

April 28, 2024

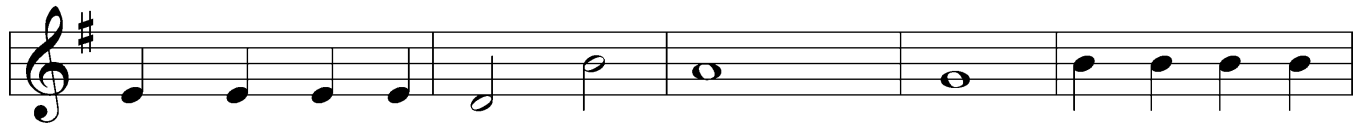
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Hymn of Invocation: God Himself Is Present

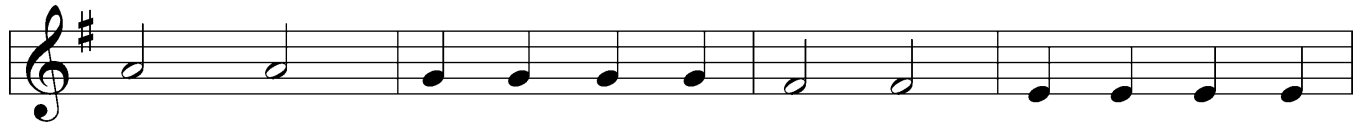
LSB 907



1 God Him - self is pres - ent: Let us now a - dore Him
2 God Him - self is pres - ent: Hear the harps re - sound - ing;
3 Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Pu - ri - fy my spir - it,



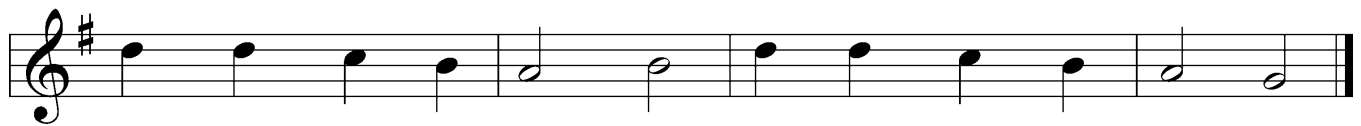
And with awe ap - pear be - fore Him. God is in His
See the hosts the throne sur - round - ing. "Ho - ly, ho - ly,
Trust-ing on - ly in Your mer - it. Like the ho - ly



tem - ple; All with - in keep si - lence; Hum - bly kneel in
ho - ly!" Hear the hymn as - cend - ing, Songs of saints and
an - gels, Wor - ship - ing be - fore You, May I cease-less -



deep - est rev - 'rence. He a - lone On His throne
an - gels blend - ing. Bow Your ear To us here:
ly a - dore You. Let Your will Ev - er still



Is our God and Sav - ior; Praise His name for - ev - er!
Hear, O Christ, the prais - es That Your Church now rais - es.
Rule Your Church ter - res - trial As the hosts ce - les - tial.

Text: Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697–1769, abr.; tr. Frederick W. Foster, 1760–1835, alt.; tr. John Miller, 1756–90, alt.
Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80
Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

1 John 1:8-9 LSB 151

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.**

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **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

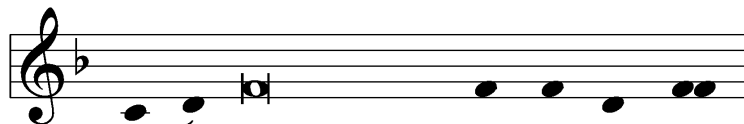
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Kyrie

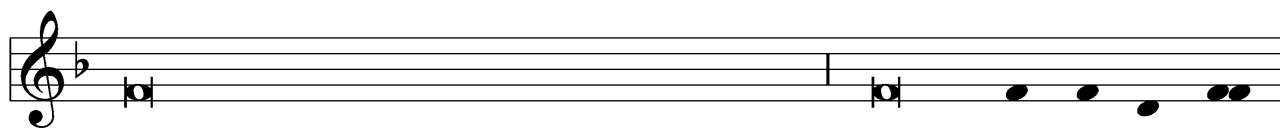
Mark 10:47 LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



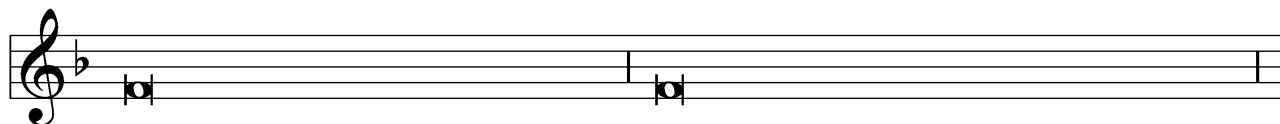
C Lord, have mer - cy.



