

The Fifth Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024 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



<u>As We Gather</u>

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.

TODAY'S HYMNS

- 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness
- 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing
- 837 Lift High the Cross
- 768 To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray
- 596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized
- 544 Oh Love, How Deep
- 474 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen



Welcome and Opening Prayer



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Stand



Divine Service Setting One, page 151

+ 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

■ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9 151

Matthew 28:19b: 18:20

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. Consider: Have you loved God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength? Have you loved your neighbor as yourself?

Confession of Sins

- $\ensuremath{\mathbb{P}}$ Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

[John 20:19–23] LSB 151

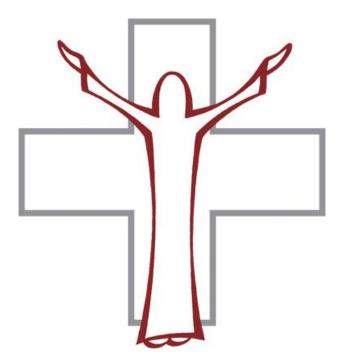
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

LSB 151

Service of the Word

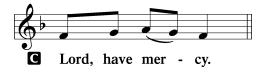
Introit

- P A little while, and you will see me no longer;
- **C** and again a little while, and you will see me.
- **P** I will extol you, my God and King,
- **C** and bless your name forever and ever.
- **P** Every day I will bless you
- **C** and praise your name forever and ever.
- **P** The LORD is gracious and merciful,
- **C** slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- P All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
- **C** and all your saints shall bless you!
- **P** My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
- **C** and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever. 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** A little while, and you will see me no longer;
- **C** and again a little while, and you will see me.



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

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



P 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.



P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

"Salutation" is a word from Latin meaning, "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.



P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit



First Reading

A The First Reading is from Acts, chapter 8.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.
³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.



Epistle

A The Epistle is from 1 John, chapter 4.

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

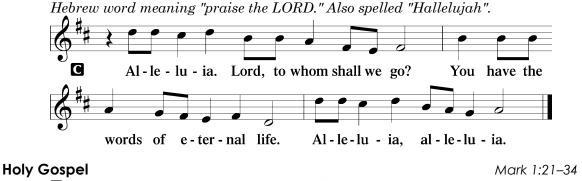
¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also 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 been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



²¹And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²²And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴"What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

²⁹And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.



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.

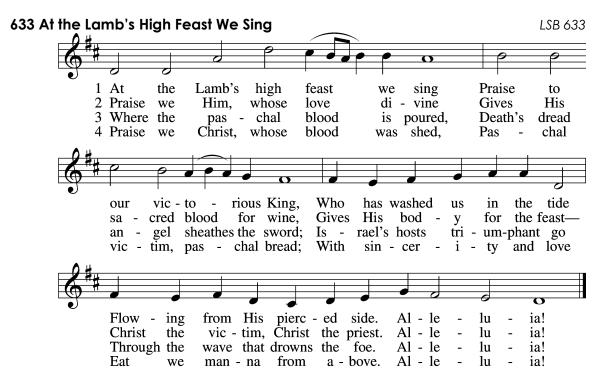
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints. the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body. and the life + everlasting. Amen.

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.





- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie; You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall; You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th-10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-68, alt. Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!
- $\triangle 8$ Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

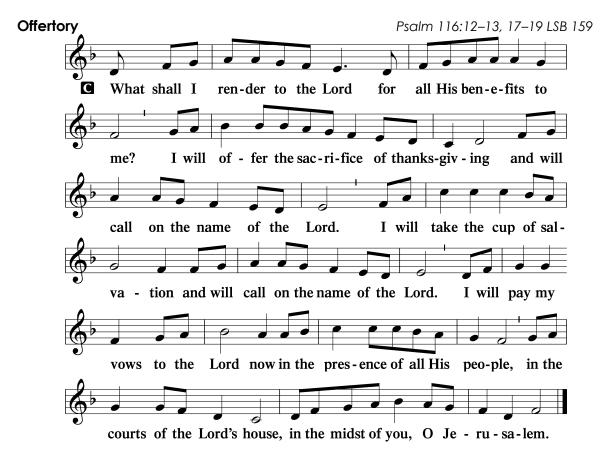
Offering

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 160

P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.

