

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
875 Sunflower Drive ~ DuBois, PA 15801
(814) 371-2470

Rev. John Miller, Pastor
Rev. Amy Godshall-Miller, Pastor
Nikki Dombroski, Family Ministry Coordinator

5th Sunday of Easter ~ April 28, 2024 ~ 9:45 a.m.

THE SERVICE

BOLD lettering indicates a spoken response

Prelude

Announcements

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your

Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen

Rising Generation

CCLI 1763436

Refrain




We are God's cho - sen ho - ly na - tion, we be - long to Him a - lone




and may this ri - sing gen - er - a - tion wor - ship Christ u - pon His



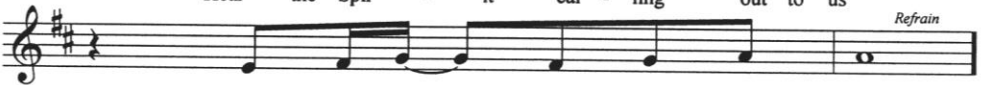
throne, wor - ship Christ u - pon His throne.



1. We be - lieve in God the Fa - ther, and in Christ, His pre - cious Son.
2. We be - lieve He sends His Spir - it on us now with gifts of power



We be - lieve He died to save us,
Hear the Spir - it cal - ling out to us



came to call us as His own.
where He leads us we will go.

Refrain

Greeting:

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.

P: Christ is Risen.

C: He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

C: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

P: This is the day of the Lord's victory.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P: Christ is Risen.

C: He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!

Opening Song – As the deer

CCLI 1763436

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield;
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

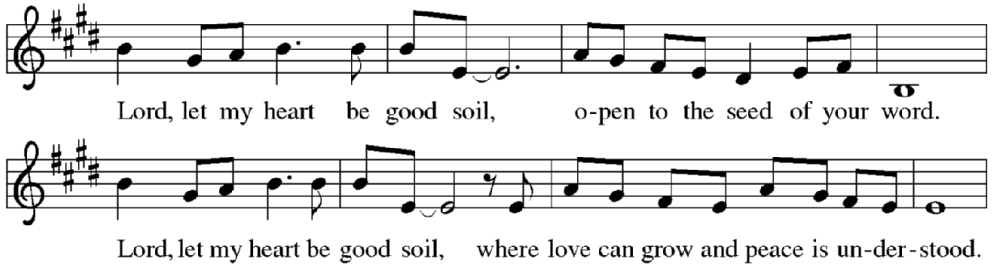
Prayer of the Day

P: O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

WORD OF GOD

Scripture Readings



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

First Lesson: Acts 8:26-40

The Spirit leads Philip to an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him.

A: The First Lesson is from the 8th chapter of Acts.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others.

A: The Second Lesson is from the 4th chapter of 1 John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God

abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Gospel: John 15:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter.



Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -



- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -



lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

[Jesus said:] ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

~ Pastor Amy

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Song – Lead me, guide me

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Refrain: Lead me, guide me, along the way;
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

I am weak and I need thy strength and pow’r
To help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting all my trust in thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without thy light to see.
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

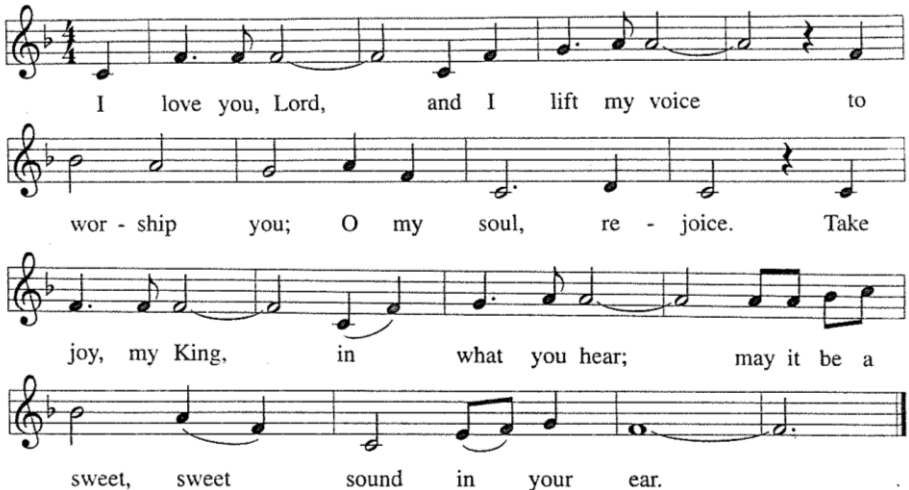
On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.