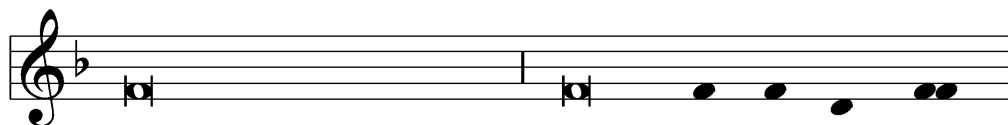
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



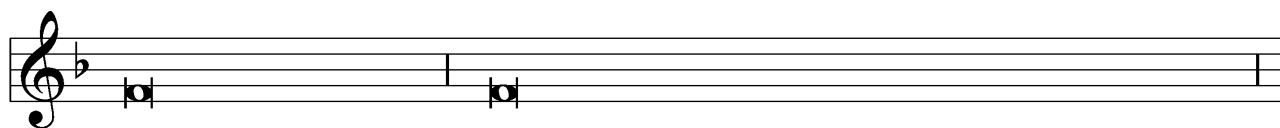
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



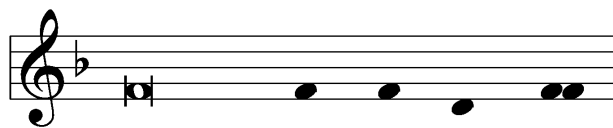
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



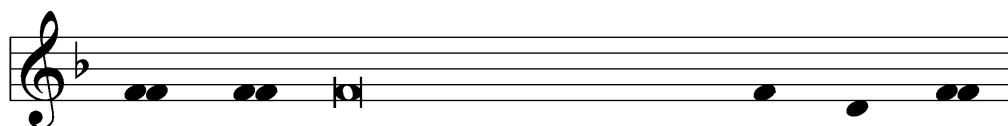
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



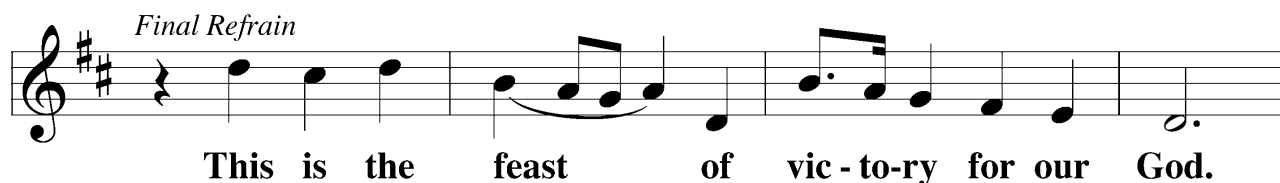
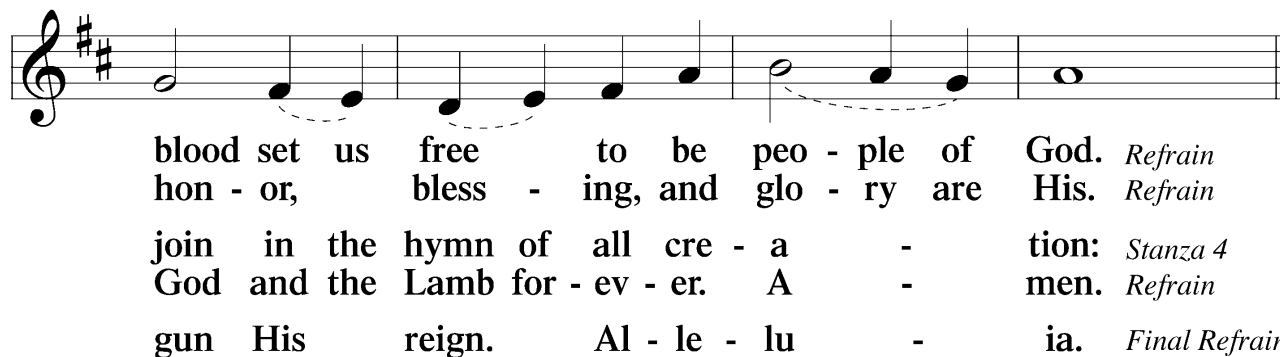
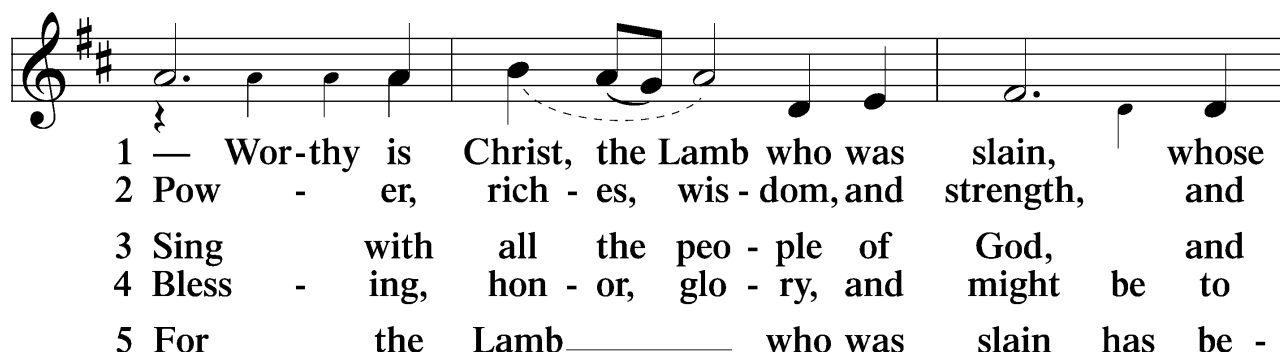
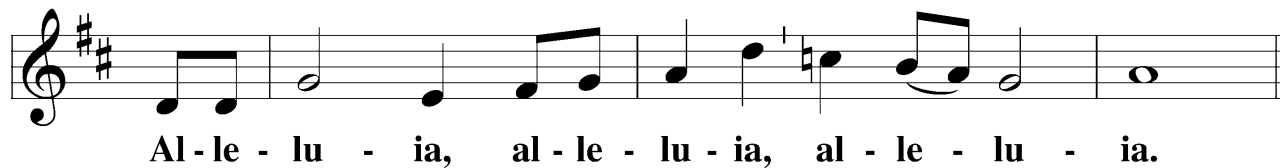
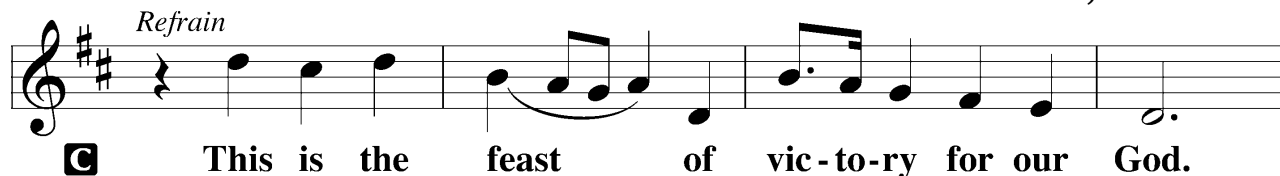
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



