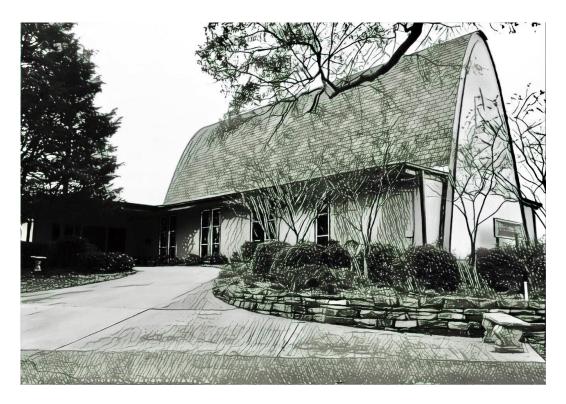
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH





Rev. George Fields, Pastor Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages: 9:00 a.m. 4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055 www.christlutheranjacksonms.org

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST + June 16, 2024 +

"Blessed Is the Man"



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 worshiping with us today!

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

WELCOME:

"The Lord himself is the grain of mustard seed."

-St. Ambrose of Milan, The Grain of the Mustard Seed

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 III

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time for prayer and meditation.

OPENING HYMN

Creator Spirit, By Whose Aid

#500

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

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

- \blacksquare In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.
- 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

PSALM: BEATUS VIR

Psalm 1; Ant. Psalm 1:6



The LORD knows the way of the | righteous,* but the way of the wicked will | perish.

Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the | wicked,* nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of | scoffers;

But his delight is in the law | of the LORD,* and on his law he meditates | day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not | wither.* In all that he does, he | prospers.

The wicked | are not so,* but are like chaff that the wind | drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judgment,* nor sinners in the congregation of the | righteous;

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.

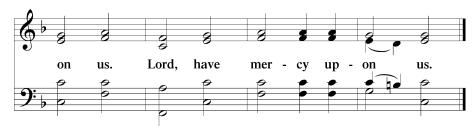
For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,* but the way of the wicked will | perish.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

The congregation is invited to sing in parts:





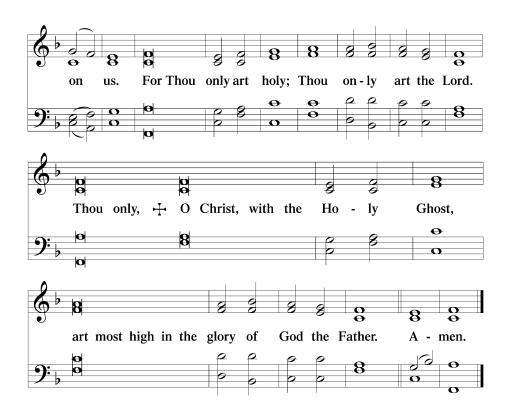
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

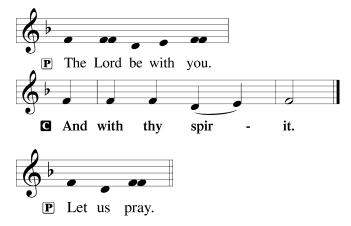
The congregation is invited to sing in parts:



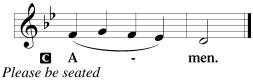




SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



OLD TESTAMENT

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Thus says the Lord GOD: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL



Great is the LORD, and greatly | to be praised,* and his greatness is un- | searchable. On your wondrous works, I will | meditate,* and I will declare your | greatness. Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b

EPISTLE

For we know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Please stand



HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 4:26-34

P The Holy + Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.



And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth #834

SERMON

Rest

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: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For comfort, health, and recovery: Cheryl Bodkin, Marie Ferderer & Child, James Haughton, Bob Kelly, Elaine Kelly, Anita Martin, Janea Parker, Jerri Parker, Luke Pigut, Jon Sandberg, Sherri Smith, Gary Stoeckmann, Lesley Tatum, Nicole Tatum, Yvonne Townes;

For those who mourn: the family and friends of Carol Jacobson;

For those who are ill or distressed: Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Wayne Burt, Bobby Carroll, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Tahlia Ferderer, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Tim Hansen, Faye Hartman, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, April Ann Hubmann, Joslyn Jones, Robert Kelly, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Gary Stoeckmann, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Leslie Thomas, Nikki Vines, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;

For college and graduate students: Sara Fields;

For military servants and their families: Gabriel Escude, Glen Hansford, Holden Hathcock, Bill Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;

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

This week's prayer family: John & Jo Rudsenske and their loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10-12

The congregation is invited to sing in parts:



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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



 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

 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.



THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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



AGNUS DEI

The congregation is invited to sing in parts.



John 1:29



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	
Upon the Cross Extended	#453
The Man Is Ever Blessed	#705
How Can I Thank You, Lord	#703

Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS





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.

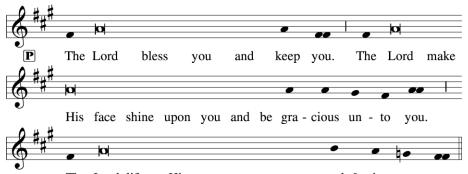


SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

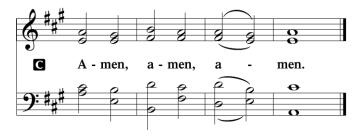


BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Thee I Love With All My Heart

#708

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today: Celebrant: Rev. George Fields Acolyte: Miles Agent Interpreter: Denee Smith Altar Guild: Nancy Teal

Elder: Keith Martin Organist: Sr. Sara Fields Cantor: Christa Kettler

Altar Flowers: This morning's altar flowers are given for the glory of God by Allen and Sabrina Goodlett in celebration of 47 years of marriage.

June Council Meeting Rescheduled: Newly installed counselors, we have rescheduled this month's meeting for **this Tuesday**, June 18. See you then!

VBS on the Horizon! Join us this summer to dig deeper with Christ Lutheran's VBS! Come learn (and play!) with us this July 16-18, from 5-7 p.m. To sign up your children/grandchildren, or to volunteer or contribute, contact Krista Hansford at hansfords01@aol.com. In the meantime, stay tuned for more details!

Readings for next Sunday, June 23rd, the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Introit Ps. 107:29-32; Psalm 124; Job 38:1-11; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: June 17 – June 23

Tuesday6:15 p.m. Council MeetingFriday6:30 a.m. Bible & BreakySunday9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages10:30 a.m. Divine Service – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



YOUR LIFELINE TO THE LUTHERAN WORLDVIEW...You can listen to in-depth teachings on interesting subjects like:

The Mystical Union, Peter Preaches on Pentecost, The Council of Nicaea, The Prophet Elisha, The Apostle Barnabas and more...

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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