

Fourth Sunday of Easter May 8, 2022 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

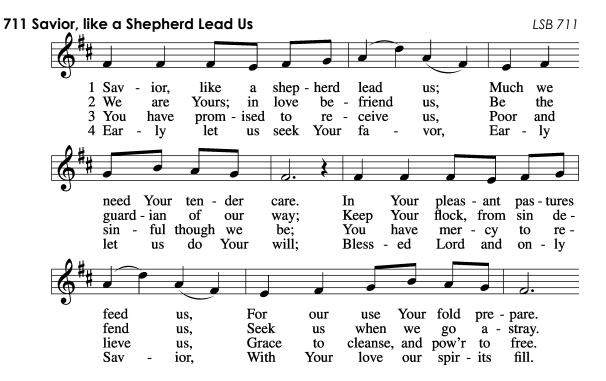


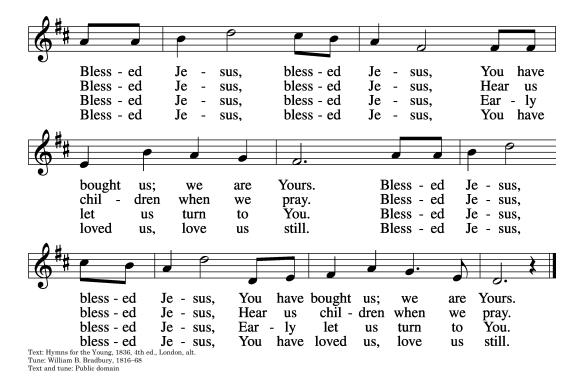
Christ Lutheran Church 3509 SW Burlingame Rd. Topeka, KS 66611 785-266-6263 www.christlcms.org Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor Amanda Adams, DCE Chris Francik, TLS Principal



As we gather, please take time to fill out the fellowship pad located near the center aisle in your pew. If you have any prayer requests, feel free to use a prayer request card from the pew rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate after the sermon. (For those joining us online, please contact the church office.) We will include these requests in our prayers during worship, and share them with our prayer chain (if desired).

Welcome and Opening Prayer





Stand

Divine Service Setting Four, page 203

+ Confession and Absolution +

Confession, to confess to God our sins and sinful nature. Absolution, "To absolve of sin and wrongdoing," more specifically, to affirm God's forgiveness to all who sincerely confess their sins to Him.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the

 → Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13 203

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **B**ut with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Absolution [John 20:19–23] LSB 203

- 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

Psalm 78:70–72; 79:13; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

- **P** I am the good shepherd.
- I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.
- P 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 inheritance.
- P With upright heart he shepherded them
- and guided them with his skillful hand.
- P But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever:
- from generation to generation we will recount your praise. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- **P** 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 10:47 204

A Greek phrase meaning, "Lord, have mercy!" A brief prayer not only imploring God's mercy but rejoicing in it through Jesus Christ.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.







2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;

3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!

O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.

For - ev - er and for - ev - er. Be wor-shiped and a - dored:



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.

Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

"Salutation" is a word from Latin meaning, "to salute" or "to greet." "Collect" (KAH-lekt), a brief structured prayer, usually consisting of five parts: address to God, basis for the prayer, petition, desired benefit or result, and trinitarian conclusion. The Collect of the Day also "collects" the message of the day's Gospel reading.

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **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.

C Amen.

Sit

First Reading Acts 20:17–35

A The First Reading is from Acts, chapter 20.

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And 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, ¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews: ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there. ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But 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. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay 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. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And 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. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In 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.

EpistleRevelation 7:9–17

A The Epistle is from Revelation, chapter 7.

⁹After 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, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And 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, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I 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.

15"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.
16They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.
17For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,

¹⁷For 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.

