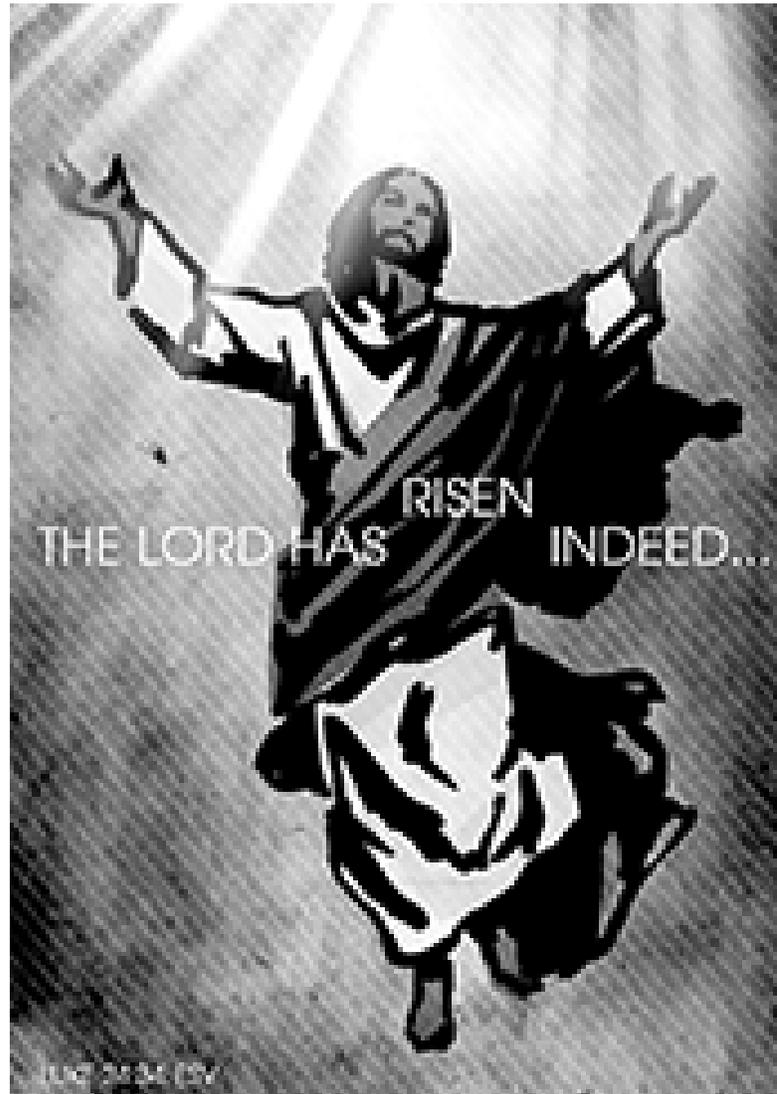


Third Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2018



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
& LUTHERAN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

A Christian family who cares for you!

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE

April 15, 2018

THE PREPARATION

*We prepare our hearts and minds by confessing our sins and humbly turning to our God who alone is able to forgive our sins. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation."
(II Corinthians 5:17)*

A REMINDER PLEASE: We honor and respect our parents and grandparents who bring your children to worship. We love for all children to learn of God's love for them. If you find you would like to use our nursery, it is located in the old kitchen area, down the hallway to the ladies' restroom. We have closed circuit TV broadcasting the service and a viewing window in that area as well. Also, please turn your cell phone to mute or to vibrate during the worship service. Thank you.

