April 28, 2024 5th Sunday of Easter

resurrection REALity

Prepare for Worship

Gracious God, you nourish my faith with the good news that you have forgiven my sins in Christ. Let the gospel be proclaimed by all who come to worship today: by ministers called to preach the gospel, by musicians who adorn the gospel with beauty, and by all who proclaim the gospel in song and prayer. Let the miracle of your forgiving love touch my heart and the hearts of all. Amen.

Setting One P. 154

709 Christ the Vine



- 1 I long to serve my Sav ior, to seek what's good and right,
- 2 There came, with grace un spar ing, a vine from heav'n a bove,
- 3 And so I'll serve my Say ior with pow'r that he pro-vides,



to trust and nev - er wa - ver, to walk in truth and light. its branch - es meant for bear - ing the fruits of self - less love. for he, my blest Re - deem - er, with - in my soul a - bides.



But con - duct pure and ho ly re - quires a pow'r not mine; This vine is Christ who of fered his life up - on tree; a The fruit of self - less ing will grow by giv God's de - sign



branch is fruit - ful on - ly when an-chored in a vine. for all mv sin he suf - fered and made a branch of me. as I. the branch, keep liv - ing by faith in Christ the vine.

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Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession CW 155

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



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.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



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938 This Is the Feast



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The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 4:32-37 (EHV)

The whole group of believers was one in heart and soul. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they held everything in common. ³³The apostles continued to testify about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ with great power, and abundant grace was on all of them. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them. For from time to time those who were owners of lands or houses sold them, brought the proceeds received from what was sold, ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet. It was distributed to each one according to what anyone needed.

³⁶Joseph, who was called Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated "son of encouragement"), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, ³⁷sold a field that belonged to him. He brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

63C Lord, You Are My Hope and Stay

Lord, you are my hope and stay; I will ev - er sing your praise.



You, God, / are my God,
earnestly I / seek you;
I thirst for you,
my whole being / longs for you,
in a dry and parched land
where there is no / water.
I have seen you in the sanctu- / ary
and beheld your power and your / glory. Refrain

Because your love is bet- / ter than life,
my lips will glori- / fy you.

I will praise you as long / as I live,
and in your name I will lift / up my hands.

Because you / are my help,
I sing in the shadow / of your wings.

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

Text: Hal H. Hopson Tune: Hal H. Hopson Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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Second Reading

1 John 3:18-24 (EHV)

Dear children, let us love not only with word or with our tongue, but also in action and truth. ¹⁹This is how we know that we are of the truth and how we will set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God. ²²We also receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commands and do what is pleasing in his sight. ²³This then is his command: that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another just as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps his commands remains in God and God in him. This is how we know that he remains in us: We know it from the Spirit, whom he has given to us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 15:5

Refrain: Congregation Verse: Soloist



Refrain



I am the vine; you are the branches.

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.

Refrain

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Gospel

John 15:1-8 (EHV)

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²Every branch in me that does not bear fruit, he is going to cut off. And he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so that it will bear more fruit.

³"You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, and I am going to remain in you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Likewise, you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵"I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him is the one who bears much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers. Such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this: that you continue to bear much fruit and prove to be my disciples."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

469 Welcome, Happy Morning



Text: tr. John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.; Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530–609, abr. Tune: Enchiridion Geistlike Lede und Psalmen, Lübeck, 1545
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Sermon The Living Lord Produces Active Faith John 15:1-8

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son

is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Almighty and merciful God, on this glorious day we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Increase our faith that the message of the empty tomb may fill our lives and make us glad each day.

When we are weak, be our strength; when we are sad, be our song; and when we sin, be our salvation.

Remove the hurt of death from all who mourn. In moments of grief call believers through the voice of our Good Shepherd and embolden us to follow his promises. In their hopelessness of despair turn the faithless to trust in the only Way, Truth, and Life.

Wipe away tears born of death and give new birth to a living hope in the hearts of the lost and troubled. Use our witness as compassion and comfort for others in need of mercy.

King of kings and Lord of lords, destroy all dominion, authority, and power that stands against you, whether seen or unseen. Whatever evil exerts itself against your saving will--false teaching or lukewarm faith, Satan's lies or worldly pleasures, empty worship or futile religion—rule it for the sake of the gospel's free course.

Triumph over our enemies and empower the Church to fight the good fight to the end. Never leave us or forsake us.