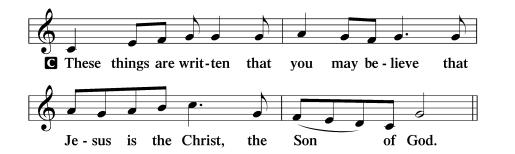
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Alleluia and Verse



Verse John 20:31 LSB 205



Alleluia 205



Holy Gospel John 10:22–30

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So 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." ²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My 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. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Creed comes from the Latin "credo" which means "I believe." We confess our Christian faith in one of the three creeds (short statement of belief) agreed upon by the ancient church.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Sit

Children's Message

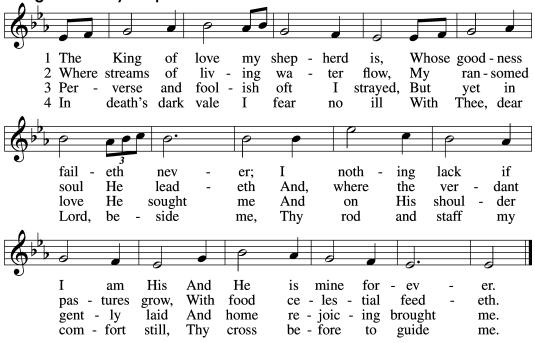
Matthew 19:14; Mark 13:13-15; Luke 18:16

Children are invited to join Amanda Adams, our Director of Christian Education, at the front of the sanctuary for the Children's Message.









5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth; And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth! 6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77 Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon



Offering

If you brought your gift, tithe, or offering with you today, you may place it in the offering plate as it passes. We also have multiple options for electronic giving. You can sign up for online giving through Vanco at bit.ly/GivingChristLCMS for a one-time or recurring gift. You may also download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app and search for Christ Lutheran Church in Topeka, KS. Direct links and additional information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).



For those joining us remotely, you may use the electronic giving methods listed above, or you may mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).

Stand

Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4

At the end of each petition, the pastor will say, "Lord, in Your mercy," to which the congregation will respond, "Hear our prayer."

- ...through Jesus Christ, Your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 208

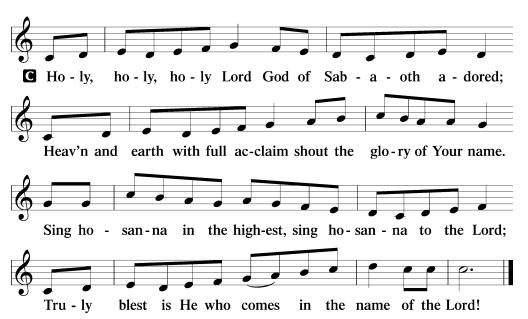
- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him

our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore 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 21:9 208

(SAHNK-toose), "Sanctus" is Latin for "holy".



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

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

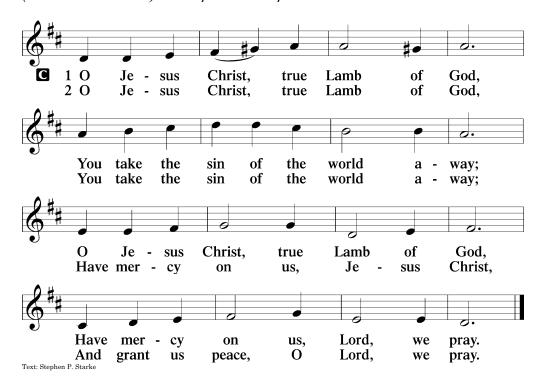
(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Agnus Dei John 1:29 LSB 210

(AHG-noose DAY-ee). Latin for "Lamb of God."

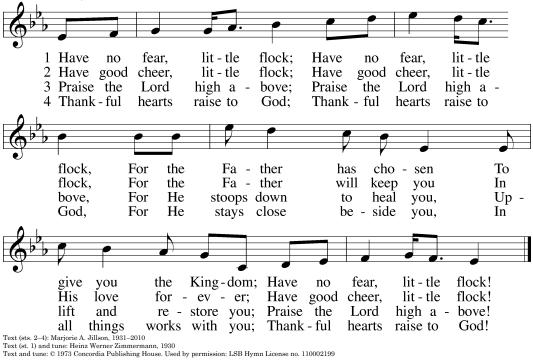


Sit

Distribution

Communion is reserved for those who are members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or members of a church body in fellowship with the LCMS unless special arrangements have been made with the pastor. The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. Then they will distribute it to those who cannot come up to the altar rail due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to go to the altar rail. The congregation will be ushered down the middle aisle to go up to the rail and when dismissed from there will use the side aisle to return to their seats. All are invited up to receive a blessing.