A WORD TO OUR FRIENDS ABOUT COMMUNION:

As members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we believe that the body and blood of Christ are truly present "in, with, and under" the bread and wine when we receive the Sacrament. We do *not* believe that the bread and wine somehow mystically "change" into something other than bread and wine, *nor* do we believe that the bread and wine merely "represents" Christ's body and blood; rather, we are bound by the words of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, when He said "Take eat, this is my body" and "Take drink, this is my blood." We believe and teach that when we receive the bread and wine, we are also truly receiving the body and blood of Christ (because of His divine Word.) We therefore, also believe that the Sacrament of Holy Communion is more than just a memorial, we believe it is Christ truly coming to us and offering His body and his blood in an outward sign of His love for us and as an outward assurance of the forgiveness He won for us by His death on the cross. This is our belief and confession regarding the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and if you have any questions or concerns about our Communion practices and desire to partake of Holy Communion, will you please consult with the pastor beforehand. Having read this Communion Statement and prayerfully considered what you believe and confess, please complete the Pew Card found in the pew rack. After you place your tithes and gifts in the offering plate, please pass your Pew Card to the center aisle and the ushers will pick them up as they return from presenting our offerings to the Lord. May God truly bless our Communion Service this day.

AS WE GATHER

We may have a tendency to think of repentance as a painful thing, as something to dread and avoid at all costs. After all, repentance means admitting we were wrong. It may be embarrassment, guilt, shame, or pride that makes repentance difficult. Yet you have probably experienced the joy of repentance as well, the relief of confessing your sins, the wonder of grace that flows to us in forgiveness. You may be holding on to a dark secret or a stubborn grudge. Bring your heavy burdens to the Lord today. He has forgiven you and has called you His beloved child.

The TOLLING OF THE BELLS

(The tolling of the bells is an ancient custom that according to some is said to call upon the name of the Lord and alert the community to our call to worship. As the bells toll, we reverently prepare our hearts and minds to receive the blessings God has promised in His Word and Sacraments.)

* Confession and Absolution *

(Please stand)

OPENING HYMN

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LSB 465



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!
fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed!
heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer
with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed!



He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
He is liv - ing!" Now still He comes to give us
through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's
Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
life And by His pres - ence stills all
day That by our lives we tru - ly
Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly

(continued)



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!" Al - le -
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing! Al - le -
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Al - le -
 God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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*The sign of the cross * may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

☆ In the name of the Father and of the * Son and of the Holy Spirit. *LSB pg. 184*
 ✝ Amen. *Matthew 28:19b [18:20]*

ENTRANCE PSALM

Psalm 4 (antiphon: v. 7)

☆ ¹Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

✝ **You have given me relief when I was in distress.
 Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!**

☆ ²O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?

✝ **How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?**

☆ ³But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;

✝ **the LORD hears when I call to him.**

☆ ⁴Be angry, and do not sin;

✝ **ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.**

☆ ⁵Offer right sacrifices,

✝ **and put your trust in the LORD.**

☆ ⁶There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?"

✝ **Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"**

☆ ⁷You have put more joy in my heart
❖ **than they have when their grain and wine abound.**

☆ ⁸In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
❖ **for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

ALL: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

☆ Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

☆ O almighty God, merciful Father,
❖ **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

☆ Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the * Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

❖ **Amen.**

* Service of the Word *

HYMN OF PRAISE This Is The Feast Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9 LSB pg. 155

REFRAIN

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

(1) Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Refrain

(2) Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing,
and glory are His.

Refrain

(3&4) Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all
creation. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the
Lamb forever. Amen.

Refrain

(5) For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

Refrain

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

☆ The Lord be with you,

✠ **And also with you.**

[2 Timothy 4:22]

☆ Let us pray.

O God, through the resurrection of Your Son, You began the restoration of all things. Enliven Your people with the joy of repentance that is ours as Your beloved children; through the same 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 3:11-21

¹¹While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk?"

¹³“The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷“And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

✠ This is the Word of the Lord.

✠ **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 John 3:1–7

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

✠ This is the Word of the Lord.

✠ **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

EASTER VERSE

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

LSB 474



4 Weep-ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -



sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be



o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.



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



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

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HOLY GOSPEL

☆ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

✠ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Luke 24:36-49

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?" ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

☆ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

✠ Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN

What Wondrous Love Is This

(Be seated)
LSB 543



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be-
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.