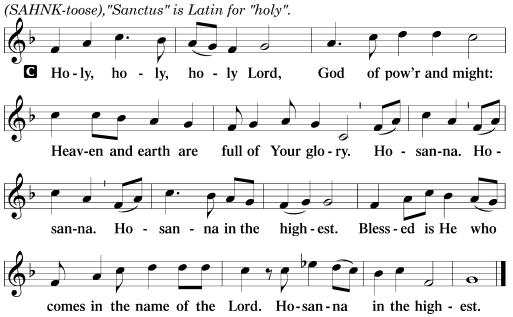


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



Proper Preface (Full)

▶ It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

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■ Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

 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

John 20:19 163

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

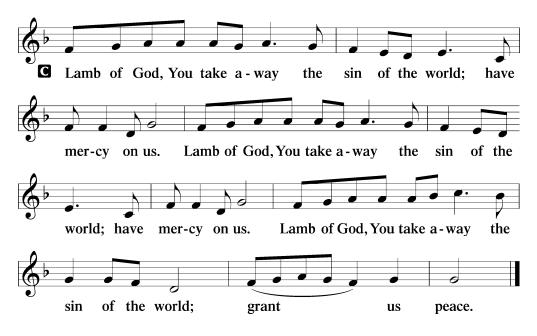
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





Agnus Dei

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

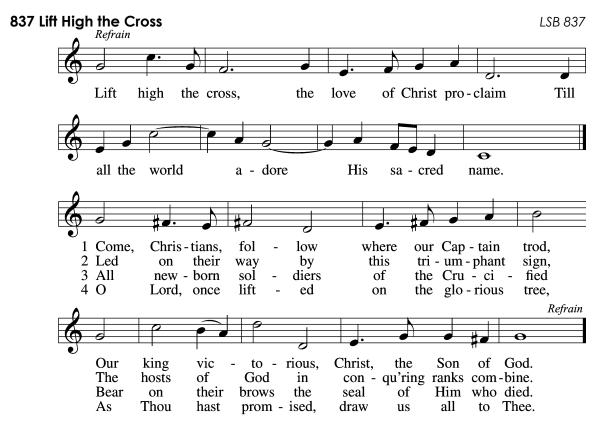


Sit

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.





- 5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain
- 6 So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain Text: George W. Kitchin, 1877-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956, alt.

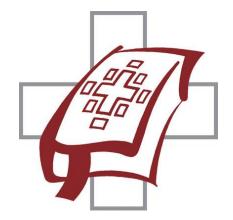
Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947 Text and tune: © 1974 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002199



768 To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray

~ C 0 0 Но Spir То ly 1 God the it let us pray 2 0 sweet - est Love, Your grace on us be stow; 3 Tran - scen - dent Com - fort in our ev 'ry need. -4 Shine our hearts, in 0 Spir - it, pre - cious light; 0 0 σ faith For the need ed true on our way fire Set our hearts with sa cred glow a Help nei ther death heed us _ scorn nor to Teach us Christ Je know right sus to а de - fend when life That He end - ing And from may us is That with hearts u - nit love each oth - er. Ev - 'ry ed we That we may not fal ter cour - age fail When the nor us That a - bide Lord who bought us, Till we may in the to θ have mer - cy! ex ile home we are wend ing. Lord, Lord, have mer - cy! strang - er, sis - ter. and broth er. foe shall taunt as sail Lord, have mer - cy! and us. He brought Lord, have mer - cy! true home has us. our

Text: tr. Worship Supplement, 1969, alt.; (st. 1): German, c. 13th cent.; (sts. 2–4): Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Tume: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002199 Tume: Public domain



596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized LSB 596 Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know God of 1 All the be - fore your In - deed, from You were day of birth. vour con that was washed a - way- Im - mersed and drowned for -3 But all of 4 In on Christ— Our shame is Bap - tism we now put ful - lv whose dai - ly life is prized The name of heav - en, And in with all the earth, None good, with -Con-demned and cep - tion. lost your Bap-tism day Re - stored a -The of ev er. wa ter once sac - ri - ficed And free - ly With He all that cov - ered Christ once giv - en: Con - sid - er now what God has done, The like your par - ents' flesh and blood, ex - cep - tion. For Turned out Ad - am and his de-stroved And gain what-ev - er Old sin suf - fered. For here the flood for us of His own blood Now Bap-tized in - to Christ Je - sus! gifts He gives to ev - 'ry - one in - ward from the high-est good, You con-stant - ly de - nied Him. sin - ful selves em-ployed Ac - cord-ing our na - ture. all our to

ho - ly, right, and good Be - fore our heav'n-ly

5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift And give God thanks forever!
It gives the power to uplift In all that you endeavor.
When nothing else revives your soul, Your Baptism stands and makes you whole And then in death completes you.

