

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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www.christlutheranlewisburg.org



*The Father will give you another Advocate,
to be with you forever, the Spirit of Truth.*

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
May 14, 2023 ✠ 8:00 & 10:30 AM
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Ministers: ALL People of Christ's Church
Interim Pastor: The Rev. Justin Lingenfelter
Preaching/Presiding: Mr. Chad Hershberger
Organist/Choir Director: Joanne Vasey
Coordinator of Faith Formation: Charlene Rineer



Welcome to all who share in worship this morning!

If you are new to us the following information might be helpful:

Rest room facilities, including a unisex handicapped restroom, are located in the hallway south of the Atrium. **Large print bulletins and hearing enhancement devices** are available during our services. Please ask an Usher for assistance. **Our services** are video and audio recorded. Services are also live streamed on our YouTube channel.

All visitors and guests are welcome! We invite you to join us throughout the year. We gather each Sunday for worship at 8:00 am and 10:30 am. Sunday School classes begin at 9:15 am. We hope that you might experience the joy and peace that Jesus Christ can bring into your life! If you are interested in learning more about membership in our congregation please speak to the Pastor or call the Church Office (570.524.0745). Please sign your name and address in our worship attendance folder in order to be placed on our mailing list. Any special requests (prayers, visits, etc.) may be written on the back of these sheets. **Members are encouraged to record your name on the attendance sheets each week.** Extra offering envelopes can be found in the attendance folder. **Wooden offering boxes for contributions are located at the rear of the Sanctuary on the left and right walls and the back of the center aisle.**

If you are new to Lutheran worship, most everything you need is printed in this bulletin. Hymns are found in the back section of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or in the blue *With One Voice* (WOV) hymnals.

Introduction to our worship today:

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

* The congregation please stand as you are able.
Please silence your cell phones or switch them to 'vibrate'.
Thank you!

PRELUDE

*Two Settings of NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
(Now Thank We All Our God)*

Stanley Saxton & Georg Friedrich Kaufmann
Joanne Vasey, organ

I Will Not Leave You Comfortless

Text: John 14: 18-19 Music: Carlton Young

Thy Holy Wings

Swedish folk tune; Arr. John Ferguson
Brandy Aguirre, vocals Joanne Vasey, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT (10:30 am only)

Jesus Is My Friend Today

Words: Shanna Clarke Tune: Traditional
Children & Family Choir

* THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

C Amen.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

P In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

P Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

C Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

P Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

C Amen.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

We Know that Christ Is Raised – ELW # 449

*** GREETING**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

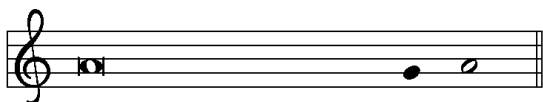
C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*** KYRIE**

ELW p. 147-148



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



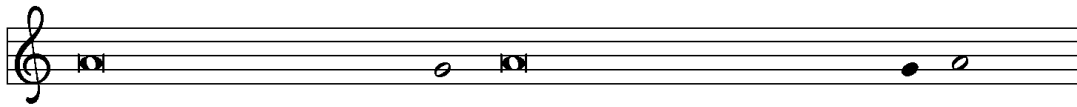
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



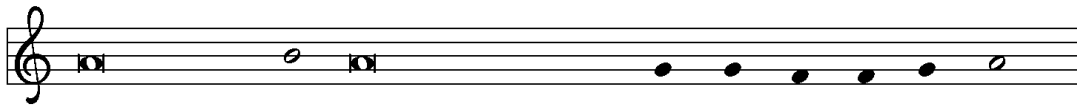
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.

* HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW pp. 149-150

Assisting minister



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

All



1 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.



2 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.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

* SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 17:22~31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 3:13~22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 151



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



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

* THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:15~21

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O God.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Mr. Chad Hershberger

* CONGREGATIONAL VISION

- A In the Great Commission to His Church Jesus sent the disciples forth into the world to baptize and to make His name and teachings known. We are His disciples in this time and this place; and so we go into the world;
- C Making Christ known as we worship, serve and grow in faith.

* THE NICENE CREED

- P Living together in trust and hope with believers around the world, we confess our common faith:

- C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Hear us, O God. **Congregational Response: Your mercy is great.**

P Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C Amen.

* SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

(Worshippers are encouraged to share the greeting "Peace be with you" with one another.)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

This Is My Commandment

Text: John 15: 11-12 Music: Anonymous
Youth Drumming Ensemble

(Wooden offering boxes for contributions are located at the rear of the Sanctuary on the left and right walls and the back of the center aisle.)

* DOXOLOGY *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* – Hymn #367
Stanza 4

Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing:

"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"

**Be to the Father, and our Lord, to Spirit blessed, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p. 152

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

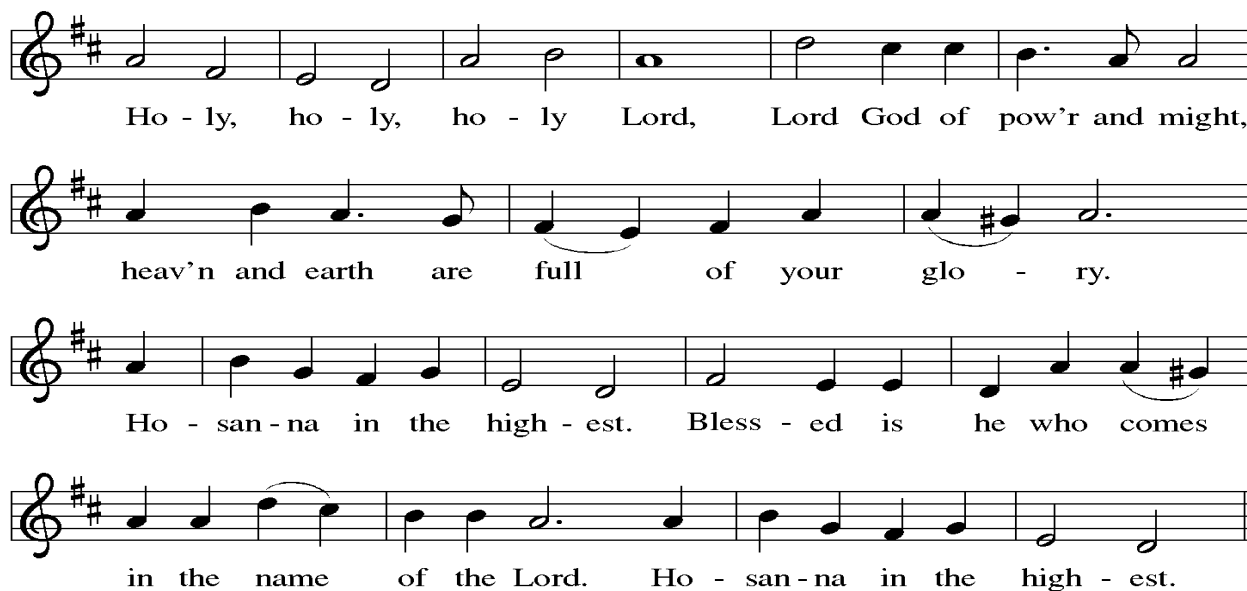
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

* SANCTUS

ELW p. 153



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.

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which He was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is My body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of Me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

*This cup is the new covenant in My blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of Me.*

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

C Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

ELW p. 154



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.

The Communion of God's Baptized People

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we practice Eucharistic hospitality: all baptized Christians are invited to come forward as ushered to receive this life-giving sacrament. As a sign of the unity the sacrament gives, we all share the same elements. If you are unable to receive the bread or wine, be assured that in a single element you do receive the Presence of Christ and all the gifts this sacrament offers. Non-communing children are invited to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Christians, Let Us Love One Another

Words: Sr. Claudia Foltz & Armand Nigro Tune: PICARDY

Keyboard arr. by Randall DeBruyn

Brandy Aguirre, vocalist

COMMUNION HYMN

Loving Spirit – ELW # 397

* POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C Amen.

* POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

* BENEDICTION

P The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C Amen.

* SENDING HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God – ELW # 840

* DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

C Thanks be to God.

* **POSTLUDE**

A Trumpet Tune – James Denton
Joanne Vasey, organ



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THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Bill & Julie Borys, in celebration of all mothers.

THE CROSS FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Lori Moyer, in celebration of Ronnie's graduation from Gettysburg College.