I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to
wor - ship you; O my soul, re - joice. Take
joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a
sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P: . . . Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: +Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to
wor - ship you; O my soul, re - joice. Take
joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a
sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

Offertory - As the grains of wheat

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Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat - tered on the hill were
gath - ered in - to one, were gath - ered in - to one to be -
come our bread; so may all your peo - ple from the
ends of the earth be gath - ered in - to one in you.

Offertory Prayer

P: Living God,

C: in Christ's resurrection you raised up new life for the world. Receive what we offer, that others might know that life through the gifts you give us, to use and to share. Amen

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Prayer

P: Come, all you beloved of the Lord, come and eat the food that He gives freely. Be filled again with the goodness of God.

C: Lord God, giver of all good things, we hear Your invitation, we see Your gifts of life and grace.

P: Come to the table of the Lord.

C: We come with our wounds and faults ready to eat and to drink. Our hearts are glad.

Words of Institution

P: Yes, dear Lord our God, our hearts are truly glad.

We are filled with thankfulness, because in Your great love You did not abandon us to sin and death, but in Jesus, You came to us, to rescue us, to restore us, and to give us new life.

We remember the way that Jesus showed us this love:

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is 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: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!

C: **Happy are those who are called to His Supper.**

One bread, one body

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Refrain

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

The Meal

Please receive the bread and wine as the pastor speaks the words:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: "Amen."

MUSIC AS WE SHARE COMMUNION

You are my hiding place

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You are my hiding place;
you always fill my heart with songs of deliverance.
Whenever I am afraid I will trust in you, I will trust in you.
Let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of the Lord,
I will trust in you."

This is the day

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This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

Post Communion Canticle – You're Worthy of My Praise CCLI 1763436

I will wor - ship with all of my heart.

I will praise You with all of my strength.

I will seek You all of my days.

I will fol - low all of Your ways.

I will give You all my wor - ship I will give You

all my praise. You a - lone I long to wor - ship.

You a - lone are wor - thy. of my praise.

Prayer

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen

SENDING

Blessing

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: Amen**

Closing Song – Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!

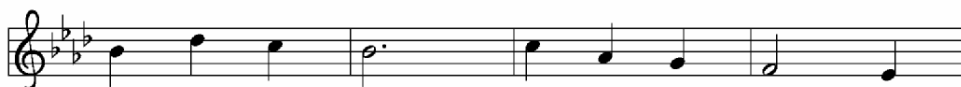
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1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry;
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the risen Christ.

C: Thanks be to God

Postlude

OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Today

8:30-Traditional Worship

9:45-Contemporary Worship

10:45-Sr. High outdoor service project & pizza lunch

11:00-Traditional Worship

Monday-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

Tuesday-2:00-Bible Study

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/Vocal

Thursday-6:30-Traditional Choir Practice

FUTURE MINISTRIES

Sun-May 5-9:45-Sunday School

Mon-May 6-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

Tues-May 7-2:00-Bible Study

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/Vocal

Thurs-May 9-6:30-Traditional Choir Practice

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Next Sunday's Gospel: John 15:9-17

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Attendance last week: Sunday Worship: 8:30-49; 9:45-93; 11:00-41; SCS-14

The flowers in the chancel vases have been presented to the Glory of the Risen Lord and in loving memory of Randy Spaid on his heavenly birthday by Kim Clyde.

Senior High Youth Outdoor Service Project & Pizza Lunch! TODAY after worship at the 9:45 service 'til noon. Don't miss the good food, good friends and an outdoor service activity.

It's time to officially sign-up for the Summer 2024 Youth and Adult MISSION TRIP: "WE ARE HIS HANDS!" at the North American Lutheran Church National Disaster Response Warehouse and Retreat Center in Caldwell, Ohio. The trip is Sunday afternoon, June 16 through Wednesday evening, June 19. See the article in the April *Chatter* for more information. Fill out a registration form available in the narthex or from Pastor Amy. Contact her with any questions. Deadline to sign up is **TODAY!**

Now's the time to sign up for one of the In-Tents Lutheran Summer Church Camps, *Monday, July 8 – Friday, July 12* for current 7th through 12th graders OR *Monday, July 15 – Wednesday, July 17* for current 4th through 6th graders. The camp is at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Hooversville, PA. Registration forms and more information are available now from Pastor Amy or in the Sunday School area.

The May Worship Assistant Schedule is available in the narthex.

Easter Season Devotions are available in the narthex and can be downloaded from our website.

Mission of the Month: YMCA programs lay the groundwork for healthy futures. They are committed to providing their programs and services to anyone who would like to use them. Gifts to the Strong Kids Campaign are used to provide assistance to those in our community experiencing financial difficulty. If you would like to contribute, please use a pew envelope and write "*Strong Kids*" in the "other" line. Checks may be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church. Thank you.

Food Pantry Items for April are JELLY and/or SALTINE CRACKERS; items for May are BLACK GROUND PEPPER and/or GARLIC POWDER.