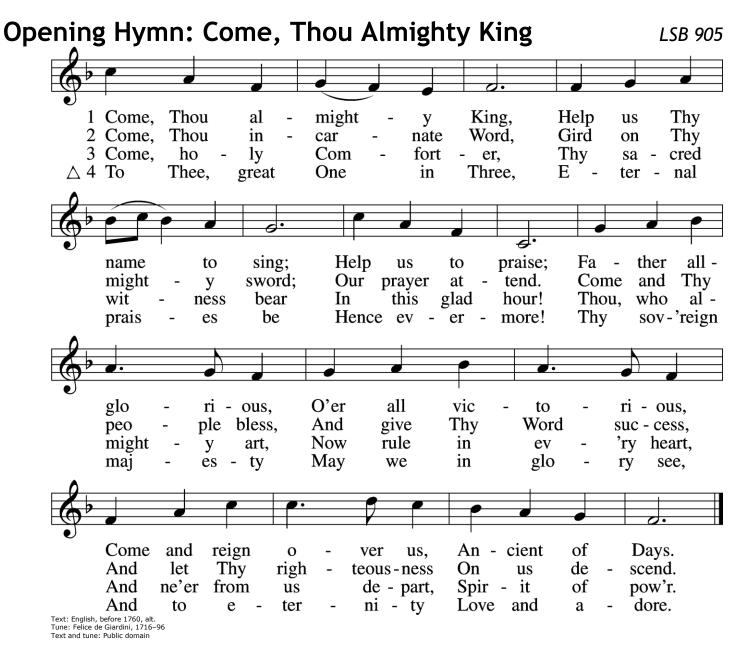
May 14, 2023 Sixth Sunday of Easter



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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- \blacksquare In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

Exhortation

2

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5 LSB 184

- Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

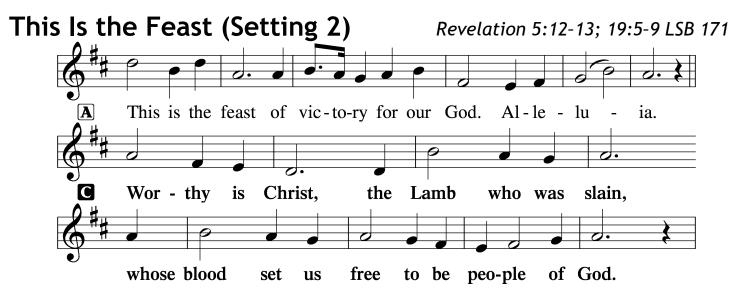
Confession of Sins

- **P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- **C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

[John 20:19-23] LSB 185

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- **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.

C Amen.

Sit First Reading

Acts 17:16-31

A The First Reading is from Acts, chapter 17.

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So 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. ¹⁸Some 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. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For 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. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor

is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And 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, ²⁷that 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, ²⁸for

"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."

²⁹Being 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. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because 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.

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

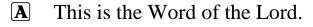
A The Epistle is from 1 Peter, chapter 3.

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but 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; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile

1 Peter 3:13-22

your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸For 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, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because 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. ²¹Baptism, 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, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.







P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.



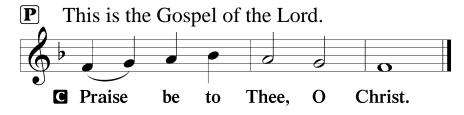
Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.



¹⁵[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even 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.

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever 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."



Nicene Creed

C 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 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.

Hymn of the Day: Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice

LSB 556 sts. 1-2, 4-5, 7



Sermon

Rev. Philip Zielinski

Stand



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

- Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. O Lord, You bless and protect Your people in a world where many false gods, known and unknown, are worshiped. Give Your saints a clear and bold proclamation of Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Heavenly Father, Your Son suffered on our behalf to win salvation for us. Grant that we may have the privilege not only of believing in Him but also of suffering for His sake. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

