## IF YOU LOVE ME,

## YOU WILL KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS.

John 14:15



Sixth Sunday of Easter May 14, 2023 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



## As We Gather

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



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).

## Holy Communion

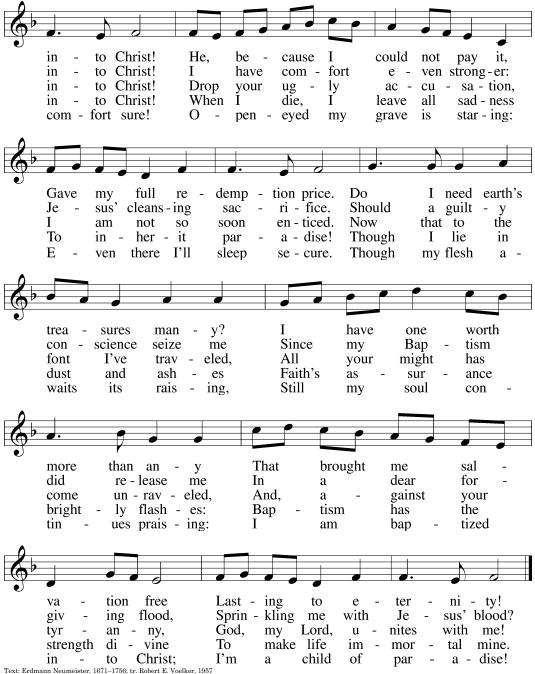
The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

## Welcome and Opening Prayer





Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957 Tune: Johann Caspar Bachofen, 1695–1755, alt.
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#### 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 + Son 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?
- **G** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- ▶ 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**

LSB 203

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

## Absolution

[John 20:19–23] LSB 203

P 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.



Amen.

### Service of the Word

#### Introit

- **P** Your word is a lamp to my feet
- **C** and a light to my path.
- P Forever, O LORD, your word
- **C** is firmly fixed in the heavens.
- P Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
- **G** you have established the earth, and it stands fast.
- **P** By your appointment they stand this day,
- **C** for all things are your servants.
- **P** If your law had not been my delight,
- **C** I would have perished in my affliction.
- **P** I will never forget your precepts,
- **C** for by them you have given me life. 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** Your word is a lamp to my feet
- **C** and a light to my path.

## Kyrie

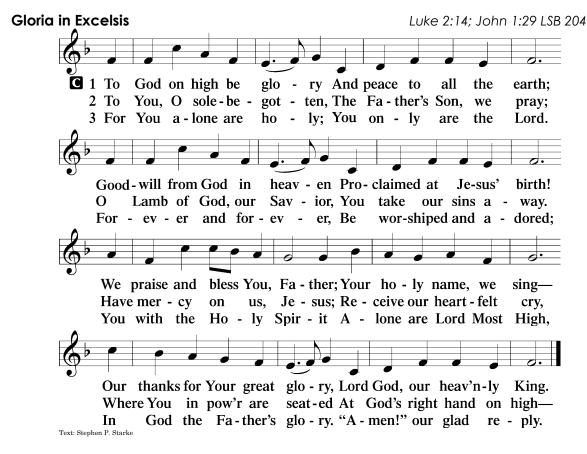
Mark 10:47 204

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.





### 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.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Amen.

Sit

**A** The First Reading is from Acts, chapter 17.

<sup>16</sup>While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup>So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup>Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbler wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup>And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup>For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." <sup>21</sup>Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup>So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, "To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup>And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, <sup>27</sup>that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup>for

"In him we live and move and have our being';

as even some of your own poets have said,

"For we are indeed his offspring."

<sup>29</sup>Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup>The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**A** The Epistle is from 1 Peter, chapter 3.

<sup>13</sup>Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

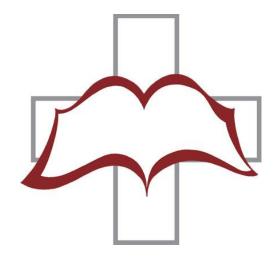
<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup>Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

A

This is the Word of the Lord.