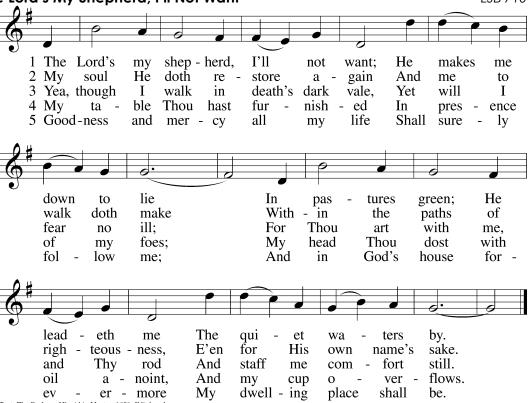




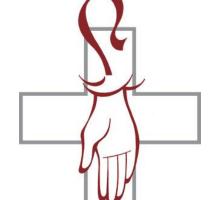


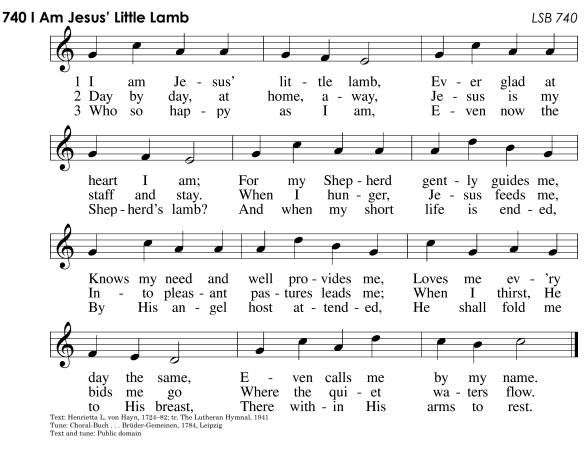


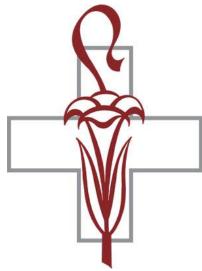
LSB 710



Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, 1650, Edinburgh Tune: William Gardiner, 1770-1853 Text and tune: Public domain









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Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt.; Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87; Text and tune: Public domain
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Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32 LSB 211

(NUNK dih-MIH-tuss). Latin for "now [let your servant] depart," from the Song of Simeon.



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

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 in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benedicamus Psalm 103:1 LSB 212

(beh-neh-dih-KAH-moose), Latin for "bless we [the Lord]." We give thanks to God for everything He has done for us in Jesus Christ.

- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

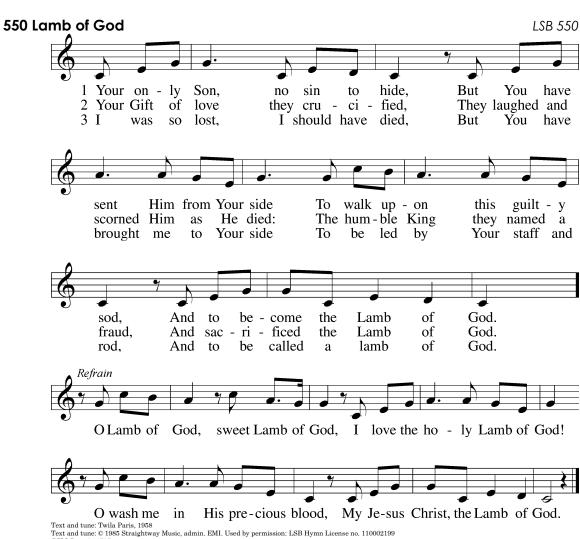
A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.

- 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.

Sit





CCLI Song # 16787

Twila Paris

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Acknowledgments

-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday		Worship Service w/ Communion	
May 8th		Sunday School (children & adults) New Pastor Installation at Immanuel Lutheran	
		(Lawrence, KS) Mother's Day	
		Moner's Day	
Monday May 9th			
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting	
May 10th	7:00 pm	LWML Meeting	
Wednesday	5:30 pm	WWF	
May 11th	·	Meet & Greet w/ Mr. Johnson at TLS	
	7:00 pm	Pastor's Bible Class (New Night!)	
Thursday	2:00 pm	Chair Aerobics	
May 12th			
Friday			
May 13th			
Saturday	9:30 am	Women's Monthly Bible Study (at Carol's home)	
May 14th	10:00 am	Men's Bible Study (Zoom)	
Sunday	8:00 & 10:30 am	Worship Service w/ Communion	
May 15th	9:15 am	Sunday School (children & adults)	
		Graduates Sunday	