Lord of heaven and earth, You have given the Spirit of truth to dwell in us through Holy Baptism. Grant Your Spirit's steadfast guidance, that the feet of this congregation and its catechumens may not slip into sin and unbelief, but live always in praise of You before the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Creator, You made from one man all the nations of the earth, and still You sustain us. Grant good leaders in every land who will seek peace and serve justice. Frustrate the causes of evil, violence and oppression. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- Father in heaven, You have given us a mirror of Your love in the vocation of mothers who nurture, guide and raise their children in all things good. Bless them in their calling. Sustain them through weary and difficult times. Remember in compassion all who are barren, and bring them comfort through the children of Your Church. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord, You promised not to abandon us in our need nor leave us as orphans. Send forth Your Spirit and work through us, Your people, that the lonely, poor, homeless and travelers may rejoice in Your presence and the power of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Grant healing according to Your will, and sustain in faith those for whom we pray [especially _____]. Lord, in Your mercy,

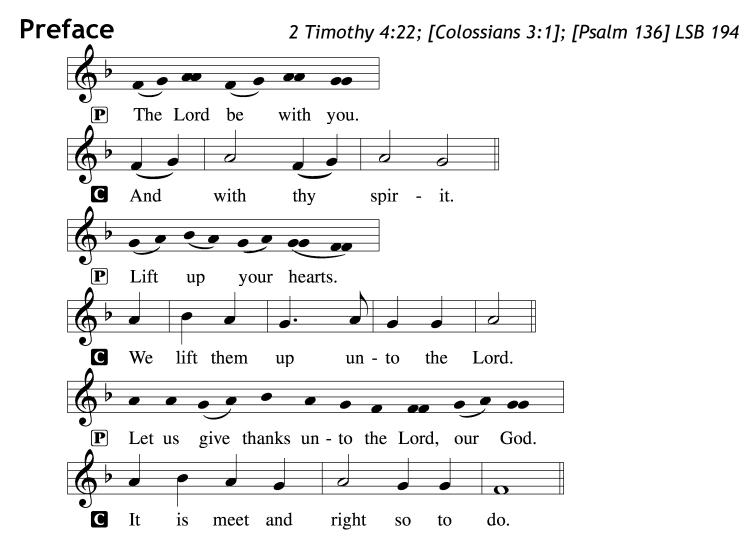
C hear our prayer.

P We give You thanks for the salvation and life You give us through Christ Jesus. You do not leave Your people as orphans but strengthen the penitent with the body and blood of Your Son. Help us to receive what You offer here for our good, that this Holy Communion may strengthen our faith and equip us for Your service. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

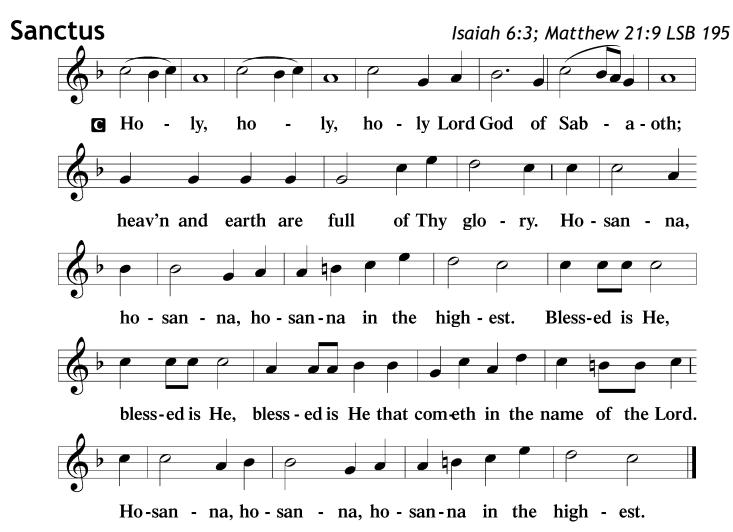
- P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
- **C** Amen.

Service of the Sacrament



Proper Preface for Easter

It is truly meet, 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:



Lord's Prayer

C

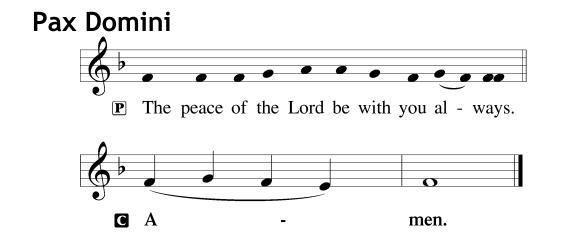
P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