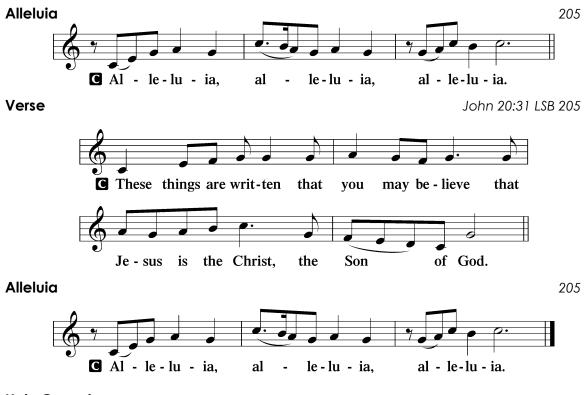
**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand



### Epistle

#### Alleluia and Verse



#### Holy Gospel

John 14:15-21

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

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup>even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

**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.

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

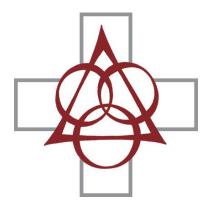
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate. was crucified. died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the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

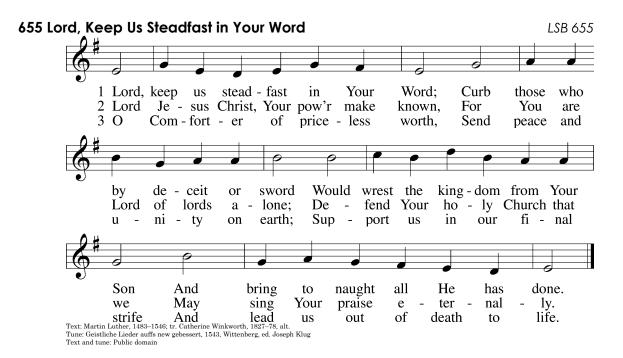
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins. the resurrection of the body. and the life + everlasting. Amen.

#### Sit

### Children's Messaae

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.





#### 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."** 

**P** ...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

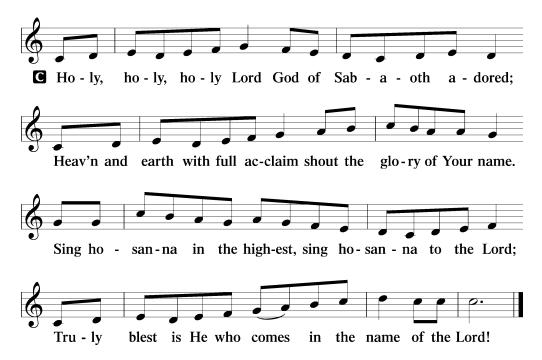
## Preface

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:



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



## Prayer of Thanksgiving

▶ 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

 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

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

### Pax Domini

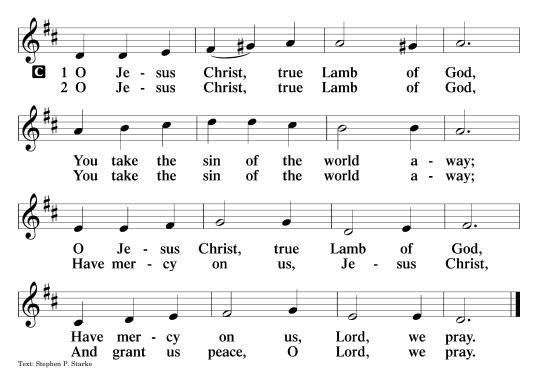
(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

