

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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The Fifth Sunday of Easter (Cantate)

15 May A~~D~~D 2022
Divine Service, Setting I

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Fifth Sunday of Easter. On this day, we rejoice that Jesus, having risen from the dead, now pours down upon us the Holy Spirit. Apart from the work of His Spirit, we would be lost forever in darkness and death. However, through His Spirit, Jesus reveals to us the Truth, both the truth of our sin, as well as the truth of His salvation, so that we might believe in Him and be saved. In short, through the Spirit, eternal life is ours!

If you are a VISITOR here, we'd like to offer you our warmest welcome! We pray that your experience among us is blessed, and that you depart filled with God's peace and life.

Also, toward the end of our service today we will be celebrating Holy Communion, in which we will eat and drink Jesus' body and blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26:26-28). Therefore, we ask that you would please see the statement titled "On the Sacrament of Holy Communion," printed below, which describes our beliefs and practices regarding this sacred gift.

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 the sake of His name. Amen.

ON THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: We believe that when we receive Holy Communion together, we are publicly declaring both our unity in Christ and our agreement in doctrine (1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1 Cor. 1:10). We also believe that if we receive this sacrament in unbelief, we risk God's judgment (1 Cor. 11:27-30).

Therefore, communion at this altar is reserved for those who believe and confess the teachings of our church body, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Those who have not been formally instructed in our teachings should wait to commune until completing a course of instruction with us.

If you are a VISITOR and would like to commune with us today, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you will not be communing, you are welcome to kneel at the altar with your arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing, or you may remain in your pew.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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

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

C Amen.

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.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

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.**

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.

Hymn of Invocation: 556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, With ex - ul - ta - tion
 2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death brood - ed dark - ly
 3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer - it
 4 But God had seen my wretch - ed state Be - fore the world's foun -
 5 God said to His be - lov - ed Son: "It's time to have com -



spring - ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly
 o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; In sin my
 gain - ing; Free will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, Dead to all
 da - tion, And mind - ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for
 pas - sion. Then go, bright jew - el of My crown, And bring to



rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How
 moth - er bore me. But dai - ly deep - er still I fell; My
 good re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair Left
 my sal - va - tion. He turned to me a fa - ther's heart; He
 all sal - va - tion. From sin and sor - row set them free; Slay



His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!
 life be - came a liv - ing hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
 on - ly death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suf - fered.
 did not choose the eas - y part But gave His dear - est trea - sure.
 bit - ter death for them that they May live with You for - ev - er."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 98:1b, 3–4; antiphon: vv. 1a, 2b

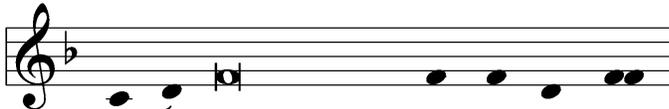
- P** Sing to the LORD a new song, Alleluia,
for he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. Alleluia.
- P** His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.
- C** **He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**
- P** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

- P** Sing to the LORD a new song, Alleluia,
for he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. Alleluia.

Kyrie

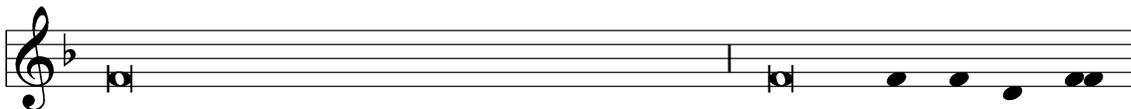
Mark 10:47



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.



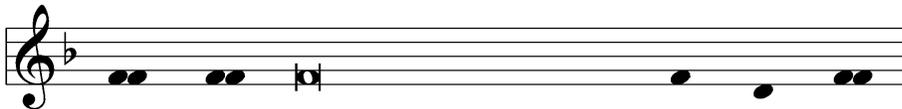
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C 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.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12:1-6

¹You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

²“Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.”

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse (spoken responsively)

Psalm 118:16; Romans 6:9

During the Sundays of Easter, the Gradual is omitted and the Verse is expanded.

- P** Alleluia. The right hand of the LORD exalts,
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly! Alleluia.
- C** We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia.