COFFEE HOURS this morning are hosted by the Evangelism Committee.

THANKS to Rev. Dale Biesecker for his assistance with communion.

THANKS to the Children & Family Choir, Youth Drumming Ensemble and Brandy Aguirre for providing today's anthems for worship.

Choir/Ensemble Update

CHILDREN & FAMILY CHOIR: Thanks for providing today's introit for 10:30 am worship. Today concludes the season till fall. Contact Brandy Aguirre.

YOUTH DRUMMING/ORFF ENSEMBLE: Thanks for providing today's offertory anthem. Today concludes the season till fall. Contact Brandy Aguirre.

POP-UP VOCAL ENSEMBLE: Will provide the communion anthem next Sunday, May 21. Anthem will be "Bind Us Together" WOV (blue hymnal) # 748. All interested singers are welcome! Contact Brandy Aguirre.

PARISH PEAL HANDBELL/HANDCHIME CHOIR: Will provide anthems on the Day of Pentecost ~ Sunday, May 28. Rehearsals will be Monday evenings, May 15 and May 22 at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary. Contact Joanne Vasey.

SPECIAL MUSIC: Anyone wishing to provide anthems for worship is asked to contact Joanne Vasey. Anthems may be instrumental or vocal. Chose 8:00 am and/or 10:30 am worship.

CELC CALENDAR MAY 14~21, 2023

Sunday, May 14 6 EASTER MOTHERS' DAY Chad Hershberger is preaching	8:00 am Holy Communion 9:15 am Kunkel/Finance 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Communion 1:00 pm –4:00 pm SVSWG - LCH/Room 202
Monday, May 15 DEADLINE FOR GERANIUM ORDERS	6:00 pm –9:00 pm Transitions Meeting-Parlor 7:00 pm –8:00 pm Al-Anon-YR 7:30 pm Parish Peal Handbell/Handchime Choir - Sanctuary
Tuesday, May 16	
Wednesday, May 17	9:00 am Holy Sew 'N' Sews-LCH
Thursday, May 18	7:00 pm COUNCIL MEETING
Friday, May 19	12:30 pm –2:30 pm Transitions - LCH
Saturday, May 20	8:00 am –1:00 pm Camp Mt. Luther Annual Spring Workday
Sunday, May 21 7 EASTER Tom Booth is preaching	8:00 am Holy Communion 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Communion 12:00 pm –2:00 pm Youth Year End Picnic-LCH 5:30 pm UYG- St. Paul's

ATTENDANCE: May 7: 8:00 am: 45 / 10:30 am: 62

Not Orphaned

“I will not leave you orphaned,” Jesus promises us in today’s gospel. God is not some ruthless heavenly spectator judging us as on reality television, relishing our failures, wishing to exchange us for a better or more attractive child, no curmudgeonly “Daddy Warbucks” in the sky. Rather, God comes to love us in Jesus, singularly loving and accepting, seeking our trust, promising to be ever-present with us in the Holy Spirit. This Holy Advocate moves us even when we don’t recognize its power, even when it seems “an unknown God” (Acts 17:23). Though we might battle an elemental loneliness, we have not been abandoned.



Many life experiences can leave us feeling orphaned or abandoned. Family can ease that feeling but also magnify it if our family relationships are strained or if our families live far away. Think of those in your congregation who count deployed soldiers among their loved ones in recent years, or construction workers and tradesmen who need to live in hotels far away from their families to keep making money for their families in the recent difficult economy. The Internet, webcams, Skype, and social networking can link people across the miles but can further aggravate loneliness and isolation when these substitute for real intimacy in our highly connected world. How do we experience this loneliness and this longing for home and belonging? How does Jesus’ promise that he will not leave us orphaned speak to these real-life concerns?

When Jesus makes this string of promises in John 14, saying that he will remain with us in the Holy Spirit as our Advocate, it’s hard to envision how this support comes to us sometimes. When we do not get to see or hear those we love, the simple gifts Jesus offers in body and blood, bread and wine shared with real warm neighbors have great power. Even when life keeps delivering bad news about how far apart we are from another, how broken our relationships are, “I will not leave you orphaned” is the godly reassurance that we are not alone.

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