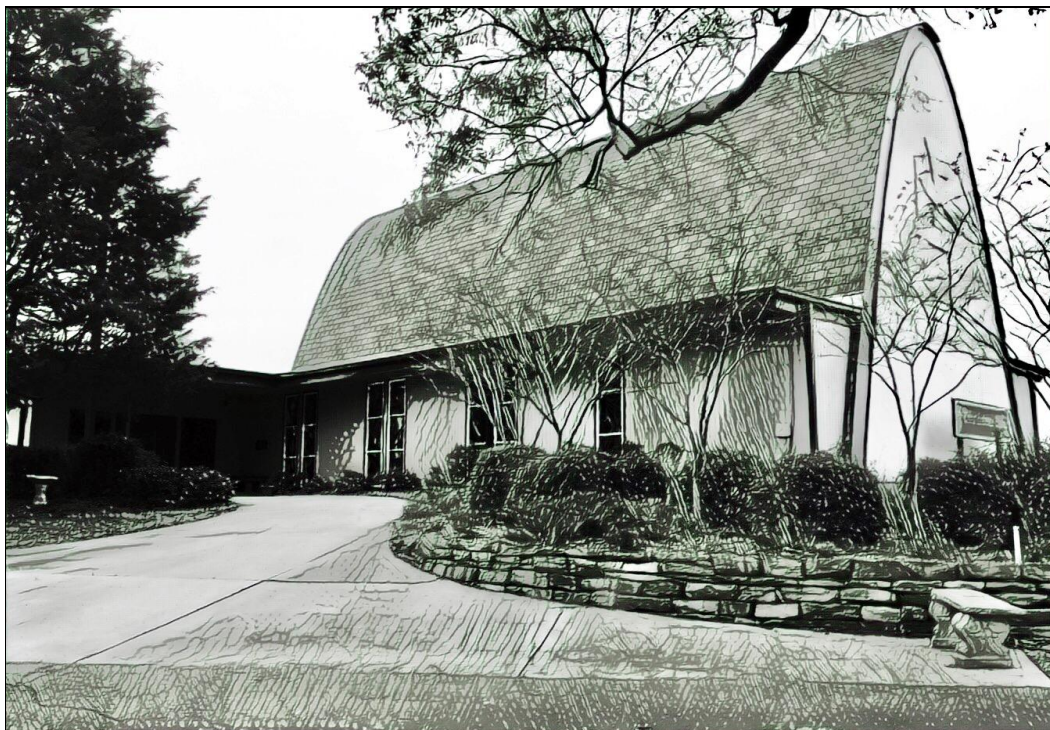


CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



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 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

+ May 3, 2025 +

***“Those Whom You Have Defended,
Let Them Rejoice Forever”***



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:

“All creation had fled the indignity done to the Creator, the world strove to keep away from the murder of its Lord, realizing that vengeance extends to the whole house in which the master was killed by the criminal behavior of the servants.”

—St. Peter Chrysologus, *Fifth Sermon on the Lord’s Resurrection*

“No one knows the hour of your victory. No one is witness to the birth of a world. No one knows how the night of Saturday’s hell was transformed into the light of Easter dawn. Asleep it was that we were all carried on wings over the abyss, and asleep did we receive the grace of Easter.”

—Hans Urs von Balthasar, *The Heart of the World*

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 for prayer and meditation.

OPENING HYMN

Thy Strong Word

#578

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

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: EXALTABO TE, DEUS

Psalm 145:4-7; Ant. Psalm 145:10



All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,*
and all your saints shall | bless you!

One generation shall commend your works to an- | other,*
and shall declare your | mighty acts.

**On the glorious splendor of your | majesty,*
and on your wondrous works, I will | meditate.**

**They shall speak of the might of your | awesome deeds,*
and I will declare your | greatness.**

They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant | goodness*
and shall sing aloud of your | righteousness.

The LORD is | good to all,*
and his mercy is over all that | he has made.

**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.**

All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,*
and all your saints shall | bless you!

KYRIE

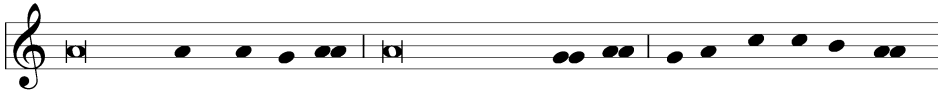
Mark 10:47



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.



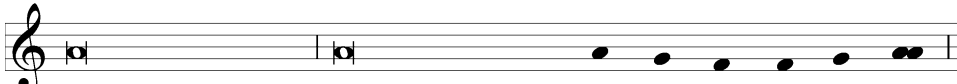
Ā For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



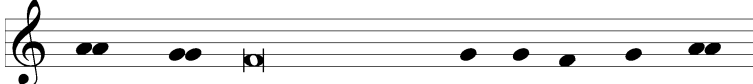
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



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.

DIGNUS EST



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world.
Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death,
perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives
and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1-22

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to

him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened.

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?” But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Matt. 28:7; Heb. 2:7, Ps. 8:6



Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor,

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

SECOND READING

Revelation 5:8-14

And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying,

“Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth.”

