



# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## The Feast of Pentecost

+ May 23, 2021 +

# THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

+ May 23, 2021 +

*“Man Does Not Live by Bread Alone”*



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today, and pray God’s richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*All members and our guests are asked to complete the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew. Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex. We are so glad to have you worshipping with us today!*

*LARGE PRINT worship folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

## **WELCOME:**

“So the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and bears witness to the Son. A witness, both faithful and true, bears witness also of the Father. There is no more complete expression of the divine majesty, nothing more clear regarding the unity of divine power than this, since the Spirit knows the same as the Son, who is the witness and the inseparable sharer of the Father’s secrets.”

–St. Ambrose, *On the Holy Spirit*

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins<sup>2</sup>, and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal<sup>3</sup>. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

**Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?**

**Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?**

**Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?**

**Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?**

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith<sup>4</sup>, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

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<sup>1</sup>Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

<sup>2</sup>Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>3</sup>1 Corinthians 11:28-32

<sup>4</sup>1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

# DIVINE SERVICE III

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

*The congregation stands to face the back of the church.  
As the processional cross passes, the congregation turns to face the cross.*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray

#768

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*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** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

**INTROIT: BENEDIC, ANIMA MEA**

*Psalm 104:24, 27-28, 30; Ant. Liturgical Text*



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the | faithful,\*  
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alle- | luia.

**O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you | made them all;\***  
**the earth is full of your | creatures.**

These all | look to you,\*  
to give them their food in due | season.

**When you give it to them, they gath- | er it up;\***  
**when you open your hand, they are filled with | good things.**

When you send forth your Spirit, they are cre- | ated,\*  
and you renew the face | of the ground.

**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.**

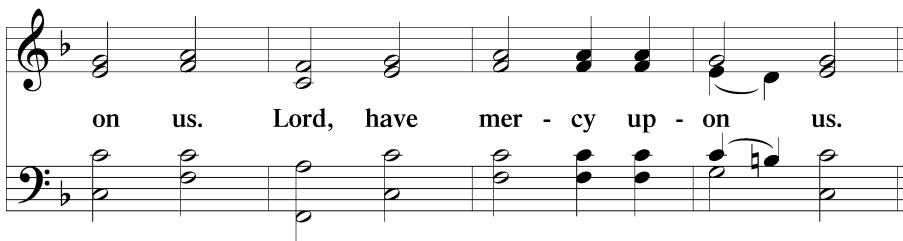
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the | faithful,\*  
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alle- | luia.

**KYRIE**

*Mark 10:47*

*The congregation is invited to sing in parts:*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



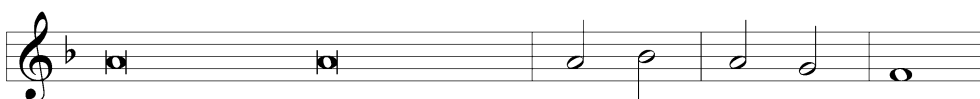
Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



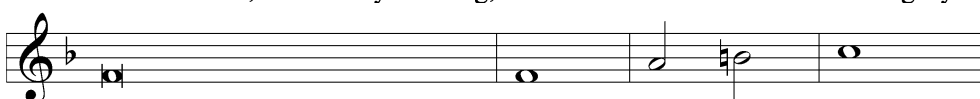
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



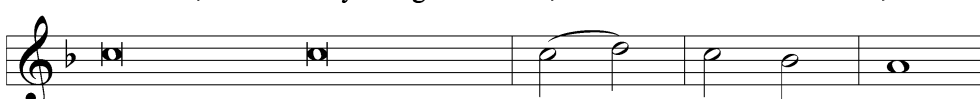
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



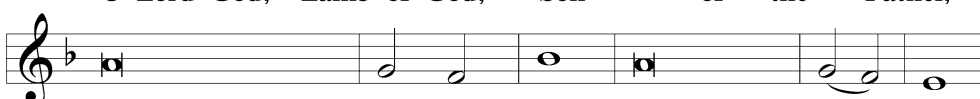
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

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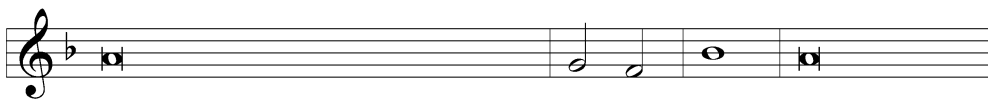
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Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

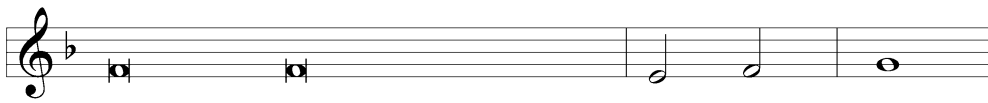
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