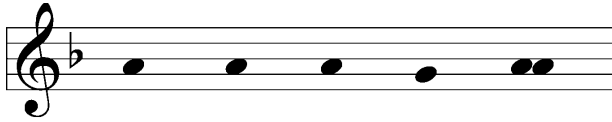
C A - men.

This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9 LSB 155



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



G And al - so 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.



G A - men.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

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.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Christ has risen from the dead.

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle

1 John 4:1-21

A The Epistle is from 1st John, chapter 4.

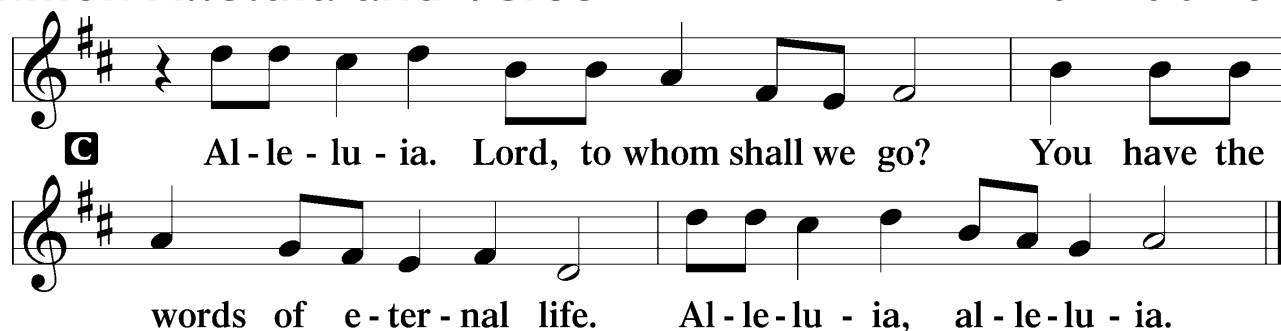
¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess 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.

