A close-up photograph of a hand holding a small amount of water, with a single drop falling onto a small green seedling growing out of dark soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green. The text is overlaid on the upper right portion of the image.

**"NIGHT AND DAY, WHETHER  
HE SLEEPS OR GETS UP,  
THE SEED SPROUTS AND  
GROWS, THOUGH HE DOES  
NOT KNOW HOW."**

MARK 4:27



## 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!

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June 16, 2024

*Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

### Welcome

#### *Rise, Shine, You People*

*LSB 825*

- 1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered  
Our human story; God in him is centered.  
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,  
With grace unbounded.**
- 2 See how he sends the pow’rs of evil reeling;  
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.  
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,  
Now are forgiven.**
- 3 Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling,  
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.  
To all the world go out and tell the story  
Of Jesus’ glory.**
- 4 Tell how the Father sent his Son to save us.  
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.  
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev’ry nation  
His new creation.**

*Stand*

### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy

Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

**P** St. Paul tells us, “one died for all, and therefore all died.”

**C** “He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.” (2 Cor. 5:14b-15)

**P** We confess before God that we have lived for ourselves.

**C** **We have taken charge of our own lives. We have prioritized our own desires and ambitions. We have neglected to care for our brothers and sisters. We have been impatient, hard-hearted, and unkind.**

**P** We cling to your promise that you put our old nature to death and raise us to new life.

**C** **Have mercy on us, Father. Bring forth your new creation in Christ.**

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

**P** “If anyone is in Christ: New Creation! The old has gone, the new is here.” (2 Cor. 5:17) God began this work in you in Holy Baptism and will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord. Until that day, God is committed to daily burying your sin and raising up Jesus in you. In the stead and by the command of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go forth and experience joy as you live out your new life in Christ, empowered by the Spirit and confident in God’s gracious blessing.

**C** **Amen! Thanks be to God!**

## Sharing of the Peace

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** We share Christ's peace with one another.

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying,*

*"Peace be with you," 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).*

## **Kyrie** (*Spoken*)

*LSB 168*

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** 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.

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**G** **Amen.**

## **This Is the Feast**

*LSB 171*

**P** This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**G** **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.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

**P** O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we

may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

*Nursery care for small children is offered from this point in the service through Holy Communion. Children may meet their caregivers in the back of the sanctuary.*

*Sit*

## **First Reading**

*Ezekiel 17:22-24*

<sup>22</sup>“This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it; I will break off a tender sprig from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it; it will produce branches and bear fruit and become a splendid cedar. Birds of every kind will nest in it; they will find shelter in the shade of its branches. <sup>24</sup>All the trees of the forest will know that I the LORD bring down the tall tree and make the low tree grow tall. I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. “I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.””

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading**

*2 Corinthians 5:6-17*

<sup>6</sup>Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. <sup>7</sup>For we live by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. <sup>10</sup>For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

<sup>11</sup>Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. <sup>12</sup>We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. <sup>13</sup>If we are “out of our

mind,” as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup> For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. <sup>15</sup> And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

<sup>16</sup> So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## **Alleluia & Verse**

*Praise Band*

**C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Holy Gospel**

*Mark 4:26-34*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the fourth chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup> He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup> Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. <sup>28</sup> All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. <sup>29</sup> As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

<sup>30</sup> Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. <sup>32</sup> Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

<sup>33</sup> With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. <sup>34</sup> He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sit*

***We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight***      *LSB 720 (tune 846)*

- 1 We walk by faith and not by sight,  
    No gracious words we hear  
From him who spoke as none e'er spoke,  
    But we believe him near.  
We may not touch his hands and side,  
    Nor follow where he trod;  
But in his promise we rejoice  
    And cry "My Lord and God!"
- 2 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;  
    And may our faith abound  
To call on you when you are near  
    And seek where you are found.  
For you, O resurrected Lord,  
    Are found in means divine:  
Beneath the water and the Word,  
    Beneath the bread and wine.
- 3 Lord, when our life of faith is done,  
    In realms of clearer light  
We may behold you as you are,  
    With full and endless sight.  
Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;  
    And may our faith abound  
To call on you when you are near  
    And seek where you are found.

**Homily**

*Stand*

**Nicene Creed**

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

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

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy 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 ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

## **Prayers of the Church**

**P** Strengthened by the Spirit who shapes our hearts and words,

let us bring our hopes and needs to our heavenly Father.

*Silence for individual prayer.*

**P** Almighty God, you send your people into the world as beacons of light and hope. Bless the ministry of churches everywhere as they cling to the promise of your constant presence. Let us pray.

**C** **Have mercy, O God.**

**P** With a word, you brought forth the majesty of creation: rolling hills, fragrant meadows, thundering seas. Inspire us to cherish and preserve them as stewards of your creation. Let us pray.

