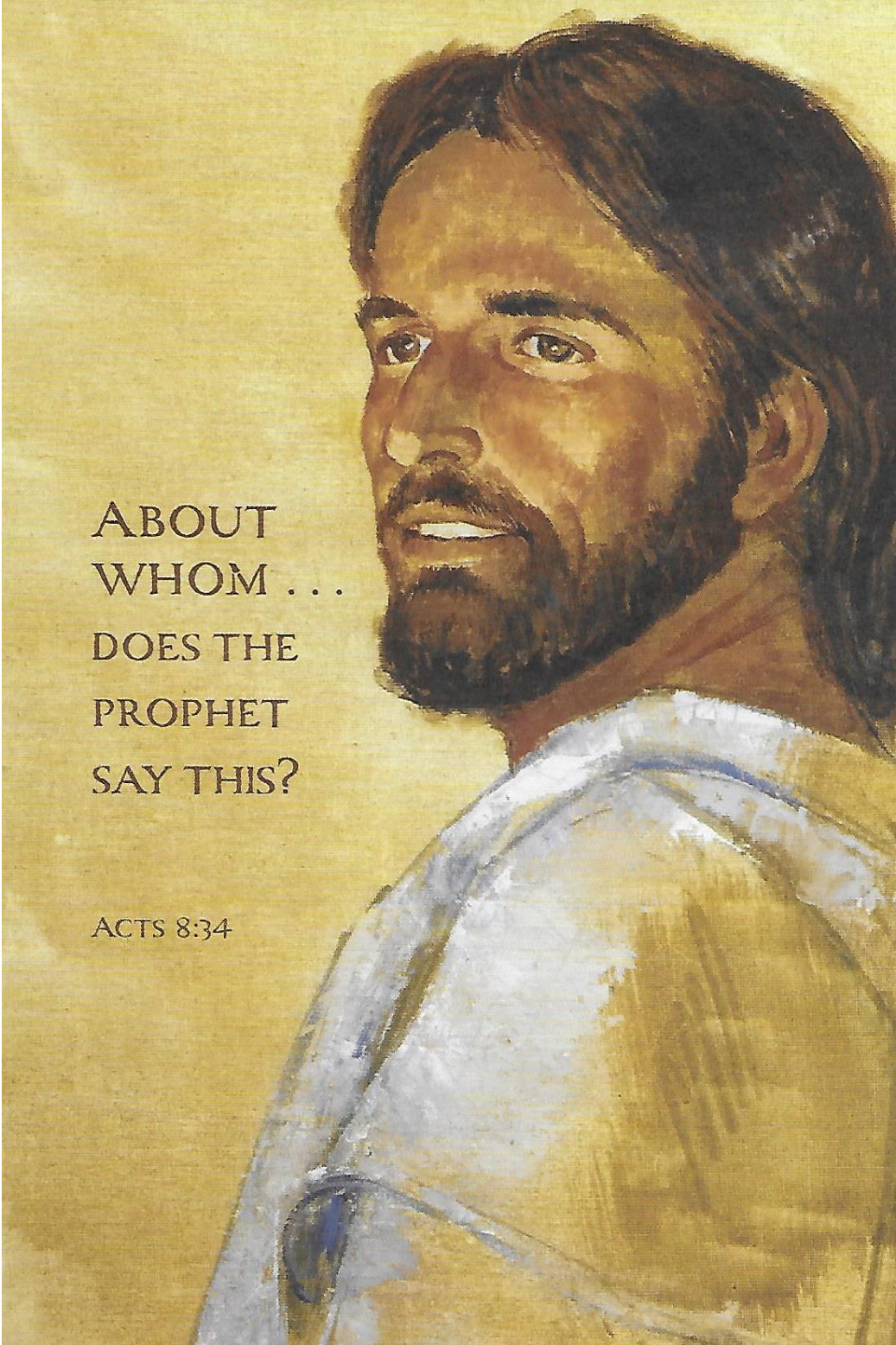


The 5th Sunday of Easter | Divine Service One
April 28, 2024



ABOUT
WHOM . . .
DOES THE
PROPHET
SAY THIS?

