



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 11, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Welcome

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

WOV 671

Ref *Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

- 1** Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
He is the king of creation. *Refrain*
- 2** Spread the good news o’er all the earth;
Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain*
- 3** We have been crucified with Christ;
Now we shall live forever. *Refrain*
- 4** God has proclaimed the just reward:
Life for all people, alleluia. *Refrain*
- 5** Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Savior. *Refrain*

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

Invocation

- P** We begin our worship in the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen!
- P** The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- C** He makes me lie down in green pastures.

- P** He leads me beside still waters and restores my soul.
- C** **He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**
- P** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil;
- C** **For you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me.**
- P** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
- C** **You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**
- P** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
- C** **And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

Confession & Absolution

- P** God of life,
- C** **You provide all that we need, but we want more. You lead us to green pastures and refreshing waters, but we choose our own paths. Your strong hand holds us through death and despair, yet we blame you for deserting us. You set a heavenly banquet overflowing with goodness, but we choose not to come to your banquet. God of life, forgive the sin of our thoughts, words, and actions. Forgive the hardness of our hearts and allow us to trust you as a loving shepherd who knows our deepest need.**
- P** People of God, God forgives our sin through work of the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ. Hear the words of Jesus, “I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me... I lay down my life for the sheep... My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

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 to 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 to 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 to 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).

This is the Feast

- 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.**

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C Amen

Sit

Children's Message

First Reading

Acts 9:36-43

³⁶In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

³⁹Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴²This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. ⁴³Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.”

¹¹ All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying:

“Amen!

Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever.

Amen!”

¹³ Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

¹⁴ I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne
will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶ ‘Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their shepherd;

‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’

‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Alleluia & Verse

LSB 205

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

John 10:22-30

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²² Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter,²³ and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade.²⁴ The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

²⁵ Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me,²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

LSB 709

- 1** The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine forever.
- 2** Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul he leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me
And on his shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house forever!

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 ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Prayers of the Church

Presentation of the Offering

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

- 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 208

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of
your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Words of Our Lord

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

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, We Lift Your Name on High

Bell Choir

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen

LSB 474

1 Alleluia!

Jesus is risen!

Trumpets resounding in glorious light!

Splendor, the Lamb,

Heaven forever!

Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

ref Jesus is risen and we shall arise:

Give God the glory! Alleluia!

2 Walking the way,

Christ in the center

Telling the story to open our eyes;

Breaking our bread,

Giving us glory:

Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain*

3 Jesus the vine,

We are the branches;

Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;

Heaven to earth,

Christ to the people,

Gift of the future now flowing to me. *Refrain*

4 Weeping, be gone;

Sorrow, be silent:

Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.

Cherubim sing:

“O grave, be open!”

Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. *Refrain*

5 City of God,

Easter forever,

Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,

River of life,

Saints and archangels,

Sing with creation to God the I AM! *Refrain*

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

LSB 490 (tune 940)

- 1 **Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!**
Death no longer can appall me;
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!
From the grave will Christ recall me.
Brighter scenes will then commence;
This shall be my confidence.
- 2 **Jesus lives! To him the throne**
High above all things is given.
I shall go where he is gone,
Live and reign with him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence!
This shall be my confidence.
- 3 **Jesus lives! For me he died,**
Hence will I, to Jesus living,
Pure in heart and act abide,
Praise to him and glory giving.
All I need God will dispense;
This shall be my confidence.
- 4 **Jesus lives! I know full well**
Nothing me from him shall sever.
Neither death nor pow'rs of hell
Part me now from Christ forever.
God will be my sure defense;
This shall be my confidence.
- 5 **Jesus lives! And now is death**
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath
When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:
Jesus is my confidence!

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

LSB 711

- 1 **Savior, like a shepherd lead us;**
Much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us,

For our use your fold prepare.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are yours.

2 We are yours; in love befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep your flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.

3 You have promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to you.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to you.

4 Early let us seek your favor,
Early let us do your will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
With your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.

Sing with All the Saints in Glory

LSB 473

1 Sing with all the saints in glory,
Sing the resurrection song!
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,
To the former days belong.
All around the clouds are breaking;

Soon the storms of time shall cease;
In God's likeness we awaken,
Knowing everlasting peace.

- 2 Oh, what glory, far exceeding
All that eye has yet perceived!
Holiest hearts for ages pleading
Never that full joy conceived.
God has promised, Christ prepares it;
There on high our welcome waits.
Ev'ry humble spirit shares it,
Christ has passed the eternal gates.
- 3 Life eternal! Heav'n rejoices:
Jesus lives who once was dead.
Shout with joy, O deathless voices!
Child of God, lift up your head!
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders
Crowd on faith; what joy unknown,
When, amid earth's closing thunders,
Saints shall stand before the throne!

Stand

Post Communion Collect

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of his coming, we may, together with all your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in his kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

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.