makes us

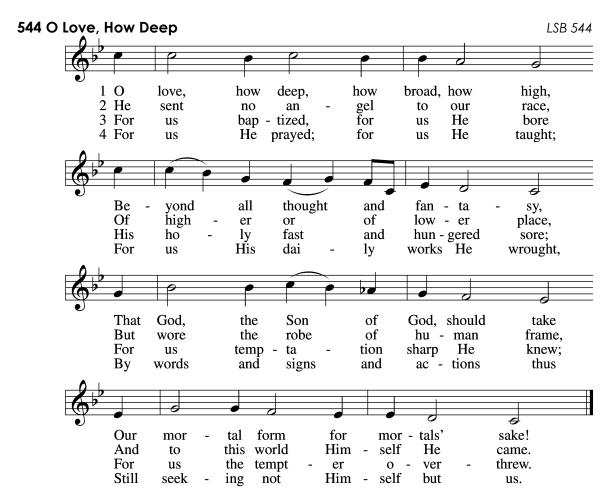
6 So use it well! You are made new— In Christ a new creation! As faithful Christians, live and do Within your own vocation, Until that day when you possess His glorious robe of righteousness Bestowed on you forever!

Fa - ther.

Tune: Public domain

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961

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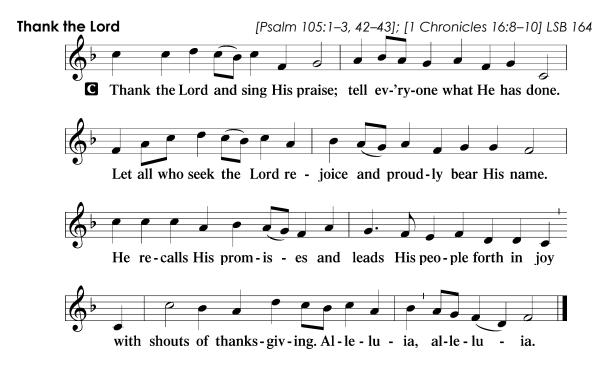


- 5 For us by wickedness betrayed,
 For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
 He bore the shameful cross and death;
 For us He gave His dying breath.
- 6 For us He rose from death again;For us He went on high to reign;For us He sent His Spirit hereTo guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

 $\triangle 7$ All glory to our Lord and God For love so deep, so high, so broad; The Trinity whom we adore Forever and forevermore.

Text: attr. Thomas à Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–85, alt. Tune: English, 15th cent. Text: Public domain

Stand



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.





Luther's Morning Prayer

C 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.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26 166

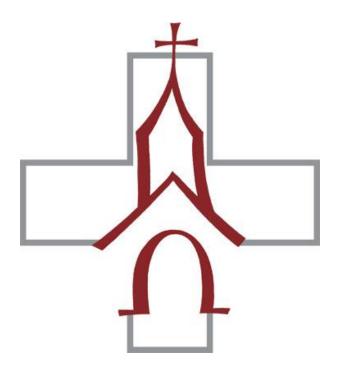
A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.

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.



Sit





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-- Week at a Glance --

9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) Circuit 6 Picnic at Lake Shawnee
5:15 pm 5:55 pm	Midweek – Confirmation Midweek – Meal Midweek – Worship Classes/Bible Study Bible Reading Challenge Ends
2:00 pm	Chair Aerobics
	Crop Event (benefitting Schafer Scholarship fund) Men's Zoom Bible Study
9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) State of the Church Luncheon Graduates' Sunday
	9:15 am 3:30 pm 4:00 pm 5:15 pm 5:55 pm 6:05 pm 2:00 pm 2:00 pm 10:00 am 9:15 am

<u>Celebrating</u>

Birthdays: Brooklyn W. (28th); Pastor Ben (29th); David B., Nancy C. (30th); Jason K. (1st); Judy C. (2nd); Jaylee H. (4th); Haley C. (5th)

Baptism Birthdays: Carter C., Melissa F. (29th); Bessie T., Thad C. (30th); Cassidy W. (3rd); Derek A., Eli M. (4th)

