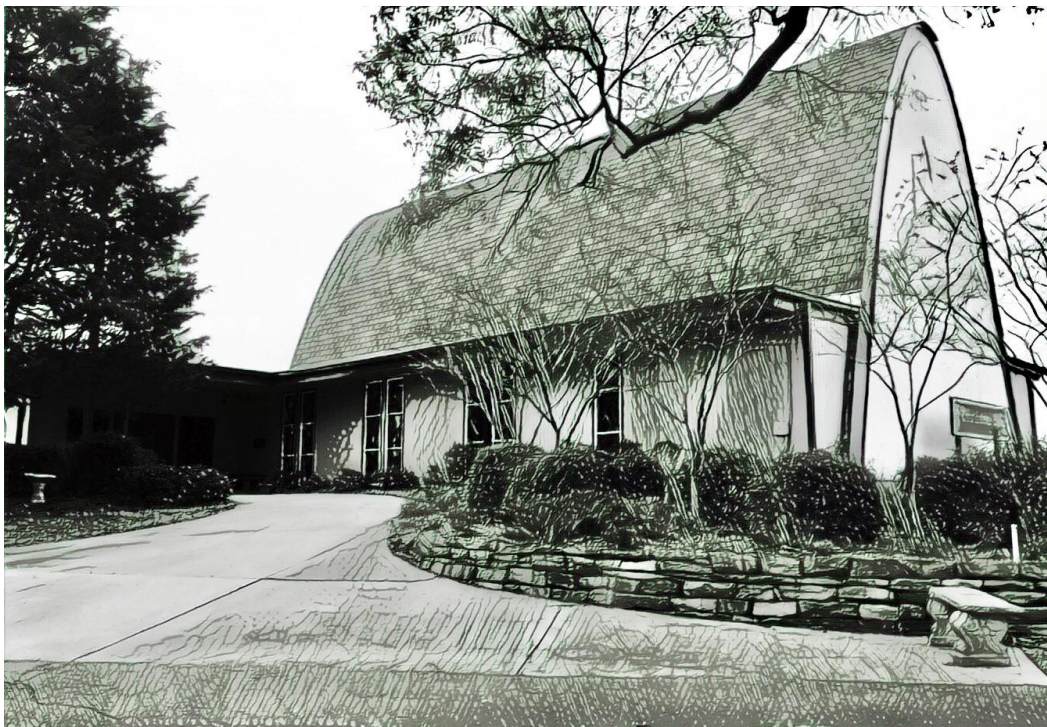


# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Rev. George Fields, Pastor**

**Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: 10:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School for all ages: 9:00 a.m.**

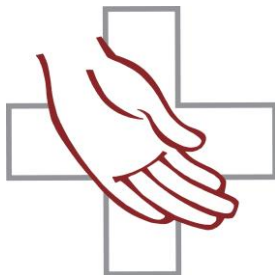
**4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055**

**[www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org](http://www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org)**

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

+ March 30, 2025 +

## *“Father, I Am Not Worthy”*



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:**

“The totally free man has become a wretched slave”

–Joseph Ratzinger, *Jesus of Nazareth*

“Jacob led out his sheep, and brought them to his father’s home; a symbol for those with discernment; a parable for those with perception is to be found in this homecoming. Let us too return to our Father’s house, my brothers, and do not become captivated with desire for this transient earth, for your true city is Eden. Blessed indeed is the man who has seen his dear ones in its midst.”

–Ephrem the Syrian, *Hymns on Paradise*

# 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 II

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

*The congregation may use this time for prayer and meditation.*

## OPENING HYMN

**In Adam We Have All Been One**

**#569**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of your 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 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.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

**INTROIT: MISERERE MEI, DEUS, SECUNDUM**

*Psalm 51:2-6; Ant. Psalm 51:1*



Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;\*  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my trans- | gressions.

**Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,\*  
and cleanse me | from my sin!**

For I know my trans- | gressions,\*  
and my sin is ever be- | fore me.

**Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight,\*  
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your | judgment.**

Behold, I was brought forth in in- | iquity,\*  
and in sin did my mother con- | ceive me.

**Behold, you delight in truth in the inward | being,\*  
and you teach me wisdom in the | secret heart.**

**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.**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;\*  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my trans- | gressions.

**KYRIE**

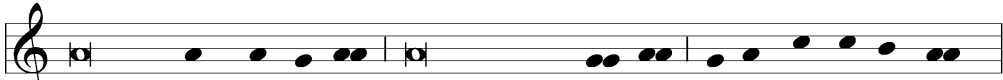
*Mark 10:47*



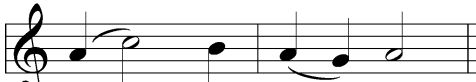
**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**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.



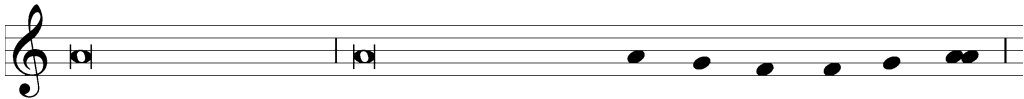
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



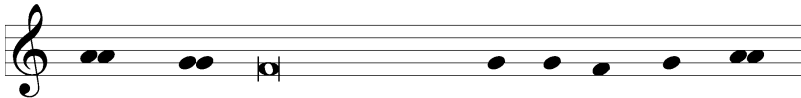
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord.



**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 READING

*Isaiah 12:1-6*

You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
that you might comfort me.

“Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,  
call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,

proclaim that his name is exalted.  
“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.  
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

### GRADUAL

*Hebrews 12:2*



[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,\*  
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,\*  
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

### EPISTLE

*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

### TRACT

**P** Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,  
Which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

**G** As the mountains surround Jerusalem,  
so the Lord surrounds his people,  
From this time forth and forevermore.  
Peace be upon Israel!



