

2nd Sunday of Easter April 27, 2025

All members and guests, please fill out the Welcome Form found at the end of your row and pass it on to your neighbor. The pastoral and spiritual care of the members of Christ Church is very important to us. In order to care for all of you, we need to know who is present and who is not. So, please take a moment to sign the pad. The Welcome Forms will be picked up by the ushers at the end of the service.

WELCOME TO CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Looking for a Church Home?

Mr. Rogers once asked, "Won't you be my neighbor?" Jesus asked, "Who is your neighbor?" At Christ Lutheran Church (CLC) - Zionsville, our answer to Jesus' question is EVERYONE, and to Mr. Rogers - YES.

God calls us to meet people wherever they are in their journey of faith – and that includes YOU!

At Christ Lutheran Church you are welcomed, just as you are:

- Single, committed, married, divorced, lost your partner, still looking or not.
- Every race, nationality, gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation
- Ready to join a group or prefer to sit back
- Regardless of knowing a little or a lot about Jesus
- Whether you have left the Church and are returning
- Whether you find yourself on this list or not

We are calling YOU neighbor! Join us!

Children in Worship

Children hold a special place in our congregation! We warmly invite children of all ages to join us in worship. We embrace their natural tendencies to giggle, poke, squirm, and swing their legs - it's all part of being a child and a precious gift to our community.

Our nursery is available from **10:30 to 11:30**, staffed by dedicated caregivers who will lovingly care for infants and toddlers. This allows parents to fully engage in worship, knowing their little ones are in safe hands. The nursery provides age-appropriate toys and a comforting environment, ensuring your child's needs are met while you worship with the congregation.

We respect and support each family's unique circumstances and preferences. Whether your child joins the main worship service or utilizes our nursery, we are here to accommodate and make everyone feel welcome and comfortable.



Please scan QR code if you would like to give an electronic offering.

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

P We gather as people on a journey.

C We believe & we have doubts,
we do good & we sin.

We are imperfect humans,
and still beloved by God.

P Love and grace. Hope and faith. These are the essence of the one we call God.

C We seek forgiveness & grace from the One and from those we've harmed.

P Assured of that grace, we are ready to grow again.

C We yearn for a new way, a new perspective, and a clear path.

P Though we are full of trust and full of doubt, we are here.

P Speak to us, God!
Continue creating us!
C Inspire our hearts.
Enlighten our minds.
Guide our actions. Amen.

~ written by Tim Graves and posted on LiturgyBits. https://liturgybits.wordpress.com

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of \pm the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **C Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

C make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

C make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

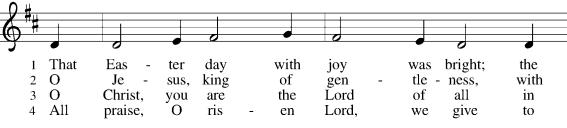
C Amen.

Where is the Confession and Forgiveness?

Today's service may not include a formal order of confession and forgiveness, yet as we affirm our baptisms, we embrace a profound truth. In affirming our faith, we acknowledge not only God's unending love and grace but also the inherent forgiveness embedded within these sacred promises. Our trust in our baptism echoes our trust in God's unwavering forgiveness, a reminder that in every moment, we stand embraced by divine love and grace.











GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING Acts 5:27-32

L A reading from Acts.

²⁷When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Word of God, Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 118:14-29

L ¹⁴The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

C ¹⁵ Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!

L ¹⁶The right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"

C ¹⁷ I shall not die, but live,

and declare the works of the Lord.

- L ¹⁸ The Lord indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.
- C ¹⁹ Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.
- L ²⁰ "This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter."
- C ²¹ I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.
- L ²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- C ²³ By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

- L ²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- C ²⁵ Hosanna! O Lord, save us!

We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days!

- L ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord.
- C ²⁷The Lord is God and has given us light.

Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.

- L ²⁸ You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.
- C ²⁹ Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God's mercy endures forever.

SECOND READING Revelation 1:4-8

L A reading from Philippians.

