



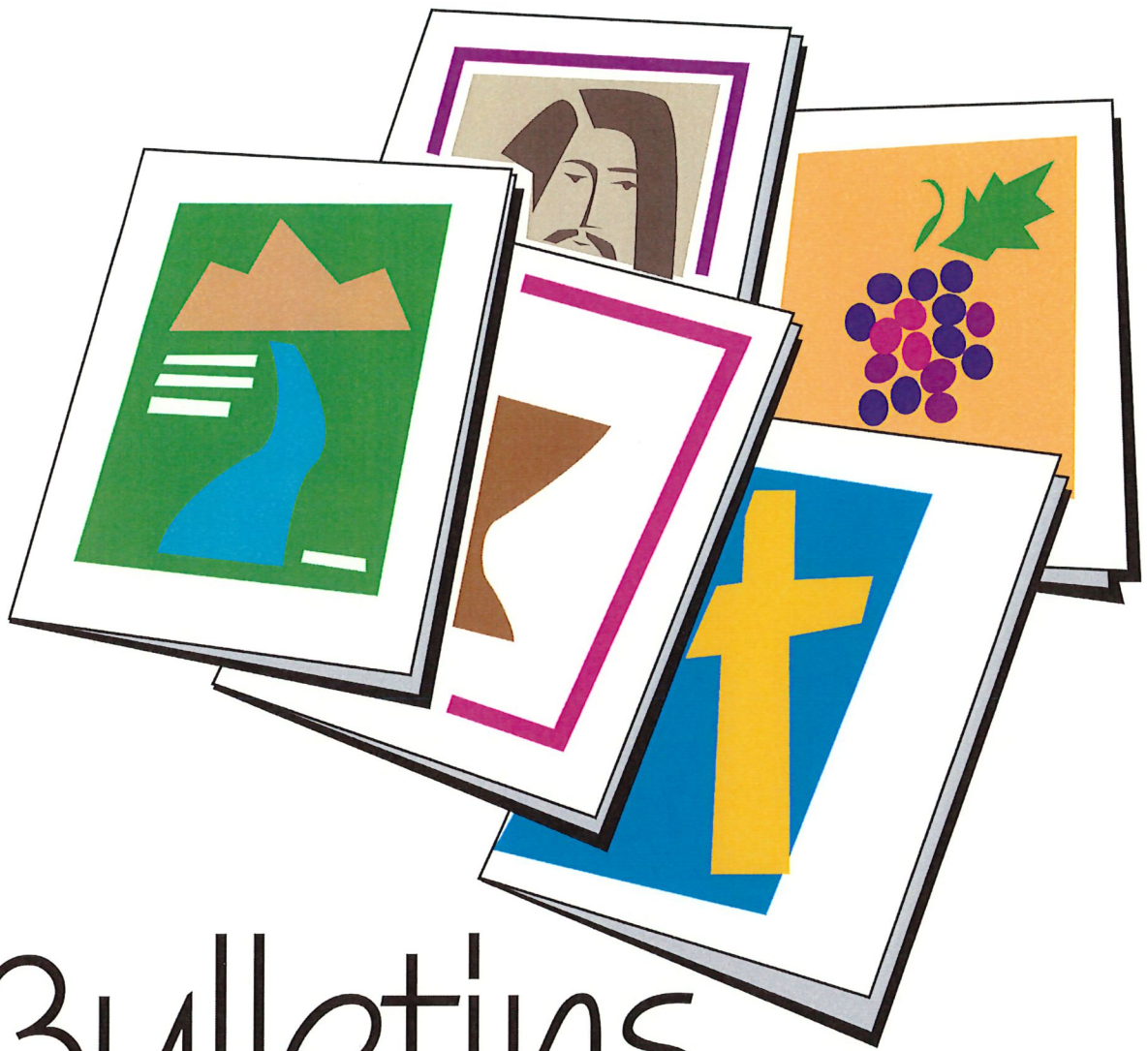
EASTER

THE HOPE
OF THE
WORLD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Lutheran Church

May 4, 2025



Bulletins

Miss a Sunday, but don't miss the bulletin!

Past week bulletins are now being kept on the pew outside the chapel. If you missed a week or know someone who would like to read them, please grab them up and distribute.

INTRODUCTION

The disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus. Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

MFURAHINI HALELUYA

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Anne Krentz Organ

(Please stand)

GATHERING

Softly spoken

P: Christ is Risen!

