

Our Mission is to nurture each other in God's Word and spread the
Good News of Christ to all.

May 4, 2025
3rd Sunday of Easter



Prepare for Worship

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'" Give me joy, dear Jesus, as I prepare to worship you today. Make me understand what my life would be like without you so that I long to hear about your grace and compassion. Help me participate in a way that honors you and builds up all who worship with me, and let their worship strengthen and encourage my faith.
Amen.

445 He's Risen, He's Risen



1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
 2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
 3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,
 4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
 5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



he o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.
 the Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
 and death, hell, and Sa - tan he van - quished, his foes.
 Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.
 pro - claim the blest ti - dings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
 In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
 The con - quer - ing Lord lifts his ban - ner on high;
 For all our trans - gres - sions his blood does a - tone;
 Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



and earth, sea, and moun - tain, the prais - es pro - long.
 for Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
 he lives, yes, he lives, and will nev - er - more die.
 re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are his own.
 with Fa - ther and Spir - it he ev - er shall reign.

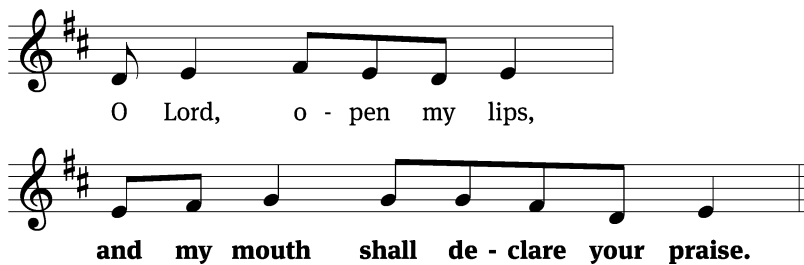
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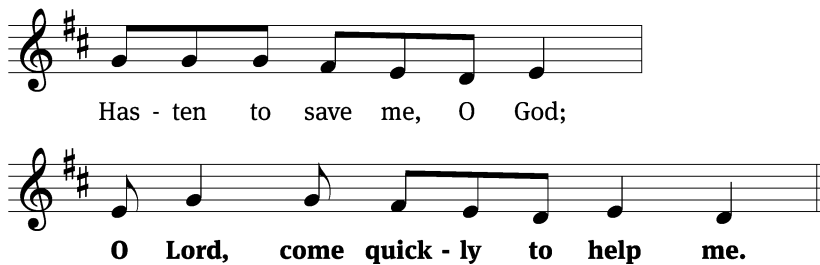
Stand

Opening Sentences

CW 207



O Lord, o - pen my lips,
and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



Has - ten to save me, O God;
O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

Easter



Easter Christ is risen from the dead:
praise and thanks to God!

938 This Is the Feast

CW 938 sts. Ref-5, 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!



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: v. 4
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
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!

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Be seated

First Reading

Acts 9:1–22

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the disciples of the Lord. He went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any men or women belonging to the Way, he might bring them to Jerusalem as prisoners. ³As he went on his way and was approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”

⁵He asked, “Who are you, Lord?”

He replied, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you need to do.”

⁷The men traveling with him stood there speechless. They heard the voice but did not see anyone. ⁸They raised Saul up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes, he could not see anything. They took him by the hand and led him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he could not see, and he did not eat or drink. ¹⁰There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias!” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.”

¹¹The Lord told him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. In fact, at this very moment he is praying. ¹²In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he can regain his sight.” ¹³Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many people about this man and how much harm he did to your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And he has authority here from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

¹⁵The Lord said to him, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the people of Israel. ¹⁶Indeed, I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

¹⁷Ananias left and entered the house. Laying his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, whom you saw on your way here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

¹⁸Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. ¹⁹And after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. ²⁰Immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

²¹All who heard him were amazed and said, “Isn't this the one who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? Didn't he come here for this very purpose: to bring them as prisoners to the chief priests?” ²²But Saul continued to get stronger and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

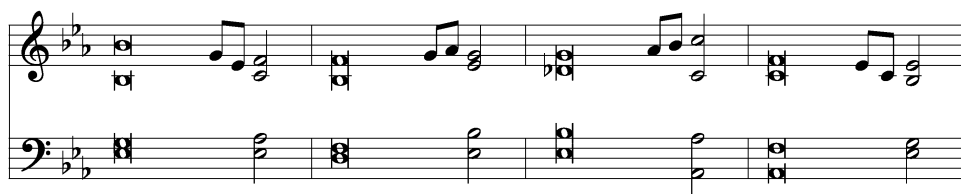
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

30B I Will Praise You, LORD

Refrain



Tone



I will exalt you, LORD, for you lifted me out / of the depths;
you spared me from going down / to the pit.
Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful / people;
praise his / holy name.