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

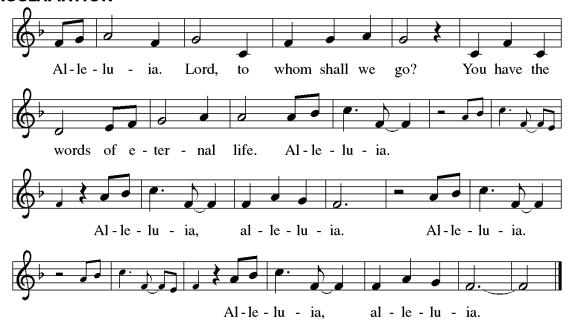
⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Angie Eugenio

SERMON

Pastor Wes Smith

Please rise as you are able.



BAPTISM OF MADELINE & ELIZA COMPTON

PRESENTATION

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Madeline and Eliza baptized into Christ?

Response: We do.

As you bring your daughters to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with them among God's faithful people,

bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,

teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

place in their hands the holy scriptures,

and nurture them in faith and prayer,

so that Madeline and Eliza may learn to trust God,

proclaim Christ through word and deed,

care for others and the world God made,

and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help *Madeline and Eliza* grow in the Christian faith and life? *Response:* We do.

People of God, do you promise to support *Madeline and Eliza* and pray for *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

C We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,

the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God? *Response:*

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord is with you.

C And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

^{*}Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use. ** meaning - all of God's Church.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

BAPTISM

I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

C You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Madeline/Eliza with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C Amen.

Madeline/Eliza child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

O God of endless renewal and life, we approach You in prayer, interceding for Your church, the world, and all those in dire need.

A moment of silence

Infuse Your church with the vivifying presence of Your Holy Spirit, enabling us to joyfully proclaim the message of resurrection. Inspire our deacons, pastors, lay leaders, and bishops with courage and conviction to fearlessly declare Your unconditional love for all humanity. Listen to our prayers, O God.

C Your mercy knows no bounds.

Guard our planet, ensuring it remains a sanctuary for all life forms. Heal environments marred by pollution and misuse, bolster initiatives aimed at fostering sustainability and heighten our consciousness of the ecological consequences of our everyday choices. Listen to our prayers, O God.

C Your mercy knows no bounds.

Ignite a flame of collaboration and mutual respect among nations. Elevate innovative and intrepid leaders who are devoted to resolving the intricate issues that affect both our local and international communities. Listen to our prayers, O God.

C Your mercy knows no bounds.

Surround those burdened with physical or emotional wounds with Your loving care. Offer Your nearness to those enduring chronic illness, anxiety, or facing the proximity of death. Provide solace to all individuals and communities grappling with any form of suffering. This day we pray especially for **Steve**, **Ray**, **Janice**, **Diane**, **Tina**, **Bill**, **Marilyn**, **Pat**, **Mimi**, **Charlotte**, **Michael**, **Kat**, **Dorothy** and for all those we now name in our hearts or in Your presence. Listen to our prayers, O God.

C Your mercy knows no bounds.

Morph our fears into curiosity and compassion, bridging divides across racial, religious, sexual, gender, and economic lines. Disentangle the prejudices that foster discrimination and dismantle the systems that oppress the disenfranchised. Listen to our prayers, O God.

C Your mercy knows no bounds.

We honor those who have departed this life, trusting in Your eternal nature as the beginning and the end. We seek Your wisdom and guidance as we navigate our earthly journey toward our heavenly calling. Listen to our prayers, O God.

C Your mercy knows no bounds.

We entrust these prayers to You, O God, secure in the knowledge that You are ever present; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **C Amen.**

GREETING OF PEACE

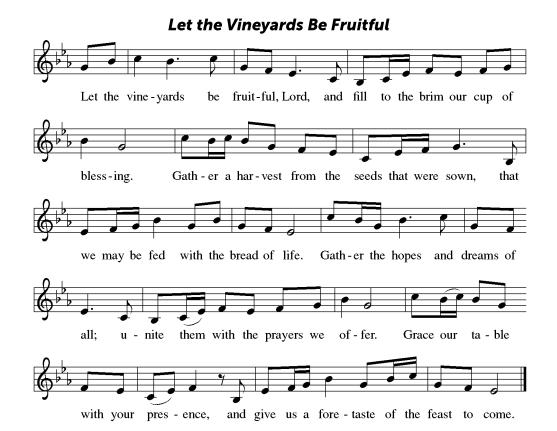
P The peace of the Lord is with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

Please stand as you are able.