C: He is Risen, Indeed!

In a regular voice

P: Christ is Risen!

C: He is Risen, Indeed!

Lifting our voices toward heaven.

P: Christ is Risen!

C: He is Risen, Indeed!
Alleluia!



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
 2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
 4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
 con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
 this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
 you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
 ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
 strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
 e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

P: In the name of ☩ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: **Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
 and called to live the baptized life,
 let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water is poured during the thanksgiving.

P: Holy God,
 we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: As a community of faith, celebrating the light, love and peace of the Risen Christ, let us pray:

P: Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING:

ACTS 9:1-20

L: A reading from Acts, the ninth chapter.

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:

REVELATION 5:11-14

L: A reading from Revelation, the fifth chapter.

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated

on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

Cantor: Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are His.

C: **Sing: Refrain**

GOSPEL:

JOHN 21:1-19

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to John, the twenty first chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹ After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This Is the Feast

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

*Cantor: Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.
Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and Lamb forever, Amen.*

C: Sing: Final refrain

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.



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

(Please be seated)

REFLECTION

REVEREND CHRISTIAN DITTMAR

(Please stand)



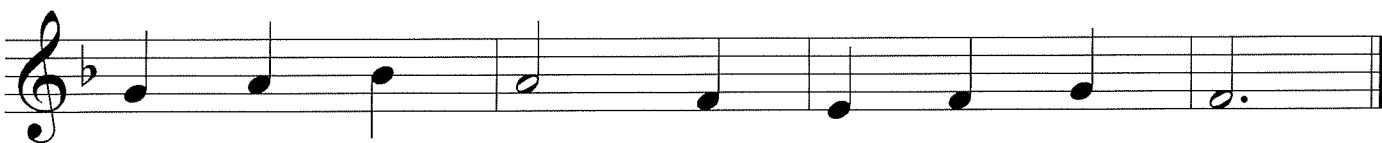
1 Christ has a - ris - en, Al - le - lu - ia.
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.
 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
 5 Christ has a - ris - en to set us free.



Re - joice and praise him, Al - le - lu - ia.
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.
 He has a - ris - en this world to save.
 Al - le - lu - ia, to him prais - es be.



For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who give life did death un - der - go,
 See fir your - selves the tomb is all bare.
 Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done.
 Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;



e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 and in its con - quest his might did show.
 On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."
 Ev - en the bat - tle with sin is won."
 he reigns tri - umph - ant, heav - en - ly king.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.

Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Our sin for - giv - ing, Al - le - lu - ia!

Je - sus is liv - ing, Al - le - lu - ia!

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.**

(Please kneel)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church,
the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

L: Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip Sunday
school teachers, and all you guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant
living faith among your people.

Each Petition concludes:

P: Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are
always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: **Amen.**

(Please stand)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ, be with you always.

C: **And, also with you.**

(Please be seated)

