

Two years—two years—since we last walked into the darkness of Easter Vigil to declare the triumph of our Savior over the grave...

2020 left the whole Church very aptly feeling like God's people of old, wandering in the desolate wilderness. But that long sorrow was banished as we gathered together and heard that long-awaited proclamation:

***He is Risen!  
He is risen  
indeed!  
Alleluia!***

Truly, we are blessed to be united once more, to be joined together as members of the Body, to rejoice with one another in the resurrection of Christ Who is our Head.

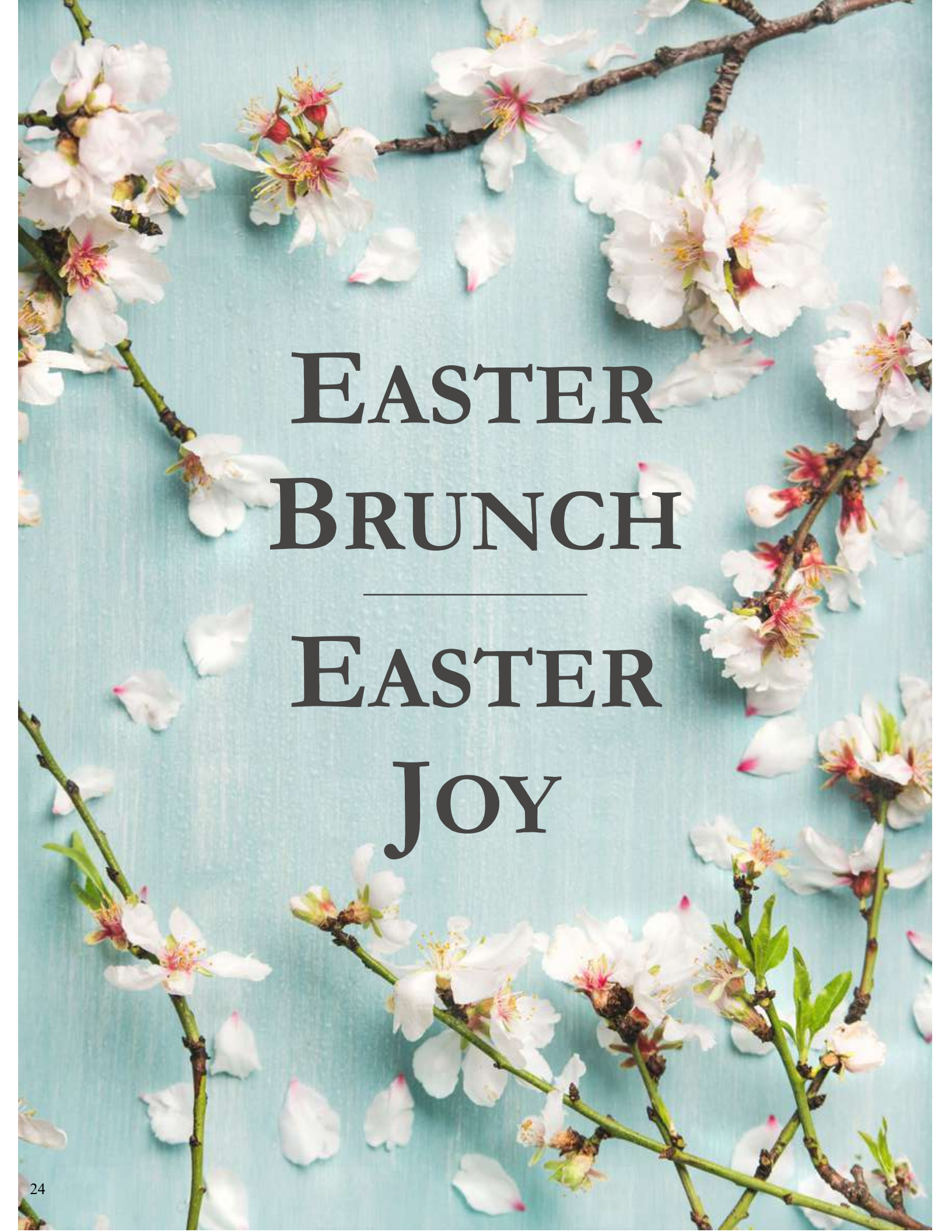
Last year may have been a sojourn through the wilderness, but this year, we have returned to Mount Zion.