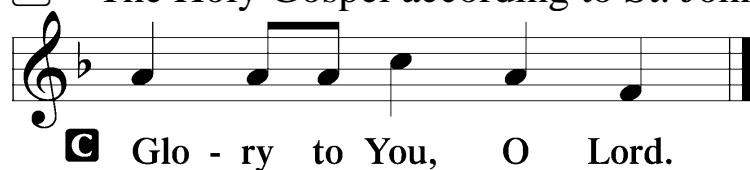
¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and 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***Common Alleluia and Verse***John 6:68 LSB 156*


C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel*John 15:1-8***P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.


C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every 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. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.


C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

Announcements

Hymn of the Day: O Blessed Spring

LSB 595



1 O bless-ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us
 2 Through sum-mer heat of youth-ful years, Un - cer - tain
 3 When au-tumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their
 4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, We breathe our
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
 heav - y har - vest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will
 last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take
 this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -



be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
 rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
 move With gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
 wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.
 vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953

Tune: English

Text: © 1993 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004522

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Rev. Philip Zielinski

Stand

Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12 LSB 192



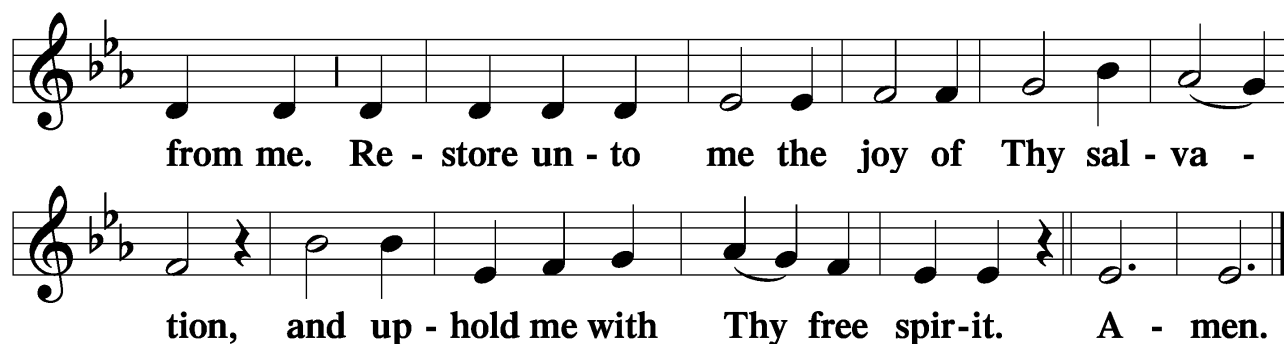
C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



Sit

Offering

Note: Please continue to place your offerings into the plates as you enter or leave church as we will not be passing the plates through the congregation. The offering plates will be brought forward at this time to remind us that our offerings are given in thankfulness to Him for His blessings to each of us.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Church on earth, that she would be protected from all false teaching and the spirit of the Antichrist, and so always confess Christ come in the flesh, remaining faithful to Him, our only true God, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For God's people, that as branches of the vine, all sin and dead works would be pruned and cut off from them; and that drawing life from the Son, they would continually produce the fruits of faith and good works, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all those in need of Baptism, that nothing would prevent them from being welcomed into God's kingdom and given everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our president and all in authority, that they may serve honorably and in accord with God's good order, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who bear the cross in suffering and affliction, [especially _____,] that they would ever look to the Lord and so fix their hearts where true joy is found, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who come to God's feast of love, that they may worthily eat of Christ's body and blood, abiding in this love of God and God in them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

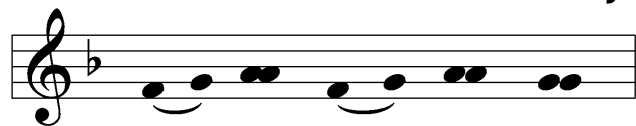
P Heavenly Father, You are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Hear and answer our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, and Your saints shall bless You; for You live and reign with the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

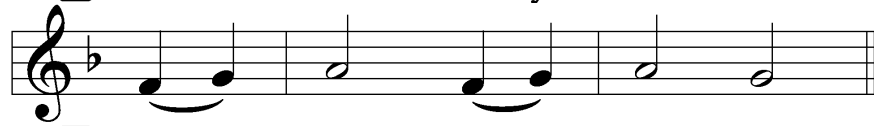
Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

P 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:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 LSB 162

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

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.