SERMON

Rev. R. Brian Stolarczyk

NICENE CREED (Please stand)

✚ 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 * of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

OFFERING

(Be seated)

(Please indicate your attendance and any requests on the Pew Card and hand them to the center aisle. They will be picked up by the ushers after they deliver our gifts to the Altar. Thank you.)

SPECIAL MUSIC

(10:15AM)

Jesus Stood Among Them

(Please stand)

* Service of the Sacrament *

PREFACE

☆ The Lord be with you.

[2 Timothy 4:22]

✚ And also with you.

☆ Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]

✚ We lift them to the Lord.

☆ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]

✚ It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

☆ Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

❖ Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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 for ever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

(Only by the almighty creative Word of God are we able to believe that the blessed sacrament delivers what God promises, the forgiveness for our sins. Mt. 26:28)

☆ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is My blood in the new testament which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

☆ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

❖ Amen.

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.

*(Be seated)***DISTRIBUTION**

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

☆ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart * in peace.

❖ **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Children of the Heavenly Father

LSB 725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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SPECIAL MUSIC

(10:15AM)

*Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior***DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

LSB 680



1 Thine the a - men Thine the praise Al - le -
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly Thine the
 3 Thine the tru - ly Thine the yes Thine the
 4 Thine the king - dom Thine the prize Thine the
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night No more



lu - ias an - gels raise Thine the ev - er - last - ing head
 prom - ise let there be Thine the vi - sion Thine the tree
 ta - ble we the guest Thine the mer - cy all from Thee
 won - der full sur - prise Thine the ban - quet then the praise
 dy - ing on - ly light Thine the riv - er Thine the tree



Thine the break - ing of the bread Thine the glo - ry Thine the
 All the earth on bend - ed knee Gone the nail - ing gone the
 Thine the glo - ry yet to be Then the ring - ing and the
 Then the jus - tice of Thy ways Thine the glo - ry Thine the
 Then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly Then the ho - ly ho - ly



sto - ry Thine the har - vest then the cup Thine the
 rail - ing Gone the plead - ing gone the cry Gone the
 sing - ing Then the end of all the war Thine the
 sto - ry Then the wel - come to the least Then the
 ho - ly Cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee Thine the



vine-yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 liv - ing Thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 won - der all in - creas - ing at Thy feast at Thy feast.
 splen - dor Thine the bright - ness on - ly Thee on - ly Thee.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

LSB 594

- (1) God's own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!
 He, because I could not pay it, Gave my full redemption price.
 Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth more than any
 That brought me salvation free Lasting to eternity!
- (2) Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!
 I have comfort even stronger: Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
 Should a guilty conscience seize me Since my Baptism did release me
 In a dear forgiving flood, Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
- (3) Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!
 Drop your ugly accusation, I am not so soon enticed.
 Now that to the font I've traveled, All your might has come unraveled,
 And, against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!

(continued)

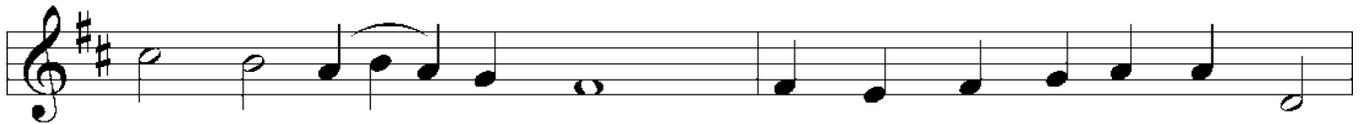
- (4) Death, you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ!
 When I die, I leave all sadness To inherit paradise!
 Though I lie in dust and ashes Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
 Baptism has the strength divine To make life immortal mine.
- (5) There is nothing worth comparing To this lifelong comfort sure!
 Open-eyed my grave is staring: Even there I'll sleep secure.
 Though my flesh awaits its raising, Still my soul continues praising:
 I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise!