Anniversaries: Casey & Robyn F. (28th); Frank & Lisa S. (29th); Chuck & Heather S., Eric & Bessie T. (30th)

Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Mark (with Pastor Ben) – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym) A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Meeting Room near Gym

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

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

Midweek at Christ (Wednesday)

4:00 PM – Confirmation 5:15 PM – Meal 5:55 PM – Worship Service 6:05 PM – Classes

Saturday Bible Studies

9:30 am monthly – Women's Bible Study (contact LaJean Rinker or the church office) 10:00 am weekly – Men's Zoom Bible Study (contact Eric Turner or the church office)



Crop 'Til You Drop!

Ann-Marie Bevel is hosting a Crop event for card-making and scrapbooking on Saturday, May 4th (9 AM to 5 PM) in the gym here at Christ. Cost is \$20, with 100% of fees benefitting the Schaefer Scholarship fund. Contact Ann-Marie with any questions --RSVP and pay to reserve your seat!

Graduates' Sunday

High school and college students who are graduating this May (or graduated at semester in December) will be recognized with a gift during worship services on Sunday, May 5th. You may also submit your graduate's name to the church office (office@christlcms.org) to be included in our June newsletter. Please include first and last name and the school they will be graduating from.

State of the Church Luncheon

Join us after church (around 11:45 AM) on Sunday, May 5th for lunch in the gym and presentations from the church council. Since it happens to fall on Cinco de Mayo, tacos will be provided for lunch! Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Mark your calendar – our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be on Thursday, May 23rd. To make your life-saving appointment call 800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: TopekaCLC).

Assistance Needed for Funeral Lunches

The ladies of LWML always offer to serve a meal for the family of the deceased after a funeral that is held here at Christ. Would you be willing to prepare a casserole, salad, or dessert next time we have a funeral service here? This small act is a huge comfort for these families during a difficult time. Please contact LaJean Rinker for more info (lajean.rinker@sbcglobal.net or 785-250-4481).

Stewardship Corner Corrections

For the past couple of weeks, the giving totals on the back of the bulletin have been incorrect. The totals listed each of those weeks did not include offerings received through online giving. (Yes, we received all of the online gifts as usual. The mistake was a communication error on our end.) Totals for the past two Sundays are as follows:

Week of 4/7:	\$8,722
Week of 4/14:	\$4,183

Faith at Work

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who participated in our two-week Faith at Work event as part of the Kansas District LCMS. Our Muffins for Missions Bake Sale (on 4/14) raised \$600 in funds for our service projects the following week. Last Sunday (4/21) after worship services, we had a group of all ages who worked on four different service projects. We were able to assemble the following items to help our community:

60 Blessing Bags (pick one up to keep in your car and give to someone in need)

- 33 Birthday Cake Kits for Doorstep
- 14 Fleece Tie Blankets for Ronald McDonald House
- 9 Cuddle Blankets for Successful Connections

We also still have some t-shirts left – please pick one up in the coffee lobby. Let your light shine in that bright yellow shirt, letting everyone know that your Faith is at Work!

Bible Reading Challenge

Prizes will be available for our Bible Reading Challenge on Wednesday, May 1st. Once you have finished reading the New Testament, please bring your completion slip (found on the last page of your reading calendar) to the coffee lobby and pick up not one but TWO prizes in recognition of your outstanding efforts!

The 10th Annual Luke Savage Memorial Golf Tournament

This golf tournament has become such a fun and memorable event! This year all proceeds will go to the newly established **The Luke Squad Foundation**. The Foundation's Mission Statement is: *Provide faith-filled hope and encouragement for families with children with health concerns (travel, meals, and gifts for extended hospital stays or during Christmas) and to provide support for all children to live life to the fullest (developmental support needs).*

The tournament will be held Saturday, June 8th, at Shawnee Country Club at 913 SE 29th. Registration will begin at 8 am with a shotgun start to follow at 9 am. This event will be a four-person scramble. Entry fee per person is \$80.00 or \$320.00 per team. A light breakfast along with a boxed lunch will be provided to all participants. Both raffle and various other prizes will be awarded. Hole Sponsorships will continue to be \$100.00 and any raffle prizes or donations will be gladly accepted. To sign up, contact The Luke Squad Foundation at dkmsavage@yahoo.com or contact Kim Savage at 785-640-0092.

