



Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church



Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024, 10:30am
In-Person Family
Communion Service

Welcome Visitors!

We hope that you will enjoy your time with us today. Ushers are here to serve. If you have questions or need something, they are more than willing to help, it's why they are here!

Rest rooms are available to the left as you exit the sanctuary, near the coat rack.

Most understand that God made children who are wiggly and full of energy. Please don't worry. Activity bags for children are found near the coat rack. If you feel that you must take your children out, there are also some books and toys in the library to the right as you exit the sanctuary, and you can still hear worship through the speaker. A changing station is available in the handicapped restroom.

There are listen-assist devices. If you need one, please stop at the usher's area and they will be glad to supply you with one. There are two types of listening devices, one that just fits over the ear and another that works directly with some hearing aids.

Welcome to our sacred space, ancestral lands of the Lenni Lenape and Susquehannock, and home of our forebears. Important note about the bulletin. To save more trees and utilize the hymnal, parts of the service marked "pg. XXX" will be found in the front portion of the hymnal. Parts of the service marked "ELW XXX" will be found in the back portion of the hymnal.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *If You Love Me*

Sleeth

(Sanctuary Choir)

please stand

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,

let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep

and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new
day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through
the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian
official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to
you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Children gather in the playground

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Pastor Serena Sellers

SUNDAY SCHOOL GATHERING SONG: *We Love*

The musical score for the song "We Love" is presented in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line in treble clef and a bass line in bass clef. Chords are indicated above the vocal line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system has chords C, Dm, G7, and C. The second system has chords Dm, G7, C, and Am. The third system has chords G, C, Dm, C, G7, and C. The lyrics are: "We love (clap, clap) be-cause God first loved us. We love be-cause God first loved us. We love, we love, we love be-cause God first loved us."

GREETING

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

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain




hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of




vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



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




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

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

The first reading is written in the 10th chapter of Acts beginning at the 44th verse. The reading can be found on page 895 of your pew Bible.

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

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

The second reading is written in the 5th chapter of First John beginning at the first verse. The reading can be found on page 991 of your pew Bible.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.

²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God

is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

The holy gospel according to John the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's

commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

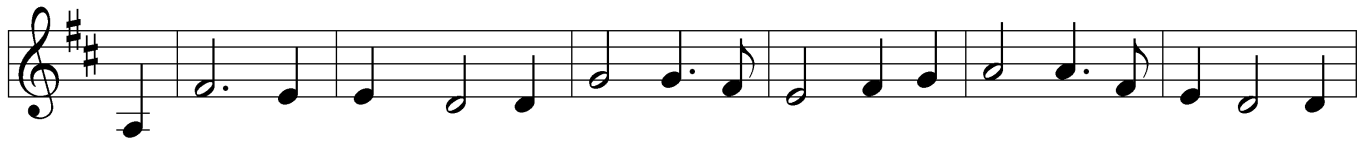
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

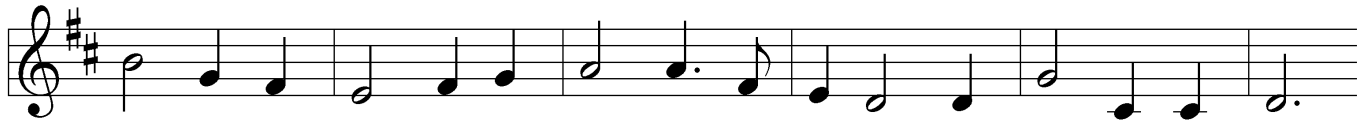
SERMON: Pastor Serena Sellers

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY: *A New Commandment*



A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth-er as



I have loved you, that you love one an - oth-er as I have loved you.



By this shall peo-ple know you are my dis - ci - ples, if



you have love one for an - oth - er; by this shall peo-ple know



you are my dis - ci-ples: if you have love one for an - oth - er.

Text: John 13:34–35

Music: NEW COMMANDMENT, anonymous

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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Seeking God, your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and help us dare to share your word of hope and love with those who differ from us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Renewing God, you speak and the face of the earth is refreshed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Mighty Lord, your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, and all who strive for justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. Protect civilian populations in the path of war.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Provide for those who lack basic resources. Send healing to all impacted by injury and disease.

Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. We pray especially for Ron, Gary, Madelyn, Charlie, Frank, Elva, Dorteia, Michael, Charlotte, Karl, Randy, Harry, David, and Dave. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation and of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod. Strengthen our new bishop that we may be encouraged to embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us into the arms of your mercy. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
Share that peace with those around you.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, so that all are welcomed, the gospel is shared and the hungry are fed. Online donations to the church may be submitted through this link.

<https://www.christlc.org/giving>

GIFT OF MUSIC: *What Have We to Offer*

Please stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



Christ has been raised from the dead, al - le - lu - ia.



Christ has been raised. Oh, God be praised! Al - le -



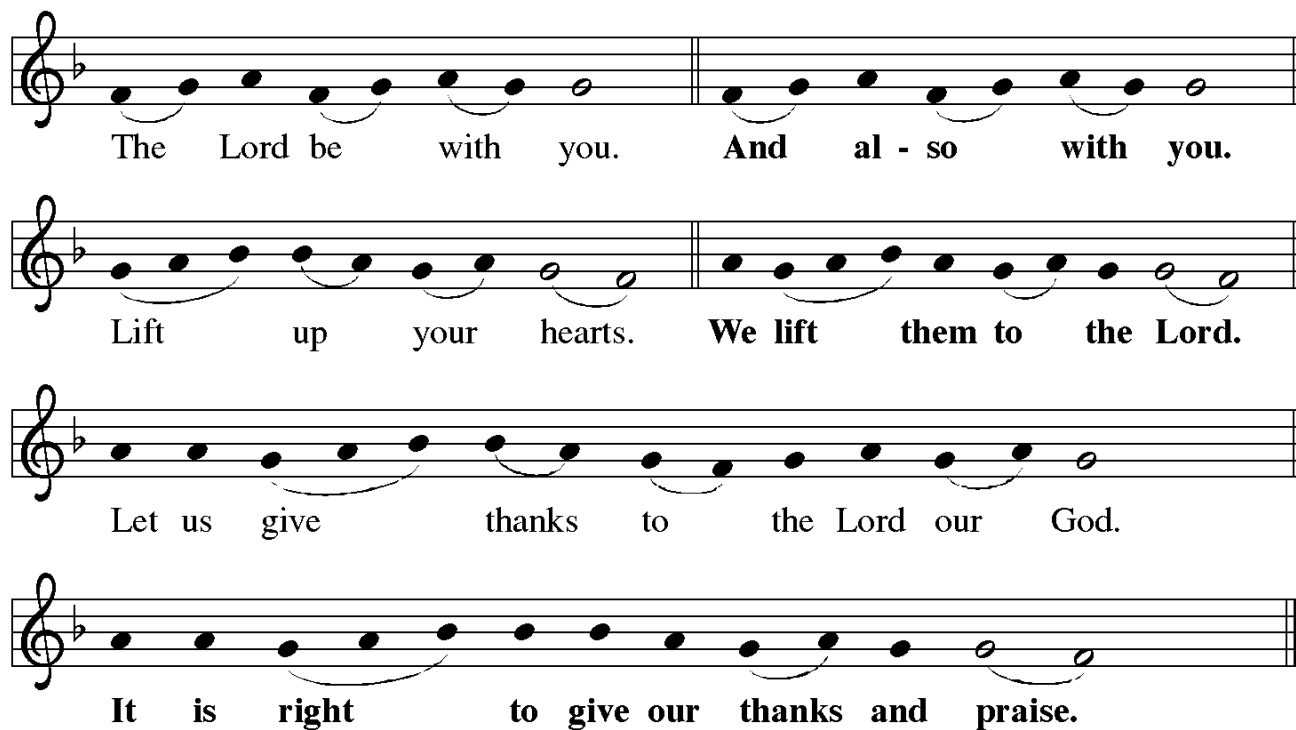
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Christ the Lord has been raised.