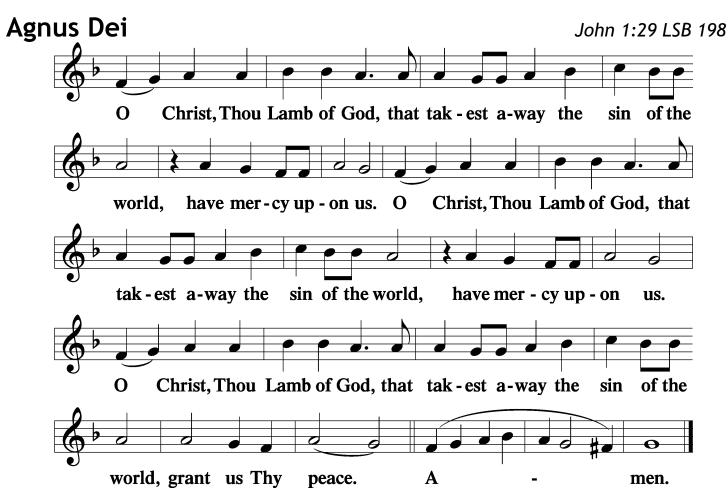
The Words of Our Lord

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."



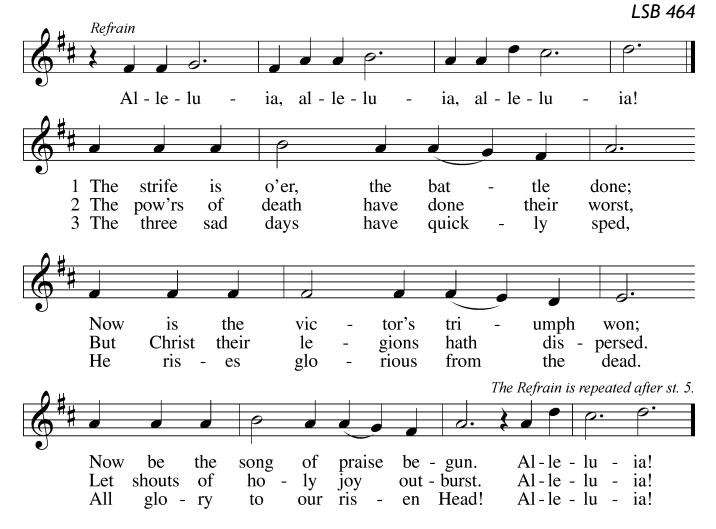
John 20:19 LSB 197



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
 - \circ 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.

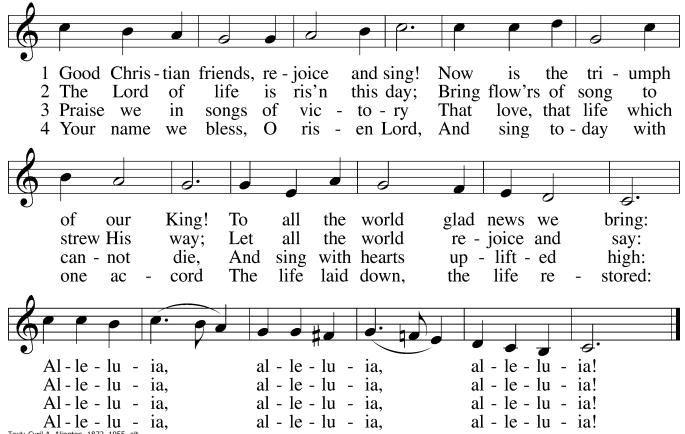
Distribution Hymn: The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done



- He broke the age-bound chains of hell;
 The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
 Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.
 Alleluia!
- 5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee, From death's dread sting Thy servants free That we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia! Refrain

Text: Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum, 1695, Köln; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909, alt. Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525–1594, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing LSB 475



Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615 Text: © 1958, renewed 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd., admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004522 Tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won LSB 490

2 Je - sus li 3 Je - sus li 4 Je - sus li	ives! The vic - ives! To Him ives! For me ives! I know ives! And now	t'ry's won! the throne He died, full well is death	Death no High a - Hence will Noth - ing But the	I, to	can ap - things is Je - sus Him shall life im -
	0		•	•••••	0
pall me giv - en. liv - ing sev - er. mor - tal;	, I s , Pure Nei -	sus lives shall go in hear ther death shall calm	where H t and a n nor po	ign is He is act a w'rs of em - blin	/
					40
From the Live and Praise to Part me When I	reign with Him and now from (Him in l glo - ry Christ for -	call me. neav - en. giv - ing ev - er. por - tal.	God	is I will
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faith - ful; d need God be my s	sure de - fens fails each sens	ce! This sh se; This sh se; This sh	all be my all be my all be my	con - fi con - fi con - fi	- dence. - dence. - dence. - dence. - dence!

