



Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

May 7, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Welcome

He’s Risen, He’s Risen

LSB 480

- 1 **He’s risen, he’s risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death’s prison, the incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.**
- 2 **The foe was triumphant when on Calvary
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.
In Satan’s domain did the hosts shout and jeer,
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.**
- 3 **But short was their triumph; the Savior arose,
And death, hell, and Satan he vanquished, his foes.
The conquering Lord lifts his banner on high;
He lives, yes, he lives, and will nevermore die.**
- 4 **O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden’s door.
For all our transgressions his blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are his own.**
- △ 5 **Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:
With Father and Spirit he ever shall reign.**

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

Invocation

- ☩ We begin our worship in the name of the Father, of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- P** You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession,
- C** **That we may declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9)**
- P** The Spirit of Christ has called, gathered, enlightened, and set us apart to tell everyone what Jesus has done.
- C** **Yet we often have ignored that calling, keeping silent in the face of opportunities to announce God's rescue to those held prisoner by the guilt of sin and fear of death.**
- P** Heavenly Father,
- C** **Forgive us for failing to live out our purpose.**

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

- P** Living "in Christ" means our identity is defined by our relationship with him – "Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God." Our standing before God is based not on a spiritual performance review or a missional success ratio, but only on the mercy of God: "Once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." 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. In his mercy he has forgiven you and promises to use you for his purposes and his mission in the world. Church of God, he will accomplish mighty things through you!
- C** **Amen! It shall be so!**

This is the Feast

LSB 171

- P** This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
- C** **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**
Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Sharing of the Peace

- P** On the evening of the first day of the week, the disciples gathered together. And because they were afraid of reprisals from the Jewish

leaders, they had locked the doors to the place where they met. But suddenly Jesus appeared among them and said,

C **Peace be with you.**

P Then he showed them the wounds of his hands and his side – they were overjoyed to see the Lord with their own eyes! Jesus repeated his greeting,

C **Peace be with you.**

P Then eight days later, Thomas and all the others were in the house together. And even though all the doors were locked, Jesus suddenly stood before them and said,

C **Peace be with you.**

P As Christ's body in this place, we share his peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Acts 6:8-14, 7:1-2a, 48-60

⁸ Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. ¹⁰ But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.

¹¹ Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, "We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God."

¹² So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. ¹³ They produced false witnesses, who testified, "This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. ¹⁴ For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us."

¹ Then the high priest asked Stephen, "Are these charges true?"

² To this he replied:

⁴⁸ "The Most High does not live in houses made by human hands. As the prophet says:

⁴⁹ “Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool.
What kind of house will you build for me?
says the Lord.

Or where will my resting place be?

⁵⁰ Has not my hand made all these things?

⁵¹ “You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! ⁵² Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— ⁵³ you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it.”

⁵⁴ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”

⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸ and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of

darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 14:1-14

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.

² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

LSB 843

1 “Forgive our sins as we forgive,”
You taught us, Lord, to pray;
But you alone can grant us grace
To live the words we say.

- 2 How can your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let
Old bitterness depart?
- 3 In blazing light your cross reveals
The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us,
How great our debt to you!
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love,
Our lives will spread your peace.

Homily

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 catholic 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.

Prayers of the Church

Sit

Presentation of the Offering

- P** Gracious Lord, what can we give to thank you for the gift of eternal life? You do not need our sacrifices, for as the scripture says, "Every animal of the forest is yours, and the cattle on a thousand hills." (*Psalm 50:10*) Yet we bring before you our offerings not only as tokens of gratitude but as signs that the treasures of a people bound by sin and death will not hold power over those who have been given new life. Accept these gifts, we pray, and use them to support the sharing of your good news that many more may rejoice in your resurrection.
- C** Amen.

Stand

Preface

- P** The Lord be 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 him thanks and praise.

Sanctus

LSB 178

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Our Lord

Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us your body and

blood to eat and to drink, you lead us to remember and confess your holy cross and passion, your blessed death, your rest in the tomb, your resurrection from the dead, your ascension into heaven, and your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei

LSB 180

- ☐ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace,
grant us peace.**

Sit

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith. If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit. If you do not confess the understanding of the Christian Faith as expressed by the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, you may still come to the altar to receive a blessing. Please fold your hands to indicate that you will not be receiving the sacrament.

Lord, You Have My Heart

Choir

Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

LSB 609

- 1 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.**
- 2 We deserve but grief and shame,
Yet his words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;
Here our ills have perfect healing.
Firmly in these words believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.**

3 Sheep that from the fold did stray
No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;
Weary souls that lost their way
Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
In his arms that they may live:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

4 I, a sinner, come to thee
With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me;
Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;
From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release
And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

LSB 821

1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
Has redeemed us by his blood."

2 Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;

Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise:
"I am with you evermore"?

3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth Your footstool, heav'n your throne.
As within the veil you entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,
Here on earth both priest and victim
In the eucharistic feast.

5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
Has redeemed us by his blood."

On Eagles' Wings

LSB 727

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: "My refuge,
My rock in whom I trust!" *Refrain*

*ref And he will raise you up on eagles' wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of his hand.*

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;

Under his wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

- 3 You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you,
Near you it shall not come. *Refrain*
- 4 For to his angels he's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain*

Dismissal

Stand

Benediction

- 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** Amen.