**C** **Have mercy, O God.**

**P** Be with those in the path of violence and war. Guard them against harm and give them a future with hope. Send your peace to the places that need it the most. Let us pray.

**C** **Have mercy, O God.**

**P** Give strength to those bearing heavy burdens: addiction, mental illness, loneliness, and grief. Heal those whose bodies and souls are hurting. Let us pray.

**C** **Have mercy, O God.**

**P** Enable this congregation to support all families. Strengthen all who nurture, so that they guide with wisdom, gentleness, and grace. Let us pray.

**C** **Have mercy, O God.**

**P** We give thanks for all the saints who rest eternally in your loving care. Enliven our witness by their example. Let us pray.

**C** **Have mercy, O God.**

**P** We lift our prayers to you, God of mercy, confident that all things are in your hands. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C** **Amen.**

## **Presentation of the Offering**

*Stand*

### **Preface**

*LSB 177*

**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*

*Praise Band*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory  
Holy is the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Holy is the Lord.**

## **The Words of Our Lord**

### **Proclamation of Christ**

*LSB 179*

**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*

*Praise Band*

**C** Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of all the world,  
Hear us, Jesus.  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of all the world,  
Have mercy on us.  
Have mercy on us

**And give us your 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.*

***Beautiful Things***

*Praise Band*

***How Great is Our God***

*Praise Band*

***Love Divine, All Loves Excelling***

*LSB 700*

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
Pure, unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation,  
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.**
- 2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit  
Into ev'ry troubled breast;  
Let us all in thee inherit;  
Let us find thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
Set our hearts at liberty.**
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;  
Let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,**

Nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise thee without ceasing,  
Glory in thy perfect love.

- 4 Finish then thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in thee,  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heav'n we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

*Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing*

*LSB 584*

- 1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,  
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,  
Seed to life eternal sowing,  
Scattered on the wind abroad.  
Let not hearts, your Word receiving,  
Like a barren field be found,  
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,  
Shallow earth or stony ground.
- 2 May the Spirit's pow'r unceasing  
Bring to life the hidden grain,  
Daily in our hearts increasing,  
Bearing fruit that shall remain.  
So in Scripture, song, and story,  
Savior, may your voice be heard.  
Till our eyes behold your glory  
Give us ears to hear your Word.

**Dismissal**

**Benediction**

*LSB 183*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to  
you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give † you peace.

**C** Amen

***On What Has Now Been Sown***

*LSB 921*

- 1 On what has now been sown  
Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;  
The pow'r is thine alone  
To make it sprout and grow.  
Do thou in grace the harvest raise,  
And thou alone shalt have the praise!
- 2 To thee our wants are known,  
From thee are all our pow'rs;  
Accept what is thine own  
And pardon what is ours.  
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,  
And to thy Word a blessing give.
- 3 O grant that each of us,  
Now met before thee here,  
May meet together thus  
When thou and thine appear  
And follow thee to heav'n, our home.  
E'en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!

**Announcements**

**Sending**

**P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

# Serving in worship today

June 16, 2024

## Pastor

Jason Neel

## Acolyte

Eddie Kothrade

## Usher

Sandy Elhardt

## Elders

Wayne Chambard

Phil Hagel

## Reader

Karine Platt

## Nursery

Kassidy Bryan and Lyla Marquardt

## In our prayers

**Celebrating Birthdays:** Dave Martti 6/16, Joan Mager 6/16, Chuck Johnson 6/17, Logan Parson 6/17, Todd Anderson 6/18, Emily Johnson 6/19, Abby Weinhold 6/20, and Jamil Poindexter 6/22.

**Celebrating Baptisms:** Chuck Johnson 6/17, Anora Kuntz 6/22, and Carl Schwanbeck 6/22.

**Celebrating Anniversaries:** Carl and Linda Schwanbeck 6/19, Leon and Joan Mager 6/21, Jerry and Jan Berg 6/22, and Les and Suzanne Geren 6/22.

## This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Quarterly Voter's Meeting
Tuesday	10:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Women's Coffee Talk
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study

## **Notes of Information:**

**VBS Registration:** VBS registration is open, you can follow the link on our homepage at [www.spiritofchristhamlake.org](http://www.spiritofchristhamlake.org), or use the QR code located in the back of this bulletin. Please consider registering your kiddos early so that we can plan for supplies, food and staff.

**LMWL Mission Byte:** SHARING CHRIST CRUCIFIED WITH HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans | \$35,000 Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans is the recipient of a \$35,000 LWML mission grant. The school exists by God's grace as an extension of Lutheran congregations to provide a quality physical, intellectual, and spiritual education to its students, enabling them to go to college, to be exemplary citizens, and to be equipped to make disciples for Christ. The Mite Box will be available in the narthex on June 23rd.