Praise be to God! ■

return  
to

***Mount  
Zion***

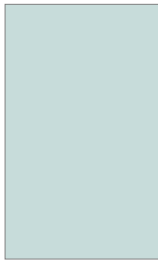




**EASTER  
BRUNCH**

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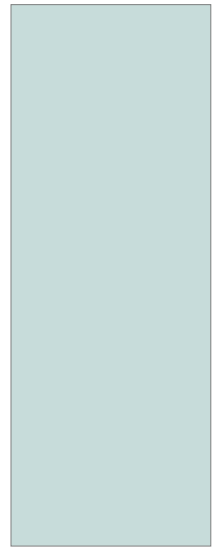
**EASTER  
JOY**



The Easter joy was especially infectious this year as the Body of Christ [Lutheran] gathered in the flesh to celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection for the first time in two years! Everyone enjoyed the wonderfully robust spread of food, as well as the long-awaited fellowship with one another. The children hunted for Easter eggs, and afterward, all gathered for the true Easter Feast of the Divine Service. He is risen!



Many thanks to everyone who helped make this day special—from the food and decorations, to the lawn and gardenwork, to the music and worship. And above all, thanks be to our Lord and Savior, who has given us such reason for celebration! ■





[not-forever]  
*Farewell*



“There IS no  
goodbye,  
because  
Jesus  
never says  
‘goodbye.’”



“And now, today, I find myself joyfully reunited as one heart and one soul with you who are as dear to me as my own family, because you are my family – you are my brothers and sisters in Christ whom I have known and loved and served with for many years – a communion of saints united once again around the wounds of Christ in a way that neither time nor distance nor even hell and the devil himself can ever prevent.”







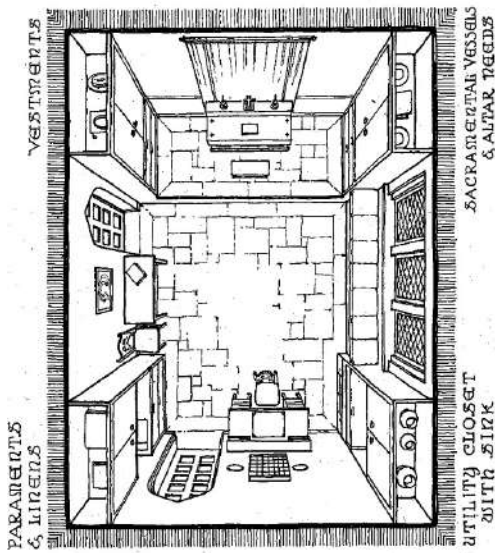
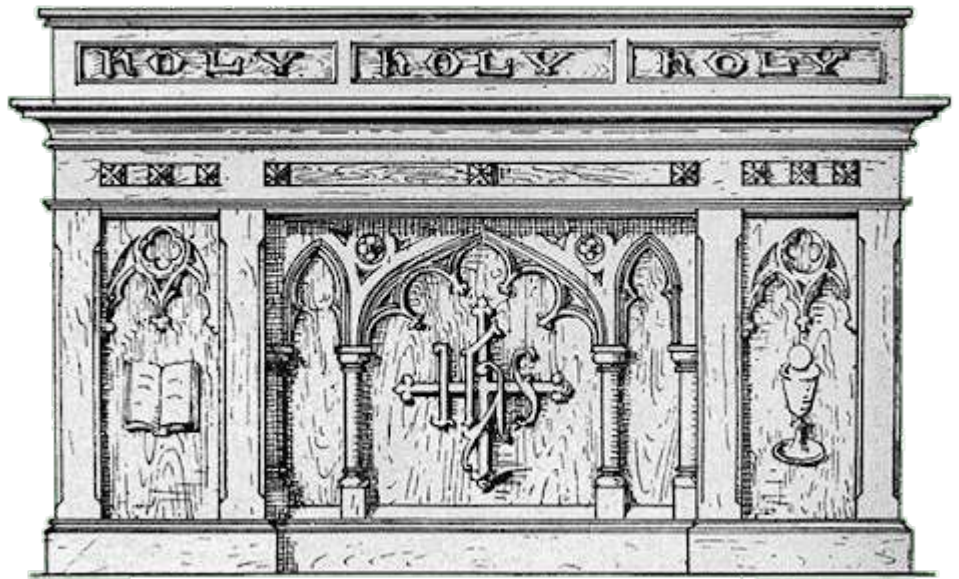
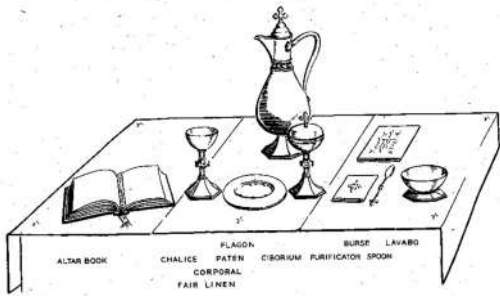
After a tragically hugless, receptionless farewell at the end of last year, Pastor Holowach and Susan returned to our midst once more! On April 11<sup>th</sup>, Pastor preached at the Divine Service, promising that in Christ, there is no 'goodbye.' That afternoon, the saints of Christ Lutheran were able to partake in 'sweet' fellowship with him and Susan at a dessert reception hosted by the Goodletts. We joy in knowing that though geography may separate us now, the union of the Body of Christ will never be severed. Praise God for His faithful servant, Pastor Holowach! ■