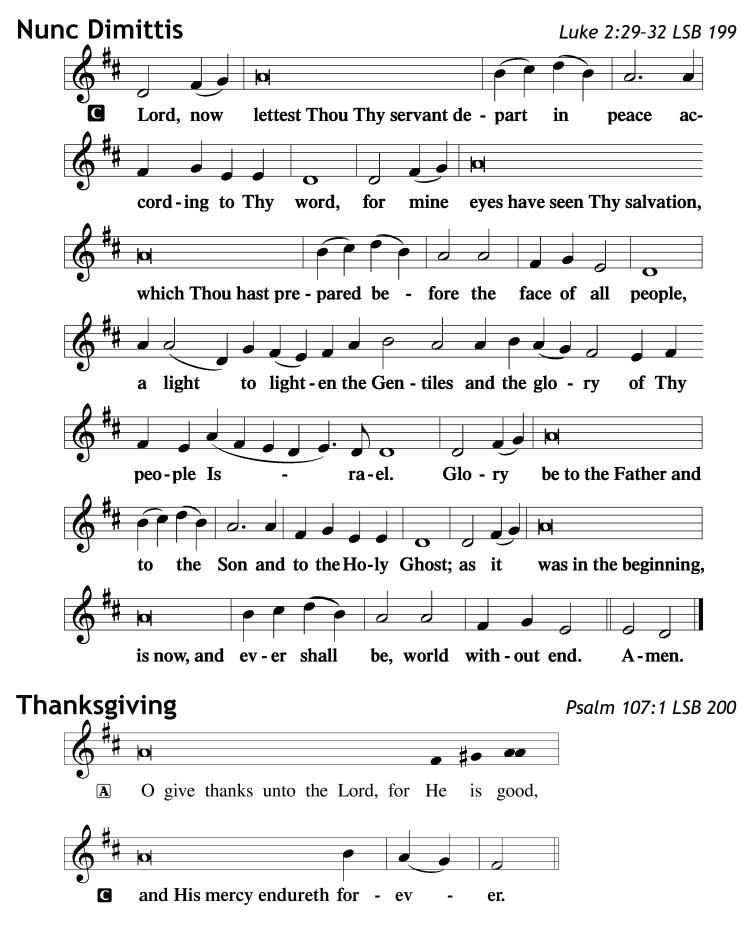
Stand The Dismissal

18

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.

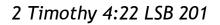


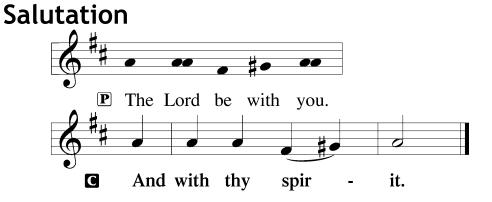
Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

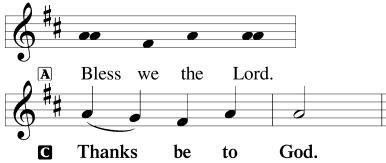
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