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

LSB 466

- 1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb,
Even from death, dispelling its gloom.
- ref Let us sing praise to him with endless joy;
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!*
- 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
Until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo;
And in its conquest his might did show. *Refrain*
- 3 The angel said to them, "Do not fear!
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare;
Only the grave cloths are lying there." *Refrain*
- 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave;
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done;
Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*
- 5 Christ has arisen; he sets us free;
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
He reigns triumphant, heavenly King. *Refrain*

Announcements

Sending

Serving in Worship

May 11, 2025

Pastor

Jason Neel

Acolyte

Eli Voegele

Usher

Sue Anderson

Elders

Kevin Zimmerman

Wayne Chambard

Reader

Renee Chambard

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Wayne Chambard 5/11, David O’Keeffe 5/13, Andrew Weinhold 5/14, and Rick Danger 5/14.

Celebrating Baptism: Kati Schoenbauer 5/11, Alex Hansen 5/12, Ashley Hansen 5/12, Lois Spadgenske 5/13, and Owen Smith 5/16.

Celebrating Anniversaries: Steven and Whitney Buus 5/14

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
Monday	6:30 p.m.	<u>Screwtape Letter</u> book study
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Elder Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	VBS planning meeting
Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	<u>Screwtape Letter</u> book study
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	7:00 a.m.	Men’s Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	LWML Event
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour

Notes of Information

VBS Planning Meeting: There will be a short VBS planning meeting held Tuesday night at 7 pm. If you are interested in helping plan for or decorate for VBS “True North” this year, please come to the meeting. If you would like to help lead a crew, please contact Leslie.

Spring Clean Up Day: Please join us next Saturday, May 17th for a cleaning day. We will begin at 9 a.m. Many hands make light work! If you have any questions please reach out the Gerry Anderson.

Armchair Fund: The Board of Trustees is going to purchase more armchairs for the sanctuary. If you would like to contribute towards the cost of these chairs, please place your donation in the offering plate marked “Chair.”

The Screwtape Letters Book Study: Pastor will be facilitating another book study in the month of May. We will be digging into C.S. Lewis’ *The Screwtape Letters*, which explores the psychology of temptation in letters from a senior devil to his nephew. You can attend the book study on either Monday evenings from 6:30 pm to 8 pm on May 12, and May 19th, or on Wednesday mornings from 10:30 am to 12 pm on May 14th and 21st. Books will be available for purchase through the church office on Sunday May 4th, the cost is \$5.00 per book. The book is also available on Kindle. For the first meeting, please read through chapter 15 (XV).

Prayer Opportunity: An Elder will be available weekly at the end of service at the Communion Rail for personal prayer support. If privacy is requested that it will be accommodated.

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

- May 27 (Tuesday) – *The Last Letter* by Rebecca Yarros. This is in place of the April cancelled date.
- June 23 – *Bluebird* by Sharon Cameron.

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager

NACE: North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf is currently

in need canned fruit, canned tuna, peanut butter and beans of all types. Thank you for your donations. For more information, reach out to Toni Peterson.

Average Weekly Offering	\$7350
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$7271

Next Week's Readings
Acts 11:1-18, Revelation 21:1-6, John 13:31-35



Re:Vitality Survey

Our congregation is taking advantage of an offering from the LCMS's "Re:Vitality" program. This offering involves a congregational survey.

We know that the Lord's ministry at Spirit of Christ is most certainly *vital*. Wherever the Word is proclaimed in its truth and purity and the sacraments are rightly administered, the Church is alive and well. The Re:Vitality program is built to help congregations see where our various ministries are most healthy, and where we can refocus our energy and attention for the sake of our members and the world.

We are asking each individual member to submit honest feedback about our congregation. I want to encourage every adult (18 years and older) to fill out this survey.

You can fill the survey out by hand, there are printed surveys on the table in the Narthex, next to the bulletins. Please return them to the bin outside the office when you are finished.

Or you can use your phone and scan the QR code below.



We hope to hear from everyone! Your responses are completely anonymous. No one will know your name, and I will not see individual responses. It is important to be honest in your feedback so that we can have an accurate assessment about where we are as a congregation.

Help us find the answer to, "Where are we...*really*?" Thank you for submitting your responses by **6/1/2025**.

Blessings,

Pastor Jason Neel

PLANT SALE

We still have several flats of flowers, vegetables and herbs, that need homes. If you would like to take some plants home with you today, please do so and give a free will offering to the youth. There is a cash box outside to place your payments in.

Thank you for supporting our youth missions and programming!



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd
Ham Lake, MN 55304
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:	soclcpastor@gmail.com
Ministers:	All Members
Music Director John Peterson:	carsinger@aol.com
Office Manager Laura Marquardt:	secretary@soclc.org
Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst):	Sd_hurst@yahoo.com