Walk among our churches, O Living One, as the faithful witness and firstborn from the dead. As your angel sent women with news of the risen Christ, call women in our church to announce, "He is risen!" As you sent your disciples with the breath of the Spirit, call those in our church full of the Spirit and wisdom to administer the keys of the kingdom.

Wherever we live and whatever we do, help us to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have in Christ.

Heavenly Father keep the baptized united with your Son in his resurrection. Put to death the fleshly urges of those caught in addictions, clothe in your righteousness anyone ashamed of good intentions which have fallen short, and assure those searching for purpose that their eternal identity as your dear children is sealed.

Thank you for the power of baptism working in our lives, and for the certainty of its promises through the resurrection. Enrich us with everything we need for life and godliness.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

O Lord of life, you have done mighty things for us! We pray through him who is the Beginning and the End, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

His name is above every name, to the glory of God the Father! Amen.

Good News for Kids/Offering

The Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns. The Lord's Supper makes a second statement. It says, "We are one in all that we do." We don't know if this type of bond exists with our guests, so we ask that if you are not a member of a WELS or ELS congregation you refrain from the Lord's Supper today and meet personally with our pastor if you desire to receive the sacrament in the future.

Stand

Preface

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.

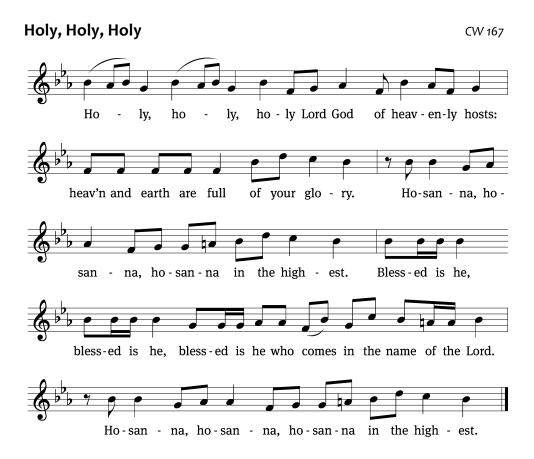


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



Proper Preface

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

Words of Institution

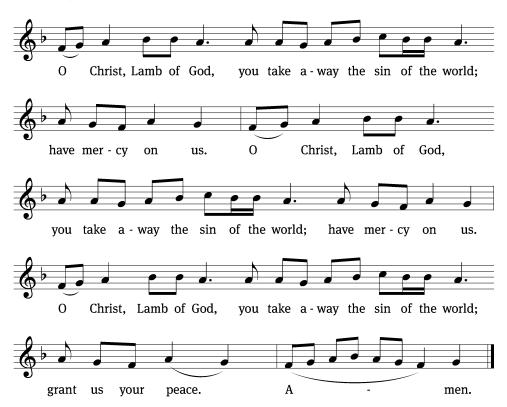
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

O Christ, Lamb of God

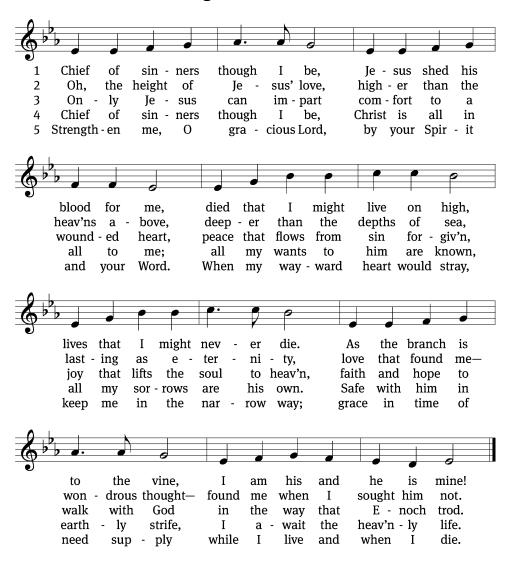
CW 169



Be seated

Distribution

578 Chief of Sinners Though I Be



Text: William McComb, 1793-1873, alt. Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820-1901 Text and tune: Public domain