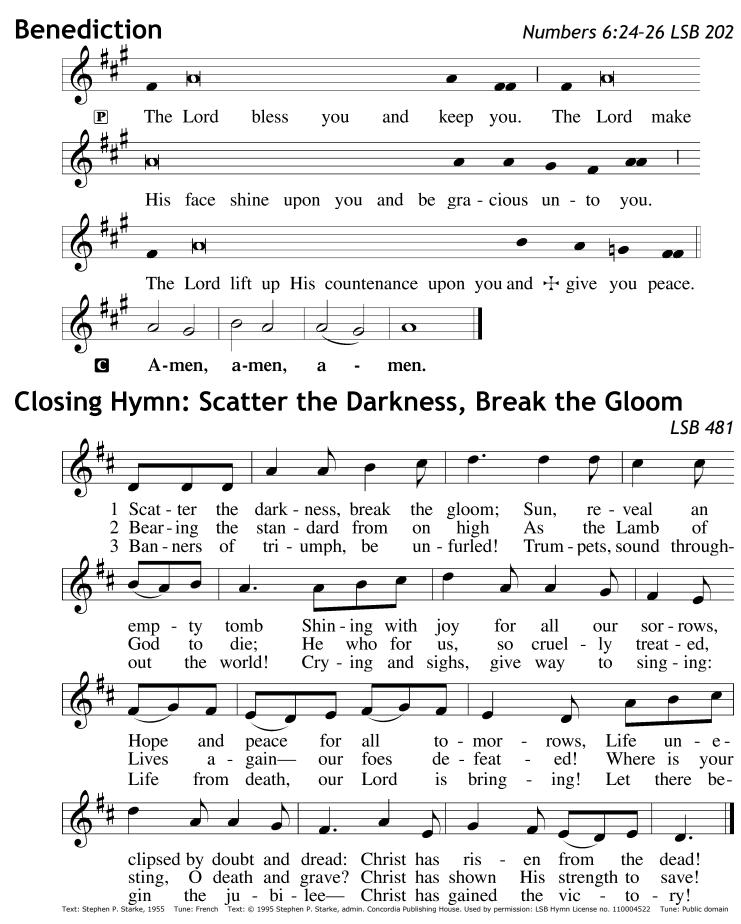




Benedicamus



Psalm 103:1 LSB 202



Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today Today Today Tuesday Tuesday Wednesday 9:15 AM 9:15 AM 12-2:00 PM 5-7:00 PM 7:00 PM 10:00 AM Bible Class Sunday School Walk-In Communion Walk-In Communion Executive Meeting Bible Study

VOTERS' MEETING is next Sunday, May 21st between services.

2023 GRADUATES Calling all High School, Trade School, College or Military! Please email the church office by Monday, May 22nd your loved one's: Full Name, School graduated from, next school or adventure heading into, or anything else that we may encourage and celebrate.

FREE HEALTH & BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING We will need a minimum of 25 to hold this event on **Sunday, June 25th.** Please sign-up at the Welcome Center. For questions, please contact Beth Bremke.

THANK YOU to the many hands that helped in preparation for this year's Confirmation Sunday - a very special and blessed day!

THANK YOU to all those who showed up yesterday to be a good steward of St. Paul grounds!

<u>COMING SOON</u> An email will be sent out to formally register you for the Summer Adventure trip to the Creation Museum & Ark Encounter. Please register as soon as possible. Registration closes on June 11th. See Rev. Streeper if you have any questions or need assistance. **<u>GOOD STEWARDSHIP</u>** Please take a moment to collect your Worship folders, filled out or blank attendance slips, used tissues, and any other items left in the pews after leaving Worship services. Thank you kindly!

<u>PICTORIAL DIRECTORY</u> If you have any questions about the ONLINE version that launched, please contact the church office. You should have received an email with your username (firstnamelastname) and create your own password. This will allow you to view the directory. Print copies will be available.

PORTALS OF PRAYER the 2023 April-June devotion booklets are available on the Welcome Table and in the Narthex hallway, please take your copy home today.

<u>WORSHIP BULLETINS & ATTENDANCE SLIPS</u> You're encouraged to take home your worship bulletins (use the scriptures, hymns and prayers for your own devotions!). Please use the blue recycle tub that is located in the hallway as you leave the sanctuary to place <u>ONLY</u> the bulletins (including Large Print as we do recycle the black combs) and the unused attendance slips. Thank you.

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP Families with young children are invited to join in fellowship! Dates and times are to be decided. If you are interested in that or other gatherings, sign-up at the Welcome Center or contact Sarah Moser at 440-453-0180.

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor is still providing individual communion opportunities for the foreseeable future. Check the posted times for "walk-in" communion below.

Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

"Walk-In" times at Church:

Sundays, 12 – 2pm

Tuesdays, 5 – 7pm

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

To schedule a time other than the walk-in times

Call Pastor 440-458-0189

Visit <u>www.spvc.org</u> and click "Book with Pastor" to see available times for appointments.

<u>TITHES & OFFERINGS</u> 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 <u>www.spvc.org</u> 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.

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 9:30 AM.