“Where Jesus is, I am, and you are, and all the Baptized who have gone before us in the faith, and all who will come after – a blessed, everlasting communion of saints, together today, together forever... by the grace of God.”



# ATLAR ✠ GUILD

Many thanks to our faithful Altar Guild ladies throughout this past year, with its many tribulations, and especially in the past several months. Neither ice nor waterlessness nor a global pandemic can keep them from tending to the Lord's House!



+ SACRISTY +

Below: Gary Atchley and Bruce Bodkin "help" the Altar Guild after church.



Above: During our week without running water, Mary Atchley and Nancy Tatum sanitize communionware after the Divine Service by boiling bottled water. Left: The Altar Guild practices for Maundy Thursday's liturgical stripping of the altar. ■



# STANDING IN THE FOOTPRINTS OF A BOLD CONFSSION



## Luther's Answer at the Diet of Worms:

It could have all ended the evening of April 18, 1521. The sun was beginning to set on the city of Worms. The heat was stifling in the packed room of the bishop's palace where emperor, electors and German princes all waited with anticipation to hear the answer Martin Luther would bring. Would Luther recant? Would he retract what he had written and said against abuses in the church and against papal tyranny? Most of all, would he give up on the Gospel he had preached and taught, giving comfort and certainty to consciences in Christ?

"Martin, answer clearly and without any double-talk: Do you or do you not recant your books and the errors in them?" If Luther were to recant and admit that he was wrong, all would be well before the emperor and the Roman Catholic Church. On the other hand, if he did not recant, his own life would be at risk. He could be burned as a heretic.

This was it: recant or stand firm. With beads of sweat on his face, Luther responded:

**"Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the pope or in councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted**

**themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not retract anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. I cannot do otherwise, here I stand, may God help me, Amen"** (LW 32:112–13).

At this bold confession, the room erupted in noise. Some rejoiced; some demanded fire! Yet, in the midst of such commotion, the truth of Jesus Christ rang forth. The gates of Hades had not prevailed over the confession of the Gospel. The proclamation of justification by grace through faith on account of Christ's work alone did not bend to spiritual tyranny. 500 Years Later: Today, we stand in the footsteps of Martin Luther

## 500 years later:

We stand boldly, proclaiming the One who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. We stand boldly, renouncing the devil and all his works and all his ways. We stand, by the grace of God, steadfast and ready to suffer all rather than fall away. We do not stand on Luther, but we will gladly stand with him, firm on the testimony of the Holy Scriptures to confess the saving Gospel of Christ, our Good Shepherd, who died and rose, in whose name is forgiveness of sins for all people. Here we stand; we can do no other. God help us. Amen. ■



# THIS MONTH

## *At Christ Lutheran*



**FEAST OF ASCENSION**  
+ Observed May 16 +

*Ladies Night Out*

Sal and Mookies  
Wednesday, May 12  
6:00 p.m.



### **Saints' Days in May**

- 1 Sts. Philip & James, Apostles
- 2 St. Athanasius, Bishop & Confessor
- 4 St. Monica, Mother of Augustine
- 4 St. Friedrich Wyneken, Pastor & Missionary
- 5 St. Frederick the Wise, Christian Ruler
- 7 St. C.F.W. Walther, Theologian
- 9 St. Gregory Nazianzus, Bishop & Confessor
- 9 St. Job, Confessor
- 11 Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs
- 21 Emperor Constantine, Christian Ruler
- 21 St. Helena, Mother of Constantine
- 24 St. Esther, Queen
- 25 St. Bede the Venerable, Confessor & Theologian
- 31 The Visitation

### ~ Altar Flowers ~

Sign up on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board to provide altar flowers in 2021. They are \$45, and you may take them home after the worship service.

