

# LIFE IN CHRIST

Receiving God's Gifts — Sharing God's Gifts

*The Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Jackson, MS*

+ Pentecost 2026 +



# Contents

On the Cover:

*The Incredulity of St. Thomas*

**Paolo Moranda Cavazzola**

**1520**

This Reformation-era painting encapsulates three significant Biblical events we celebrate following Easter: Jesus' appearance to St. Thomas (in the foreground), our Lord's ascension (left), and the feast of Pentecost (right).

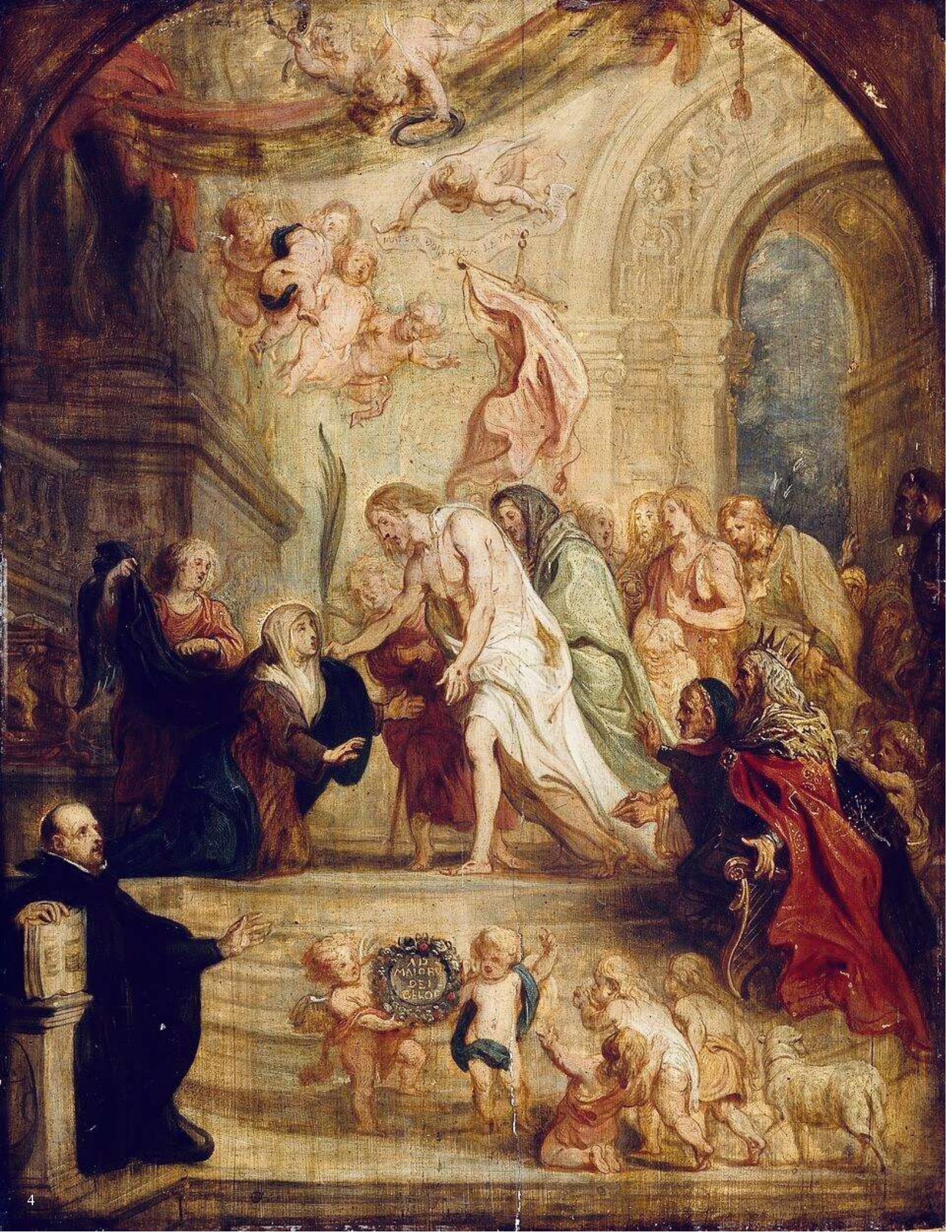
Christ comes to St. Thomas from the proverbial 'other' side of the grave, as you can see Him illuminated against the dark background of death, with the broken tomb left of Thomas, on the other side of the wall. Jesus bears the banner of His victory, as well as His wounds, which He shows the incredulous saint.

Jesus' later ascension—forty days after Easter—is depicted to the left, complete with the Virgin Mother, representing the Church, surrounded by the apostles (the Church's pastors). St. Mary and the apostles are likewise shown at the feast of Pentecost—fifty days after Easter—to the right, with the Holy Spirit descending even as Christ ascends.