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.

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.

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.

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

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE We continue to take offerings to provide relief to Lutheran church partners affected by the war in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

May 2023								
	SERVICE	May 7 SUNDAY Confirmation Sunday Communion	May 14 SUNDAY Mother's Day Communion	May 21 SUNDAY Communion	May 28 SUNDAY Memorial Weekend Communion			
ELDER	8am 10:30am	Tim Wadle Jim Jackson	Steve Kato Sam Jakabcic	Chris Duran Jim Jackson	Tim Wadle Sam Jakabcic			
USHERS	8am 10:30am		David Hesketh Rich Proeschel	Mark Gordon Brian Dearth	Dave Hesketh Erich Gottl			
GREETERS	8am 10:30am	Ű	David & Mackenzie Duran Barb Pijor	Dean & Beth Bremke Joe Bennett	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes Barb Pijor			
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			





Grab your friends and family and join the Thrivent Member Network - Ohio Valley Region at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

This event includes the opportunity to gather at Stillwater Place to enjoy lunch and participate in a private Animal Encounter alongside other Thrivent Members. Attendees will also receive a voucher to feed the giraffes during their time exploring the zoo and participate in a Thrivent Action Team.

No products will be sold. For additional disclosures, see Thrivent.com/social.

\$10.00 - Adult Admission (15 Years & Older)

\$5.00 - Children Admission (4 Years to 14 Years)

FREE - Children Admission (3 Years & Under)

FREE - Zoo Members (Must Show Membership Card)

To Register please go to:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/thrivent-family-fun-day-tickets-600836567347?aff=FA&referenceId=bill-fecht

Sales end May 18, 2023

LUTHERAN CEMETERY & HOPE MEMORIAL GARDENS TO HONOR VETERANS

Both Lutheran Cemeteries will again honor veterans before Memorial Day. Volunteers are always welcome to help place American flags on the graves at:

Lutheran Cemetery, 4566 Pearl Road, Cleveland, OH

Hope Lutheran Cemetery, 2447 Center Road, Hinckley, OH

For more information, contact the Cleveland cemetery office at 216-351-1308, or Hope Lutheran Cemetery in Hinckley at 330-225-7040.

As some of us are no longer the young, spry, conditioned, and active youth we once were, how about inviting your kids and grandkids to help-out with the placing the flags?

Wednesday, May 24th at 9:00 AM; able bodied volunteers are needed at Lutheran Cemetery in Cleveland to place flags on over 1,500 veterans' graves. Coffee and donuts are provided.

Thursday, May 25th at 9:00 AM; able bodied volunteers are needed at Hope Lutheran Cemetery in Hinckley on over 700 veterans' graves. Coffee and donuts are provided.

Monday, May 29th at 9:00 AM; Memorial Day service at Lutheran Cemetery on Pearl Road in Cleveland. Service conducted by Rev. Jay Plummer (former Navy Chaplain, now with Parma Lutheran). Bethany Brass Choir will provide music. Please bring your own lawn chairs.





SEE REV. STREEPER FOR MORE INFO



ENCOUNTER® 1377 Lester Rd. Valley City, OH 44280 330-483-3883

REGISTER IN PERSON OR ONLINE @ WWW.SPVC.ORG

<u>GIFTS FROM THE HEART</u> LWML Lorain-Medina Zone will be sharing our blessings with others in need at the LWML National Convention in June. Sandy Turner and Ethel Schiemann would welcome gift cards in any denomination to Walmart for Phil's Friends. They are a Christ centered support and hope group for those affected by cancer. Only gift cards please, because they will fit in our suitcases and collected at the national convention. Please place them into the container by the welcome center indicating the amount of the gift card. Thank you.

Walmart Gift Cards



Walmart gift cards for Phil's Friends

Christ centered support and hope agency for those affected by cancer.

Cards will be taken to our LWML National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Please drop them in by June 11, 2023



July 10-14 9am - 11:30am

This summer at Vacation Bible School, we're covered in Jesus' grace! Our theme for this year, God's Living Water: Covered in Jesus' Grace, is inspired by 1 Timothy 1:14, which says, "The grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." Each of the lessons focuses on biblical accounts that emphasize the Living Water, Jesus Christ.

Student and Volunteer Registration is OPEN www.spvc.org

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.