ACTS 8:34

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

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(309) 764-9720 holycrosslutheran@mchsi.com

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Rev. Dr. Wilfred L. Karsten.....*Pastor*

Cell: (309)716-2375

Vicar J. Riley Corrigan*Pastoral Intern*

Connie McKean.....*Office Administrator*

Susan Serre.....*Youth Director/Sunday School Superintendent*

About the Cover: Without someone to assist him, the Ethiopian eunuch could not clearly envision the figure God’s Word painted in Isaiah. But the Holy Spirit used Philip to lead him to Jesus, in whom the full picture of the Scriptures comes together. Christ’s generous love and sacrifice is for the sake of the whole world as He delivers forgiveness of sins through Word and Sacrament.

The 5th Sunday of Easter – April 28, 2024
Divine Service, Setting One

Ringing of the Bells, Prelude

Hymn: *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! *Refrain*

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*

Confession & Absolution

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

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Introit

Psalm 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16

A little while, and you will see me no | longer;*
and again a little while, and you will | see me.

I will extol you, my | God and King,*
and bless your name forever and | ever.

Every day I will | bless you*
and praise your name forever and | ever.

The LORD is gracious and | merciful,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,*
and all your saints shall | bless you!

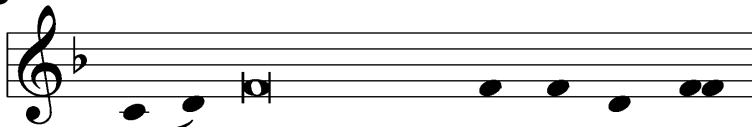
My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,*
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

A little while, and you will see me no | longer;*
and again a little while, and you will | see me.

Kyrie

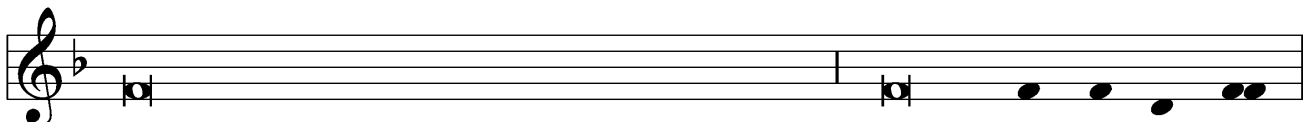
LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



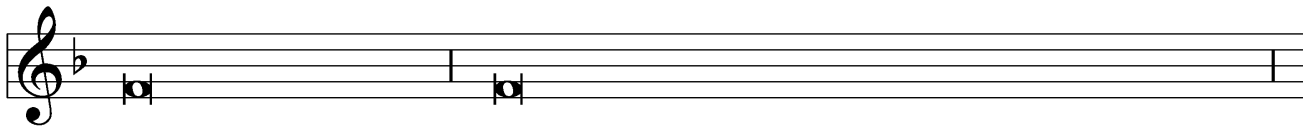
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



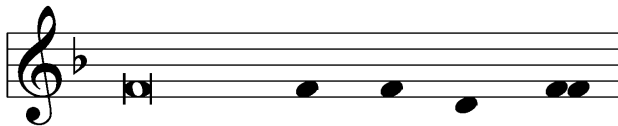
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



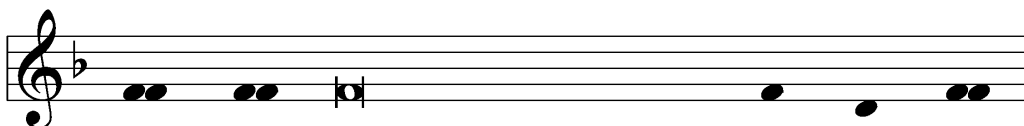
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.




C A - men.