Importantly, the bodily resurrection of our Lord is in the foreground, for, "if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain," as St. Paul tells us (1 Corinthians 15). The Faith proceeds from His living Flesh, the very same that Thomas touched, and that we too receive upon our lips. ■

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# The Paschal The Glorious Battle Victory

*Pastor Fields*

The Resurrection of Our Lord, throughout all the history of the Church, has always been understood as a ‘victory.’ It is Christ’s ‘victory over the grave.’ It is his ‘victory over the devil,’ ‘over death.’ It is even viewed as a victory against the unbelieving world that did not believe in Christ, the Son of God.

That being said, it is not so popular these days to speak of ‘Christ’s victory,’ at least not in much detail, since it implies that there was a war, a battle, and a conquest.

Talking in this way seems mythological, something that belongs to a past era. We prefer to speak about doctrines like Justification and the Forgiveness of Sins, partly because they seem to apply more directly to us, but partly because they feel a little less concrete, a little more philosophical. They are something, we feel, that happens ‘within us’ or ‘in our minds,’ when we ‘accept Jesus’ and He ‘becomes our savior.’

To speak of Jesus having opponents that He conquers both takes us out of the center of the Atonement, and also puts Christ in a concrete reality of His struggle against His enemies.

With that said, though it is extremely important that we recognize that Christ died *for us*, and was raised *for our*

*justification*, as St. Paul teaches, it is also important to understand that our life is not merely about ‘our relationship to God’ or ‘to Jesus.’ It is not binary, where God either loves us and dies for us, or God is mad at us for our sin and will send us to hell in His wrath.

We need to know that Christ in His earthly life is waging a war against all *His* enemies: sin, death, and the devil; that He might destroy all those who oppose Him. We are merely the prize to be gained, the city to be retaken, the damsel in distress to be delivered from the grips of the great dragon.

When we understand this, we realize that God is on our side, regardless of our worth, for He is not arrayed simply for us, but also against all that would oppose us and our salvation. He does not only love us. Rather, He also hates that which would destroy us. He is indeed a loving God, but He is also a jealous God, and we are the bride which He has come in His jealousy to regain.

And this is a great consolation to us, for when we are not at the center of the

divine drama, neither is our worthiness, nor our unworthiness. Does a king need to believe lands that He lost to an enemy are 'worthy' for Him to make war to regain them? Does a king need to believe His people 'worthy' in order to defend them? Not at all. He defends them, and He retakes them, because they are *His*.

So too are we a lost land and a conquered people. The Lord will once again gain what was first His, and there is nothing of our worthiness that demands He do so, and nothing of our unworthiness that can convince Him to do otherwise. Rather, He will make us once again His own possession *for his name's sake, that He might be exalted among the nations.*

It is this that Luther was trying to tell us when in his Small Catechism he describes the 'will of God' not as 'His will for our life,' that is, what He wants us to do, nor His 'will to love us,' nor anything else. Rather, God's will is to *'break and hinder every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come.'* His will is to break His enemies, and to conquer our souls.

And why? *'That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.'*

He comes in conquest, that we may once again *be His*; and what is *His*, He will never give up, regardless of how good that possession may or may not be.

For we will be *His own*. ■



# CONGRATULATIONS

— 2026 —

We rejoice with our graduates as they reach this great milestone! Let us pray for them as they faithfully live out their vocations and continue to develop their God-given gifts!

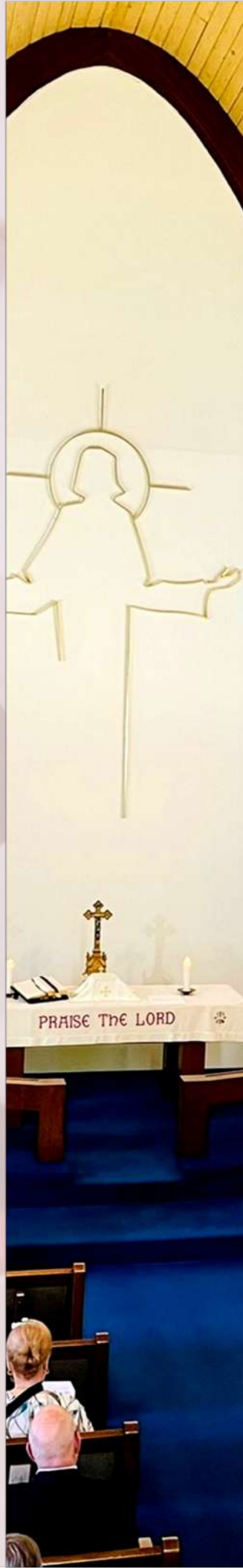
Emily Held graduated from St. Augustine School and plans to attend Ole Miss in the Fall, pursuing a degree in accounting.



Hudson (Seppo) Maxwell graduated from Germantown High school and intends to study anthropology at Mississippi State.