For his anger lasts only a / moment,
but his favor lasts a / lifetime;
weeping may stay / for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the / morning. *Refrain*

To you, / LORD, I called;
to the Lord I cried for / mercy:
“Hear, LORD, and be merci- / ful to me;
LORD, / be my help.”

You turned my wailing into / dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and clothed / me with joy,
that my heart may sing your praises and not be / silent.
LORD my God, I will praise you for- / 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. *Refrain***

Second Reading

Revelation 5:11–14

And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels who were around the throne and around the living creatures and the elders. Their number was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands upon thousands. ¹²With a loud voice they were saying:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive
power and riches and
wisdom and strength and
honor and glory and blessing.

¹³I also heard every creature that is in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever.

¹⁴The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders bowed down and worshipped.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel

John 21:1–14

After this, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how he showed himself: ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I’m going fishing.”

They replied, “We’ll go with you.”

They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Early in the morning, Jesus was standing on the shore, but the disciples did not know it was Jesus.

⁵Jesus called to them, “Boys, don’t you have any fish?”

“No!” they answered.

⁶He told them, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” So they cast the net out. Then they were not able to haul it in because of the large number of fish.

⁷The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard, “It is the Lord!” he tied his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the little boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about one hundred yards. ⁹When they stepped out on land, they saw some bread and a charcoal fire with fish on it. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you just caught.”

¹¹So Simon Peter climbed aboard and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, ¹⁵³ of them. Yet even with so many, the net was not torn.

¹²Jesus said to them, “Come, eat breakfast.”

None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord.

¹³Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them, and also the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

459 Christ the Lord Is Risen Again



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n a - gain; Christ has bro - ken
2 He who gave for us his life, who for us en -
3 He who bore all pain and loss com - fort - less up -
4 He whose path no rec - ords tell has de - scend - ed



death's strong chain. Hark, the an - gels shout for joy,
dured the strife, is our Pas - chal Lamb to - day.
on the cross lives in glo - ry now on high,
in - to hell; he the strong man armed has bound



sing - ing ev - er - more on high: Hal - le - lu - jah!
We too sing for joy and say: Hal - le - lu - jah!
pleads for us, and hears our cry: Hal - le - lu - jah!
and in high - est heav'n is crowned. Hal - le - lu - jah!

5 He who slumbered in the grave is exalted now to save;
now through Christendom it rings that the Lamb is King of kings.
Hallelujah!

6 Now he bids us tell abroad how the lost may be restored,
how the penitent forgiv'n, how we, too, may enter heav'n.
Hallelujah!

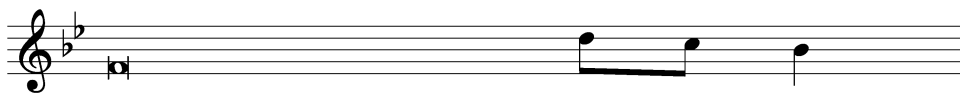
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Sermon We Can See Things Clearly John 21:1-14

Stand

We Praise You, O God

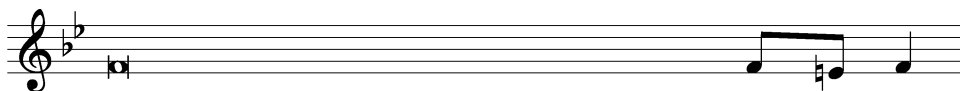
CW 210



- 1 We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heav'n - ly hosts,
- 3 The white-robed army of martyrs praise ____ you.