This is the Feast of Victory

LSB 155


Refrain




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



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




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



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

Final Refrain



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



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

Collect of the Day

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Lesson

Acts 8:26–40

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Instrumental Solo: *The Trumpet Will Sound*

Handel

*The trumpet will sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible,
and we shall be changed.*

Epistle

1 John 4

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia & Verse

LSB 156



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 15:1–8

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter.

(Sung) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

(Sung) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn: *Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing*

LSB 691

- 1 Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing,
May we ripen and increase,
Fruit to life eternal growing,
Rich in love and joy and peace.
- 2 Laden branches freely bearing
Gifts the Giver loves to bless;
Here is fruit that grows by sharing,
Patience, kindness, gentleness.

- 3 Rooted deep in Christ our Master,
Christ our pattern and our goal,
Teach us, as the years fly faster,
Goodness, faith, and self-control.
- 4 Fruitful trees, the Spirit's tending,
May we grow till harvests cease;
Till we taste, in life unending,
Heaven's love and joy and peace.

Sermon: *Apart or A Part?*

John 15:1-8

Apostles' Creed (8:15)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Nicene Creed (10:45)

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

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,**

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

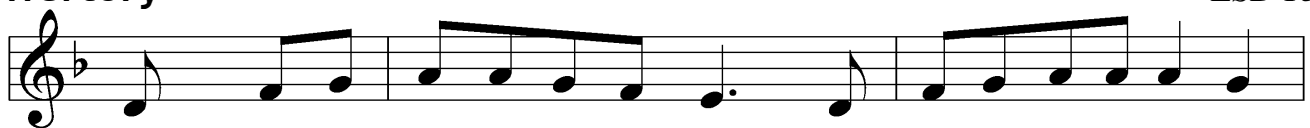
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets.
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life \cdot † of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

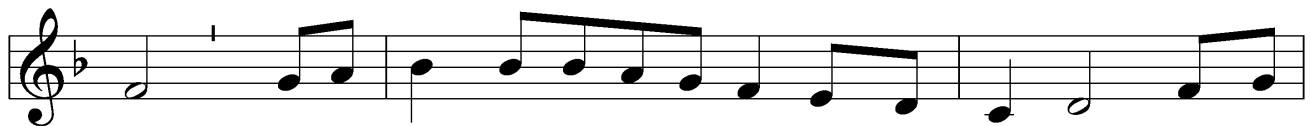
Offering plates are located in the narthex, where you may leave a gift for the Lord's work.

Offertory

LSB 159



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will

call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-

va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my

vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the

courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

(The 10:45 service concludes with the Lord's Prayer, a concluding collect, the Benediction and the final hymn.)

+ Service of the Sacrament +

Preface

LSB 160

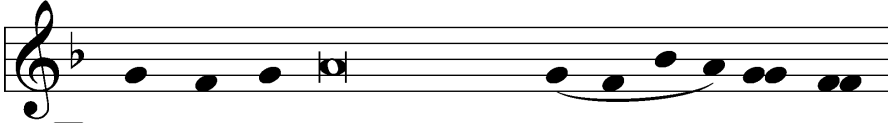
P The Lord be with you.

G And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

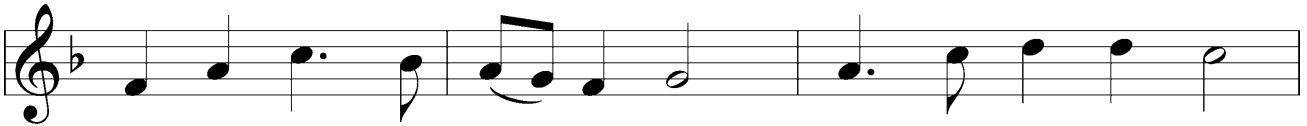


C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161



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



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



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

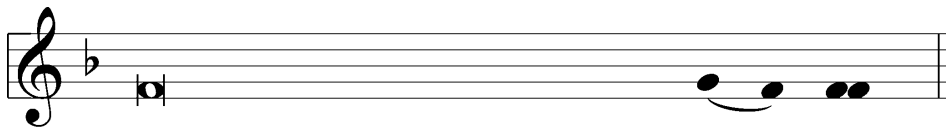


comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Lord's Prayer, Words of Institution