Our sign-language interpreter, Charlie Warren, has finished her degree from Hinds Community College and has gotten the opportunity to serve in Virginia for several months, beginning this summer. ■



# He is Risen alleluia



After a week of tracing Christ's steps through His Passion, all the drama burst forth into the beautiful alleluias of Easter Day. The church was clad in white, from its paraments to its lilies (and even some of its people!), and the sanctuary surged with song. We thank God for our salvation, bought in His own Blood, and we rejoice with shouts of alleluia on this eternal Easter day!





The Feast of the Resurrection was celebrated on April 5<sup>th</sup>, replete with joyous voices, resounding brass, and glorious descants. But most importantly, we joined in the Marriage Feast of the Lamb, ascending the steps of the chancel to receive the food of immortality upon our lips on this most holy day.

Pale in comparison, but sublimely scrumptious nonetheless, was the “hors d'oeuvres” to the Feast, if you will! We enjoyed a heavenly spread of brunchy goodness during the Sunday school hour, with various meats and casseroles, fruits and egg dishes, and of course, a tableful of carb-alicious sweet breads (thank you, cooks and bakers!). While the adults savored and chatted, the kids inhaled their food and flew outside for the Easter egg hunt. The older kids hid the chocolatey treats and the younger ones enjoyed finding them. Thank you to all who organized and participated in the festivity of this holy Easter Day!■







Jesus  
Christ



is risen today!

# The Fast of Easter

*Pastor Fields*

Lent is now seemingly long behind us, and with it is temper of repentance and fasting. Now is the season for the Church to rejoice, for *Christ is risen*.

Yet the season of Easter was also viewed as a fast, though not a fast for us.

During Lent, we fast, for we recognize that we are *dust, and to dust we shall return*. We fast, for it is time for death to feast, to feast upon our flesh and the flesh of all mortals, and to be filled up with the full number of the dead.

But during Easter, we feast without ceasing, and death closes its mouth. We feast, and death learns restraint, asceticism, mortification of its flesh, and hunger.

For now death shall only open its mouth, like a mother cat, to carry the bodies of the fallen to where they will grow into eternal life. No longer will it consume the souls of those who have fallen asleep.

St. Ephraim the Syrian wrote a very lovely verse on this subject, that I hope you will remember:

*Gluttonous Death, lamented and said,  
I have learned fasting, which I used not to know;  
lo! Jesus gathers multitudes, but as to me,  
in His feast a fast is proclaimed for me.  
One man has closed my mouth,  
mine who have closed the mouths of many.  
Hell said I will restrain my greed;  
hunger, therefore, is mine:  
this Man triumphs as at the marriage,  
when He changed the water into wine,  
so He changes the vesture of the dead into life.*

Now we enter into the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom, which our Lord first promised in the Wedding at Cana, yet like the one without a wedding garment, death is cast out into the outer darkness, and there, like a leper, it will *hunger*.

For:

*The souls of the just are in the hand of God,  
and the torment of death shall not touch them.  
In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die;  
but they are in peace. ■*





# Confirmation

The Lord has welcomed two more to the Table this year! Having been duly catechized by their parents, elders, and Pastor Fields, and having been finally examined, Nathan and William Hansford were confirmed in the baptismal Faith during the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. Once the lights rose and shouts of Alleluia rang, they partook of their first communion in the celebration of the Resurrection that night.

Catechism begins at baptism, as babies are brought up in the weekly Divine Service, come to Sunday school as they grow, and are taught the Faith by their father and mother at home. The elders help with formal catechesis once children are ready for it, and the catechumens memorize the Six Chief Parts as they head off to further instruction from Pastor Fields. Meanwhile, these maturing Christians are encouraged to take on responsibility at church—young men acolyte and participate in processions, and young women help care for the altar, its linens, and the elements of the Lord's Supper. Finally, at the culmination of their preparations, the catechumens are individually examined by Pastor.

But just as we all learned quickly after our own confirmation, this is only the beginning! We are all children, growing in the Faith, our whole life long—and unto eternity. We pray for our new confirmands as they embark upon this lifelong journey with us. May the Spirit continue to enlighten and sanctify us as He brings us to life everlasting! ■

Confirmed during the baptismal service of Easter Vigil.



Cake and gifts on Easter morning!



on





Nathan and William passed their examination! Joy and relief abound!



Following the examination, Pastor takes the confirmands through private Confession and Absolution. Next, they get to practice taking communion (it can be nerve-racking the first time!). They are instructed how to receive the host and the chalice, and they get to taste the unconsecrated elements.



Good job, Dad and Mom! You're raising them well!

# Confirmation – *Behind the scenes*

Lutheranism was never so Southern.



The confirmands get to rehearse with the elders for all of Holy Saturday's choreography. This year, Nathan and William's dad got to be the aspergillum extraordinaire (i.e., the 'water-splasher' during the baptismal service of the Vigil). William is giving some tips for maximal splashing. ■

# Ladies Night Out



She hates the spotlight, but she doesn't have the privilege of editing this newsletter, so she's going to have to endure it. [Insert maniacal laughter].