- 1 all creation worships you, Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are full ____ of your glo - ry.
- 3 Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



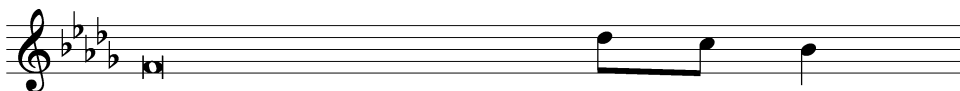
- 1 To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,
- 2 The glorious company of apostles praise ____ you.
- 3 Father of majesty unbounded; your glorious, true, and on - ly Son;



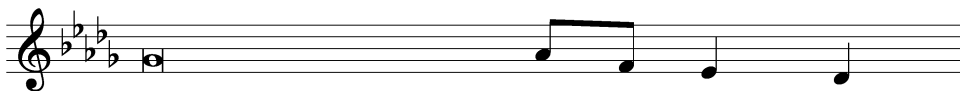
- 1 cherubim and seraphim, sing in end - less praise:
- 2 The noble fellowship of proph - ets praise ____ you.
- 3 and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide.



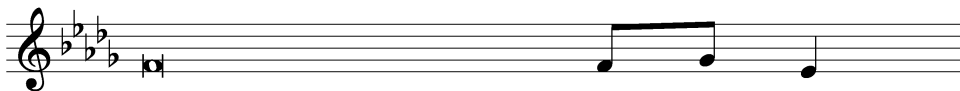
- 4 You, Christ, are the King of glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther.



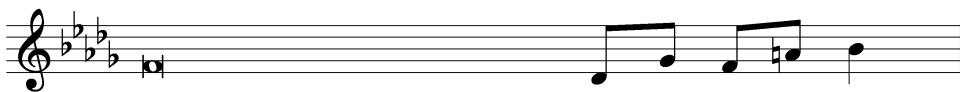
5 When you became man to set us free,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



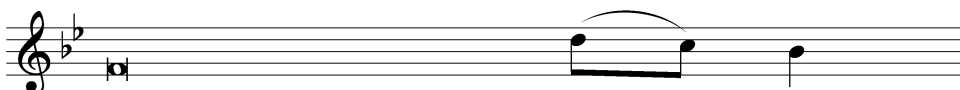
5 you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 You overcame the sting of death
6 We believe that you will come



5 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be _____ our _____ judge.



7 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple,



7 bought with the price of your own blood,



7 and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

Be seated

Good News for Kids/Offering

443 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness



1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness— see what to -
 2 The foe in tri - umph shout - ed when Christ lay
 3 This is a sight that glad - dens— what peace it
 4 Now I will cling for - ev - er to Christ, my
 5 He brings me to the por - tal that leads to



day is done! Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, comes
 in the tomb; but lo, he now is rout - ed, his
 does im - part! Now noth - ing ev - er sad - dens the
 Sav - ior dear. My Lord will leave me nev - er; with
 bliss un - told, where-on this rhyme im - mor - tal is



forth the glo - rious sun. My Sav - ior there was
 boast is turned to gloom. For Christ a - gain is
 joy with - in my heart. No gloom shall ev - er
 him I need not fear. He rends death's i - ron
 found in script of gold: "Who there my cross has



laid where our bed must be made when to the
 free; in glo - rious vic - to - ry he who is
 shake, no foe shall ev - er take the hope which
 chain; he breaks through sin and pain. He shat - ters
 shared finds here a crown pre - pared; who there with



realms of light our spir - it wings its flight.
 strong to save has tri - umphed o'er the grave.
 God's own Son in love for me has won.
 hell's dark thrall; I fol - low him through all.
 me has died shall here be glo - ri - fied."

Confirmation

The pastor speaks to those being confirmed:

My dear young friends, when you were baptized, your gracious Lord forgave all your sins and covered you with the robe of Christ's righteousness. Through water and Word he created faith in your hearts and adopted you into the family of believers. As you matured and heard and studied the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit enlightened your minds and preserved you as children of God.

You have expressed the desire to confess the truths you believe before your Savior, your family and friends, and this congregation. You are ready to say with St. Paul, "I believed; therefore I have spoken." You have learned to examine your thoughts, words, and actions in the light of God's law, and you have experienced the comfort of forgiveness in the Savior's gospel. With this preparation you are eager to receive the Savior's body and blood in the sacrament.

