



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Feast of the
Annunciation of Our Lord

+ March 26, 2023 +

**THE FEAST OF THE
ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD
+ March 26, 2023 +**

“Behold, I am the servant of the Lord.”



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:

“There Eve believed the words of the evil angel and thereby was the recipient of sin and death into her heart. Here Mary believes the announcement of the good angel, and thereby obtains in her virginal body the Savior who once again took sin and death away from us. God grant that this story be fruitfully heard.”

—Johann Gerhard, *Postilla*

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 Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², 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 meal³. 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 faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

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

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

DIVINE SERVICE II

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time to pray and meditate.

OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#338

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 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 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 ✠ the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT: EXSPECTANS EXSPECTAVI DOMINUM *Psalm 40:5-11; Ant. Psalm 40:11*



As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mer- | cy from me; *
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever pre- | serve me!

You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can com- | pare with you! *

**I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than | can be told.
Sacrifice and offering you have not desired, but you have given me an | open ear. ***

Burnt offering and sin offering you have | not required.

Then I said, “Behold, | I have come; *
in the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:
I desire to do your will, | O my God; *
your law is with- | in my heart.”

**I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congre- | gation; *
behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, | O LORD.**

I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your sal- | vation; *

I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congre- | gation.

As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mer- | cy from me; *
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever pre- | serve me!

**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.**

As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mer- | cy from me; *
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever pre- | serve me!

KYRIE

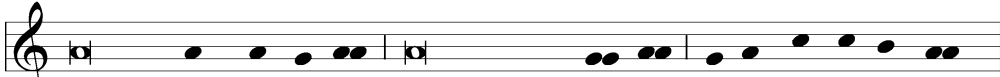
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



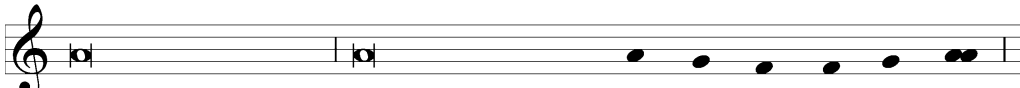
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



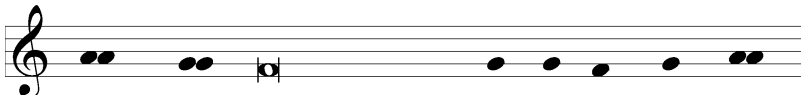
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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.

Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 7:10-14

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Ps. 45:6-7



Your throne, O God, is forever and | ever.*

**The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of up- | rightness;
you have loved righteousness and hated | wickedness.***

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of | gladness.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 10:4-10

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body have you prepared for me;
in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God,
as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

P The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

#356

SERMON

The Annunciation

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 \uparrow 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: **Nathan Brown, Lisa Frinzi, Gary Goodlett, Greg Goldman, Krista Hansford, Sharon Holleman, Nancy Jones, William McCain, Cathy McDonald, Elaine Monaghan, Zach Noguerras, Jerri Parker, Debbie Rice, Johnny Tatum, Donny Thomas, Leslie Thomas, Nikki Vines, Cynthia Widlitz, Carol Yenish;**

For those who are ill or distressed: **Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Tina Burke, Wayne Burke, Bobby Carroll,, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Beth Jarratt, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Jerry McMahan, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie 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, Will Nelson;**

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

For foreign missionaries: **especially Rev. Vance & Linda Becker;**

This week's prayer family: **Leslie Ridlehoover** and her loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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



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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. 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.

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

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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

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 † 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

John 20:19



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



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29



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, grant us peace.

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, Thou Precious Ransom, Come | #350 |
| Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord | #352 |
| When All the World Was Cursed | #346 |

Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

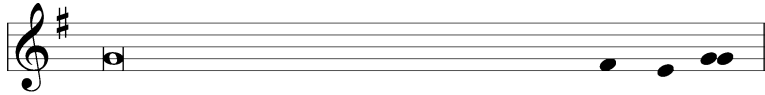
POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P 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.



BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26



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.



CLOSING HYMN

My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker

#820

Acknowledgments

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Today's Worship Servants:

Celebrant: Rev. George Fields

Acolyte: James Hansford

Interpreter: Denee Smith

Elder: Gary Atchley

Organist: Sister Sara Fields

Thank you! To all who helped with yesterday's work day, thank you! The church grounds look beautiful—and just in time to celebrate our Lord's Passion and Resurrection!

Indoor Work "Day": Couldn't come yesterday? Outdoors not your thing? Then join us for a low-key indoor work "day"! Assemble a team or come by yourself to adopt a room and clean it at your leisure (though preferably before Easter Sunday!). Sign up for a room on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board or contact Mary Atchley (601-750-6862) for details!

Lenten Vespers: Join us throughout this penitential season as we gather weekly to meditate upon the Passion of Our Lord. Vespers will be held on **Wednesday nights at 7:00.**

Lenten Dinners: Throughout our sojourn in Lent, we will gather at **6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays** for food and fellowship before weekly Vespers. If you would like to contribute, you may find the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

Readings for next Sunday, April 2nd, Palm Sunday:

Introit Ps. 24:7-10; Psalm 118:19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 27:11-66.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: March 27 – April 2

Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Quilting
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Supper
	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Vespers
	8:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	LifeLight: Bible Feasts
Friday	6:30 a.m.	Bible & Breaky
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service – Palm Sunday



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

+ PALM SUNDAY +
10:30 a.m., April 2
Divine Service

+ MAUNDY THURSDAY +
7:00 p.m., April 6
Divine Service

+ GOOD FRIDAY +
7:00 p.m., April 7
Chief Service

+ HOLY SATURDAY +
8:00 p.m., April 8
Easter Vigil and Divine Service

+ THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD +
10:30 a.m., April 9
Divine Service



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