Emily Held, one of our high school seniors this year, was surprised one Saturday this May by a Ladies' "Night" Out (it was a lunch this time) in celebration of her graduation! Our ladies secretly converged upon Amerigo's down in Flowood, with baskets of cookies and festive table decorations (thank you, Sabrina and Gloria!). Our valedictorian grad walked in completely unsuspecting—mission accomplished!

We are proud of Emily and, amidst our sadness to see her depart from us, are praying for her as she continues her studies at Ole Miss. May the Lord bless this young lady in her many and various vocations, now and yet to come!



# Addendum: Recital

On the eve of her graduation, Emily performed her senior piano recital. In true Christian fashion, her pieces were selected and arranged in gratitude to those who have contributed to her musical career. She began with a piece she learned with her first teacher, but this time, she played the teacher's part, while her current instructor played the student's melody. She included pieces in gratitude to her parents, to other musical influences along the way, and finally, to her grandmother. It was an outstanding recital, and we praise God for the gifts He has given us through this lovely young woman. ■





# The Ascension *of the Lord*

— A Sermon —

*This year the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord has fallen during many graduations and much travel, and so not many were able to attend the Divine Liturgy on that day. But, that you might not be impoverished, below is the catechetical sermon that was preached for that day! Please enjoy.*

*'While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven.'*

+INJ+

*In many and various ways, the Ascension of the Lord Christ was foretold by the prophets, who sang in the Psalms: 'God ascends with shouting, and the Lord with a clear trumpet; sing praise to our King, for now God is King over all the earth.' 'The Lord is among them in the holy Sinai, You have ascended on high, and have captured captivity.' And as St. Zechariah prophesied: 'On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward.'*

That the Lord's kinship to God the Father might be manifested, He was taken up into the heavens, even as Holy Enoch, who *walked a godly life, and was taken away, and was no longer seen.*

That the Lord's mission from God the Father might be completed, He was assumed into the Divine Majesty, even as Holy Elijah, who by *chariots of fire and flaming horses went up.*

This, that it might be fulfilled what was written in the Prophet Daniel:

*'Behold, with the clouds of heaven  
there came one like a son of man,  
and he came to the Ancient of Days  
and was presented before him.  
And to him was given dominion  
and glory and a kingdom,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him;  
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,  
which shall not pass away,  
and his kingdom one  
that shall not be destroyed.'*

He has now risen from the dead, that death might be undone by death, and hell shut up by the rain of heaven. For by His death, we have been reconciled with the Father, atonement being made through the sacrifice of His beloved Son; and by His resurrection, we have been justified, being declared innocent of Sin, for we are made one with Him who *knew no deceit.*

So now the Lord Jesus ascends Jacob's ladder, and enters into the heavenly places, that what the prophet Micah foretold might come to pass, *'Then One who breaks through shall ascend before the LORD. He shall break through and go in and out of the door.'* For Christ, our High Priest, now breaks into the forbidden Garden of Eden, the heavenly Paradise, to bring out for us the fruit of the tree of Life, that in Him, we might never die.

He stands forever in the courts of heaven, our *Advocate with the Father, the atonement not only for our sins alone, but for the whole world.* There He speaks a better word than that of Abel, and on our behalf.

And He has gone forward before us, to *prepare a path, to make straight the way of the Lord, that where He is, we might be also.* He goes to *prepare a place for us,* that in this body and life, we so might walk, that through every trial, we are brought closer to the our true and only home.

Yet it is written that the disciples *returned to Jerusalem with great joy.*

It seems a little strange that they would be so happy, seeing as how, at least to them, in that moment, their Lord has, to put it bluntly, abandoned them. He has left them *as sheep before wolves, even sheep without a shepherd.* And yet they rejoice.

Let this be the lesson, dear Christians, that you too should now rejoice: for in Christ's ascension to the Father, He has not merely taken the place He has always had as the Son before the Father. He is not merely God returning to His own land. Rather, in Him, He has seated our human nature in the cloud of glory; He has established our humanity within the Godhead. For we are *bone of his bone, and flesh of his flesh,* and where His flesh and bone and blood and body now dwell, within the hypostasis, the person, of the Son begotten of the Father, so will the Church, those united to His flesh through the most holy Eucharist, reign forevermore.

Indeed, we, as man, united to God in Christ, will reign, for this was always the will of Almighty God, that we would *grow up, and fulfill the earth, and have dominion over it, and subdue it,* that is, that we would have all things *placed beneath our feet.*

The journey of Christ, it may be said, is brought to completion in the Ascension, but this is only half true. The journey of Man is brought to its end, for man's original mission is fulfilled, for now Man reigns from heaven. Now Man completes the creation. Now Man *fills all things.* For in Christ, mankind has been filled with heavenly benediction and grace; we, who are the body of Christ; Christ, who is the head of the Church; Christ who *fills all things.*

Indeed, the Son of Man *has been glorified* in His crucifixion. And now in His Ascension, Man, within the Son, has been brought into glory, that all that Adam lost might be restored; that what Adam was given would be given back, and given twice greater.

