

Holy Communion

Fifth Sunday in Easter

Sunday, April 28, 2024

8:30 a.m.

Exploring the promise of God for all

Welcome to Central Lutheran Church.

You are welcome, no exceptions.

Here are a few notes you might find helpful for worship:

Bold print indicates responses spoken by all. Masks are welcomed. Congregational hymns are found printed in this bulletin or in the red hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

PRELUDE

Choral Improvisation on “Adoro Te Devote”
(Based on ELW Hymn #476)

Philip G. Kreckel

(At the sound of the bell, please stand and face the font)

Gathering

OPENING SENTENCES

We gather at this font, O God,
creator of oceans and rivers, rain and snow.

We praise you for the Minnesota River and Lake Minnetonka,
and for the water you provide us each day.

We praise your Spirit, hovering over this font.

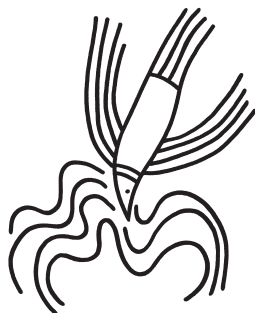
**We bless you for this cleansing water of rebirth,
this flood of endless mercy,
and for all the baptized around this blue planet.**

We ask you, almighty Provider,
to give us the water we need,
and we praise you for the sustenance you grant at this font.

**By the water of our baptism empower us
to pour out ourselves for others
and to safeguard the waters of your earth.**

To you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ✠
Sea of holiness, Spring of salvation, Cloud of mystery,
be all praise and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

Amen.



*The Holy Spirit gathers
us in unity on this first
day of the week.*

GATHERING HYMN
"O Blessed Spring"

Hymn 447

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



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.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of




God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

Word

FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside 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 silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?



*God speaks to us in
scripture reading,
preaching, and song.*

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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.

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just 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. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



(Please be seated)

SERMON

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY
“Baptized in Water”

Hymn 456

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Each petition concludes:

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(Please be seated)

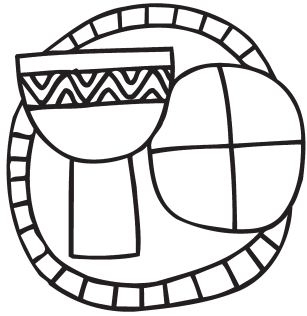
MUSICAL OFFERING

“Good Christians All Rejoice,”
with “Thine Is the Glory”

Melchoir Vulpius and George
Frideric Handel, arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

Meal

(Please stand)



God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

PRESENTATION HYMN “Keep in Mind that Jesus Christ Has Died for Us”

Refrain

Keep in mind that Je - sus Christ has died for us and is ris - en from the

dead. He is our sav - ing Lord; he is joy for all a - ges.

3 In him our re - demp - tion, in him all our grace. In

Refrain
him our sal - va - tion, in him all our peace.

Text: From 2 Timothy 2
Music: Lucien Deiss, b. 1921

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right...and join their unending hymn:

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.

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us...through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Children are welcome to come forward and receive communion or a blessing.

COMMUNION

“Lamb of God”

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.

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

W. Walker, Southern Harmony,
arr. Cathy Moglebust

(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**



*God blesses us and sends
us for shared mission in
our shared world.*

Sending

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”

Hymn 449

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Christ goes with you.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671

Johann Sebastian Bach

Serving Today

Pastor Stephanie Freisen	<i>preacher</i>
Pastor Peter Nycklemoe	<i>presider</i>
Jack Friesen	<i>assisting minister</i>
Chris Stensaas	<i>reader</i>
Bell Choir	<i>ensemble</i>
Marilyn Wahlstrom	<i>interim bell choir director</i>
Henry Rye	<i>organ scholar</i>
Mark Kieffer	<i>video/sound</i>

Thanks to:

Sacristans, Usher, and Hospitality Ministry Teams,
and all who are serving.

Chancel flowers this week are given in honor and celebration of the confirmands:
Georgia Grahn, Thomas Paleen, Lauryn Pohlman, and Claire Shirilla.
If you wish to donate flowers, please contact Judy Korogi at 612-788-1288.

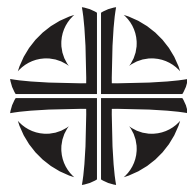
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Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

An Everyday Church for Everyone

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