As we worship with you on this day, we are filled with joy as we see how the Lord has grown your faith and love. We are bringing our prayers to the Savior's throne of grace and imploring him to keep you faithful to him and his Word until you join us and all believers in the glories of heaven.

I now ask each of you:

Are you ready and willing to confess your faith before the triune God and those who are worshiping with you today?

I am.

Do you believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit?

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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.**

Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?
I do reject him.

Do you believe that all the books of the Bible are the inspired and inerrant Word of God?
I do.

Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know them from Luther's Small Catechism, are faithful and true to the Word of God?
I do.

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus and his Word all the days of your life?
Yes, and I ask God to help me.

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to live a life that pleases God, to value his Word and sacraments, and to witness to your Savior wherever you go?
Yes, and I ask God to help me.

The pastor speaks to the congregation:

Friends in Christ, the Word of God urges us to pray for one another and especially for the youth of the church. On this special day, it is fitting that we bring our prayers before God, firmly believing that he alone is able to strengthen us by the power of the Holy Spirit and keep us faithful to the Savior until we die. Let us pray.

Gracious Father, in Holy Baptism you created faith in the hearts of these young people and gave them a new birth as members of your family. Help them remember their baptisms every day and find comfort in your promise that you will never leave them or forsake them. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give them strength to put down and drown the sinful nature that lives within them so that each day their faith may triumph in their living and loving and in their words and actions. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lead them to see and believe that in the word of the gospel they find forgiveness for their sins and relief for their guilt. Use the remembrance of your commandments to drive them to the comfort of the gospel and then to guide them as they live for you and others. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Protect them from Satan when he tempts them to be careless with your Word and sacrament, to make plans for this life and not for the life to come, or to find popular theories more appealing than your truth. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Empower them by the gospel of your Son to live in their world with kindness, humility, and patience that others may see their good works and glorify their Father in heaven. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Help us provide fitting examples of faithfulness to your Word and sacraments. Lead us to encourage and admonish them in wisdom and love even after they have left our homes and made new homes for themselves. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

When the end comes and we all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, have compassion on us despite our sins and accept us as eternal dwellers in your royal rooms, through the merits of Jesus our Savior, who became sin for us so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

**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 pastor speaks to those being confirmed:

I now invite each of you to come forward to receive a blessing from the Lord and a word of encouragement from the Scriptures.

Those being confirmed may approach the altar in turn and may kneel. The minister may lay his hand on the head of each and speak the following blessing. A passage from the Scriptures may also be read.

God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, give you his Holy Spirit, the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge, of grace and prayer, of power and strength, of sanctification and the fear of God.

Stand

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 213



Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful and answer me.



Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Benedicamus



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

Blessing



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

454 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter tell - ing the
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es; life in the
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent: death put a -
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, gold - en Je -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for -
 sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; break - ing our bread, giv - ing us
 Spir - it the fruit of the tree; heav - en to earth, Christ to the
 sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be
 ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, riv - er of life, saints and arch -



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 peo - ple, gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 an - gels, sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Refrain

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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Confirmation class of 2025

Elijah John Norton

Ephesians 2:8-9

It is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.

Preston James Virden

Romans 1:17

In the gospel, a righteousness from God is revealed by faith, for faith, just as it is written, "The righteous will live by faith."

THIS WEEK AT LINCOLN HEIGHTS May 4 - 11, 2025

Sunday	8:00 am	Worship (Confirmation Rite)
	9:00 am	Homeless Meal Delivery
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Kunama Worship
Monday	6:00 pm	Evangelism Committee Meeting
Wednesday	6:45 pm	Bible Class
Thursday	10:00 am	Women's Fellowship Group
Saturday	2:00 pm	Flower Pot Painting Family Event
	4:00 pm	Game Night
Sunday	8:00 am	Worship with Communion
	9:00 am	Homeless Meal Delivery
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:30 am	Worship with Communion
	10:30 am	Kunama Worship

Welcome to Lincoln Heights!

We are glad you are here today to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Restrooms with changing tables are past the library on the left.