For now, dear Christians, even in the misery and temptation of this world, we reign, for Christ, the crucified, even reigns now through our suffering, *that we might count even our sufferings as joy, and our death as gain.*

*Rejoice, therefor with exceeding joy,* even as the Holy Apostles, O Church, for:

*'For God is the King of all the earth;  
sing praises with a psalm!  
God reigns over the nations;  
God sits on his holy throne.'*

+INJ+



He has seated our human nature in the cloud of glory. He has established our humanity within the Godhead. For we are bone of His bone, and flesh of His flesh.



# CHRIST LUTHERAN Quilters

This Spring has been quite quilty! And not a moment too soon: After May's tornadoes cut across Mississippi and ravaged Bogue Chitto, our ladies were able to give a dozen quilts to the local St. Andrew's Mission, to be given to victims of the disaster (thanks to Milly Helgeson for helping!).

Since then, the ladies have been back at it, hard at work. They even recruited an unsuspecting man to contribute a stitch (Bobby's talents know no bounds!).

Many thanks to our quilters, whose skill and loving dedication have brought the consolation of Christ to those in need. ♥





Center for  
Pregnancy  
Choices  
Metro Area

Life



Christ Lutheran represented at this year's Life Walk, the Center for Pregnancy Choices' annual pro-life fundraiser! On Saturday morning, April 25<sup>th</sup>, hundreds of Mississippians gathered at Trustmark Park to walk in support of unborn babies, their mothers, and their fathers. Pray for these precious lives, as well as CPC and its work to protect them! ■



it's a  
g@spel  
issue

# Walk



“Because of the generosity, faithfulness, and joy of so many, Life Walk didn’t just meet its goal... it surpassed it.

To every walker, donor, volunteer, and sponsor: thank you. You showed up, you gave sacrificially, and you reminded us what can happen when God’s people come together.

Grateful is an understatement.”

—CPC Metro



Ye shall be

# HOLY

A white dove with its wings spread, flying over the word 'HOLY'. The dove is positioned centrally, with its wings extending across the letters 'O' and 'L'. The background is a soft, out-of-focus image of a person's face, showing the ear and part of the cheek.

*Pastor Fields*



# The Work of the Holy Spirit

The Law of Moses commands the people of God: *'ye shall be holy; for I the Lord your God am holy.'*

But this makes us ask an uncomfortable question, 'how do I become holy?'

Sometimes as Lutherans, we are quick to dismiss the question. We think something like 'well I can't be holy, I'm just a sinner, through and through!' Or we think that Christ will simply be holy *for us*. And we are not entirely wrong in saying so. We are sinful. Christ is our holiness.

Yet we cannot ignore what the Scriptures tell us. *'The Lord shall establish you as a holy people to himself. He will set you forth in praise and honor, high above all nations that he has made, and you shall be a holy nation to the Lord your God, as he has sworn. For you are a holy people of God.'*

It tells us that God will make us into a holy people, a holy nation, set apart for Him. Not only that, but the Bible tells us that we who are baptized are *already* a holy people.

We need not ask at the start, 'how do we make ourselves holy' but rather 'how does God make us a holy people? How has God

made us already a holy people?'

The answer is simple: by the gift of the Holy Spirit, that is, by the indwelling of the holiness of God in us.

When we were baptized, we not only had our sins washed away, but we were united to the death and resurrection of Christ, and being in Christ, we are given the gift of the Spirit, that we might become temples of the living God. God alone is holy, as we confess again and again in the Liturgy, and we can only become holy by sharing in the holiness that is His alone. Therefore, when we receive the Holy Spirit in our baptism, and share in Christ who sends the Spirit through the Sacraments, we are clothed in God's holiness, and born again, as a new race, a new people, a holy people, a holy nation.

Though we may not feel holy, though we may daily sin, and much, yet the Spirit works within us, establishing His holiness within us, and making us holy and presentable to the God of Lights, that we might stand in the judgment, and rejoice before the heavenly throne.

This is the meaning of Pentecost. ■



# STEW POT

## Christmas in July

The holidays always remind us to share God's love with those less fortunate, but those reminders are sparse in summertime. So let's celebrate Christmas in July!

During the month of July, we will be collecting items for the Stewpot Food Pantry at church. As you are able, bring one or two items when you come to church each week; a bin in the narthex will be set up for donations.