Epistle

James 1:16–21

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

¹⁹Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires. ²¹Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68

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 16:5–15

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁵[Jesus said:] “But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰concerning

righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore, I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit
Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 475 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing



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. 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. 110002763

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

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 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For true faith that sings of Christ, our strength and our song and our salvation, that we may trust and not be afraid of any danger in heaven and on earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For minds enlightened by our Father above, who rains down every good and perfect gift, that we would not be deceived by the lies of the world, but recognize God's blessings and receive them from Him with thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For faithful preachers, that the righteousness revealed in the sight of the nations in Christ would be proclaimed, and that all nations who still dwell in darkness may hear of Jesus' righteousness and be saved; and for all missionaries, especially Joe Boway, that the Lord would work through them for the extension of His kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For kind and loving hearts, slow to wrath and anger, that receiving the righteousness of God, we may in turn love our neighbors and help and support them in every physical need, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our president, our governor, the Congress and legislature, all judges and magistrates, and those in the armed forces, that God would guide them to serve according to His will; and for peace in Ukraine and around the world, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Hear the prayers of intercession we offer in the unity of Your Holy Spirit, our advocate and comforter [*especially for _____*]. Be their help and comfort in time of need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P For those who prepare to receive with faith and thanksgiving Christ's body and blood, that God would unite us to believe and confess one faith, and bring us to that day when we shall be one people together at His table, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, through Your Son You promised Your Holy Spirit, who would convict the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment. Enlighten our hearts so that we would confess our sins, obtain everlasting righteousness through faith in Christ, and through every trial and temptation, abide in the consolation that Christ is Lord over the devil, death and all things, and that He will graciously deliver us from all affliction to make us partakers of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit
Offering

During the Offering, we ask that you please sign a black attendance book located in your pew.

Stand
Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

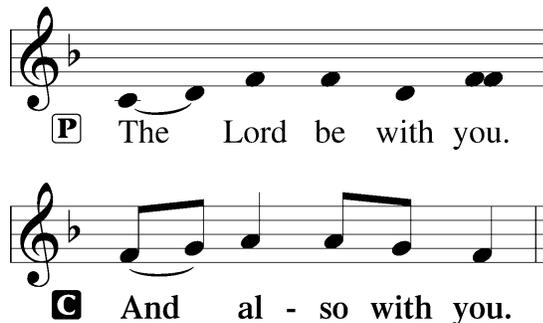


C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

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



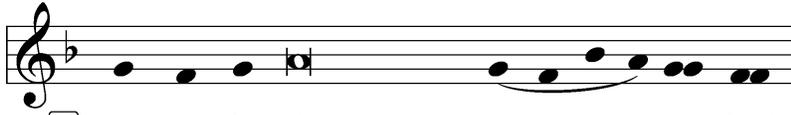
P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

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.

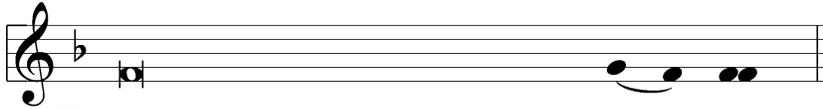
The Words of Our Lord

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



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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

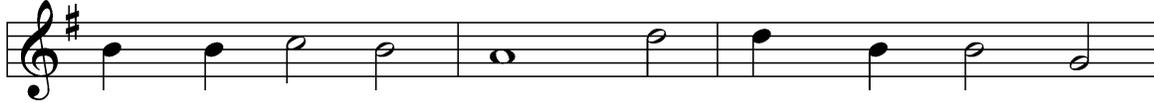
Distribution

Visitors – Please see the note on the inside front of this service folder regarding our Holy Communion policy.

Distribution Hymn: 528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As -
 3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That
 4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He



great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my
 sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
 bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the
 sets the pris - 'ner free. His blood can make the



God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!
 earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.
 sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.
 foul - est clean; His blood a - vails for me.

- 5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own
 Your God, ye fallen race.
 Look and be saved through faith alone,
 Be justified by grace.
- 6 See all your sins on Jesus laid;
 The Lamb of God was slain.
 His soul was once an off'ring made
 For ev'ry soul of man.
- 7 To God all glory, praise, and love
 Be now and ever giv'n
 By saints below and saints above,
 The Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt.

Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
 2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
 Δ 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal



praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
 Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -



ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 ev - er - more: 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 (sts. 1-2): Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823-97
 Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Thank the Lord

[Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8–10]



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn: 556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

