

Welcome to Worship

**St. John's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

*May 4, 2025*



*Third Sunday of Easter*

CHURCH: 419-293-3445  
PASTOR: SAM - Paul Brooks

SJLCMcComb@gmail.com  
419-722-8625

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

**May 4, 2025**

**Welcome:** Thank you to those who join us for Worship. We hope you will be blessed as we pray and sing together, as we hear God's Word read and proclaimed. We gather as equals in the sight of God, who loves us, forgives us, and is WITH US. Peace be with you.

**Serving at Worship Today:**

READER: David Sharninghouse  
ACCOMPANIST: Linda Ross

**Your Servant Leaders:**

Worship Leader: SAM – Paul Brooks, 419-722-8625 Cell  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Dave Sharninghouse, 419-293-2322 Hm.  
419-429-2391 Cell

NWOS BISHOP: The Rev. Daniel Beaudoin  
ELCA BISHOP: The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton

**St. John's email address:** [SJLCMcComb@gmail.com](mailto:SJLCMcComb@gmail.com)

**St. John's Facebook page:** <https://facebook.com/SJLCMcComb>

**Attendance Last Sunday: 18**

**Offering Last Sunday: \$325.00**

**Direct Deposit: \$320.00**

**Mile of Pennies: \$5.00**

**Prayers for the people affected by Hurricane Helene:** We need to continually pray for these people, that they will receive the help they need. There are a lot of volunteers there, helping them, and they will be there for a longtime.

**Food Pantry for May:** We would like to collect Mac & Cheese, Beefaroni, Spaghetios, Jello, Puddings and other items kids can eat while on summer vacations. Thank you for your help with this.

*Worship  
Assistants*

# Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Easter, May 4, 2025

*God is glad you have joined us for worship today. At the symbol ✠ assembly members may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked upon us at baptism.*

*\*please stand, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.*

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## WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PRAYER REQUESTS

### PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

*Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Loving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to love like Jesus."*

### THE GREETING

Leader: the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **ALL: and also with you.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN #389** CHRIST IS ALIVE! LET CHRISTIANS SING

### **\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**ALL: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

Leader: In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

**ALL: Amen.**

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

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

**ALL: make us one as you are one.**

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

**ALL: make us one as you are one.**

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

**ALL: make us one as you are one.**

Leader: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

**ALL: Amen.**

## \* CANTICLE OF PRAISE

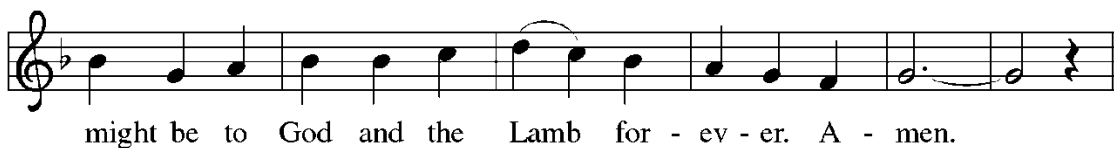
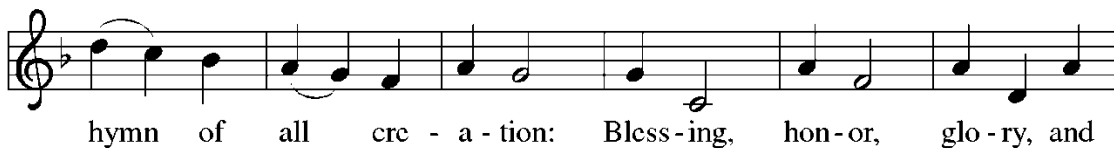
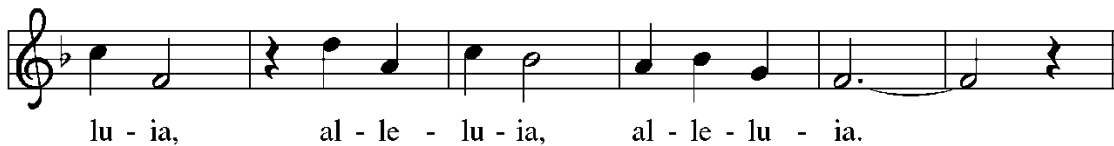
THIS IS THE FEAST

*Refrain*

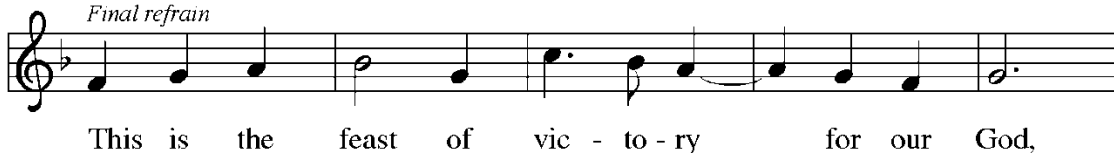


This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us  
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and  
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



*Final refrain*



## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us join our hearts and voices together in the Prayer of the Day.