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing *LSB 633*



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

- (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!

(continued)

- (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!

(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

☆ Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith as we look with joy at the wonderful gifts You give us in repentance and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

❖ **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

☆ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and * give you peace.

❖ **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

LSB 832

- (1) Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- (2) To Him shall endless prayer be made, And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise With ev'ry morning sacrifice.
- (3) People and realms of ev'ry tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.
- (4) Blessings abound where'er He reigns: The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blest.
- (5) Let ev'ry creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen.

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

You have been a blessing to us! Please use this time to “check in” with your Christian brothers and sisters around you. Coffee and donuts are being served directly after service in the Fellowship & Ministry Center. Please stop by and enjoy. Thank you.

We are sometimes blinded by our own joy. When Jesus’ disciples saw Him for the first time, they were overjoyed—so much so that they may have even doubted who it was that they saw. Often we are distracted or blinded from seeing Jesus. But our eyes of faith are what always see Jesus and His love for us.

CPH.org



We are a STEPHEN MINISTER church!

Acknowledgments

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Pastor: Rev. R. Brian Stolarczyk
 Winter Pastor: Rev. Mark Schoenherr
 Interim Director, Lutheran Child Development Center: Marina Parker
 Organist: David Langevin
 April 15, 2018

A Christian Family Who Cares For You!

The **ETERNAL LIGHT** is provided to the Glory of God by Carolyn Canada in remembrance of her sainted husband, Selby's birthday on the 5th and their anniversary on the 6th.

FLOWERS on the altar are provided to the Glory of God by Nikki Chouinard in memory of her sainted mother, Georgette Chouinard.

WORSHIP SERVANTS:

Elder on Duty
 Communion Assistant
 Ushers/Greeters

Altar Server

Safety Team

EARLY SERVICE

Tom Rittenhouse
 Patrick Murphy

Bonnie Klott
 Shirley Glover

Dave Betz
 Steve Nelson

LATE SERVICE

Jerry Kecken
 Fred Spier
 Lois Kooistra & Jack Wagner
 Tom & Judy Mau
 Fran Boatwright

Bill Dismuke
 Paul & Laurene Johnson

IF YOU HAVE any comments, questions or suggestions, please contact any one of our Elders:

ELDERS

Head Elder:	Fred Spier	941-627-0541
Assistant Head Elder:	Chris Wrightsman	941-639-0477
Secretary:	Jerry Kecken	941-766-0451
Charlie Budde	941-888-2502	Dave Diener 248-879-0608
Richard Fasnacht	941-505-9237	Noel Hyde 941-286-3315
Patrick Murphy	941-235-8755	Denny Newhard 260-235-0602
Tom Rittenhouse	941-255-8483	Ken Werring 941-426-3535

If you or a loved one needs transportation to and from church
 please call Joyce Spier at 941-627-0541

OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday, 8:30am to 1:30pm. You may reach us by phone at (941-627-6060), fax (941-627-5467) or email secretary@lccross.org. Find us on the Web at www.lccross.org or:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Lutheran-Church-of-the-Cross/279700308834767>

IN HIS SERVICE THIS WEEK*(FMC = Fellowship and Ministry Center)*

Sun-Apr 15	7:45am	Early Divine Service/Holy Communion
	9:00am	Christian Education Hour
	10:15am	Late Divine Service/Holy Communion
Mon-Apr 16	9:00am	Monday Morning Volunteers
	1:00pm	Stephen Ministry Training Session
	6:30pm	New Member Orientation
Tues-Apr 17	7:00pm	Church Council Meeting
Wed-Apr 18	10:00am	LCDC Director's Meeting
	6:30pm	Youth Confirmation Class (Old Fellowship Hall)
		Small Group Bible Study (De Braccio's Home)
Thurs-Apr 19	7:00pm	AA Meeting: "Keep It Simple" (FMC)
	9:15am	LCDC Preschool Youth Chapel: "Jesus Appears on Emmaus Road"
	10:00am	Bible Talk
	7:00pm	AA Meeting: "Reflections" (FMC)
		Choir Rehearsal
Fri-Apr 20		Set up for LWML Spring Rally (Campus Wide)
Sat-Apr 21	9:00am	LWML Ladies Parish Guild Spring Rally (Campus Wide) SCRIP (MSIT) Center (FMC)