Nelson



OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.
Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,

that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

P The Lord is with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

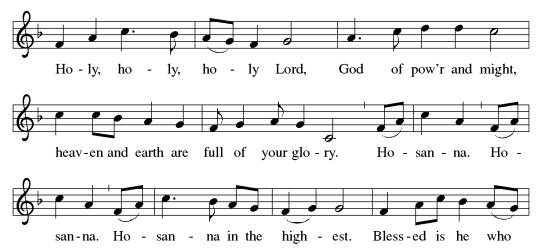
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, vour will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

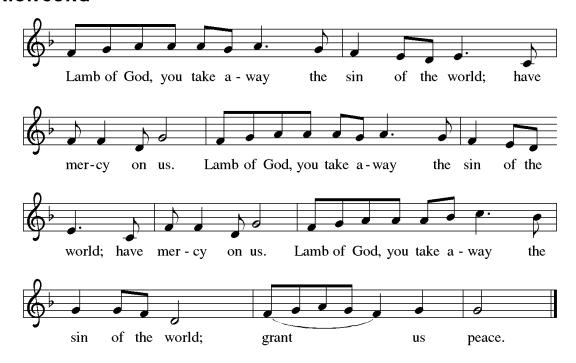
P Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to participate in the Lord's Meal. If it's been years, or just a week, the bread and wine/juice and Jesus' presence in, with, and around them are for all. If you have questions about taking your first communion don't hesitate to speak with Pastor Wes.

Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. When you come forward you will receive a wafer from Pastor Wes and you will hear the words the body of Christ, given for you. Once you eat the wafer you are invited to take either wine or juice from the communion assistant and you will hear the words, the blood of Christ, shed for you. Once you've communed there is a small receptacle where the used communion cup can be placed.

COMMUNION SONG



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

WELCOME RON & RHONDA BLACKLOCK

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

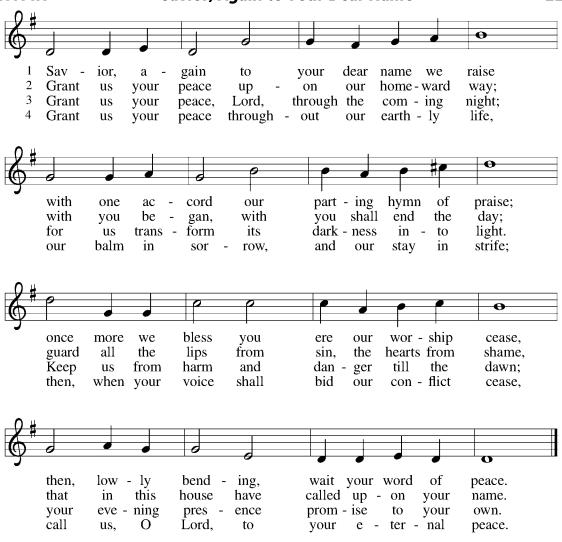
P The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ⊕ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C Amen.



Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

ELW 534



DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Go Forth With Joy

Hand

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SERVING US AT WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Pastor: Rev. Wesley Smith, III

Director of Music & Organist: Rhonda Blacklock

Lector: Andi Hardesty

Communion Assistant: JoAnne Tuffnell

Greeter: Connie Ashenfelter

Usher: Brian Hardesty

Nursery: Chris Emsley

Hospitality: Cheryl Kussow, Julia Hill

Financial Assistants: Tom Jones, Kathy Clark

Altar Guild: Barbara Burkhardt, Connie Steinhart, Jen Luczak

AV Assistant: Bill Beck

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