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, **you call us to believe and bear fruit.**

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

DIALOGUE

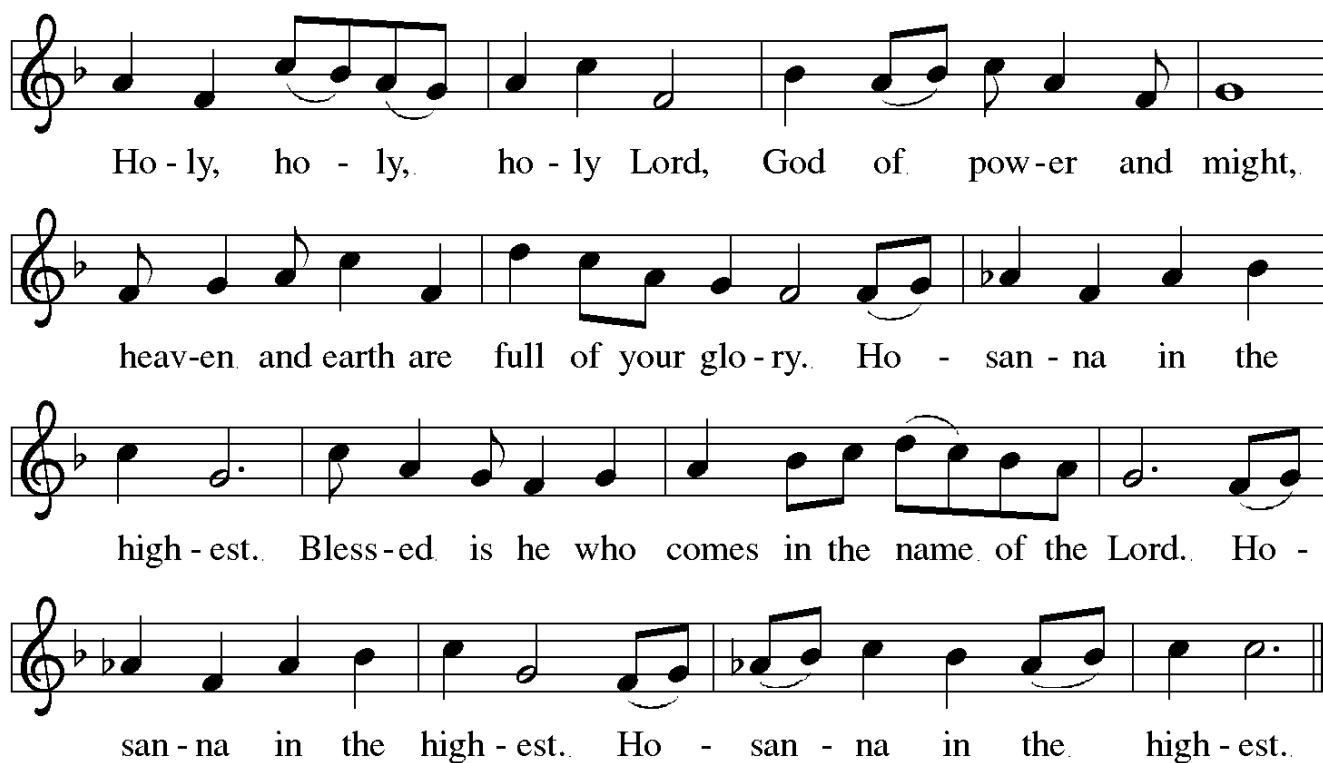


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

Please be seated

COMMUNION

All who believe and are baptized are welcome to receive the sacrament. Put out your hand to receive the wafer. If you need a gluten-free wafer, indicate that need and one will be provided. The wine will be presented in a small glass. If you prefer not to receive the wine – know that "communion in one kind" (just receiving one element: bread or wine) is understood as full participation. Once you have communed, leave your glass in the tray provided. If you need communion brought to you, raise a hand to notify us, and the sacrament will be brought to you.

SENDING

BLESSING

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.**

SENDING SONG: *Great Is the Lord*

C Dm G/B C
Great is the Lord, he is ho - ly and just, by his

F/A G F C/E Dm⁷ C C Dm
pow - er we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is

G/B C F/A G
faith - ful and true, by his mer - cy he proves he is

F C/E Dm⁷ C B^b/C F/C B^b/C F C/E Dm⁷ C
love. Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of glo - ry.

B^b/C F/C B^b/C G/C C B^b/C F/C B^b/C
Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of praise. Great is the Lord, now

D G E Am Dm Gsus G
lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the

Am Am⁷/G Dm Gsus G C Csus C
Lord! Great is the Lord!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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