Quiet room. We love for children to be in the service, but if you need to take your child out for a moment, you may use the classroom past the restrooms on the right. The service will be showing on the television in this room.

Assisted Listening devices are available in the entry. Pick up a receiver and headphones in the entry. You may use your own headphones also.

Please speak with an usher for any other help.

Yellow Cards

Please fill out a yellow card and place it in the offering plate when passed. Thank you.

In Our Prayers

The Lord is eager to hear the prayers of thanks and petitions for help from his people. Please keep these members and families in your prayers. Contact Pastor to add someone to this list:

Ukraine

Ray & Gloria Overson, Sherry Just and Randy Michael- shut-ins

Merle Carter, Linda Thielke, Larry Borchert, Jeff Overson, Pat Oswald, Makenzie

Phippen - health

Daniel Pfeifer & Paige Harman, Addyson Pender & Zach Ostendorf, Caleb Winecke &

Makayla Gallentine, - engaged couples

Online Giving

Thank you for your generous and cheerful offerings to the Lord.

www.LHELC.org/giving



Prepare for Next Sunday

For a simple devotional reading plan, review the readings for this week on Monday through Wednesday. Then read the Scripture for next Sunday on Thursday through Saturday. The Word for next Sunday: *Acts 13:15-16a, 26-39, Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30*

Thank You to Today's Helpers

Accompanist: Kris Olson

Altar Guild: Karen Pippett & Karen Pippett

Counters: Leon Burger & Cassandra Canny

Streaming: Brad Pippett

Mowing: Open

Ushers 8 am: Brad Pippett & Dennis Moural

Ushers 10:30 am: Open

Next Sunday's Servants

Accompanist: Buffy Kokke

Altar Guild: Karen Pippett & Karen Pippett

Counters: Greg Lewis & Steve Winecke

Streaming: Brad Pippett

Mowing: Lee Bowman

Ushers 8 am: Brad Pippett & Dennis Moural

Ushers 10:30 am: Open

Evangelism Committee

The restarted Evangelism Committee meets for the second time on Monday, May 5th at 6:00 pm. If you are someone who loves to connect others with the gospel of Jesus, we would love to have you join us for one meeting or more. Talk to Fred Jensen, Steve Winecke, or Pastor Pfeifer to find out more. May the Lord bless our efforts to bring the good news of Christ to our unchurched friends and neighbors.

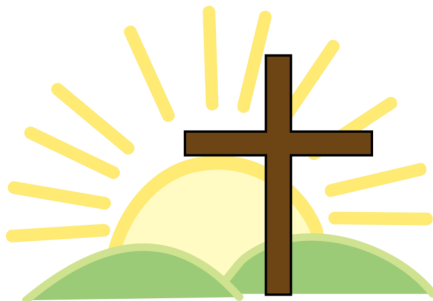
Flower Pot Painting Family Event

Saturday, May 10 at 2 pm

Bring your children and invite friends to paint flower pots and plant your own flower garden. As we plant, we'll see God's beautiful plans for us revealed in three gardens in the Bible. Contact Nichelle at 712-304-5323 if you would like to help.

Confirmation Today

Elijah Norton and Preston Virden will publicly confess their faith in the rite of Confirmation this morning.



May Forward in Christ

The May 2025 issue of Forward in Christ is available on the shelf outside the sanctuary. It is always at forwardinchrist.net if you prefer.

Many good articles are included, especially the following:

May 26, 2025 marks the 175th anniversary of the constituting convention of the Wisconsin Synod. WELS President Mark Schroeder reminds us of this humble beginning on page 6.

When do you use the law and when do you use the gospel when speaking to unbelievers? Jon Buchholz digs into that important distinction on page 10.

A pastor shares his struggles with bipolar disorder and how he found his identity in Christ. Read this on page 18.

Stephen Helwig's devotion on Jesus' ascension on page 5 can remind us of Jesus' continued presence in our lives.

The Bible study on misused Bible passages is a must-read for congregation members to help in correctly applying and using God's word. See page 32.

Mowing Volunteers

Please sign up to help keep the church lawn mowed and trimmed this summer. A sign up sheet is available in the narthex. Mow as many or as few times as you would like. Contact Brent Canny with any questions.

Acknowledgments

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