Thank you for sharing the love of Christ in our community! ■

### *The Stewpot currently needs ...*

Baked Beans	Canned greens	Canned Chili
Pinto beans	Canned spinach	Canned Ravioli
Sweet peas	Mixed vegetables	Canned fruit
Pork n beans	Tomato paste	Fruit & nut mix
Lima beans	Macaroni & cheese	Stuffing Mix
Red Kidney beans	Canned Spam	Hamburger Helper
Black Eyed peas	Instant potatoes	Chicken Helper
Green beans	Elbow pasta noodles	Canned Salmon
Cream Corn	Canned soups (hearty)	Canned Tuna
Sweet Corn	Cereal	Gravy packets
Oatmeal	Ramen noodles	Condiments/seasoning
Bread	Peanut butter	Sugar (lots)
Crackers	Jelly	Hormel meals
Rice	Canned Beets	Pickle relish
Dry beans	Cranberry Sauce	Cooking oil
Cornmeal	Grits	Butter/Margarine
Boxed Jiffy Mix	Canned sweet potatoes	Cheese
Canned chicken	Canned carrots	

# A Doorkeeper in the House of My God...

## a new *Acolyte*



Westin Ramsey has joined the ranks of acolytes! As he begins catechesis and prepares for confirmation, he also assumes new responsibilities at church. Let us pray for and encourage this young man as he continues to grow in the Faith! ■



# church Council

As we do every May, the congregation met in our semi-annual voters assembly to elect the council members for the year. While the pastor is the spiritual head of the congregation, overseeing all things theological, the council cares for the physical realities of the church—from her finances or upkeep of the property, to her social events or VBS.

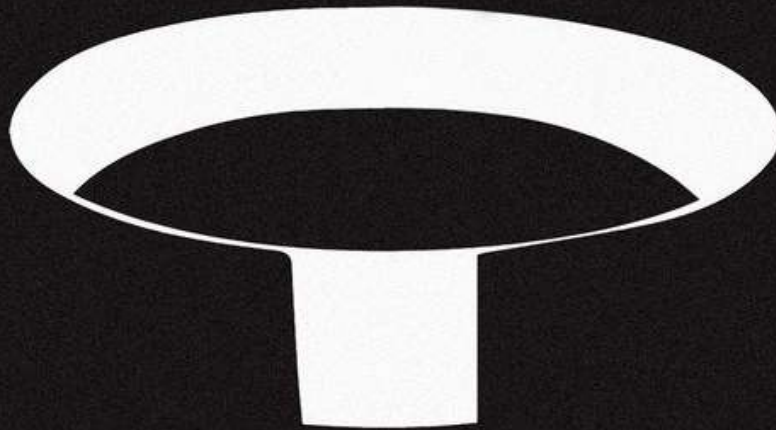
Installed during the Divine Service on June 7<sup>th</sup>, our new council is already hard at work. We are grateful for their faithfulness to the duties entrusted to them, and we shall continue to pray for them as they serve Christ and His Church in our congregation! ■

President: Bob Pedersen  
Vice President: Keith Martin  
Treasurer: Bob Pedersen  
Secretary: Chuck Rubisoff  
Financial Secretary: Lori Held  
Stewardship Chair: Wyatt Coté  
Education Chair: Joshua & Rachel Landrum  
Property Chair: Mark Ochs  
Social Ministry Chair: Michelle Miller  
Evangelism Chair: Glen Hansford  
Elders Chair: Eric Held



COME UNTO ME. ALL YE  
THAT LABOR AND ARE HEAVY  
LADEN. AND I WILL GIVE  
YOU REST. Matthew 11:28





# Pastor's Wish List

Once upon a time, I was told that Pastor Holowach put together a list of things that he wanted for the sake of the Church, to enrich its life of worship and adorn its liturgical life properly. Though such things are not a necessity for the practice of the Christian faith, yet it is right and proper that our Lord not only be praised with words, but be perfumed and washed by the sacrifices of those whom He has *forgiven much*.

Below is a list of things that I would desire to further adorn our Sanctuary and the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. They are of all different costs, for those who are able to contribute different amounts. Nothing below is a demand upon the congregation, nor are any of them of urgent need. Rather they are ways in which, if anyone feels so compelled, to benefit the life of Christ Lutheran, and to furnish this house of worship with the wares it will be vested with into the future.

If you would like to purchase any of them for the Church, please feel free to ask me or Sister Sara for further details. All prices below are approximate, and most items come in a range. ■

New Green Altar Superfrontal (\$950)  
New Green Pulpit Brocade (\$650)  
New Green Veil for the Elements (\$175)  
New Red Altar Superfrontal (\$950)  
New Red Pulpit Brocade (\$650)  
New Red Veil for the Elements (\$175)  
New Blue Altar Superfrontal (\$950)  
New Blue Pulpit Brocade (\$650)  
New Blue Veil for the Elements (\$175)  
New Purple Altar Superfrontal (\$950)  
New Purple Pulpit Brocade (\$650)  
New Purple Veil for the Elements (\$175)

New White Veil for the Elements (\$175)  
New Ciborium for Distributing Communion (\$700)  
New Lavabo Dish (\$30)  
Red Cope Vestments (\$1,000)  
Green Chasuble (\$350)  
Leather Choir Folders for Pastor and Elder (\$50 ea.)  
A Bell to Be Used for Prayer Offices (\$400)  
New Gospel Book Cover (\$700)  
Lectionary Books for the Three Year Cycle (\$55 ea.)  
New Albs for Pastor and Elder (\$300 ea.)  
New Cinctures for Pastor and Elder (\$30 ea.)