Thank you for beautifying the Lord's house!



# JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

bible & breaky | fridays @ 6:30 a.m.



Find Christ Lutheran on  
Facebook and MeWe!

Divine Services  
Bulletins  
Church Updates  
Blog Posts  
Devotions  
And More!



For more from  
Christ Lutheran Church,  
visit  
[ChristLutheranJacksonMS  
.org/LifeAtChrist!](http://ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org/LifeAtChrist!)

*The Screenshot Letters*

*by C.S. Lewis*

How to destroy  
one's faith and  
damn him to hell,  
from the pen of a  
servant of the  
Infernal Tempter  
himself. Join us  
to discuss  
chapters  
26-30!

κοινωνία  
KOINONIA

Hansford Home  
May 23  
5:00 p.m.



## Mother's Day — Brunch —

Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m.

Gentlemen & kids  
can sign up to bring  
food on the  
Fellowship Hall  
bulletin board!





**HOLY TRINITY**  
+ May 30 +

## VOTERS' MEETING May 16

The regular bi-annual Congregation Voter's Assembly will convene immediately following the worship service **Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021** to approve the 2021 slate of officers. All members are encouraged to attend.



### Artwork in This Issue:

Cover: *The Vale of Tears*, Gustave Dore, 1883.

Page 4-5: *The Resurrection*, Andrea Mantegna, 1457-1459.

Page 6: *Ecce Homo*, Antonio Ciseri, 1871.

Page 9: *Jesus Washing Peter's Feet*, Ford Madox Brown, 1852.

A baby boy  
is on the way!



FLY ON OVER FOR A BABY SHOWER HONORING

*Katie Rudsenske*

SATURDAY, MAY 22ND  
1:00 PM

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4423 I-55 NORTH  
JACKSON, MS 39206

RSVP BY MAY 14TH TO 601-502-6347



KATIE IS REGISTERED  
ON AMAZON.COM



**FEAST OF PENTECOST**  
+ May 23 +

# May 2021

PRAYER FAMILIES and BIRTHDAYS	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Curt &amp; Lesley Dickens</i> 1—Sister Sara	<b>2</b> EASTER V 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Divine Service <i>St. Athanasius</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <i>St. Monica</i> <i>St. Frederick</i> <i>Wynneken</i> 6:15 p.m. Elders Meeting	<b>5</b> <i>St. Frederick the Wise</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 6:30 a.m. Bible Study <i>St. C.F.W.</i> <i>Walther</i>	<b>8</b>
<i>Francis Dillon</i> 9—Nancy Teal	<b>9</b> EASTER VI 9:00 a.m. Mothers Day Brunch 10:30 a.m. Divine Service <i>St. Gregory Nazianzus</i> <i>St. Job</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <i>Sts. Cyril &amp; Methodius</i> 6:15 p.m. Council Mtg.	<b>12</b> 6:00 p.m. Ladies Night Out	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30 a.m. Bible Study	<b>15</b>
<i>Cecelia Dorsey</i> 16—Mimi Bradley 16—Andy Evers 17—Elysia Fields 17—James Hansford 18—Ben Rudenske	<b>16</b> FEAST OF THE ASCENSION (OBSERVED) 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Divine Service 11:30 a.m. Voters Meeting	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:30 a.m. Bible Study <i>Emperor</i> <i>Constantine</i> <i>St. Helena</i>	<b>22</b> 1:00 p.m. Rudenske Baby Shower
<i>Andy Evers</i> 28—Carolyn Yenish	<b>23</b> FEAST OF PENTECOST 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Divine Service 5:00 p.m. Koinonia	<b>24</b> <i>St. Esther</i>	<b>25</b> <i>St. Bede the Venerable</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:30 a.m. Bible Study	<b>29</b>
<i>Micah Everson</i> 30—Alaena Ramsey	<b>30</b> FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Divine Service	<b>31</b> <i>The Visitation</i>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Serving this month:</b> Elder—Keith Martin Ushers—Bruce Bodkin, Mark Ochs</p> </div>				