Pax Domini

LSB 163



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



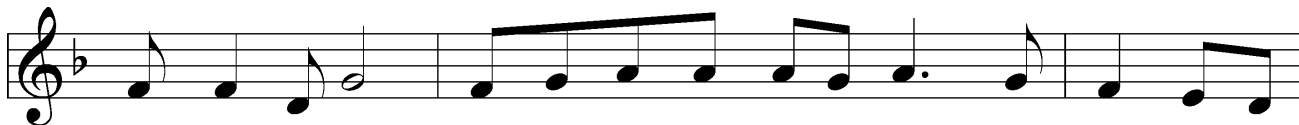
C A - men.

Agnus Dei

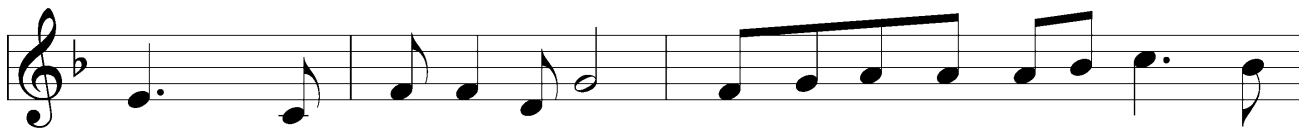
LSB 163



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



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



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



sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Since **Holy Communion** presupposes a “common unity” of faith and doctrine among those who participate together in this Sacrament, we ask that those who desire to commune with us be confirmed members of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation. Those not able to come to the chancel may speak to the pastor or an elder to commune in their pew. If you have not previously communed here, please speak to the Pastor or an elder. If you are not communing, but would like to come to the chancel for a blessing, please kneel or stand with your arms crossed over your chest.*

Distribution Hymn: *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

LSB 633

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side.
Alleluia!
- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia!
- 3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Alleluia!
- 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.
Alleluia!

Organ Interlude

- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Post- Communion Collect & Benediction

Hymn: *Abide, O Dearest Jesus*

LSB 919

- 1 Abide, O dearest Jesus,
Among us with Your grace
That Satan may not harm us
Nor we to sin give place.
- 2 Abide, O dear Redeemer,
Among us with Your Word,
And thus now and hereafter
True peace and joy afford.
- 3 Abide with heav'nly brightness
Among us, precious Light;
Your truth direct and keep us
From error's gloomy night.
- 4 Abide with richest blessings
Among us, bounteous Lord;
Let us in grace and wisdom
Grow daily through Your Word.
- 5 Abide with Your protection
Among us, Lord, our strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us
And overcome at length.
- 6 Abide, O faithful Savior,
Among us with Your love;
Grant steadfastness and help us
To reach our home above.

THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Wilfred L. Karsten

Organist: Lynette Karsten

Instrumentalist: Amanda Hahn

Elders:

Videographers: Rick Serre, Max Serre, Dale Farmer

Acknowledgments

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This Weeks activities, God Willing

Sunday, April 28	8:15 a.m.	Divine Service One
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School/BC
	10:45 a.m.	Divine Service One HC
Monday		May Newsletter Items Due
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Vicar's Bible Class
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Fitness
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship
	4:30 p.m.	Bells
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Pastor's Bible Class
Sunday, May 5	8:15 a.m.	Divine Service One HC
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School/BC
	10:45 a.m.	Divine Service

Per HIPPA privacy regulations, if you put someone on the prayer list, please make sure you have first secured their permission to do so.

Prayer List

Prayer List emphasis for today: Serving in the military

Serious health conditions: Bethany Albrecht, Fred Poe

In hospice care: Alfred Karsten, Barb Noah

Hammond Henry, Geneseo: Lucy Jahns

Undergoing Surgery: Karen Broberg

Undergoing cancer treatment: Penny Dawson

Birthdays

4/28 Amber Chavez; **5/1** Beth Laughead, Renee Noard; **5/3** Elena Dawson; **5/4** Bev Gustafson, Sharon Rock, Michelle Bowser.