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



#### Agnus Dei

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



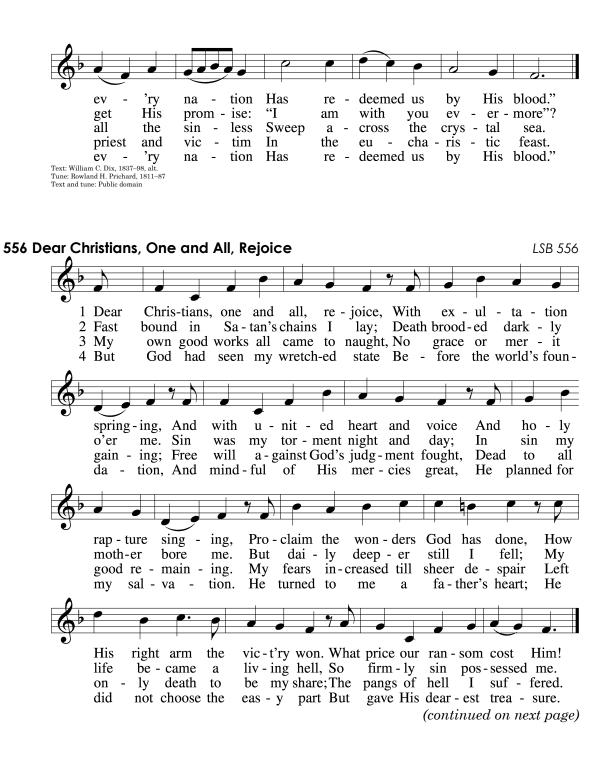
Sit

#### Distribution

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.



821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus LSB 821 ρ ø lu Sing 1 Al ia! Je His the le \_ \_ to \_ sus; 2 Al le lu ia! Not \_ phans Are we \_ \_ or as 3 Al le \_ lu \_ ia! Bread of heav -Here en, on 4 Al \_ le \_ lu ia! King e ter nal, Lord om -\_ -5 Al His \_ le lu \_ ia! Sing to Je \_ sus; the His His scep - ter, the throne; Al le - lu ia! the left sor -Al le - lu ia! He in row now; -is le - lu earth our food, stay; Al -ia! Here the our tent own: Al \_ le - lu ia! Born of nip -0 we \_ His scep - ter, the throne; A1 le - lu ia! His the \_ vic tri umph, His the lone. to -ry a be - lieves, Faith near us; nor ques tions how. ful Flee day. sin to You from \_ day to Earth Your foot stool. heav'n Mar -Your throne. у, tri umph, His the vic to lone. -ry а \_ ful Zi Hark! The songs of peace -Thun - der on -Though the cloud from sight re ceived Him When the of sin Earth's In ter ces sor, Friend ners, Re -Robed As with - in the veil You tered. in en \_ Hark! The of peace ful Zi on Thun - der songs \_ 0. "Je might - y like flood: of sus out а Shall days for were o'er. our hearts for -\_ ty deem er, hear our plea Where the songs of flesh, High Priest, Here both our great on earth like might - y flood: "Je of out а sus



- 5 God said to His belovèd Son:
  "It's time to have compassion.
  Then go, bright jewel of My crown, And bring to all salvation.
  From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they May live with You forever."
- 6 The Son obeyed His Father's will, Was born of virgin mother; And God's good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother. His royal pow'r disguised He bore; A servant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I Myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle.
  For I am yours, and you are Mine, And where I am you may remain; The foe shall not divide us.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg Text and tune: Public domain

- 8 "Though he will shed My precious blood, Me of My life bereaving,
  All this I suffer for your good; Be steadfast and believing.
  Life will from death the vict'ry win; My innocence shall bear your sin, And you are blest forever.
- 9 "Now to My Father I depart, From earth to heav'n ascending, And, heav'nly wisdom to impart, The Holy Spirit sending; In trouble He will comfort you And teach you always to be true And into truth shall guide you.
- 10 "What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and teaching;
  So shall the kingdom's work be wrought And honored in your preaching.
  But watch lest foes with base alloy The heav'nly treasure should destroy; This final word I leave you."