**ALL: Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

ACTS 9:1-20

Reader: Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup>He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup>The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup>Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup>Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." <sup>11</sup>The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, <sup>12</sup>and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." <sup>13</sup>But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil

he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; <sup>14</sup> and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; <sup>16</sup> I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” <sup>17</sup> So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, <sup>20</sup> and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM READING**

*(responsively)*

**PSALM 30**

Reader: I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

**ALL: O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**

Reader: You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

**ALL: Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.**

Reader: God’s wrath is short; God’s favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

**ALL: While I felt secure, I said, “I shall never be disturbed.**

Reader: “You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.” Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

**ALL: I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

Reader: “What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

**ALL: Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper.”**

Reader: You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

**ALL: Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING**

REVELATION 5:11-14

Reader: Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> singing with full voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

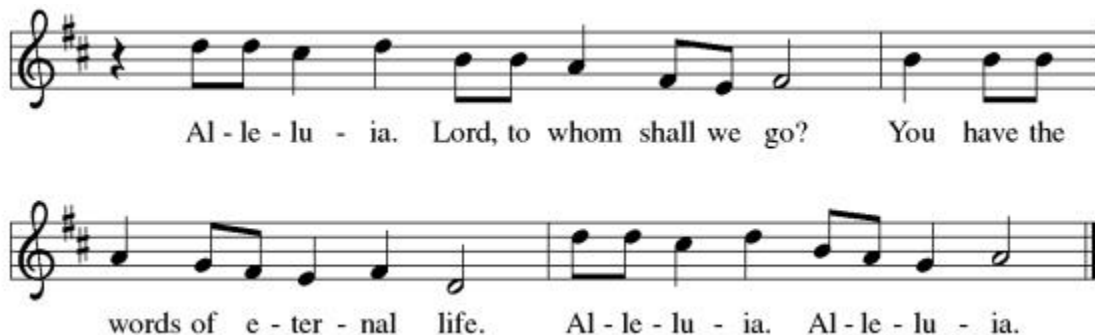
<sup>13</sup> Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” <sup>14</sup> And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**



## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 3 #142



## \*GOSPEL READING

JOHN 21:1-19

*The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.*

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of John chapter 21. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup> That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and

jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup> But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup> When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” <sup>19</sup> He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God. After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

Leader: The gospel of the Lord. **ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## THE MESSAGE

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### I Was Sinking Deep in Sin



- 1 I was sink-ing deep in sin, far from the peace-ful shore, ver - y deep-ly
- 2 All my heart to him I give, ev - er to him I'll cling, in his bless-ed
- 3 Souls in dan-ger, look a - bove, Je - sus com-plete - ly saves; he will lift you



stained with-in, sink-ing to rise no more; but the mas-ter of the sea  
pres - ence live, ev - er his prais-es sing; love so might-y and so true  
by his love out of the an - gry waves; he's the mas-ter of the sea,



heard my de-spair-ing cry, from the wa-ters lift-ed me, now safe am I.  
mer - its my soul's best songs; faith-ful lov-ing ser-vice, too, to him be - longs.  
bil - lows his will o - bey; he your Sav-ior true will be: be saved to - day.

#### *Refrain*



Love lift - ed me! Love lift - ed me! When noth - ing



else could help, love lift - ed me. love lift - ed me.

Text: James Rowe, 1865–1933  
Music: SAFETY, Howard E. Smith, 1863–1918

## INVITATION TO SERVICE

### \*THE APOSTLES' CREED

**ALL:** I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

### \*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION

Prayer Leader: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

### \*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Leader: Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God. **ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God. **ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God.

**ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way. We lift to you Jo, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene Eva, Eric, Lisa, Don, Ashley, Mary, Pat, Kelli, Gordon, Ellery, Ari, Josh, Nancy, John, Becky, JoLynn, Rick, Emily, Carl, Jim, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Ella, Frances, Eli, Riley, Kelli, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer, Ron, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, and Cindy. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care. Hear us, O God. **ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place, especially the Senior Center. Hear us, O God. **ALL: Your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

## **\*SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

*Please share God's peace with those worshipping around you.*

## **INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS**

Leader: Let us open our eyes, ears, and hearts to the mission of God's church here in the community and worldwide by freely giving of our tithes and offerings with the knowledge that our giving is an act of trust in God's unfailing promises.