Celebrating

Birthdays: Maelyn F., Jerry S. (9th); Yancy A., Emily B., Myrick F. (10th); Nola J., Bob T. (11th); Travis B., Nikolai H. (13th); Nancy P., Miguel S. (14th)

Baptism Birthdays: Jerry M., Isaac R. (8th); Dick H. (9th); Denny J. (12th); Betty H.,

Genevieve W. (13th); Kelly L. (14th) **Anniversaries:** Lewis & Jennifer B. (8th)

-- Announcements --

Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Journey through Genesis with Pastor Ben – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym) God's Word for Today: Ephesians – Basement A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Pastor's Office

Children/Youth Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Children (Pre-K through 6^{th} grade) — Upstairs Education Wing Youth (7^{th} - 12^{th} grades) — Basement Youth Room

Pastor's Midweek Bible Study - NOW MEETING ON WEDNESDAYS

The Book of Daniel - Wednesdays at 7 PM - Basement

Changes to Online Giving

We are beginning the process of switching our online giving platform from PushPay to Vanco. This is a very positive change for us because not only will it save the congregation money in processing fees, but it will also be easier for our staff, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer who log all of the information behind the scenes.

If you currently have a scheduled recurring gift, tithe, or offering through PushPay, please switch that to the Vanco platform by May 31st.

To make your donation through Vanco, please visit **bit.ly/GivingChristLCMS** or download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app and search for Christ Lutheran Church (make sure it's the one in Topeka, KS).

For more information about this change, please visit our website at **christlems.org/giving** or contact the church office.

Class of 2022 – High School AND College

Calling all Christ families with high school and college seniors! Please submit names of students who will be graduating this year to the church office. We would like to recognize them and present them with a gift during worship on Sunday, May 15th.

Women's Monthly Bible Study

Please note that we will be meeting at Carol J.'s home for our study on May 14th (instead of at Mary's as previously decided).

Red Cross Blood Drive

You can donate blood right here at Christ on Friday, May 27th. To make your life-saving appointment call 800-RED-CROSS or visit www.redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: TopekaCLC).

-- Announcements --

Easter Lilies

If you ordered an Easter Lily for the sanctuary, today is the LAST DAY to bring it home with you! The Altar Guild thanks you for your continued support.

Vacation Bible School

Join us the week of June 13th through 17th from 9 AM to noon. At Rainforest Explorers VBS, your children will look into the Bible, God's Holy Word, and discover that Jesus leads the way to the treasure of eternal life with him! Registration is now open through our website (christlcms.org/vbs).

New Pastor Installation in Lawrence

Pastor Wehling will be installed at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lawrence this afternoon at 2:30 PM. We give thanks to Christ our Savior as He continues to care for His flock here in Kansas!

Schaefer Scholarship

The Margaret Schaefer Scholarship was created to assist Christ Lutheran Church families who show a need and request additional support, beyond the annual budgeted TLS subsidy, in sending their child/children to Topeka Lutheran School. To donate to this scholarship fund, please specify "Schaefer Scholarship" on your envelope, check, or online gift.

Scholarship applications will be accepted on our website (christlcms.org/schaefer) through May 31, 2022.

New Principal Meet & Greet

Mr. Kyle Johnson, the next executive director and principal of TLS, will be at TLS on Wednesday, May 11th beginning at 6 PM to introduce himself and meet with parents. You are invited to attend this meeting in order to have the opportunity to meet and spend some time hearing from Mr. Johnson regarding next school year.

TLS Graduation

Graduation for Topeka Lutheran School will be held on Thursday, May 19th at 7 PM here at Christ. All are invited to celebrate these young people and their achievements!

New Staff Installation for TLS

The Installation Service for Principal Kyle Johnson and kindergarten teacher Cristy Balch will be on Sunday, June 5th at 2:00 PM at Faith Lutheran Church. Everyone is invited to attend as we welcome them to the staff of Topeka Lutheran School.

-- Announcements --

Pray for TLS

Take one of the purple paw print magnets from the back of the sanctuary. Whenever you see it, use it as a reminder to pray for Topeka Lutheran School!

Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Don L., Jerry M., Jean (Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Kathy (Brenda Z.'s sister-in-law), Shirley (Frank J.'s grandmother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Ella (Marsha S.'s granddaughter), Lisa (Judy K.'s sister), Randy (Carol J.'s son), Vikki N., Matt N., Lynn M., Virginia C., Evelyn (mother of Sandy S.), Ted M., Carolyn S., Jen (Donna B.'s niece), Janene (Bessie T.'s cousin), Jeff (Bessie T.'s friend's brother), Glenna L., Craig (Larry R.'s brother), Barbara K., Dick H., Dave C., Mary D., Josie H., and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, Chelsea Irwin and missionaries around the world. We pray especially for those around the world being persecuted for their faith in the one, true God and the suffering they endure. Please continue to pray for Pastor Ben, DCE Amanda, our staff and their families as they do our Lord's work here at Christ Lutheran. We pray for the staff and students of Topeka Lutheran School and the Center for Young Children. We also pray for those who serve in the armed forces, first responders, and for our country and government. Prayers of thanksgiving for our Lord and Savior and the new life we have in Him.



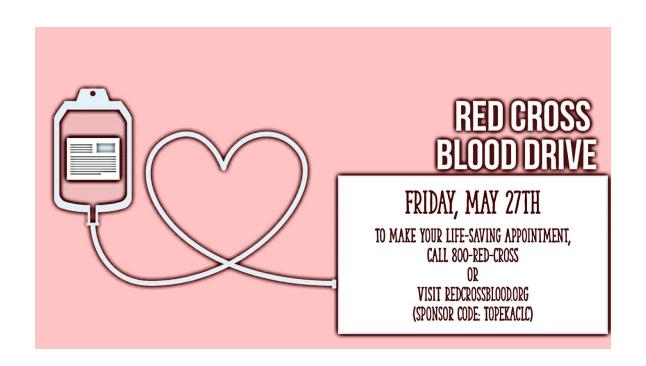
Schaefer Scholarship

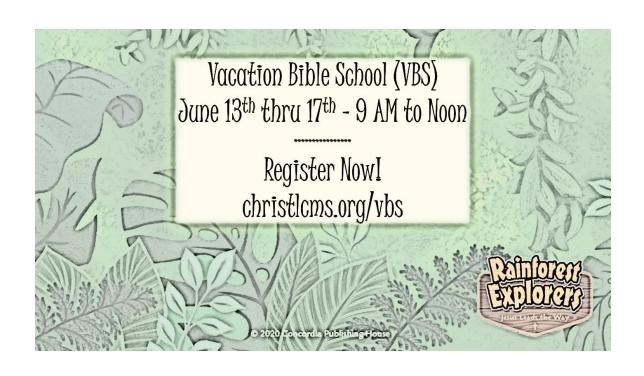
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Donate now!

To donate to this scholarship fund, please specify "Schaefer Scholarship" on your envelope, check, or online aift.

Scholarship applications will be accepted from May 1 through May 31, 2022.





Support Ukrainians

Consider giving to LCMS Mission Advancement or Mission Central to provide aid and assistance to those displaced by the war in Ukraine.



GIVE BY PHONE

LCMS Donor Central: 888-930-4438

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Mission Central 40718 Highway E 16 Mapleton, IA 51034 MEMO: "Help for Displaced Ukrainians"

The Good Shepherd Cares for His Sheep

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came from the Father and became flesh among us in order to rescue us, His sheep. He laid down His life for us and took it up again in order to give us eternal life. By the preaching of His Gospel, He calls His sheep to Himself and keeps them with Him forever. As they hear His voice and follow Him, "they will never perish" (John 10:28), for "no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand" (John 10:29). In the same way, faithful pastors (literally, "shepherds") "care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood" (Acts 20:28), "testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21). Therefore, with all the company of heaven, the Good Shepherd gathers His flock in worship, as they cry: "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (Rev. 7:10).

Worship Attendance - Sunday, May 1st

8:00 AM -- 81 10:30 AM -- 123

Stewardship Corner

Budgeted Weekly Needs:	\$ $8,\!337$
Offerings Received – Week of 5/1	\$ 7,626
Budgeted Needs (Jan-Apr 2022)	\$ 144,512
Offerings Received (Jan-Apr 2022)	144,328

John 10:27 – "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." On their own sheep are in great danger. They need a shepherd to guide them. The sheep know the Shepherd's voice, and we delight to go where He leads. Of course, the world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh want to pull us in another direction. Namely, they want to pull us in the direction of death. But following the Shepherd means life. So, no

matter how difficult the path is, let us follow the Shepherd!