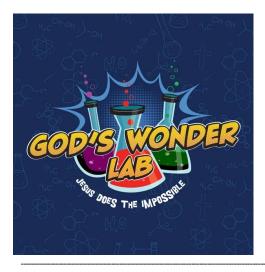
Please come join us and "Play With All Your Heart" in memory of Luke and to help raise funds for children/families experiencing health issues and hardships!!

Summer Ministries at Christ

Even when school is out for the summer, Christian education can continue! Contact DCE Amanda for more information on these summer opportunities for students!

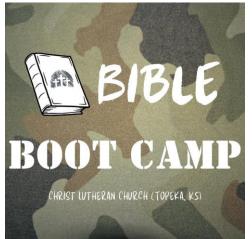
VBS – June 10-14, 9 AM to noon, Kindergarten thru 5th grade, FREE! Registration now open! (www.christlcms.org).

Bible Boot Camp – July 8-12, 9 AM to 5 PM, 6th thru 9th grade, \$50 (includes lunch) Registration now open! (www.christlcms.org).



Vacation Bible School (VBS) June 10-14, 2024 9 AM to Noon Kindergarten thru 5th Grade FREE OF CHARGE!

> Register now! www.christlcms.org



Bible Boot Camp July 8-12, 2024 9 AM to 5 PM 6th grade thru 9th grade \$50 per student (includes lunch)

> Register now! www.christlcms.org

LCMS Summer Camp

At Christ Lutheran Church, Christian education happens in many ways. One way we support our K-12 grade youth is through helping with funding to attend LCMS summer camp. The Christ Lutheran Youth Account will cover up 1/3 of the cost of camp, with a maximum of \$250. Students who need further financial assistance are welcome to apply for the Margaret Schaefer Scholarship which can also cover up to 1/3 of the cost. Families are expected to cover the last 1/3 of the cost. If this is a financial hardship, further assistance from the congregation is available. Talk to Amanda or Pastor. We don't want anyone to miss out on attending LCMS summer camp for financial reasons.

Criteria for being considered for church support and scholarships:

- Student applicants shall be baptized and active members of Christ Lutheran Church. They shall be regular worship attenders (minimum 50% attendance in Sunday School and Church).
- Students need to assist with at least 3 service or fundraising opportunities.
- Student applicants who are in kindergarten through 12th grade will be considered as recipients of this scholarship.

For more information and application for the Schaefer Scholarship, please visit christlcms.org/Schaefer

Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR) – June 2-7, 2024

High school students currently in grades 8-12 are invited to participate in LVR. Registration opens March 1, 2024. Cost is \$675 per student, with a \$100 deposit due at pre-registration. Final payment and registration are due on May 1.

Heit's Point Lutheran Camp – July 21-26, 2024

July 21st through 26th is Water Week at Heit's Point, with one day spent at Big Surf Water Park! Enjoy Bible study, songs, games, swimming in the lake, crafts, outside fun, and making new friends who love Jesus! Cost is \$540 per student. Students in 2nd through 8th grades welcome.

Amanda will be serving as DCE of the Week for that particular week and will be available as a familiar face in case any issues arise. We already have several students from our congregation attending during this time period, and would love for your child to join us!



Saints Alive After 55

The 2024 Retreat for Saints Alive After 55 will be held July 21-22 at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Salina, KS. This year's theme is "What's Love Got to Do with It," based on Matthew 22:36-39. Registration is now open on the Kansas District LCMS website (kslcms.org).