**Quarterly Voter's Meeting:** TODAY, following worship service there will be a quarterly voter's meeting held in the sanctuary. During this meeting we will be voting to ratify the new board members and get updates on what each board is working on.

**LWML:** Thanks for the donation of new or gently used shoes and socks for The Orphan Grain Train ingathering. We will be transporting them to the MN South District Convention in Mankato on June 20th, 2024. Thanks again for your generosity! The collection box is still available in the narthex through TODAY.

**VBS Needs:** We need some items to build the set for VBS this year. We need Styrofoam peanuts, plastic water/soda bottles (empty), plastic easter eggs in bright colors, plastic bottle caps (milk jug or smaller) and egg cartons. If you would like to donate these items, please leave them below the VBS bulletin board in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Leslie.

**SOC Women's Wednesday Morning Coffee:** We will meet on Wednesday June 19th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This month we are going to help out VBS and make "Tissue Paper flowers" for part of their decorations. If you do not want to make

flowers, come have coffee and visit, the more the merrier! Questions contact Beth Gerard 762-228-2077

**NACE:** North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf is currently in need of items for “weekend pack” that are sent home with children from area schools. They need things like dried fruit, fruit cups, oatmeal packs, easy mac, shelf stable milk and other small snack items. Thank you for your donations. For more information reach out to Toni Peterson at 763-434-5665

**Book Club:** Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:  
June 24 – The Keepsake Sisters by Lori Wilde  
July 22 – What She Left Behind by Ellen Marie Wiseman  
If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager at 763-434-9652.

**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](http://www.spiritofchristhamlake.org)**.

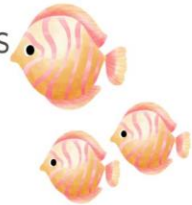
**Offerings via Give+:** Online giving is easy to do, one-time gifts and recurring donations are accepted. Visit the link at [soclc.org](http://soclc.org) to sign up or learn more.

Average Weekly Offering	\$7293
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6973



SPIRIT OF CHRIST PRESENTS

VACATION BIBLE  
SCHOOL



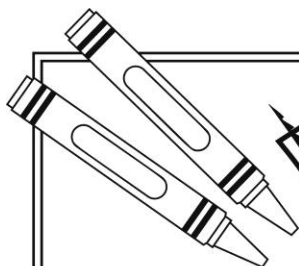
SCUBA  
*Diving into  
friendship  
with God*



JULY 28TH TO AUGUST 1ST  
6PM-8PM

REGISTRATION





# PUZZLE

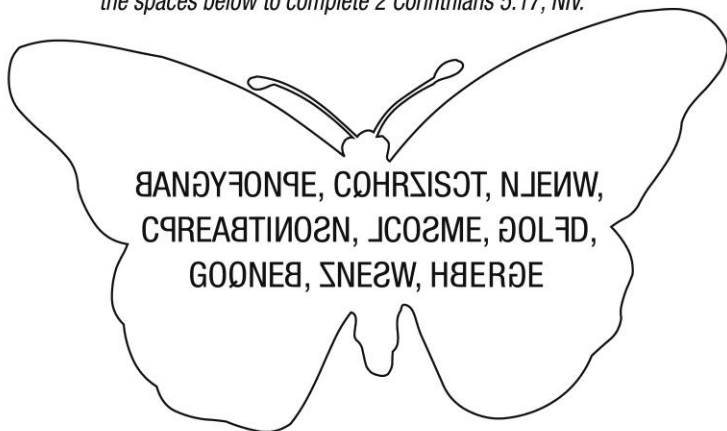
## Transformation **POWER**



Just as the caterpillar becomes a butterfly,  
God transforms us from old to new.



*Directions: Cross out the backward letters. Write the remaining letters in order in the spaces below to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.*



Therefore, if \_\_\_\_\_ is in \_\_\_\_\_,  
the \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_:

The \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_,  
the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_!

2 C O R I N T H I A N S 5 : 1 7 , N I V





**SPIRIT of CHRIST**  
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
[www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org](http://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.

Church Office:	763-755-7234
Pastor Jason Neel:	<a href="mailto:soclcpastor@gmail.com">soclcpastor@gmail.com</a>
Ministers:	All Members
Music Director John Peterson:	<a href="mailto:carsinger@aol.com">carsinger@aol.com</a>
Office Manager Laura Marquardt	<a href="mailto:secretary@soclc.org">secretary@soclc.org</a>
Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst):	<a href="mailto:Sd_hurst@yahoo.com">Sd_hurst@yahoo.com</a>