## **\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186**

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

## **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray.

**ALL: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.**

## **\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

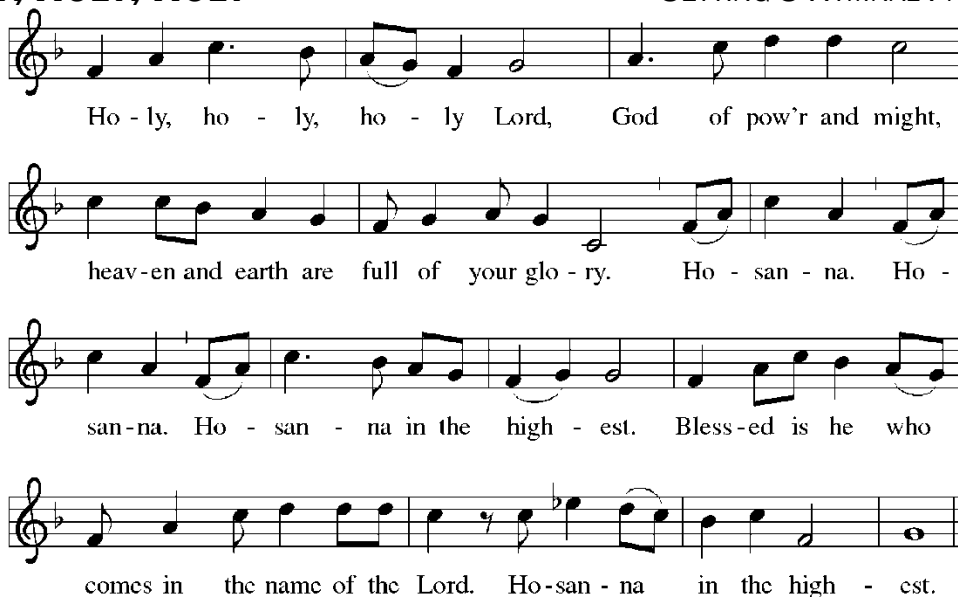
Leader: Lift up your hearts. **ALL: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **ALL: it is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: And so, with all creatures and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and sing:

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SETTING 3 HYMNAL PAGE 144



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.

## \*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

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

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and

thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. In the unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

### **\*THE PRAYER OUR LORD TAUGHT US**

**All: 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 INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Leader: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

### **DISTRIBUTION**

### **\*THE TABLE BLESSING**

Leader: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **ALL: Amen**



## \*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #313

O LORD NOW LET YOUR SERVANT

(VERSE 1)

I O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,  
for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:  
a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill.  
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join with me in prayer.

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

## \*BLESSING

Leader: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign,  
✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and  
always. In the name of the Father, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit.

## \*The Amen

A - men. A - men. A - - - men.

## \*SENDING HYMN #619

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES

## \*DISMISSAL

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **ALL: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

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### TODAY'S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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*"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"* TEXT: Brian A Wren, b.1936 MUSIC: T. Williams, Psalmodia Evengalica, 1789 Text © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

*"Love Lifted Me/I was Sinking Deep in Sin"* TEXT: James Rowe, 1865-1933 MUSIC: SAFETY Howard E. Smith, 1863-1918

*"Create in Me a Clean Heart"* PUBLIC DOMAIN

*"O Lord, Now Let Your Servant"* TEXT: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886-1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis MUSIC: Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version TEXT © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress (#313)

*"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"* TEXT: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt. MUSIC: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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*Count Your Blessings*

### **Calendar of Events:**

Sun. May 11 – 8:00 A.M. Worship Service

Sun. May 11 – Sunday School 9:30 A.M.

Sun. May 11 – Mother's Day (be kind to your Mother)

Tue. May 13- 6:30 P.M. Lion's Dinner Meeting

Wed. May 14 5:30 P.M. Church Council Meeting

### **Readers for May**

May 11 - Lori McDaniel

May 18 – Carol Cary

May 25 – Linda Ross

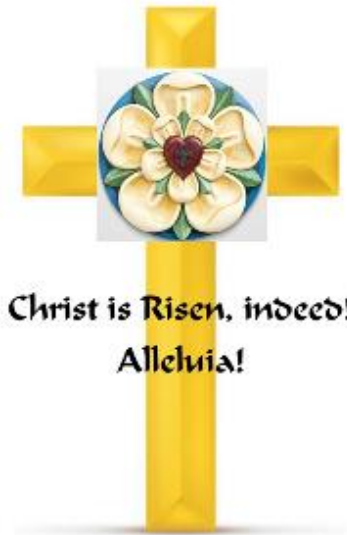
June 1 - David Sharninghouse

**In Our Prayers:** John Sharninghouse, Gary Kern, Paul & Sue Maki, Betty Hornbeck, David Cary, LuAnn Beverly, Colene Shoop, Eva George, Eric & Lisa Kreh, Don Edler, Ashley Edler, Mary Scroll, Pat Newell, Gordon Myers & Ellery Robinson, Ari & Josh, Pat Cary. Pray also for the victims of all natural disasters, our shut-ins, others absent from our worship this morning, all who grieve, and all others with special needs.



# Do You Love Me? Follow Me

When we encounter Jesus, we are changed and will never be the same. Jesus can be revealed in a blinding light on the road, in an abundance of fish, in breakfast on the beach. God uses all sorts of surprising things—bread, wine, water, words of forgiveness—to convert us. Like baptism, this conversion is both a once-in-a-lifetime, life-changing event and a daily process—a change that comes again and again, like Jesus’ question to Peter: “Do you love me?” Again and again, Jesus calls us to follow him. For Saul, the journey doesn’t end with the blinding light on the road. For Peter, the journey doesn’t end with breakfast on the beach. Conversion sets each of them, and each of us, on a path that continues for the rest of our life on earth—and leads into life eternal.



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