5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim, Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end! △6 God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76

Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

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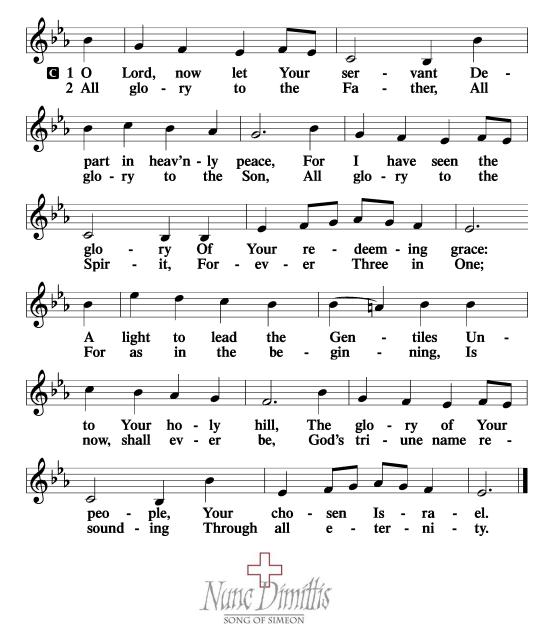
Text: Christian Fürchtegott Gellert, 1715-69; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812-97, alt.; Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662; Text and tune: Public domain

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

**icamus** (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





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#### Acknowledgments

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## -- Week at a Glance --

| Sunday<br>May 14th    |                    | Worship Service w/ Communion<br>Sunday School (children & adults) |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---|
|                       |                    | Mother's Day  |
| Monday<br>May 15th    |                    |   |
| Tuesday<br>May 16th   |                    |   |
| Wednesday<br>May 17th | 5:30 pm<br>7:00 pm | WWF<br>Topeka Lutheran School Graduation (at TLS)                 |
| Thursday<br>May 18th  | 2:00 pm            | Chair Aerobics  |
| Friday<br>May 19th    | 1:30 pm            | Young at Heart  |
| Saturday<br>May 20th  | 10:00 am           | Men's Bible Study (Zoom)  |
| Sunday<br>May 21st    |                    | Worship Service w/ Communion<br>Sunday School (children & adults) |
|                       |                    | Graduates' Sunday   |

### **Celebrating**

Birthdays: Nancy P., Miguel S. (14<sup>th</sup>); John G., Cindy H. (17<sup>th</sup>); Logan A., Jacob M. (18<sup>th</sup>); Mitch F., Lila N., David P., Jzanasia S. (19<sup>th</sup>); Bryan B., Rana C. (21<sup>st</sup>)
Baptism Birthdays: Brooklyn H. (16<sup>th</sup>); David B., John G. (17<sup>th</sup>); Bryce B., Elizabeth P. (18<sup>th</sup>); Emagene M., Lila N., David P., Carolyn S. (19<sup>th</sup>); Amelia S. (20<sup>th</sup>)
Anniversaries: Dick & Marjory H. (18<sup>th</sup>); Pastor Ben & Rachel M. (19<sup>th</sup>); Gary & Donna S. (20<sup>th</sup>)

### Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Romans (with Pastor Ben) – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym) God's Word for Today: 1, 2, & 3 John (Small Group) – Basement Meeting Room A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Meeting Room near Gym

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

Children (Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade) – Upstairs Education Wing Youth (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) – Basement Youth Room

#### Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

Luke - Wednesdays at 7 PM - Basement (Now on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays!)

#### Altar Flowers

The flowers adorning our altar this morning were given in celebration of Dick & Marjory Holmer's 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (on May 18<sup>th</sup>). God's blessings!

#### Mother's Day Service Project

In honor of Mother's Day, our youth group will be giving roses to the women of our congregation after worship services today. Whether you are a mother, step-mother, grandmother, aunt, dog/cat/pet mom, or another type of care giver -- thank you for all you do!