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 21:1-14

P The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, “Children, do you have any fish?” They answered him, “No.” He said to them, “Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

*The Meaning of the Fish Which Burns**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: **Betty Hansford, Joel Chaffee, Kim Hester, Sướng Le, Anita Martin, Patrick Omara, Betty Ramsey, Laura Rawson, Eloise Springer, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas;**

For those who mourn: the family and friends of **Mary Kay Martin;**

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, 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, Pippin Family, 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

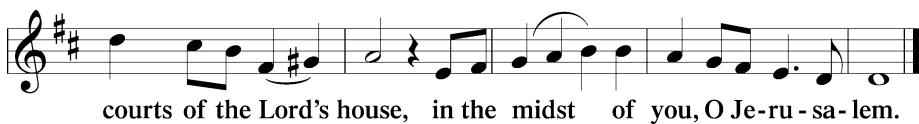
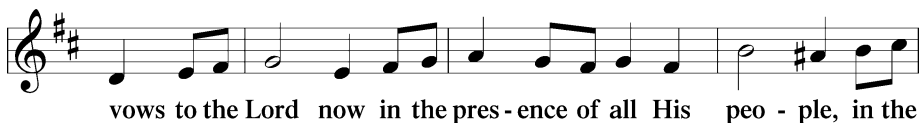
This week's prayer family: **The Nelson Family** and their loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

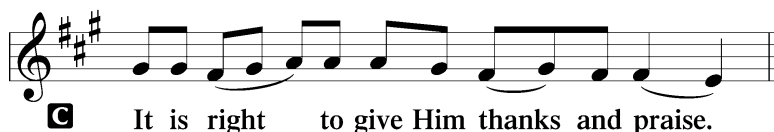
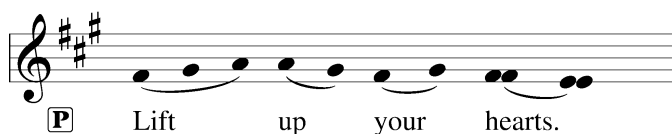
OFFERTORY



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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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

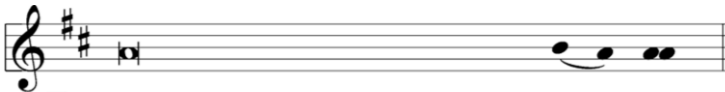
Matthew 26:26–28;

Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

- 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 a 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

Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

#597

Wide Open Stand the Gates

#639

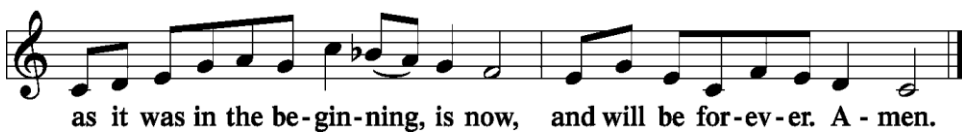
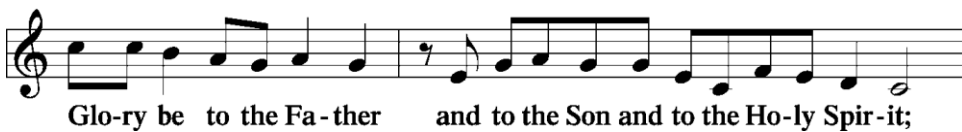
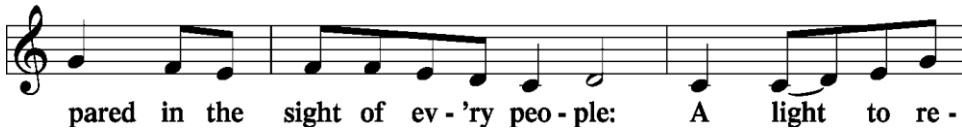
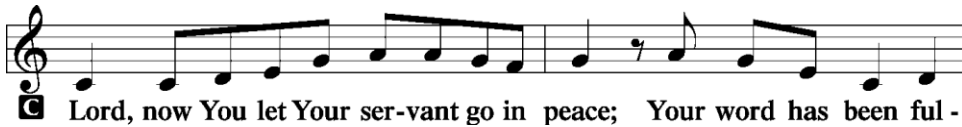
O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

#874

Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

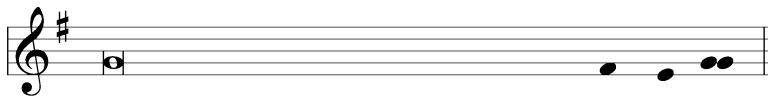
- P** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

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.



C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

#670

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission. Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

Today's Worship Servants:

Celebrant: Rev. George Fields

Acolyte: William Hansford

Interpreter: Denee Smith

Altar Guild: Sabrina Goodlett

Elder: Glen Hansford

Organist: Sr. Sara Fields

Cantor: James Hansford

Altar Flowers: This morning's altar flowers are given for the glory of God by Chuck and Margaret Haynes in celebration of their 55th anniversary.

Voters Meeting on May 18: The regular voters meeting will be held on Sunday, May 18th, immediately following the Divine Service. The main order of business will be election of officers. Thank you for faithfully attending to this task!

Readings for next Sunday, May 8th, the Fourth Sunday of Easter:

Introit Ps. 78:70-79; Psalm 23; Acts 20:17-35; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: May 5 – May 11

Friday
Sunday

6:30 a.m. Bible & Breaky @ Broadstreet
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 a.m. Divine Service – The Fourth Sunday of Easter