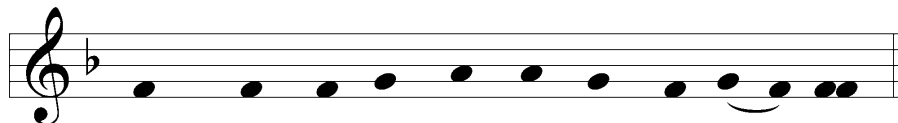
The Words of Our Lord

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 LSB 197



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

- If—for any reason—you prefer to receive communion while remaining at your seat, please let an usher know as you arrive so that we can bring communion to you.
- Directions
 - Ushers will dismiss the congregation beginning from the back of the sanctuary.
 - Fill the communion rail beginning from the lectern side (left).
 - Kneel or stand as you are able.
 - Pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by the assistants with the blood of Christ (individual or common cup).
 - Once you have received the body and blood of Christ, dismiss yourself and return to your seat via the Fellowship Hall through the side door.
 - If you have received an individual cup, place it in the basket provided on your way out the door.
- Gluten-free communion bread is available. Simply ask pastor for this option as you come forward for communion.
- A low/no-alcohol option is also available. On the tray of individual cups are several plastic cups that contain juice with a drop of wine included. This dilute amount of wine uses the element with which the Lord's Supper was instituted (wine) while providing an alternative if needed. Please feel free to see Pastor or an Elder if you have any questions.

Distribution Hymn: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

LSB 475



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry That love, that life which
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, And sing to - day with



of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
 strew His way; Let all the world re - joice and say:
 can - not die, And sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 one ac - cord The life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Allington, 1872-1955, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615

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Tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: Chief of Sinners Though I Be


LSB 611




1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
 heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
 wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
 all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
 and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
 Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
 All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
 Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of




to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
 won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
 walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
 hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
 need sup - ply While I live and when I die.


Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.
 Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901
 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing


LSB 691



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en
 2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er
 3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern
 4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,
 loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,
 and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,
 har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



Rich in love and joy and peace.
 Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.
 Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.
 Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926
 Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, 1932
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 Tune: © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004522

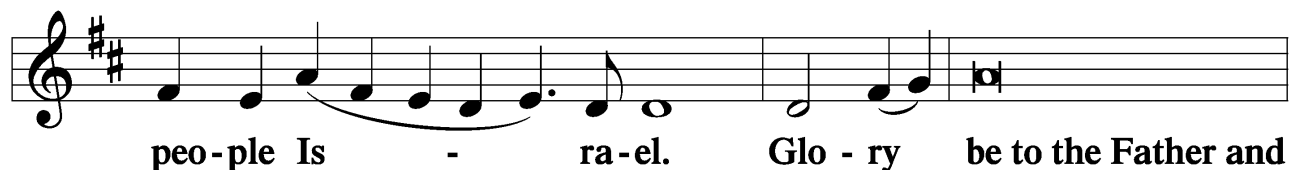
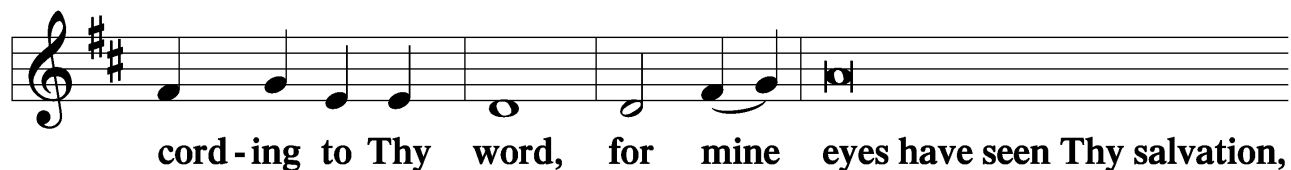
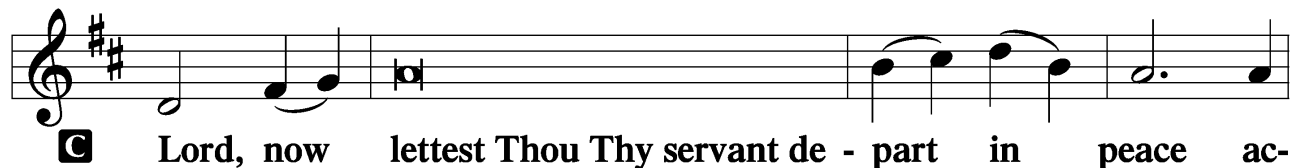
Communion Dismissal

199

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

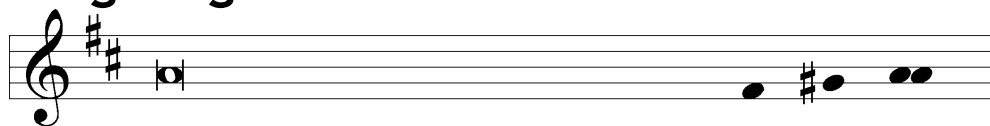
C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