670 I Come, O Savior, to Your Table



- 5 Your holy heart has one obsession, one blessèd thing it burns to do to cleanse the sinner from transgression; so I, a sinner, come to you. (Refrain)
- 6 My soul is burdened; Lord, relieve me, by all this weight of sin oppressed! Though sinful, yet, in grace receive me and feed me as your grateful guest. (Refrain)
- Within me, Lord, your vision traces a heart of deep humility that mourns its sin and yet embraces the merit you have earned for me. (Refrain)
- 8 By faith I call your holy table the testament of your deep love, for by your gift I now am able to know the heart of God above. (Refrain)

- 9 This meal with blessing is abounding: to poor ones wealth, to weak ones pow'r, to angels joy, to hell confounding, and life for me in death's dark hour. (Refrain)
- My heart has now become your dwelling, O blessèd, holy Trinity.
 With angels I, your praises telling, shall live in joy eternally. (Refrain)

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754, abr.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 4, 8–10): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; (sts. 3, 5–7): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963
Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, Leipzig, 1756 Text (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 4, 8–10): © 1941 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 3, 5–7): © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 722518 Tune: Public domain

Thank you, dear Savior, for nourishing my faith with the Sacrament of your body and blood. Lift my heart with your forgiveness, renew my confidence in your grace, empower my love for others, and lead me to long for the eternal banquet of heaven.

Stand

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.



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Thank You from Merle Carter

Merle wants to thank everyone who came to his 97th birthday party, especially those who gave cards and gifts.

Welcome to Lincoln Heights!

We are glad you are here today to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please speak with an usher for any 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 Gary Finch, Pat Oswald, Larry Borchert, Makenzie Phippen, and Tom Rea - health Nichelle Hoey - expecting

Online Giving

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

www.LHELC.org/giving

Thank You to Today's Helpers

Accompanist: Buffy Kokke

Altar Guild: Candice Pippett & Andrea Travi **Counters:** Greg Lewis & Steve Winecke

Mowing: Jay Pender

Streaming: Benjamin Weber

Ushers 8 am: Peter Nolte & Dennis Moural

10:30 am: Steve Winecke

Next Sunday's Servants Accompanist: Buffy Kokke

Altar Guild: Karen Pippett & Karen Pippett Counters: Karl Kuhrt & Steve Winecke

Mowing: Peter Nolte Streaming: Brad Pippett

Ushers 8 am: Jon Schaeffer & Brad Pippett

10:30 am: TBA



Confirmation News

Three young believers are preparing to publicly confess their faith in the rite of Confirmation. Please pray for Brooklyn Olson, Mishsho Germano, and Jesuwa Gebreab as they learn and take God's Word to heart.

Instead of having the public examination during the Sunday service, we will have it on the Wednesday before. Family, friends and members of the congregation are welcome to attend as the students answer questions from Luther's Small Catechism. It will be a great review for you and an opportunity to encourage the students. Catechism Examination: May 1st at 6:00 pm

Rite of Confirmation: May 5th at 10:30 am

Usher Volunteers Needed

Ushers ensure that the service runs smoothly so worshipers can focus on the Word of God. If you would like to usher, contact Chad Virden at 515-720-5152. There is also a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex.

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* 9:36-42, *John* 15:9-17, 1 *John* 4:7-11, 19-21

Sick or in the Hospital?

Contact Pastor Pfeifer if you or someone you know is sick or in the hospital and would like a visit and encouragement from God's Word. The hospitals rarely contact pastors if members are admitted to the hospital.

Connecting WELS Members

The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod offers several ways to connect members through social media:
Facebook.com/welslutherans
Twitter.com/welstweets
Instagram.com/welslutherans
Vimeo.com/wels

Find Us on Facebook www.facebook.com/lhelc

Like us to follow our updates. Then share and leave comments so others will also see. More likes, shares and comments means more people will see the post.

Donate Your Meditations Books

Instead of recycling the Meditations books when you are finished with them, bring them back to church. Drop them off in the office and we will distribute them to the homeless along with meals. Thanks.

THIS WEEK AT LINCOLN HEIGHTS April 28 - May 5, 2024

Sunday	8:00 am 8:45 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 pm	Worship with Communion Homeless Meal Delivery Sunday School Bible Class Worship with Communion Kunama Worship
Wednesday	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Catechism Examination Evening Prayer Service
Thursday	10:00 am	Women's Fellowship Group
Saturday	12:00 pm	Sudanese Meeting
Sunday	8:00 am 8:45am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Worship Homeless Meal Delivery Sunday School Bible Class Worship - Confirmation

Acknowledgments

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



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