We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God

LSB 470

- 1 We praise you and acknowledge you, O God, to be the Lord,
The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.
To you all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,
The cherubim and seraphim their praises to you bring:
"O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!"
- 2 The band of the apostles in glory sing your praise;
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.
The martyrs of your kingdom, a great and noble throng,
Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:
"O all-majestic Father, your true and only Son,
And Holy Spirit, Comforter—forever Three in One!"
- 3 You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,
Yet you, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev'ryone:
You laid aside your glory, were born of virgin's womb,
Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;
Then by Your resurrection you won for us reprieve—
You opened heaven's kingdom to all who would believe.
- 4 You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God's right hand,
Upholding earth and heaven by forces you command.

**We know that you will come as our Judge that final day,
So help your servants you have redeemed by blood, we pray;
May we with saints be numbered where praises never end,
In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!**

Announcements

Sending

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Serving in worship today

May 7, 2023

Pastor:

Jason Neel

Elder:

Kevin Zimmerman

Jeff Williams

Reader:

Peggy Peterson

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Wayne Chambard 5/11 and David O’Keeffe 5/13.

Celebrating Baptism: Gretchen Lynn 5/7, Jennifer Williams 5/7, Jason Neel 5/9, Kati Schoenbauer 5/11, and Lois Spadgenske 5/13.

This Week at a Glance

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| Today | 8:00 a.m. | Bible Study |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Worship Service |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Adult Bible Study/Sunday School |
| Tuesday | 6:00 p.m. | Apocrypha Study |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Congregational Prayer |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Elder Meeting |
| Wednesday | 6:30 p.m. | Confirmation |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Bell Choir |
| Thursday | 7:00 a.m. | Men’s Bible Study |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Choir |
| Saturday | 9:00 a.m. | Youth Group Plant Sale |
| Sunday | 8:00 a.m. | Bible Study |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Worship Service |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Adult Bible Study/Sunday School |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Apocrypha Study |

Notes of Information:

Alaska Mission Bake Sale: Today there is a bake sale to support the VBS mission trip to Alaska this summer. Eleven members of SOC will be joining with members for Trinity Lutheran Church in Salina, Kansas to provide VBS for children in Seward Alaska. After the week of VBS the group will be helping build a Christian retreat in the bush of Alaska.

Annual Youth Plant Sale: Mark your calendars for the annual Youth Plant Sale which will be held **NEXT Saturday May 13th**. We will have beautiful hanging baskets for your Mother’s Day needs and we will have a variety of plants for your gardening needs.

New Members/Christian Faith Class: There will be a Christian Faith Class starting the second Sunday of June during Education hour. If you are interested in becoming a member or in taking the faith class alongside our new members, please contact Pastor Jason or Laura in the church office.

Lawn Mowing help needed: If you are interested in serving this summer by keeping our grounds looking their best, there is an opportunity to serve by mowing the grass this summer. Training on the shiny new tractor is included. If you are interested, please contact Andrew Kuntz.

Activity Bags Available: There are activity bags for young children located at the back of the sanctuary. We would like to thank Beth Gerard and Diane Weinhold for refreshing the bags.

Spirit of Christ Book Club: Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:

May 22 – Book in a Bag from the library

June 26 – Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris

July 24 – The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager at 763-434-9652.

Trinity First Needs Volunteers: Please see posted in the narthex Trinity First Volunteer needs for May/June. In May they have a Spring Musical, Graduation & Recognition Service/Banquet, and classroom wrap-up. Then in June they have their "Summer Bridge to Success". They need classroom aids, field trip chaperones, donations of paper products and food for breakfast and lunch and servers, and classroom wrap up to prepare for floor cleaning/facility projects. Contact info is posted. Start thinking about how you or your group can serve.

NACE: North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf needs personal hygiene, and diapers for both adults and children. If you would like to donate any of these items, please bring them into the Narthex and place them in the box. Toni Peterson 763-434-5665

LWML Mission Byte: Financial assistance for the Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Food and Clothing Co-op to purchase food. The Food Co-op spends approximately \$7,500 a month on items such as eggs, milk, cheese, ground beef, fresh fruits and vegetables and other perishables. The Co-op provides other items such as diapers, wipes and over-the-counter medications. The Co-op does not charge the seminary students for these items.

Monthly 1% Mission Outreach: As God's Stewards, we are called to serve. A great way to do this is to apply for the Monthly 1% Mission Outreach offering. Simply fill out a request form, state your outreach ministry, and how the funds will be used. Then return your request to the Stewardship Board. Some past

activities have included homeless kits, backpacks for World Relief, diaper kits, shopping for food shelf items, and holiday baskets for families. Be creative! Our Lord will use the talents and gifts He has given you to bless others.

Nursery: The nursery is open, and the sound is working. If you have a restless child, please feel free to use this space.

Sermons and bulletins posted online: Audio and video recordings of worship sermons and digital bulletins are posted weekly. Bulletins and past sermons can be found at www.spiritofchristhamlake.org

Offerings via Give+: Online giving is easy to do, one-time gifts and recurring donations are accepted. Visit the link at soclc.org to sign up or learn more.

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| Average Monthly Offering | \$6998 |
| <i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i> | <i>\$6662</i> |

Readings for next week:

Acts 17:22-31, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

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www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org

Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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