#### Cards for a Cause

Don't forget to check the spinner rack in the coffee lobby for Mother's Day, Graduation, and greeting cards for any occasion! Donations benefit Christian education.

#### <u>WWF</u>

Our last Weekly Wednesday Fellowship (WWF) of the season will be on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. We'll be taking a break for the summer and will resume this fall. We will offer a couple of midweek potlucks and activities over the summer – join us for some fun!

#### LWML Mite Box

The LWML Mite Box will be at the back of the church as you leave this morning. Contributions help fund the LWML District and National Mission Grants. Thank you for your support in this mission.

### **TLS Graduation/Final Closing Service**

All congregation members, TLS families/friends, and alums are invited to join us for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation and a final closing service for Topeka Lutheran School. It will be held on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the TLS gym. Congratulations to our graduating students – may God continue to bless and keep you in his care.

LUTHERA Topeka Lutheran School Class of 2023 Emilio B. Megan G. Frankie J. Emilee M. God's blessings as you begin high school!

#### Class of 2023

Please submit names of students who will be graduating high school or college this year to the church office. We would love to recognize our graduates with a gift on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> during worship services. A list of the graduates will appear in our June newsletter.

#### **Bible Reading Challenge**

Surprise – you have less reading to go than you may have thought! It turns out that the pre-made reading calendar we used for our challenge actually began repeating the New Testament chapters on May 6<sup>th</sup> (and also repeats Psalms in July). While you are welcome to read those passages a second time for this challenge, you definitely don't have to! Feel free to cross off the repeats on your copy of the reading calendar. The next prizes will be available on the last Sunday in May – keep up the good work!

#### Red Cross Blood Drive

Our next blood drive will be Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. We will once again have a free hot meal for our volunteers and donors – enjoy lasagna (plus something sweet for dessert). To make your life-saving appointment call 800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org.

#### Kansas District Pentecost Offering

For 26 years, LCMS Kansas District congregations have supported the growth of God's kingdom in Guinea and West Africa. Last year we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of this partnership and put forth the goal of raising \$25,000 for the new CLET-Guinea seminary. By God's grace, since the start of last year's offering over \$55,000 was raised for the seminary in Guinea!

Please consider participating in this year's Pentecost Offering, and supporting the great work being done in Guinea and West Africa. The offering will be used to continue supporting the seminary, as well as the provision of Lutheran education and resources to the people of Guinea and West Africa. To learn more or make a gift, visit our Guinea/West Africa webpage. If you would rather donate by mail, you can send a check with "Pentecost Offering" in the memo line to LCMS Kansas District, 1000 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, KS 66604.

### Outdoor Worship Service

Our second annual Outdoor Worship Service and Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. This year, we will hold the worship service outside here on church grounds. Please bring your own chairs or seating. The picnic will follow, using our gym for the meal and offering yard games and activities outside. Hot dogs and water will be provided for the picnic – please bring a side or dessert to share.

Please note: There will NOT be an indoor worship service at 8:00 AM or Sunday School classes at 9:15 AM that morning.

### Vacation Bible School

Registration is open for VBS! Visit our website (christlcms.org/vbs) to sign up. VBS is for kids entering kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grades, and youth in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up are welcome to sign up as volunteers. Adult volunteers are also needed – please contact DCE Amanda if interested.

If you would like to donate supplies for VBS, please take a water drop from the display in the coffee lobby and bring the specified items back to church no later than June 4<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for supporting Christian education here at Christ!

#### Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Luke H., Don L., Jerry M., Jean (Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Vikki N., Matt N., Virginia C., Evelyn (mother of Sandy S.), Ted M., Garry N., Mark (Carol J.'s friend), Wayne B., David (Sondra K.'s son), Kim (friend of the Micheels), Dick H., Penny (Marty K.'s coworker's wife), Betty H., Dorothy (Wayne K.'s sister-in-law), Nick (Hannah M.'s cousin), Sharon H., Lila N., Darleen C., Kendra M., Brandon B., Dennis L., Bob H., Marsha S., James (father-in-law of Norlinda C.), 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 Jr. Wildcats. 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.