Remembered in our Prayers

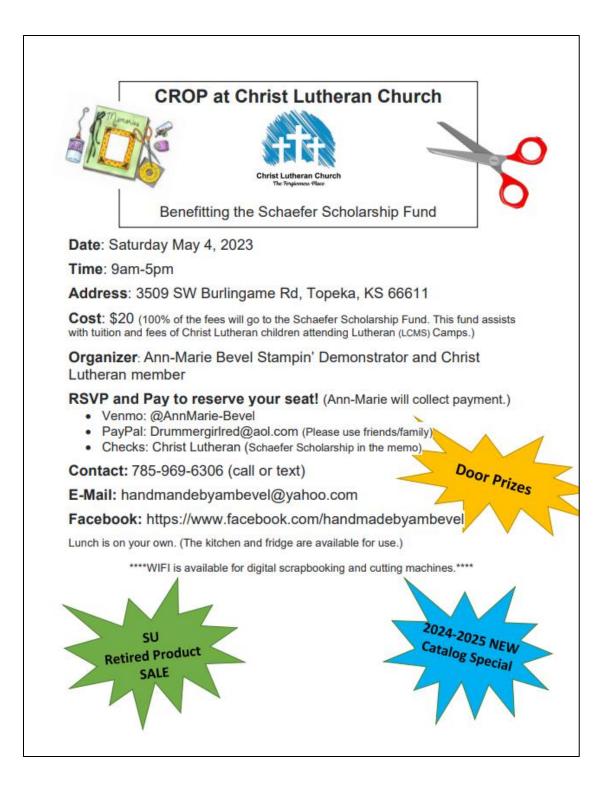
Charlie P., Luke H., Don L., Jerry M., Jean (Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Vikki N., Matt N., Virginia C., Garry N., Mark (Carol J.'s friend), Wayne B., David (Sondra K.'s son), Dick H., Betty H., Dorothy (Wayne K.'s sister-in-law), Lila N., Darleen C., Brandon B., Dennis L., Marsha S., James (father-in-law of Norlinda C.), Craig R., Craig R. II, Natalie O., Donna B., Lee M., Julie J., Colleen B., Greg (friend of the Tolberts), Rick (Colleen B.'s son-in-law), Averi (great niece of Heather S.), Galen H., Isaac (Ginger C.'s grandson), Bobby B., Josie H., Emily (great niece of Brenda Z.), Jessica (Jamie H.'s daughter), Sean (Patrick C.'s brother-in-law), Dakota (Patrick C.'s niece's husband), Jon J., Bruce (Pastor Ben's father), Patty (John H.'s mother), Tom H., Chelsea (Tom & Sharon H.'s daughter). Steve (friend of the Tolberts), Margaret Ann (friend of Carol J.), Donna (Wavne K.'s sister), John (son-in-law of Carol J.), Jill (Ginger C.'s extended family), Charles H., and others named in your heart. Pray for 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 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.



Join the Topeka & Lawrence LCMS Churches! Circuit 6 Picnic

Sunday, April 28 3:30pm - 6:30pm Lake Shawnee Shelter #1

Potluck Style (by Last Name) A-E: Salad F-L: Side Dish M-R: Main Dish S-Z: Dessert *Paper products provided.* Lawn games provided! Bring a lawn chair, fellowship, food begins at 4:30pm!



State of the Church Luncheon

Join us after church (around 11:45 AM) on Sunday, May 5th for lunch in the gym and presentations from the church council. Since it happens to fall on Cinco de Mayo, tacos will be provided for lunch! Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.





SPRING INTO ACTION: GIVE BLOOD

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE THURSDAY, MAY 23 9 AM - 3 PM

Jesus Christ Is the True Vine Who Bears Much Fruit in Us

"God is love," and He has manifested Himself to us by sending "his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him" (1 John 4:9, 16). By the ministry of the Gospel, "he has given us of his Spirit," so that we also believe and confess "that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh." In this way, we "abide in him and he in us," and we "love one another" (1 John 4:2, 7, 13). Such divine love is exemplified in Philip's preaching of "the good news about Jesus" to the Ethiopian eunuch. And when "they came to some water," the eunuch was baptized into the very Gospel that Philip had preached (Acts 8:35–38). That Ethiopian was thereby grafted into "the true vine," Jesus Christ (John 15:1), just as we are. Already we are clean because of the Word that Christ has spoken to us and by the washing of water with His Word. We now abide in Him by faith in His forgiveness. As He abides in us, both body and soul, with His own body and His blood, He "bears much fruit" in us (John 15:3–5).

<u>Worship Attendance – Sunday, April 21st</u>
8:00 AM - 60
$10:30~\mathrm{AM}-85$

Stewardship Corner

Budgeted Weekly Needs:	\$	8,269
Offerings Received – Week of 4/21	\$	10,021
Budgeted Needs (Jan-Mar 2024) Offerings Received (Jan-Mar 2024)	*	115,766 $111,700$

John 15:2 – "Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit." God is interested in the fruit that we bear in good works, and He even prunes us so that we may bring forth more fruit. Trusting in our Lord's work for us, being grafted by grace into His vine, we desire to be more like Him, to grow into His image. That's growth in fruit bearing — and it always comes with some pruning.