

**Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool
May 12, 2024**

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Rev. Joleen Gleasman

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Member of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
(ELCA – www.elca.org)



All Are Welcome – All the Time!

You do not need to be a member of this church or Lutheran to participate in any part of worship.

If you wish to take communion, we ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus.

His body and blood were given and shed for you.



Christ Lutheran Church & PreSchool is a community committed to the work of equity and inclusion, bringing justice and support for all of God's beloveds. We welcome those who are seeking God's love and grace for the first time or as a life-long believer.

We welcome because Jesus shows us how to welcome, regardless of race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, economic resources, relationship status, health challenges or anything else that too often divides us. It is in our welcome which we commit ourselves to being an anti-racist space, a space where we seek daily to deepen our work of inclusion in the life of our church. Our unity is in Christ. All are welcome here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS

By Kathy Davis, who will provide updated Prayers of Intercession

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

– Silence for reflection –

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done and what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

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.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit that Christ may live in our hearts. **Amen.**

SONG: Borning Cry, ELW #732

“I was there to hear your borning cry. I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off, to find where demons dwell.”

“When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.
When you find someone to share your time, and you join your hearts as one,
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme, from dusk till rising sun.”

“In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I’ll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I’ve begun.
When the evening gently closes in, and you shut your weary eyes,
I’ll be there as I have always been, with just one more surprise.”

“I was there to hear your borning cry, I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.”

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and
the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. **And also with you!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful
name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved
world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

READING – Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the brothers and sisters (together the crowd
numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, “Brothers and sisters, the
scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning
Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus, for he was numbered
among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.”

“So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus
went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he
was taken up from us – one of these must become a witness with us to his
resurrection.” So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known
as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart.
Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and
apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” And they cast lots
for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers,

but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,

and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,

for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

READING – 1 John 5:9-13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

– Please stand as you are able –

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SUNG) – ELW 172

**Halle, halle, halle – lujah. Halle, halle, halle – lujah.
Halle, halle, halle – lujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah!**

THE GOSPEL – John 17:6-19

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(Jesus said:) “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.

All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled.

But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON – Rev. Joleen Gleasman

SONG: You Are Mine, ELW #581

(Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal)

"I will come to you in the silence; I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice; Be still and know I am here..."

"I am hope for all who are hopeless; I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light. Come and follow me..."

**"Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home...
I love you and you are mine."**

"I am strength for all the despairing; Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free; And all will know my name...."

"I am the Word that leads all to freedom. I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name, embracing all your pain. Stand up now walk and live!"

**"Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home...
I love you and you are mine."**

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

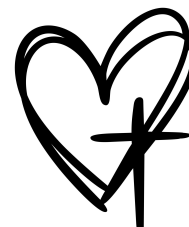
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(on separate sheet)*

Hear us, O God... Your mercy is great.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

– Please share a greeting or sign of peace –



GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

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

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *(not printed/Presider's book on altar)*

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.



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AT THE FRONT

All are welcome to receive the Real Presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. You do not need to be a member of this church or Lutheran to receive the sacrament. We ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus Christ. Those who are interested will be invited by an usher to come up the center aisle to the front to select a single-serving Communion kit from the tray, or to receive a blessing. Then return to your seat via the side aisle to open the kit and partake in Communion. An usher will offer a basket to collect the container. *For those worshipping at home, please consider joining in Holy Communion by taking a bit of bread or cracker and a sip of wine or juice.* **All are welcome.**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

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

SONG: Go, My Children, with My Blessing, ELW #543

(on bulletin insert or in hymnal)

“Go, my children, with my blessing; never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.

In my love’s baptismal river, I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing; you are my own.”

“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.

Here you heard my dear Son’s story; Here you touched him, saw his glory.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”

“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.

Here my Spirit’s power filled you; Here my tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Caring Hands** – May 18 & June 15 from 9 to noon. Meetings break for summer, but work continues – reach out if you would like patterns (CaringHandsVernonHills@gmail.com)
- **Lay Leadership Day** – May 18 from 9a to 1:30 p.m. at Our Savior's, Naperville. Sessions on Climate Justice, Stewardship of Space, Leadership & Equipping, Church Governance - and includes your lunch! Only \$10! Sponsored by the Carlmark Fund (thanks, Nan Carlmark Dahlke). (<https://bit.ly/4cZ2loD>)
- **Bike Out Negativity: A Celebration of Chicago's Youth** – afternoon of May 18 – please pray over this effort to bring peace, unity, safety and fun to Chicago's West Side.
- **MCSELCA Synod Assembly** – June 1 in St. Charles. (MCSELCA.org)
- **Meditate While You Mow** – If you have time and interest, we have a lot of grass to cut, bushes to trim, and weeds to whack. Tools and training provided. Reach out to Holly (HollySJ@earthlink.net). Thank you to all who help – Bill, Holly, Theresa, Bob and Team.
- **Encampment Collection** – Thank you to all who contribute to our deliveries to the Chicago homeless encampment near Pastor Pdraig's house. We will continue to collect blankets/ sleeping bags (new or gently used/clean), socks, feminine products, and Mariano's gift cards (store closest to camp).
- **Sanctuary Support** – For asylum seekers living in Chicago shelters. New wishlist diapers, formula, coats, children's clothes (baby to teen), children's/adult cold medicines, cough drops, Advil,/Tylenol, shoes, coats, strollers, book bags, suitcases, storage bins with lids.
- **Sue's Pantry** – Looking for small sizes of flour, cooking oil, sugar. Also anything needed to keep a home and family clean – dish soap, laundry detergent, body wash, shampoo.
- **Love INC** – Housewares, nonperishables and volunteers. Want to learn more? Have a child or family in need of a bundle of clothes or housewares? Give the details to Natalie she will get us covered! (Thanks, Natalie.) (<https://loveinclakecounty.org/>)
- **COOL Ministries** – We support the COOL pantry in Waukegan as well as Vernon Township Pantry with non-perishables. Collection bins in hallway or give online. (CoolMinistries.org)
- **BSA Troop 273** – Thank you for supporting our partner Scouts as they have supported us. **Looking to restart Cub Scout Pack 273!** Children/families ages Kindergarten through 4th grade are encouraged to reach out to Theresa (tcalabrese98@gmail.com).
- **Prayer concerns?** Please consider reaching out so that our network of Prayer Warriors can pray. You may remain anonymous. Please email ChristLutheranVH@aol.com with your request. If you would like to be part of the Prayer Team, please send an email.
- **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.** Your presence in worship is very important. Thank you for being part of this community of faith. If you would like to support the efforts of this community, we welcome donations, which can be provided by credit card or Paypal through the link at the bottom of our webpage, ChristLutheranVH.org. Thank you.