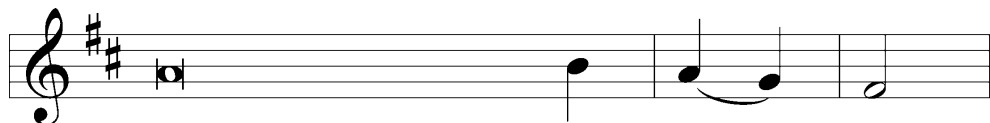
Luke 2:29-32 LSB 199


Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1 LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

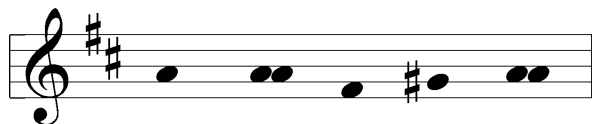
Post-Communion Collect

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22 LSB 201



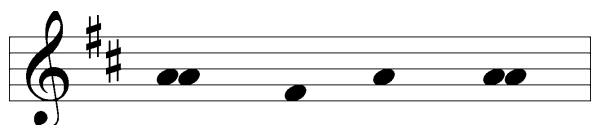
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1 LSB 202



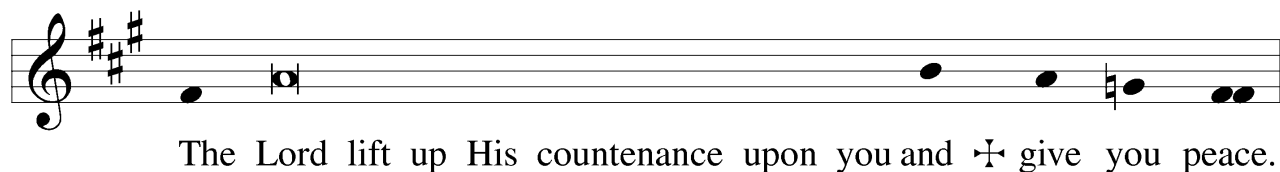
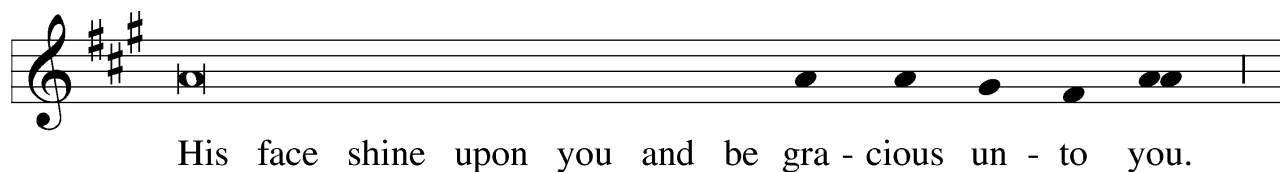
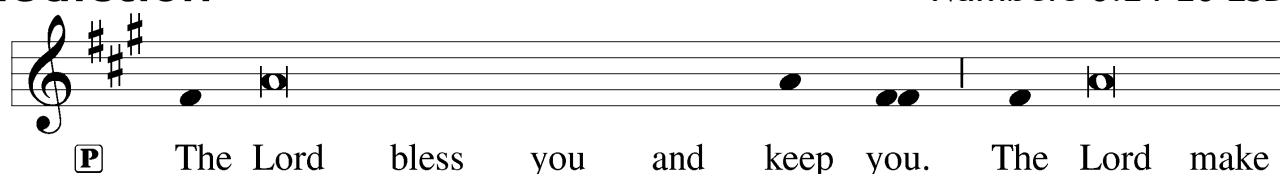
A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 202



Closing Hymn: Almighty Father, Bless the Word

LSB 923



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your
 2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward
 △ 3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious
 now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who
 crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!
 wor - shipped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.
 heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text (sts. 1-2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637-1711
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today	9:15 AM	Bible Class
Today	9:15 AM	Sunday School
Today	11:45 AM	Child of God-Mentor Meeting
Today	1:00 - 2:00 PM	Communion
Monday	6:00 PM	Confirmation
Tuesday	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Communion
Wednesday	10:00 - 11:30 AM	Bible Study
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Quilters
Wednesday	6:30 PM	Youth Group
Thursday	11:00 - 1:00 PM	Young Family Fellowship

VBS PLANNING MEETING is next Sunday, May 5th after the second service.

SPRING CLEAN-UP WORK DAY join us on Saturday, May 18th at 8:00 AM to kick off springtime for some trimming of shrubs, mulching, pulling weeds, window cleaning, painting and other small odd jobs. There will be donuts and coffee! Please bring your favorite gardening tools. Hope to see you there!

