekly Services**

**Attendance**

Thursday 4/18/24	7PM	24
Sunday 04/21/24	8AM	86
<b>Online Attendees:</b>	10:45AM	69
		<b>Total: 179</b>
Tuesday Bible Class	04/16/24	11
Wednesday Bible Class	04/17/24	25
Thursday Bible Class	04/18/24	16
<b>*Week of 04/18/24 total budgeted receipts</b>		<b>\$10,112.59</b>
YTD Contributions		\$675,008.02
YTD Budget		\$711,153.85
YTD Over (Under)		-\$36,145.83

*\*This area represents budgeted receipts for plate and envelope giving, plus undesignated memorials.  
This totals \$860,000 for the year ending June 30, 2024.*



**WEEKLY Sneak Peek**

Sunday, April 28	8AM <b>9:30AM</b> 9:30AM 10:45AM	Communion Worship Service <b>Bible Class</b> SUNDAY SCHOOL Communion Worship Service
Monday, April 29		
Tuesday, April 30	<b>7PM</b>	<b>"The Art of Dying" Bible Class</b>
Wednesday, May 1	<b>9:30AM</b>	<b>"The Art of Dying" Bible Class</b>
Thursday, May 2	<b>10:00AM</b> 7PM	<b>Bible Class</b> Worship Service
Friday, May 3		
Saturday, May 4	 <b>3PM</b>	<b>Movie Night: The Chosen; Season 3</b>
Sunday, May 5	8AM <b>9:30AM</b> 9:30AM 10:45AM	Worship Service <b>Bible Class</b> SUNDAY SCHOOL <b>Contemporary</b> Worship Service



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**Prayer Team, Terri Gerken**  
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