Stanzas 6-10



6 The Son o - beyed His Fa - ther's will, Was born of vir - gin
 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and
 8 "Though he will shed My pre - cious blood, Me of My life be -
 9 "Now to My Fa - ther I de - part, From earth to heav'n as -
 10 "What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and



moth - er; And God's good plea - sure to ful - fill, He came to
 cas - tle. Your ran - som I My - self will be; For you I
 reav - ing, All this I suf - fer for your good; Be stead - fast
 cend - ing, And, heav'n - ly wis - dom to im - part, The Ho - ly
 teach - ing; So shall the king - dom's work be wrought And hon - ored



be my broth - er. His roy - al pow'r dis - guised He bore; A
 strive and wres - tle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And
 and be - liev - ing. Life will from death the vic - t'ry win; My
 Spir - it send - ing; In trou - ble He will com - fort you And
 in your preach - ing. But watch lest foes with base al - loy The



ser - vant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the dev - il cap - tive.
 where I am you may re - main; The foe shall not di - vide us.
 in - no - cence shall bear your sin, And you are blest for - ev - er.
 teach you al - ways to be true And in - to truth shall guide you.
 heav'n - ly trea - sure should de - stroy; This fi - nal word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. 5/15 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday School** 10:45 a.m., Upstairs Youth Room
- **Adult Bible Study** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Mon. 5/16 Pastor's Day Off

Tue. 5/17 Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Wed. 5/18 Assemble dinners for St. Paul, Pontiac, here at St. Mark's 3:00 p.m.
Serve Dinner at St. Paul Lutheran, Pontiac 7:00 p.m.

Thu. 5/19 Quilting Bee 10:00 a.m.
Pastor out of the office in the afternoon

Fri. 5/20 Deadline to submit newsletter articles for June

Sat. 5/21 Armed Forces Day
"Every One His Witness" Workshop 9:00 a.m.

Sun. 5/22 The Sixth Sunday of Easter

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday School** 10:45 a.m., Upstairs Youth Room
- **Adult Bible Study** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT BIBLE CLASS – During the month of May, we will be continuing our study of the book of Genesis in our Adult Bible Class! The book of Genesis is the first book of the Bible, and it tells the story of God's salvation from the very beginning. It starts with the creation of the world and the fall into sin, and from there it traces the promise of the Savior from generation to generation, beginning with Adam and culminating with Jacob's twelve children. It includes the account of Noah and the Flood, the Tower of Babel, the Call of Abraham, and Joseph's rise in Egypt. At every place it proclaims the steadfast love of God and His faithfulness in redeeming mankind from the guilt of our sin. We hope you will join us for this study! This is a great opportunity to fill your week with God's Word and to grow in knowledge and faith! Adult Bible Class meets in the Fellowship Hall on **Sundays at 10:45 a.m.**, after our Divine Service.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY – Preschool through Elementary-age school kids are welcome to join Mrs. Kaufman in the upstairs youth room (behind the choir loft) right after the Divine Service for Sunday School **today from 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.** Kids will hear a different Bible story each week; what a great way for them to learn about Jesus! And kids are certainly welcome to bring friends and/or family with them also!

HELP SERVE DINNER AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN, PONTIAC – St. Mark's will be packing dinners to serve to the members and friends of St. Paul, Pontiac, this **Wednesday, May 18.** If you'd like to help assemble the meals, please join us at 3:00 p.m. If you'd like to help serve the pre-packaged meals, meet at St. Paul, Pontiac, at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet has been posted in the lobby for those who'd like to donate food items for the dinners.

“EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS” WORKSHOP THIS SATURDAY - God calls each of us to witness to Christ in our daily lives, so others also might share in His salvation. But how do we do this in a loving, respectful, and Biblically-faithful way, especially in a world that has fallen so far away from the Truth of God? This **Saturday, May 21**, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Pastor Vergin will be leading a workshop titled “Every One His Witness” in which we will learn exactly that. Please consider attending! The workshop will be held in St. Mark's Fellowship Hall and will last all day (lunch will be provided). Cost to attend is \$15 (no cost for those who have previously attended). A sign-up sheet can be found on the back table in the sanctuary. Space is limited so sign up now!

ALL-CIRCUIT ASCENSION DIVINE SERVICE TO BE HELD ON MAY 26 – St. Mark's will be hosting a **circuit-wide** Ascension Thursday Divine Service here on **Thursday, May 26** at 7:00 p.m. Prior to the service, there will be a potluck dinner from 5:30 – 6:30. We are the only LCMS congregation out of the six churches in our circuit to regularly hold Ascension Thursday services, so we thought it would be nice to invite our nearby sister LCMS congregations to worship with us. Please mark this special service on your calendars and plan to attend!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Calling all men! You are invited and encouraged to attend our Men's Bible Study on **Saturday, May 28** from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Bring your Bibles with you. And bring a friend or two also! A free breakfast will be available during the event for those who wish to partake of it. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather as men in Christ to enjoy the scriptures and fellowship!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS - Even though St. Mark's Vacation Bible School won't take place until **July 18 – 22**, preparations have already begun! This is such a wonderful Christian outreach program to kids in our community. Last year, we had 62 kids attend VBS! Starting today, and going through mid-July, we will be receiving a free-will door offering to help offset the expenses of VBS. Also starting today, we will begin praying for our VBS program during the Prayers of the Church section of the Divine Service. Lastly, we are now seeking volunteers to help with VBS and a sign-up sheet for this has been placed on the table in the back of the sanctuary. We will need lots of help!!! So if you will be available to lend a hand July 18-22, or any part of that week, please sign up today!