*Please stand*

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32*

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



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable:

And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes,

you killed the fattened calf for him!’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

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



*Please be seated*

**OFFICE HYMN**      **As Rebels, Lord, Who Foolishly Have Wandered**

**#612**

**SERMON**

*The Prodigal*

*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:* **Shirley Bagley, Hunter Burkhalter, Joel Chaffee, Debbie Gangi, Barbara Glenn, Patsy Lafferty, Anita Martin, Christopher Martin, Mary Kay Martin, Sarah Meyers, Betty Ramsey, Laura Rawson, Mallory Richard, Savannah Richardson, Judy Smathers, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Jennifer Webster;**

*For those who mourn:* the family and friends of **Bill Cookston;**

*For those who are ill or distressed:* **Jenalee Adams, Blair Alford, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, 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, George Fields, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Tim Hansen, Faye Hartman, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, April Ann Hubmann, Joslyn Jones, Nancy Jones, 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, Eloise Springer, Gary Stoeckmann, Lesley Tatum, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Nikki Vines, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Barbara Zeigler;**

*For college and graduate students:* **Sara Fields;**

*For military servants and their families:* **Gabriel Escude, Glen Hansford, Bill Nelson, Steven Tatum;**

*For foreign missionaries*

*This week's prayer family: Jo Miller 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

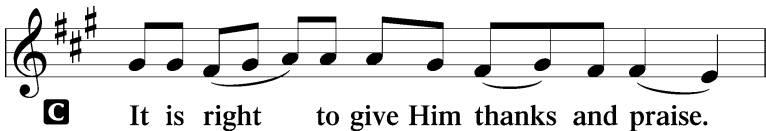
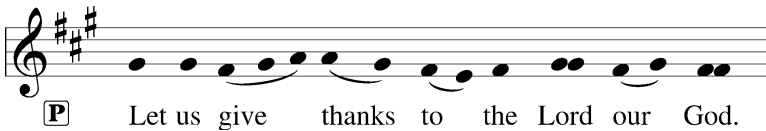
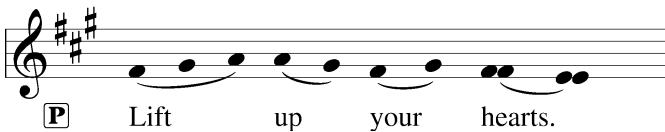


courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE


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



**P** 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*



**C** 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

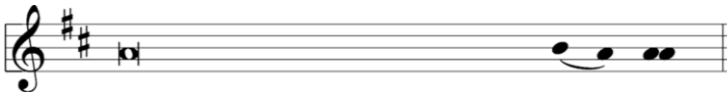
*Matthew 26:26-28*

**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

**☐** 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**

<b>Jesus Sinners Doth Receive</b>	<b>#609</b>
<b>Chief of Sinners Though I Be</b>	<b>#611</b>
<b>The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord</b>	<b>#634</b>



*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 fulfilled. 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

## What Wondrous Love Is This

#543

### Acknowledgments

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### Serving Today:

**Celebrant:** Rev. George Fields

**Acolyte:** Miles Agent

**Interpreter:** Denee Smith

**Altar Guild:** Mary Atchley

**Elder:** Glen Hansford

**Organist:** Sr. Sara Fields

**Cantor:** Natalie Rudenske

**Bill Cookston Has Entered Eternal Rest:** The Lord has gathered His saint Bill unto Himself. On Friday, the 28th of March, Bill Cookston passed through the portal of death into life everlasting. We will notify you of funeral arrangements once they are made.

**Work Day This Saturday:** As we begin to prepare for glorious Easter, we will have a work day **this Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**; coffee will be on at 8 a.m. Break out your grungy clothes and join us!

**Easter Lilies:** You are invited to purchase one or more Easter Lilies to decorate the sanctuary for Easter Day. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the foyer. The cost per plant is \$15. You may take your plants home after the service on Easter morning.

**Lenten Evening Prayer:** Join us to pray throughout this penitential season. Evening Prayer 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 Evening Prayer. A sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for all who would like to help provide food for the mid-week dinners (store-bought is plenty fine – no pressure for the culinarily-challenged among us!). Thank you!

**Sunday School Snacks:** Sunday school fellowship isn't complete without a cup of coffee and a cookie! If you can make a mean chocolate chip, bake banana bread, or buy a yummy treat, sign up in the Fellowship Hall to help bring a snack for Sunday school.

**Readings for next Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, the Fifth Sunday in Lent:** Introit Ps. 3:3-6; Psalm 126; Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:4-14; Luke 20:9-20.

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*This week at Christ Lutheran Church: March 31 – April 5*

<b>Monday</b>	<b>6:15 p.m.</b> Elders Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b> Lenten Dinner
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> Lenten Vespers
	<b>7:45 p.m.</b> Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> LifeLight
<b>Friday</b>	<b>6:30 a.m.</b> Bible & Breaky @ Broadstreet
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b> Work Day
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Sunday School for All Ages
	<b>10:30 a.m. Divine Service – The Fifth Sunday in Lent</b>



**Issues, Etc.**<sup>™</sup>

Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

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# HOLY WEEK SERVICES

+ PALM SUNDAY +  
10:30 a.m., April 13  
Divine Service

+ MAUNDY THURSDAY +  
7:00 p.m., April 17  
Divine Service

+ GOOD FRIDAY +  
7:00 p.m., April 18  
Chief Service

+ HOLY SATURDAY +  
8:00 p.m., April 19  
Easter Vigil & Divine Service

+ THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD +  
10:30 a.m., April 20  
Divine Service



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