IN HIS SERVICE NEXT WEEK

Sun-Apr 22	7:45am	Early Divine Service
	9:00am	Christian Education Hour
	10:15am	Late Divine Service
Mon-Apr 23		New Member Welcome Reception (FMC)
	9:00am	Monday Morning Volunteers
	1:00pm	Stephen Ministry Training Session (Old Fellowship Hall)
Wed-Apr 25	10:00am	LCDC Director's Meeting
	6:30pm	Youth Confirmation Class (Old Fellowship Hall)
		Small Group Bible Study (De Braccio's Home)
Thurs-Apr 26	7:00pm	AA Meeting: "Keep It Simple" (FMC)
	9:15am	LCDC Preschool Youth Chapel: "Jesus Appears to Thomas"
	10:00am	Bible Talk
	7:00pm	AA Meeting: "Reflections" (FMC)
Sat-Apr 28		Choir Rehearsal
	9:00am	SCRIP (MSIT) Center (FMC)

FUTURE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Sun-Apr 29		Stephen Minister Commissioning
		Farewell & Godspeed – Pastor & Karen Schoenherr
Sun-May 6		Youth Confirmation Sunday

IN OUR PRAYERS

Homebound Care:

Rudley & Gloria Anthony, Dick Halter, Dottie Harrop, Ed Heitter, Dick & Ann Hirst, Marlene Hirtzer, Cris & Linda Kelly, Vera Kuhlmann, Eloise Morch, Alfred & Adele Schmidt, Vicki Thorpe & Alice Van Keuren

Strength, Healing, Guidance: *

Lavonne Sandersfeld	Recovery from eye injury following recent fall
Clay Collard	Son Evonne Collard; safety living in Iran for work
Pastor Todd Kuehn	Beautiful Savior, Sarasota; recovery from bone fractures
Wilma Ball	Recovery from knee surgery
Debbie	Friend of LCC; battling double pneumonia/MS
Emma Goodridge	Friend of LCC; recovery from retina concerns
Ron Jackson Ruffner	Grandson, Bill & Ronna Trueman; hospitalized influenza
Karen Warncke	Sister of Joyce Darcy; diagnosed with vascular dementia
Donna Murphy	Daughter of Fran Boatwright; medical concerns
Paula Franklin	Cousin of Loretta Barnick; continued recovery at home
Marilyn Wagenhals	Aunt of Lori Nelson; Lord come quickly, comfort prayers
Michelle O'Dourley	Friend of LCC; continued recovery, severe medical issues
Bonnie Klott	Medical concerns
Sonny Newkirk	Brother in law of Marcia Strefling; placed in Hospice care
Tonya Boegel	Daughter in law John (Donna) Vogel; kidney stones

Battling Cancer: *

Matt Doctor	Brother-in-law of Diane Barton; battling cancer/fatigue
Linda Sabatke	Daughter in law, Ruth Sabatke; battling cancer
Razona Ledford	Daughter Bea Butler; battling metastatic breast cancer
Nancy Vangen	Daughter of Eleanor Redmann; stage 3 lung cancer
Curtis Frazier	Son in law, David & Reine Obermier; throat cancer
Kevin Klott	Son of Bonnie Klott; continued battle with prostate cancer
H. Rex Holloway	Cousin of John Vogel; battling lung cancer
Otto Phelps	Great nephew Reine Obermier; undergoing chemo
Larry Tinkham	Friend of LCC; diagnosed with colon cancer
Tom Carroll	Friend of LCC; undergoing chemotherapy
Ron Nottingham	Diagnosed with prostate cancer
Amy Avery	Niece of Bruce & Carolyn Lawson; undergoing chemo
Kay Clark	Sister of Marge Bartelson; battling cancer
Dr. Bill Polzin	Brother of Mark Polzin; treatment for brain cancer
Art Sterriker	Brother of Harvey Sterriker; battling cancer
Gail Urban	Friend of LCC; pending biopsy results