EVANGELISM MEETING will be held on Wednesday, May 8th. Time: TBD

CHILD OF GOD – MEET/GREET & PIZZA will be on Sunday, May 19th from 4-5:30 PM. This will be an evening of fun getting to know each other and pizza.

Kids ... Please have 2 questions ready to ask your Mentor.

Adult Mentors ... Please have 4 questions to ask your Child of God.

RSVP to Beth Bremke 440-669-3180 or email: bethbremke@gmail.com

VOTERS' MEETING Our spring meeting is coming up on Sunday, May 19th between services. There will be NO Sunday School for the children.

YOUTH GROUP Grades 6-12 meet every other Wednesday here at SPVC at 6:30 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 15th. Questions? Please contact Pastor Chris Streeper at 330-441-0502.

ST. PAUL - AMHERST has an opening for the Director of the Preschool Ministry. They are looking for a Christian who is organized, has good communication skills, and finds great joy in sharing Jesus' love with preschool age children and their families. This is a part-time position, and hours are somewhat flexible. Some benefits included. For more info and to apply by May 1, 2024, go to: stpaulamherst.com/preschool/

2024 GRADUATES Calling all High School, Trade School, College, or Military graduates. Please ring or email the church office by May 17th your loved one's: Full Name, school they graduated from, next school or adventure they are heading into, or anything else that we may encourage and celebrate. Thank you.

VETERAN ITEM COLLECTION In April and May, the LWML is sponsoring donations for homeless veterans in the Cleveland/Medina area. We will be working with both the

Medina County Veterans Service Office and Lutheran Metropolitan Men's Ministry in Cleveland. A collection box is in the Narthex for donations of disposable razors, shaving cream, skin care products, new bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, deodorant and socks. Both travel sizes and regular sizes are needed. Our goal is to collect 175 items in honor of St. Paul's 175th anniversary. All items are appreciated and will be collected and delivered after Memorial Day to those in need. Thank you.

VBS is scheduled for June 17-21, 2024. Teachers, kitchen helpers, and youth are needed! Please consider this calling and see Beth Bremke if you have any questions.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Attend in-person or watch the stream live and on-demand.

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP Join us on Thursdays as we will meet in the church basement from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM for light lunch and playtime for kids! (Please bring your own lunch.) Kids of all ages are welcome. There is potential for this group to blossom into a homeschooling group, as we have several homeschooling families at St. Paul! If you are interested in this or have any other questions, contact Sarah Moser.

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES Pastor is providing individual communion opportunity for the foreseeable future. Check the posted times for "walk-in" communion below.

"Walk-In" times at Church: Sundays, 12pm - 2pm & Tuesdays, 5pm - 7pm

Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:

To schedule a time other than the walk-in times you may call Pastor Zielinski at 440-458-0189 or, visit www.spvc.org and click "Book with Pastor" to see available times for appointments.

TITHES & OFFERINGS are needed; our Lord still provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
2. Mail your contributions to the church.
3. Talk to your bank about "bill-pay" options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
4. Visit www.spvc.org and click on "Give Online" - you'll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

HEARING AIDS? Do you wear hearing aids? If they're able to connect to your phone we have an app to help you hear the spoken-word parts of the worship service (readings, prayers, sermon, etc.). Download the "Audiofetch" app then connect to the "Audiofetch" wifi here at church. See Rev. Streeper if you need help getting set up.

PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to prayer@spvc.org (also, email there to join the prayer chain and receive all the updates) ... or ... you may fill out the back side of the attendance slip.

RECYCLING BULLETINS You are welcome to take home your bulletin, otherwise, you may place it in the blue plastic tub in the Narthex Hallway. **We do recycle the black combs** for the Large Print bulletins.

IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS watch LIVE or On-Demand just like our worship services (YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org) on Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS meet in the sanctuary at 9:15-9:30 AM for Welcoming/Object Lesson and music before going to the individual classrooms. Sunday School students will be learning and singing various songs during selected church services. The first scheduled program will be Palm Sunday, March 24th, then May 19th, and October 20th. Details will be available closer to those dates.

WATCH LIVE OR ON-DEMAND 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand at YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org – on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream (when active) and for the most recent service. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching.

HEALTH & SAFETY There is a black First Aid bag hung in the vestibule containing emergency supplies. Some of the contents include bandages, instant glucose, breathing barriers, and blood pressure equipment. Please see Beth Bremke if you would like training in the use of these supplies.

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES offers a wonderful daily devotion with Scriptures & Reflection Questions. Go to www.lhm.org and click on Today's Devotion.

