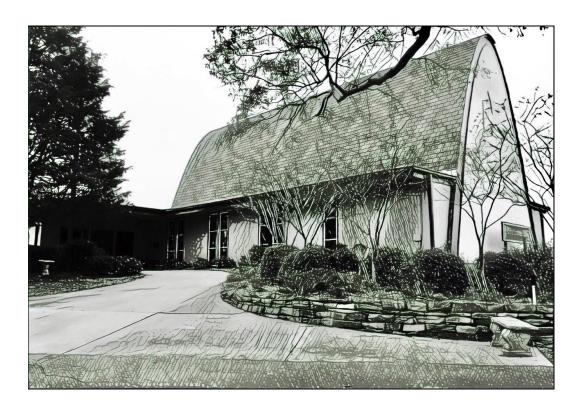
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH





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 OF EASTER + May 11, 2025 +

"Jesus Was Walking in the Temple"



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 says 'I and the Father are one.' And again of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit it is written 'And these three are one.' Does anyone believe that this unity that comes from divine strength, which is closely connected with the divine sacraments, can be broken asunder in the Church and be divided by colliding wills?"

—St. Cyprian, The Unity of the Church

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

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

#702

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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: ATTENDITE POPULE MEUS

Psalm 78:70-72, 79:13; Ant. John 10:14-15



I am the good | shepherd.*

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life | for the sheep.

He chose David his servant and took him from the | sheepfolds;* from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his in- | heritance.*

With upright heart he shep- | herded them* and guided them with his | skillful hand.

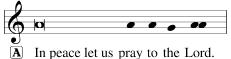
But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you for- ever;* from generation to generation we will re- | count your praise.

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.

I am the good | shepherd.*

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life | for the sheep.

KYRIE Mark 10:47

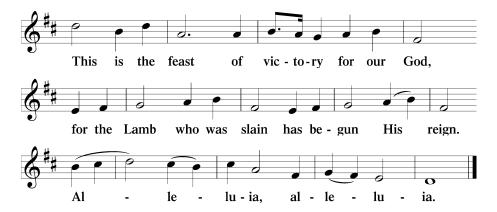




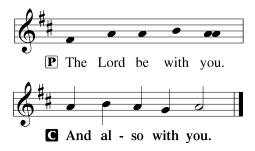


DIGNUS EST





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



FIRST READING Acts 20:17-35

Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him.

And when they came to him, he said to them:

"You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that

I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive."

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 7:9-17

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;

the sun shall not strike them,

nor any scorching heat.

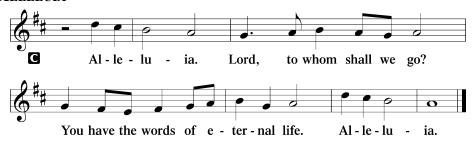
For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL John 10:22-30

P The Holy

→ Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.