The current DFM project is to continue a project already begun. In 2023, DFM funds were raised to begin ministry in as many as four new prisons in central Illinois during 2024. With the funds gathered, Central Illinois District started to fund one in January, and hopes to start more before the end of this year. The current project is to ensure that funds are available so that such new ministries can be continued in 2025. The current target is \$10,000.

Thank you for all the donations given to LWML for the convention in-gathering. This congregation is so supportive of our mission efforts. You are such a blessing.

Our In-gathering for May will go to benefit Pregnancy Resources. Essential items needed: diapers - sizes newborn 5,& 6 , baby wipes, clothing boy & girl sizes newborn, 2T-3T, pacifiers, small baby toys, receiving blankets, baby bath towels & washcloths.

Our member Henry Setton will be celebrating his 100th birthday on May 11th. His family would like to invite everyone to stop at IRC between 2-4 pm to wish him a happy birthday.

Wednesday –Fitness and Fellowship. Come join in for the 20-minute chair exercises that start at 10:00 a.m. At 10:30 a.m. is Coffee Hour Fellowship with friends. Coffee, tea, and treats are served. Everyone is invited!

Pastor is thinning out his library. Before you go home, take a look at the table outside his office. Everything is free for the taking.

Prayer List

Please help to keep this list current by calling the church office when a name may be added or removed.

Members in Facilities: Cedarhurst, Moline- Susan Wyant; Crosstown, Silvis- Barb Noah; Park Vista- Ron & Carol Luecke; Woodridge Supportive Living, Galesburg- Dick Ristau; Illini Restorative Care- Henry Setton; Friendship Manor- Dick Hochstetler, Phyllis Thorngren; Mercer Manor, Aledo- Bob Koehler; Cedarhurst Memory Care, Moline- Jan Phillips.

Serving in the Military: Alexa Ellis (daughter of Tera Elliott, granddaughter of Mike and Cheryl McLaughlin), Logan Noard (son of Kyle and Marilyn Noard), Stephen Waugaman (grandson of Donna Knudtson), Cameron Moore (grandson of Lew & Maria Steinbrecher), Matthew Glider (grandson of Doris Glider), Andrew Tolley (son of Carole Tolley), David Revel (son of Craig & Laurie Revel), Jeffrey Teuscher (nephew of Willie Swain), Austin Cox (grandson-in-law of Sieg Paulsen), Matthew Patterson (son-in-law of Mike Waters), Leith Masri, (grandson of Marian Jones), Jakob Ryckeghem (grandson of Connie McKean).

Members of the congregation receiving treatment for cancer: Rev. Murdock, Sharon McKean, Kathrine Hopkins, Larry Bopes.

Friends of the congregation receiving treatment for Cancer: Patti (sister-in-law of Sharon McKean), Natalie Nelson (daughter of Gregg & Tami Winter), Gail Stuenkel, Lisa Crawford, Joanne Lyons, Dave Patterson, Harold Foster, Judy Knudsen, Darlene Atwell, Peggy Arkland (friend of McLaughlin's).

Serious Health Concerns: Sandy Lohse, Bob Trueblood (brother of Joyce Spidle), Tony Loritz, friend of Jennifer Swanburg, Susan Raber, Isla Galliard, Emily Scott, Dennis Rusk, Richard Geisler, Heidi Sias, Maureen DeLassus, Kelly Teuscher, Kenny Lackey, Gwen Shrake, Pam and Bill, friends of Gwen Shrake.

Recovering/Ongoing Health Concerns: Sandy Bopes, Donald Dawson, Joyce Spidle, Scarlet Durbin, Phyllis Murdock, Sherri Lohse, Barb Noah, David Kramer, Donald Dawson, Kristine Westmoreland, Beryl Edwards, Helen White, Gary Johnson, Fred Poe, Carol Ferrell, Susan Jamieson, Joshua Duburg, Sieg Paulsen, Cindy Davenport.