Military:

USMC Cpl David Eubank	Grandson of Dave & Gayle DeBraccio; stationed in NC
Army Soldier Shane Golembieski	Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; in Hawaii
USAF Airman Shawn Golembieski	Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; in Nevada
US Navy ENS Joe Golembieski	Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; flight school
USMC Cpl. Nick Lafayette	Nephew Ron & Carol Scheff; stationed in San Francisco, CA
USMC Cpl. C.J. Lafayette	Nephew of Ron & Carol Scheff; deployed to Okinawa, Japan
US Army Capt. Nate Zimmerly	Friend of LCC; stationed in Kuwait
PO1 Robert Kecken	Son Jerry & Meredith Kecken; stationed Cordova, AK
US Army SSG. Paul Behling	Son of Ron & Cohleen Nottingham; stationed in WA
US Army PVT Ezra Contreras	Grandson of Wilbert & Marcia Strefling; AIT training, Ft. Lee, VA
USMC Cpl. Michael Sommers	Nephew Ken & Mary Werring; preparing for deployment

Family Prayer: We remember all our **families** during times of personal and family **trial and tribulation.**

If you know of someone needing church prayers, please contact the church office at 941-627-6060. Be sure to have the name, relationship to the church family and what is the need for the prayer

***Prayers will run for four consecutive weeks, unless otherwise notified.**



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

PERSONAL DEMONSTRATION: “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.” 2 Timothy 3:16 NIV My grandson received a “ripstick” for Christmas. It looks similar to a skate board but requires more balance. He told me a YouTube video taught him how to safely get onto the ripstick. Similarly Paul trained Timothy by his example as they traveled together. Paul's life demonstrated his faith in God's Word and encouraged others to be Christ followers. Does your life help paint a picture of God?

Joyce Spier & David Gruntman, Stephen Ministry Leaders

LCC WEEKLY INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT 2018

Week: 04/08/2018

Weekly Income: \$7,145

Weekly Expense: \$7,650

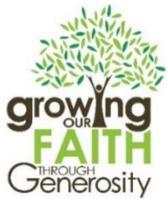
These figures are for Church operations only and do not include income and expenses for LCDC.

LCC ATTENDANCE REPORT:

Attendance	Sunday: 04/09/2017 39 / 188	Sunday: 04/08/2018 49 / 182
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ALTAR FLOWERS: JULY

There is currently no one signed up for the eternal light in **MAY** or flowers on the altar for **May 6th or 27th**. The cost of eternal light is \$25.00 for the months and flowers are \$20.00 per week. If you are interested please complete a flower request card which can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If paying by a check please make payable to LCC Parish Guild. If you have any questions about requesting flowers or the eternal light, please call the church office at (941) 627-6060.



1 John 3:2 – “Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.” There is the essence of our sanctification: becoming like our Lord. As St. John notes, this will only be completed in the Resurrection.

But until then we are called to trust His grace and to grow into His image more and more.

LCC POSITIONS TO THAT NEED TO BE FILLED

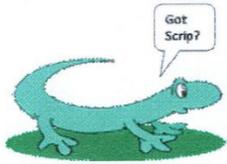
VICE PRESIDENT - This position requires the volunteer to be a male, based on our constitution by-laws. He would be responsible for filling in when the President is absent and for media updates. Position requires candidate to be a full-time member.