At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

#710

SERMON

Sheep to Shepherds

Please stand

NICENE CREED

```
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)
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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: Graham Goldman, Betty Hansford, Joel Chaffee, Kim Hester, Surong Le, Anita Martin, Elaine Monaghan, Patrick Omara, Betty Ramsey, Laura Rawson, Eloise Springer, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas;

For those who mourn: the family and friends of Mallory Richard;

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 **Beulah Nunnery** and her loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

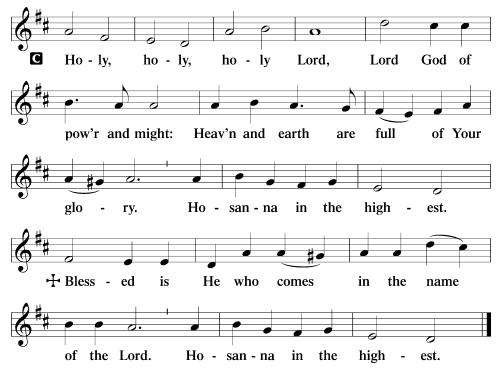
PREFACE

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



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



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 \(\frac{1}{2} \) us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

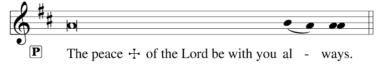
Matthew 26:26-28;

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."

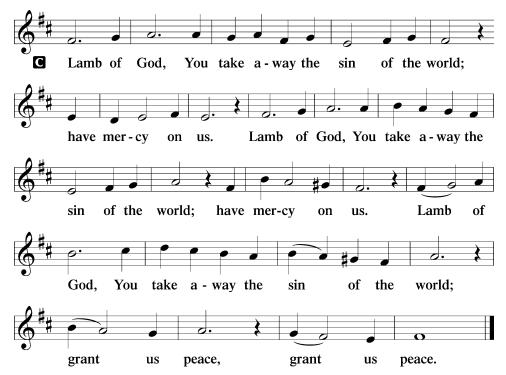
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI John 20:19





AGNUS DEI 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 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

Eternal Father, Strong to Save	#717
Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling	#827
Sent Forth By God's Blessing	#643

Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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.



BENEDICTIONNumbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.



CLOSING HYMN

Onward Christian Soldiers

#662

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today:

Celebrant: Rev. George Fields

Acolyte: William Held **Interpreter:** Denee Smith

Altar Guild: Mary Atchley

Preacher: Rev. Bob Pfaff Organist: Sr. Sara Fields Cantor: Christa Kettler

Voters Meeting: Mark your calendar for **next Sunday, May 18,** as we will meet to approve the slate of new officers on the Council immediately following the Divine Service.

Thank you: As Pastor Fields was scheduled to be out of town today, we thank Pastor Pfaff for filling in! Likewise, we are grateful that Pastor Holowach took time on his vacation to lead Sunday school this morning. Thank you to both these men!

Congratulations, Graduate! This year, we celebrate with our high school graduate James Hansford! He will graduate from Madison Central High School at 10:00 a.m. this Saturday, May 17th (at the Mississippi Coliseum), and his family invites you to celebrate with him at their home from 4:00-6:00 p.m. that same day. Congratulations, James!

Ascension Service: Mark your calendar for May 29—**The Feast of the Ascension!** Forty days after Easter, this holy day lands annually on a *Thursday*, and we will take time to celebrate it that evening with a Divine Service at 6:00. Celebrate with us!

Readings for next Sunday, May 18th, the Fifth Sunday of Easter:

Introit Ps. 98:2-6; Psalm 148; Acts 11:1-18; Revelation 21:1-7; John 16:12-22.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: May 12 – May 18

Tuesday 6:15 p.m. Council Meeting

Friday 6:30 a.m. Bible Study @ Christ Lutheran, Breakfast @ Broadstreet

Saturday 4:00 p.m. James Hansford Graduation Party 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

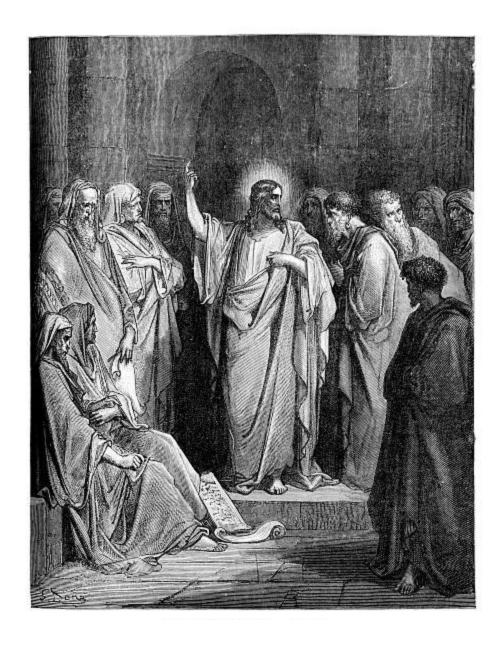
10:30 a.m. Divine Service - The Fifth Sunday of Easter



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

Papal Indulgences, A New Report on the Dangers of the Abortion Pill, God's Revelation in the Genesis Account, Government Incentives for Increased Fertility, and more...

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CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod 4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 Church phone: (601) 366-2055 www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org