SEEKING ADDITIONAL GREETERS FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS – We are currently seeking some additional greeters for Sunday mornings to help welcome those who attend our Divine Service prior to their entering the sanctuary. Being a greeter is easy! You just arrive at church 15-20 early, stand outside the sanctuary doors, and welcome each person with a hand shake and/or or a smile while wishing them a “Good morning!” Greeters only greet once every 6 to 8 Sundays, so it isn’t a huge time commitment. **If interested, please let Debbie LoCascio know.**

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN 2022! The Board of Elders is leading a reading program in which we will be going through the entire Bible in the year 2022. We hope you will participate! Yearly reading plans are available on the back table in the sanctuary.

The readings for Week 20 (May 15-May 21) are:

Sun	15-May	2 Chronicles 29-31
Mon	16-May	2 Chronicles 32-34
Tue	17-May	2 Chronicles 35-36
Wed	18-May	Ezra 1-4
Thu	19-May	Ezra 5-7
Fri	20-May	Ezra 8-10
Sat	21-May	Nehemiah 1-3

SEEKING A VOLUNTEER TO BE LWML PRESIDENT AT ST. MARK’S - St. Mark’s Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) board is seeking someone to fill the role of president. The LWML is the leading group for Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod’s women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness. As Lutheran Women in Mission, these ladies joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. Some of the duties St. Mark’s LWML president would perform include being the liaison between the LWML office in St. Louis, Missouri and St. Mark’s LWML board, attending a few LWML Zone Rallies in our local area, overseeing some small mission fundraising events here in order to help support the work of missionaries, and assist with St. Mark’s Quilting Group. Jennie Kaufman is the current Treasurer of St. Mark’s LWML board. If you have any questions about the LWML, or the duties of the LWML president, feel free to talk to Jennie for more information. We’d love to find our new LWML president as soon as possible, so **if you’d be interested, please let Pastor Vergin ASAP.**

KEITH ELEMENTARY “INVISIBLE DAD” LUNCH PROGRAM DONATIONS – Keith Elementary’s Invisible Dad Lunch Program was started a few years ago by a dad of one of the students so that if a child forgot to bring a lunch, or if their personal lunch fund balance was short, the school could offer them a full lunch at no cost instead of the free, state-sponsored “tiny lunch” that doesn’t contain enough food and isn’t the healthiest. St. Mark’s has placed our Invisible Dad Lunch donation jar back on the table in the back of the sanctuary so that we can receive any extra change you’d like to donate for next year’s lunch program at Keith. We hope you will participate by donating any loose change you have!

WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT used postage stamps for Wycliffe Bible Translation Ministries, and used eyeglasses for MOST Ministries in the two plastic bins on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. Wycliffe sells the stamps to stamp collectors and then uses the proceeds to fund Bible translation projects throughout the world. MOST Ministries repairs/refurbishes used eyeglasses and distributes them via eyeglass clinics to the needy around the world. If you donate postage stamps, please be sure to leave ¼” of the envelope paper around the stamp.

TOILETRY/HYGIENE DONATIONS FOR THE OPEN DOOR OUTREACH CENTER – We continue to receive hygiene & toiletry products year around for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford. There are two bins located on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs where you can place product donations. The Open Door is a non-profit organization that assists needy families in the Lakes Area. They are ALWAYS in need of toiletry and hygiene items, so **if you can provide any of these throughout the year, it would be appreciated.**

IF YOU SHOP AT A KROGER STORE, please consider participating in their Community Rewards program and **link your shopper’s bonus card to St. Mark’s** so that our congregation will receive free cash each quarter! There is no cost to you! Kroger will send a percentage of what you spend to our congregation as a way of supporting the community. If interested (and we hope you will be!), please click on this URL below to see how you can link your Shopper’s Bonus Card to our congregation: <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. In order to locate St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, search for business # 82449. Thanks so much!



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Pastor Aaron Vergin

Altar Guild

Debbie Sidelinker

Elder on Duty

Tom LoCascio

Greeter(s)

Tom & Debbie LoCascio

Offering Counters

Nancy Salo &Carolynn Taylor

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

John Reardon

Video Technician

Charlie Powell