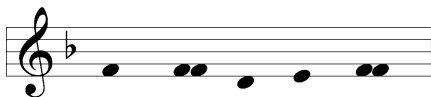


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

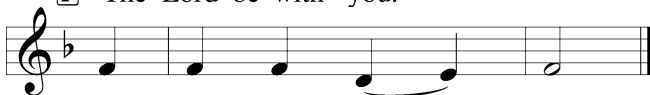


art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Ezekiel 37:1-14*

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



## GRADUAL

*Acts 2:17b; Romans 10:10*



**I will pour out my Spirit | on all flesh,\*  
and your sons and your daughters shall | prophesy.  
With the heart one believes and is | justified,\*  
and with the mouth one confesses | and is saved.**

## SECOND READING

*Acts 2:1-21*

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

“And in the last days it shall be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams;  
even on my male servants and female servants  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.  
And I will show wonders in the heavens above

and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;  
the sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.

And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

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

*Please stand and face the cross*

### GOSPEL PROCESSION



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

### HOLY GOSPEL

*John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, beginning with the fifteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning

righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

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



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

*Please be seated*

**OFFICE HYMN**

**O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth**

**#834**

**SERMON**

*An Exceedingly Great Army*

*Please stand*

## NICENE CREED

**C** **I believe in one God,** (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)  
    **the Father Almighty,** (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)  
    **maker of heaven and earth** (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)  
    **and of all things visible and invisible.** (Col 1:16)  
**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,** (Rom 10:9)  
    **the only-begotten Son of God,** (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)  
    **begotten of His Father before all worlds,** (Jn 1:2)  
    **God of God, Light of Light,** (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)  
    **very God of very God,** (Col 2:9) **begotten, not made,** (Jn 1:2)  
    **being of one substance with the Father,** (Jn 10:30)  
    **by whom all things were made;** (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)  
    **who for us men and for our salvation** (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)  
    **came down from heaven** (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)  
    **and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary** (Lk 1:34-35)  
    **and was made man;** (Jn 1:14)  
    **and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.** (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)  
    **He suffered and was buried.** (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)  
    **And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures** (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)  
    **and ascended into heaven** (Acts 1:9)  
    **and sits at the right hand of the Father.** (Acts 7:55)  
    **And He will come again with glory** (Mt 26:64)  
    **to judge both the living and the dead,** (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)  
    **whose kingdom will have no end.** (2 Pt 1:11)  
**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,** (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)  
    **the Lord and giver of life,** (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)  
    **who proceeds from the Father and the Son,** (Jn 15:26)  
    **who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,** (Mt 3:16-17)  
    **who spoke by the prophets.** (Eze 11:5)  
    **And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,** (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)  
    **I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,** (Eph 4:5)  
    **and I look for the resurrection of the dead** (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18)  
    **and the life ✠ of the world to come.** (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)  
**Amen.** (Ps 106:48)

*Us men* means all people.

*Christian:* the ancient text reads “catholic,” meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*After each petition of the prayer:*

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*For comfort, health and recovery:* **Donna Carson, Elmira Roever, Eloise Springer, Breton Starnes, Thomas Upton;**

*For those who mourn:* **Family and Friends of Tyler David Willis;**

*For those who are ill or distressed:* **Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Rose Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Richard Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Tina Burke, Wayne Burke, Paula Burkhalter, Bobby Carroll, Arthur Collins, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Michele Rae Fowler, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Beth Jarratt, Elaine Johnson, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, Arlene Kleinschmidt, John Koster, Sandra Landers, Katelyn Lawing, Peggy Lucky, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Jerry McMahan, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Lindberg Moore, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Deborah-Annette Ried, Elmira Roever, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Johnnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitz, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;**

*For college and graduate students:* **Sara Fields, Jonathan Kettler, Roselynn Nelson, Will Nelson;**

*For military servants and their families:* **Gabriel Escude, James (Glen) Hansford, Holden Hathcock, Christopher Martin, William Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;**

*For foreign missionaries:* **especially those serving in Spain;**

*This week's prayer family:* **Andy Evers** and his loved ones.

*Please be seated*

## **OFFERING**

*Please stand*

# OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10-12

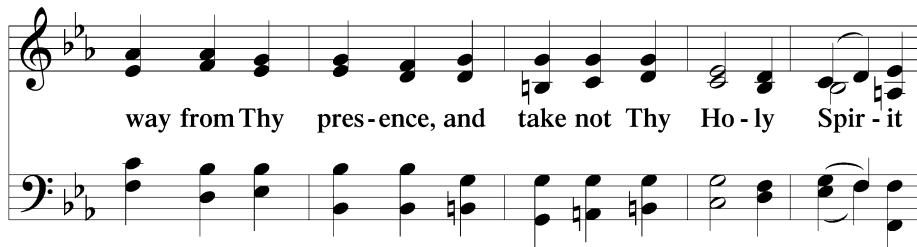
The congregation is invited to sing in parts:



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



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



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who ascended above the heavens and, sitting at Your right hand, poured out on this day the promised Holy Spirit on His chosen disciples. For all this the whole earth rejoices with exceeding joy. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**P** *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.*



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.



## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28

**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  $\text{✝}$  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  $\text{✝}$  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

John 20:19

**P** The peace  $\text{✝}$  of the Lord be with you always.



**G** A - men.

## AGNUS DEI

John 1:29

*The congregation is invited to sing in parts.*

Musical notation for Agnus Dei, consisting of two systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The first system is in a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and the second system is in a key signature of two sharps (D major). The lyrics are: "O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that".

**G** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Please be seated*

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

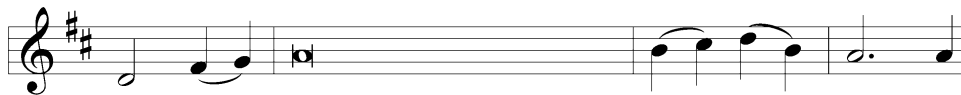
**Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest**  
**Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord**

**#498**  
**#497**

*Please stand following distribution of communion*

# NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

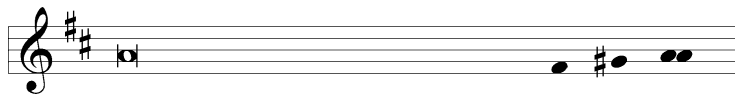


to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

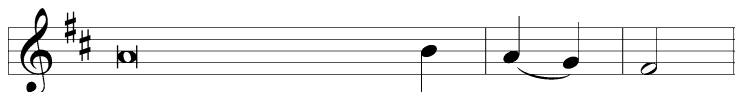


is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A-men.

# THANKSGIVING



O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- A** 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 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** A - men.

## SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

- P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

- P** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24–26*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## CLOSING HYMN

## Built on the Rock

#645

### Acknowledgments

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## Serving Today:

**Celebrant:** Rev. George Fields  
**Acolytes:** Miles Agent & James Hansford  
**Interpreter:** Cathy Brown

**Elder:** Keith Martin  
**Organist:** Sr. Sara Fields

**Altar Flowers:** This morning's altar flowers are given for the glory of God by Bill Cookston in celebration of his and Brenda's wedding anniversary.

**CLC Kids Pool Party:** Splash into summer break with a pool and pizza party! Break out the bathing suits and come on over to the Hansford Home for an evening of soaking-wet fun and fellowship on Saturday, June 5, at 4:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Krista (314-856-2088) by Tuesday, June 1, if you can come – we can't wait to see you there!

## Readings for next Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Holy Trinity:

Introit Ps. 16:8-111; Psalm 29; Isaiah 6:1-8; Acts 2:14a, 22-36; John 3:1-17.

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### *This week at Christ Lutheran Church: May 23 – May 29*

**Friday**     **6:30 a.m.** Bible & Breaky  
**Sunday**     **9:00 a.m.** Sunday School for All Ages  
                  **10:30 a.m.** Divine Service – Feast of the Holy Trinity



**Issues, Etc.**™

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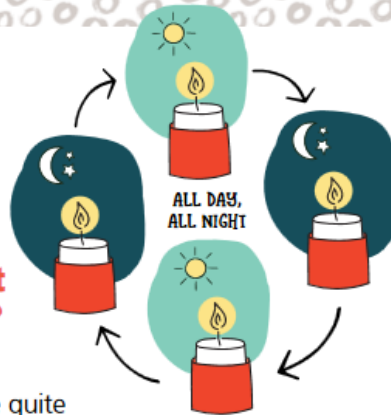
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## KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

### What is the candle in the sanctuary that stays lit all the time?

I'll bet you can count all of the candles in the church. There are quite a few. If you decide to try, don't forget to count the one that stays lit all the time. That's right, that little light in there is a candle! This particular candle is called an "eternal flame." This candle burns all the time. **Look close from where you are sitting. When you find it, maybe you can see it glowing.**



### Why do we have a candle that stays lit all the time?

When we see the eternal flame we are reminded that God is always present in our lives, and He promises to never leave us. God is especially present in His sanctuary where we hear His living Word and receive his wonderful Sacraments. If the candle burns out, we re-light it or put another one in its place. In other words, we do our best to keep it lit 24 hours-a-day.



**Parents:** Before or after the service, direct your child's attention to the eternal flame hanging above the altar. Remind them that this candle stays lit all year. Allow them to walk up to the altar in order to get a better look. Remind them to be reverent in God's holy place.



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