HEAD MONDAY MORNING VOLUNTEER - This position requires an understanding of the counting process. You can be easily trained in these duties and only requires your time once a week (Usually, Mondays.) We currently have a couple of people who have volunteered to serve in this capacity, but they will be going North soon, so we need a full-time member to take on this responsibility.

Please contact David Gruntman, at 410-303-0044 or via email: Davidg216@verizon.net.

ALL LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF LCC ARE CORDIALLY INVITED to attend the Annual LWML Parish Guild Dutch-Treat Luncheon on May 3, 2018, 1 PM at Olympia Restaurant, 3245 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte (between Olean and Harbor, on the west side of Tamiami). Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, April 29th, if you plan to attend. Check the sign-up list for carpooling possibilities that you could arrange. We'll see you there!



SCRIP GALS

From now until May 25 we will have a limited number of special low denomination gift cards available, perfect for teacher gifts, confirmation gifts, and grad parties. These cards will only be available while supplies last, so don't wait to place your orders. The following cards will be available: Amazon \$10, Applebee's \$10, CVS \$10, Darden Restaurants \$10, Home Depot \$10, IHOP \$10, Outback \$10, Panera \$5, Red Lobster \$10, Starbucks \$5, Target \$10, and Walmart \$10. All proceeds for the month of April will go toward the purchase of the new church sign. Please join us for donuts and coffee in the FMC Building this morning between services or after the second service. We are also here on Saturday from 9 - 11 a.m. Thank you for the support!

SAFETY TEAM NEEDS YOU!

We are currently looking to add to our safety team. We need a few more adult volunteers to provide two people to serve at each worship service as a safety team member. In order to secure our worship doors while remaining a warm and friendly congregation, we would like a safety team member available to greet any visitor who comes during the worship service. One volunteer greets and evaluates the visitor while the second volunteer remains inside in order to contact 911 if the need arises. The basic duties include:

- ✝ Secure doors after the opening hymn is over
- ✝ Have two safety team volunteers watching the monitor at each service
- ✝ When late arrival comes 1 volunteer goes outside to greet/evaluate and 1 remains inside at monitor and prepare to call 911 if necessary
- ✝ At the start of the closing hymn unlock church doors

If you are looking for a way to involve yourself with the church, but are limited on time, this is an excellent opportunity for you! If you are interested in more information, or would like to sign up, please contact the church office @ 941-627-6060.



THE SIGN DESIGN IS NOW FINALIZED!

The selected concept (see picture) utilizes LED lights and from one to 12 lines of script. This concept enables us to change messages every 15 seconds or any frequency we choose. One message could announce times of Sunday worship, another message could then appear with upcoming events, another message could announce bible study times, while another could announce LCDC hours or open house times - and all of this will be available in a whole spectrum of colors. The options for sign messages are unlimited. Certainly, the active nature of the sign will serve to draw wide attention while sending the messages of our various Christian missions for all to see.

The cost of the sign will be \$23,000 and installation to meet county standards will be another \$4000. The sign cost is not a budgeted item so it will be financed by the generosity of our members and friends. As you know, a funding program was started in early March. The funding program is unique in that it is a Matching Funds Program. This means a \$50 donation becomes \$100, a \$100 donation becomes a \$200, a \$500 donation becomes \$1000, etc. The Matching Funds Program was made possible through the generous support of one of our church members.

When the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, an operation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, heard of our new sign project, they offered to partner with us with \$3000 toward the cost of the sign. LCEF consider "signage" as a strategic communications tool for reaching more people with the message of our LCMS ministry.

To date, after only one month, we can announce that 1/3 of the total cost has already been received. When we consider the Matching Gift opportunity, we only need \$8000 to complete the total funding. Consider becoming part of the future life of our church by expressing your support for this new outreach opportunity. Simply write your check noting "Church Sign" on the memo line and mail it to the church or include it in your regular offering envelope.