ONLINE DIRECTORY UPDATE If your mobile app needs updated and it's asking for an "online code" please use "SPVC" and that should reconnect the app.

PASTORAL CARE Should you desire pastoral care, please contact the church office 330.483.3883, or 330.483.4119 and leave a message for Pastor.

PORTALS OF PRAYER the 2024 April-June devotion booklets are available on the Welcome Table and in the Narthex hallway, please take a copy home today.

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE, ISRAEL & FOREIGN MISSIONS We continue to take offerings to provide relief to Lutheran church partners who suffer calamity in these areas. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

WIGGLE BAGS Please help yourself to these goody bags that hold activities kids may engage and participate in the worship service. Hopefully this will help alleviate stress for parents who are worried about their child making it through the whole service, but more importantly, they help teach kids that "big church" is for them too. Please take a moment to collect all the contents of the Wiggle Bags and return it to the "Used Wiggle Bag" plastic bin after the Worship Service. We continue to be thankful for Sandy Turner and Jean Wadle who are keeping-up with providing clean Wiggle Bags each week. Donated supplies may be given directly to Sandy Turner or Jean Wadle. Thank you.

April 2024

	SERVICE	April 7 SUNDAY	April 14 SUNDAY	April 21 SUNDAY	April 28 SUNDAY
		Communion	Communion	No Communion	Communion
ELDER	8am	Steve Kato	Tim Wadle	Chris Duran	Steve Kato
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	Dave Hesketh	Sam Jakabcic	Jim Jackson
USHERS	8am	Mike Scahel	Jim Sherry	Steve Kato	Mark Gordon
	10:30am	Brian Dearth	Erich Gottl	Rich Proeschel	Joe Bennet
GREETERS	8am	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Dean & Beth Bremke	Pam McGuire	David & Mackenzie Duran
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Joe Bennet	Barb Pijor	Rich & Jenny Proeschel
ELDER INFO	Stephen Kato 330-242-7183	Tim Wadle 216-214-7109	Jim Jackson 330-391-6393	Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076	Chris Duran 216-577-5164 David Hesketh 330-410-6150

May 2024

	SERVICE	May 5 SUNDAY	May 12 SUNDAY	May 19 SUNDAY	May 26 SUNDAY
		No Communion	Communion	Communion	Communion
ELDER	8am	Chris Duran	Tim Wadle	Steve Kato	Tim Wadle
	10:30am	Dave Hesketh	Sam Jakabcic	Jim Jackson	Dave Hesketh
USHERS	8am	Jim Rafter	Jim Sherry	Mike Scahel	Mark Gordon
	10:30am	Brian Dearth	Erich Gottl	Rich Proeschel	Joe Bennett
GREETERS	8am	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Dean & Beth Bremke	Pam McGuire	David & Mackenzie Duran
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Joe Bennett	Barb Pijor	Rich & Jenny Proeschel
ELDER INFO	Stephen Kato 330-242-7183	Tim Wadle 216-214-7109	Jim Jackson 330-391-6393	Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076	Chris Duran 216-577-5164 David Hesketh 330-410-6150

LWML
International Potluck Luncheon
Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 12:00PM
Faith Lutheran Church Avon



**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Matthew Heise,
 Missionary and Director of
 Lutheran Heritage Foundation
 (LHF)**

***Bring a Dish/Dessert from your
 Heritage to Share**

**Donation gathered for LHF
 Bring friends and relatives**

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man. (Psalm 33:12-13).

RSVP by texting Carla Russell at 203-520-1573

“The Lord of the Nations”, is the theme. This year will be a new twist! To celebrate our various cultural heritages and our Lord, we are encouraging all women (who are able) to bring a dish or dessert from their heritage. Bring the recipe to share. You will also be invited to wear an outfit which represents that culture! LWML will supply a large salad and beverages! Be sure to bring friends and relatives. *Please RSVP by texting Carla Russell at 203-520-1573.*

As speaker for the event, Rev. Dr. Matthew Heise, a missionary and presently the Director of The Lutheran Heritage Foundation, (and Carla Russell’s cousin), will speak about his work, present and past. We will also do a servant event to help this LCMS mission.

Pastor Heise has so much to share that he will be the guest preacher here at Faith on Sunday May 5th at both our 8am Traditional & 10:30am Contemporary Services. He will also make another presentation during our 9:15am bible study hour.

**Join us for this special weekend of events here at
 Faith Lutheran Church - 2265 Garden Drive, Avon OH. 44011**

Prayers for Worship

On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Before worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

After worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Before confession and absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

For blessing on the Word

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.