# THIS MONTH

*At Christ Lutheran*

**ACTSFW**



## Christ Academy High School 2026

**Date**

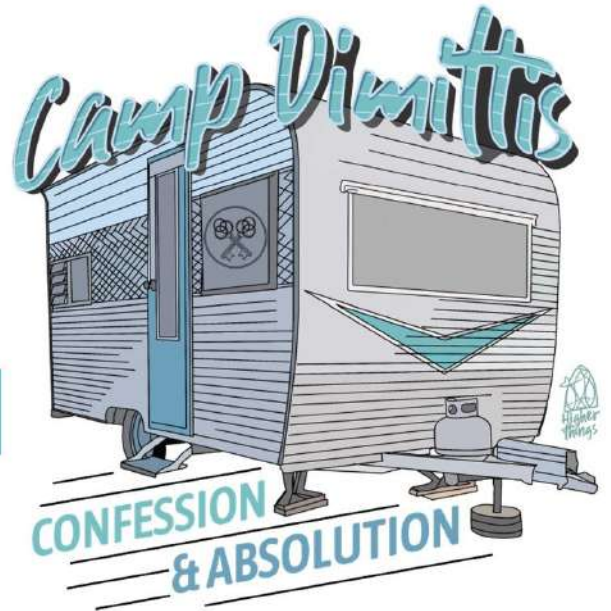
June 14-27, 2026

**VBS 2026!**

**Saturday, June 6**

**9 a.m.—12 p.m.**

**@ Good Shepherd Lutheran  
6035 Hwy. 25, Brandon**



**Christ Lutheran & Good Shepherd**

## Youth Pool Party!

**Date:** June 14  
**Time:** 4-7 p.m.  
**Place:** 130 Victoria Pl.  
Madison, MS 39110  
**RSVP:** The Hansfords  
(314-856-2088)

# CHRIST IS RISEN

1 corinthians 15

**INDEED**

2026 LCMS CONVENTION

Pray for our Synod as she deliberates  
important issues this summer!



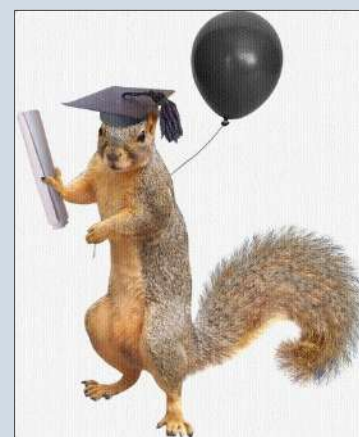
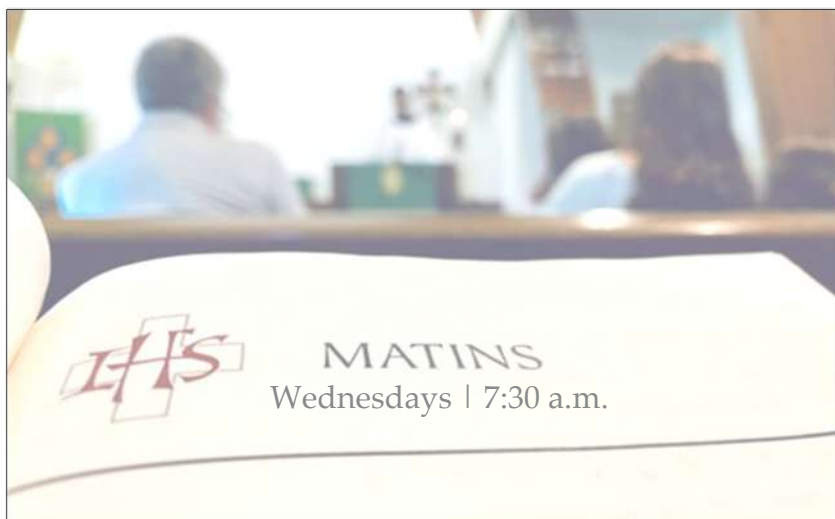
## Saints' Days in June

- 1 St. Justin Martyr, Martyr
- 2 St. Blandina of Lyons, Martyr
- 5 St. Boniface of Mainz, Missionary to the Germans
- 11 St. Barnabas, Apostle
- 12 The Ecumenical Council of Nicaea, AD 325
- 14 St. Elisha, Prophet
- 24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
- 25 Presentation of the Augsburg Confession
- 26 St. Jeremiah, Prophet
- 27 St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop & Confessor
- 28 St. Irenaeus of Lyons, Bishop and Martyr
- 29 Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles



## Saints' Days in July

- 2 The Visitation
- 6 St. Isaiah, Prophet
- 9 St. Ephrem the Syrian, Confessor
- 14 St. Bonaventure, Confessor
- 16 St. Ruth
- 19 St. Macrina
- 20 St. Elijah, Prophet
- 21 St. Ezekiel, Prophet
- 22 St. Mary Magdalene
- 25 St. James the Elder, Apostle
- 28 St. Johann Sebastian Bach, Kantor
- 29 Sts. Mary, Martha, & Lazarus
- 30 St. Robert Barnes, Martyr
- 31 St. Joseph of Arimathea



### Artwork in This Issue:

Cover: *The Incredulity of St. Thomas*, Paolo Moranda Cavazzola, 1520.

Page 4: *The Resurrected Christ Appearing to His Mother*, Theodoor van Thulden, 1660.

Page 10: *The Ascension of the Lord*, Francisco Bayeu, 1769.

Page 16: *Pentecost*, Juan Bautista Maino, 1620-25.



Accepting donations from throughout July  
-dry and canned goods can be left in the bin in the narthex-

# The **Issues, Etc.** **MAKING the CASE** **CONFERENCE**

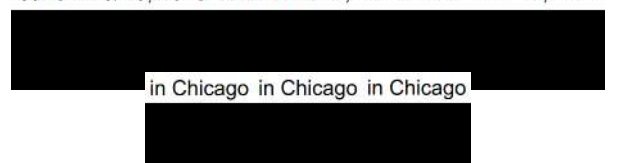
June 12 & 13, 2026 June 12 & 13, 2026 June 12 & 13, 2026



Dr. Ryan Anderson Megan Basham Robert Spencer Erin Hawley



Mollie Hemingway Pr. Matt Harrison Pr. Bryan Wolfmuller Pr. Will Weedon



- Live Broadcasts M-F 3 pm-5 pm CDT
- On-Demand Archives of Past Shows
- Daily Chapel Services
- Download the Lutheran Public Radio App

Listen at [issuesetc.org](https://www.issuesetc.org)

JOIN US FOR  
**BIBLE STUDY**

bible & breaky | fridays @ 6:30 a.m.

**Calling All Quilters!**  
 (And Non-Quilters, too!)

We will be quilting on  
**Wednesday, June 24**  
**Thursday, June 25**  
**at 9:00 a.m.**

Come for a relaxed morning  
 of fellowship.

# June 2026

PRAYER FAMILIES  
and BIRTHDAYS

*Jo Miller*  
1—Celia Weidner  
2—Parker Haines  
5—Beulah Nunney

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Divine Service 12 p.m. Potluck 1:30 p.m. Symposia of the South (Lay Symposium) <i>The Visitation</i>	<b>1</b> 8:30 a.m. Symposia of the South (Clergy Symposium) <i>St. Justin Martyr</i>	<b>2</b> 8:30 a.m. Symposia of the South (Clergy Symposium) <i>St. Blandina of Lyons</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:30 a.m. Bible Study <i>St. Boniface</i> 6:00 p.m. Didache	<b>6</b> VBS @ GSL 9a.m.-12p.m. 

*Elaine Monaghan*  
8—Linda Kirtley  
13—Sabrina Goodlett

<b>PENTECOST II</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Divine Service 11:45 Elders Meeting <i>St. Blandina</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 6:15 p.m. Council Mtg.	<b>10</b> 7:30 a.m. Matins	<b>11</b> <i>St. Barnabas</i>	<b>12</b> 6:30 a.m. Bible Study <i>Ecumenical Council of Nicaea</i>	<b>13</b>
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*Bailey Moore*

<b>PENTECOST III</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Divine Service <i>St. Elisha</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 7:30 a.m. Matins	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:30 a.m. Bible Study	<b>20</b>
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*Bobbie Mutter*  
22—Joan Cowards  
24—Joshua Landrum  
26—Parker Ramsey

<b>PENTECOST IV</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Divine Service	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:30 a.m. Matins 9:00 a.m. Quilting <i>Nativity of St. John the Baptist</i>	<b>25</b> 9:00 a.m. Quilting <i>Presentation of the Augsburg Confession</i>	<b>26</b> 6:30 a.m. Bible Study <i>St. Jeremiah</i>	<b>27</b> <i>St. Cyril of Alexandria</i>
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*Nelson Family*  
2—Rivers Kettler

<b>PENTECOST V</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Divine Service 5:00 p.m. Communio <i>St. Irenaeus</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <i>Ss. Peter and Paul</i>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> 7:30 a.m. Matins	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6:30 a.m. Bible Study	<b>4</b>
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**Serving this month:**  
 Elder—Keith Martin  
 Ushers—Bruce Bodkin, Mark Ochs