Christ Lutheran Church Outdoor Worship Service and Church Picnic

Sunday, June 4 10:00 am - worship: 11:00 am - picnic

This year our outdoor service will be here on church grounds. Please bring your own chairs or seating. Hot dogs and water will be provided at the picnic – please bring a side dish or dessert to share..





## Vacation Bible School (VBS)

## Christ Lutheran Church (3509 SW Burlingame Rd.)

June 12-16, 9AM to Noon Free of charge!

-- Register Now -christlcms.org/vbs

Incoming K-5th Grade students can attend. Youth entering 6th Grade and up can volunteer. Adult volunteers also needed. Contact DCE Amanda Adams with questions.



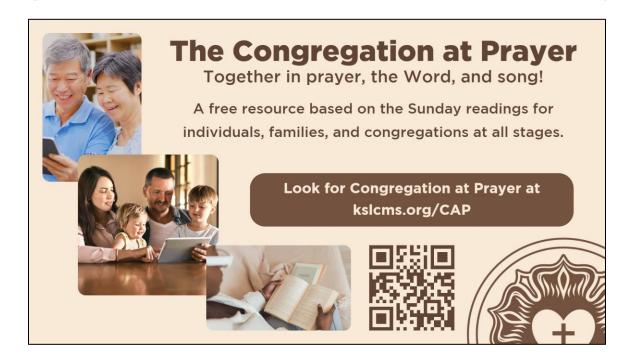
# WEEKLY WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP (WWF)

We will meet at our usual weekly time of 5:30 PM on the first three Wednesdays of May for a potluck dinner followed by games and fellowship with your church family.

May 17th will be our last WWF of the season,

and then we will take a break for summer and resume in the fall.

We will offer a couple of midweek potlucks and activities over the summer. Join us for some fun!



#### The Lord Jesus Comforts Us with the Preaching of His Resurrection

"The God who ... gives to all mankind life and breath and everything" (Acts 17:24–25) wants all people to seek Him that they might "feel their way toward him and find him" (Acts 17:27). But in our sinful ignorance, we humans turn instead to idols "formed by the art and imagination of man" (Acts 17:29). Therefore, God appointed the Man of Righteousness, Jesus Christ, and "has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead" (Acts 17:31). Because He lives, we also live (John 14:19) in His forgiveness, and thus we love Him and keep His commandments (John 14:15). While the risen Lord prepares us for His ascension, He will not leave us "as orphans" (John 14:18), but He gives "another Helper," the Holy Spirit, to be with us forever (John 14:16) through the preaching of "Jesus and the resurrection" (Acts 17:18). Because He "suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous" (1 Peter 3:18), we "honor Christ the Lord as holy" and are always "prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks" for the reason for our hope (1 Peter 3:15). Our Baptism "now saves" us "as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:21).

#### <u>Worship Attendance – Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup></u> 8:00 AM – 80 10:30 AM – 118

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## Stewardship Corner

| Budgeted Weekly Needs:<br>Offerings Received – Week of 5/7 | \$<br>\$ | 8,945<br>14,569 |
|--|----------|-----------------|
| Budgeted Needs (Jan-Apr 2023)                              | •        | 152,065         |
| Offerings Received (Jan-Apr 2023)                          | \$       | 146,981         |
| ****   |          |                 |

John 14:15 – "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." Jesus is clear: our obedience to His Word comes from our love for Him. But where does that love come from? Jesus tells us that as well: "Her sins, which are many, are forgiven — for she loved much" (Luke 7:47). Christ shows us His love and gives us the forgiveness of our sins, which causes love to well up in us and thereby keep the commandments of Jesus. For after all, the summary of the Law is "love."