Meal

OFFERING AND ORGAN MEDITATION

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS

Edward Broughton

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

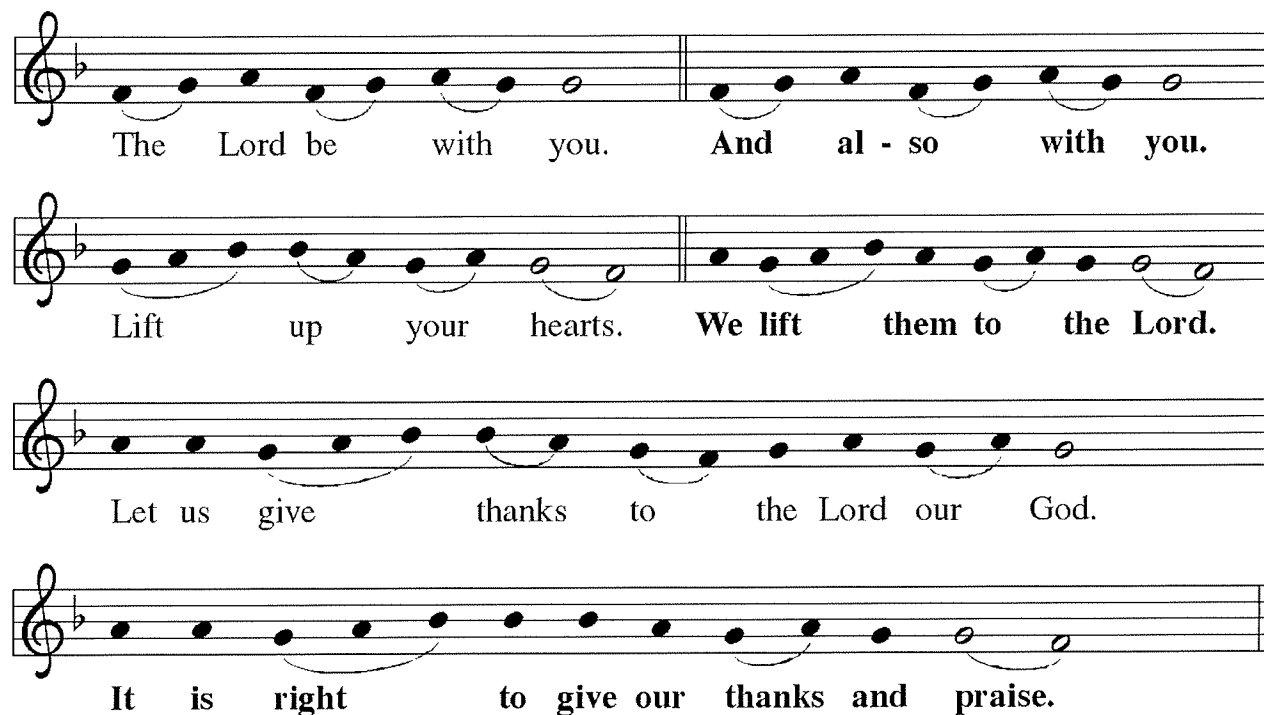
(Please stand)

OFFERING PRAYER

L: Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.

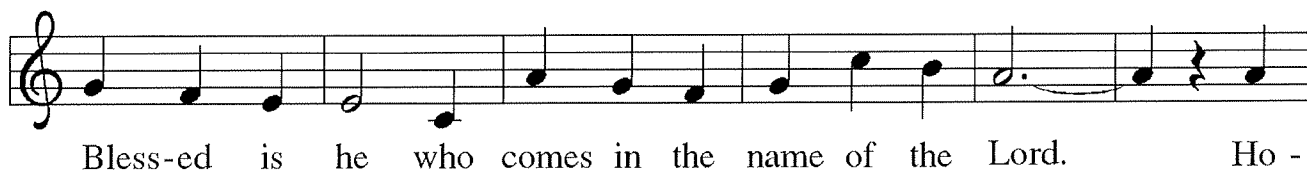
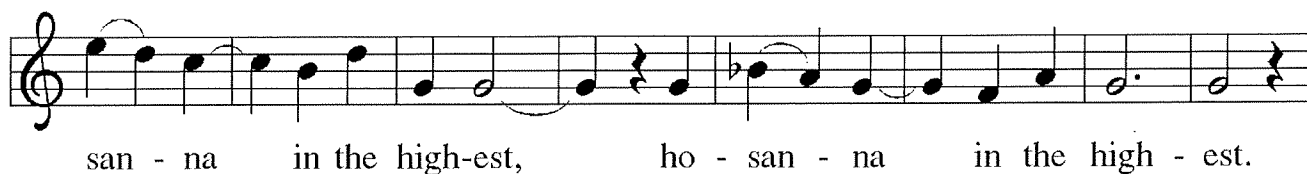
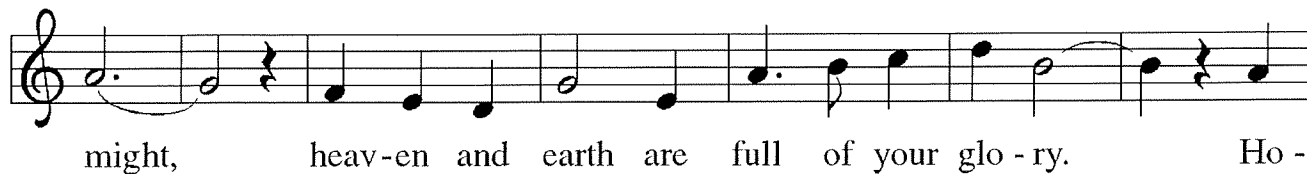
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE FOR EASTERTIDE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter
and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: 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.

(Please be seated)

COMMUNION

Communion is distributed in two manners

† You may commune in your pews.

Individual communion kits are available at the Narthex doors.

The presiding minister will share a blessing,

all communing in-place will commune together.

† You may come to the Table, to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

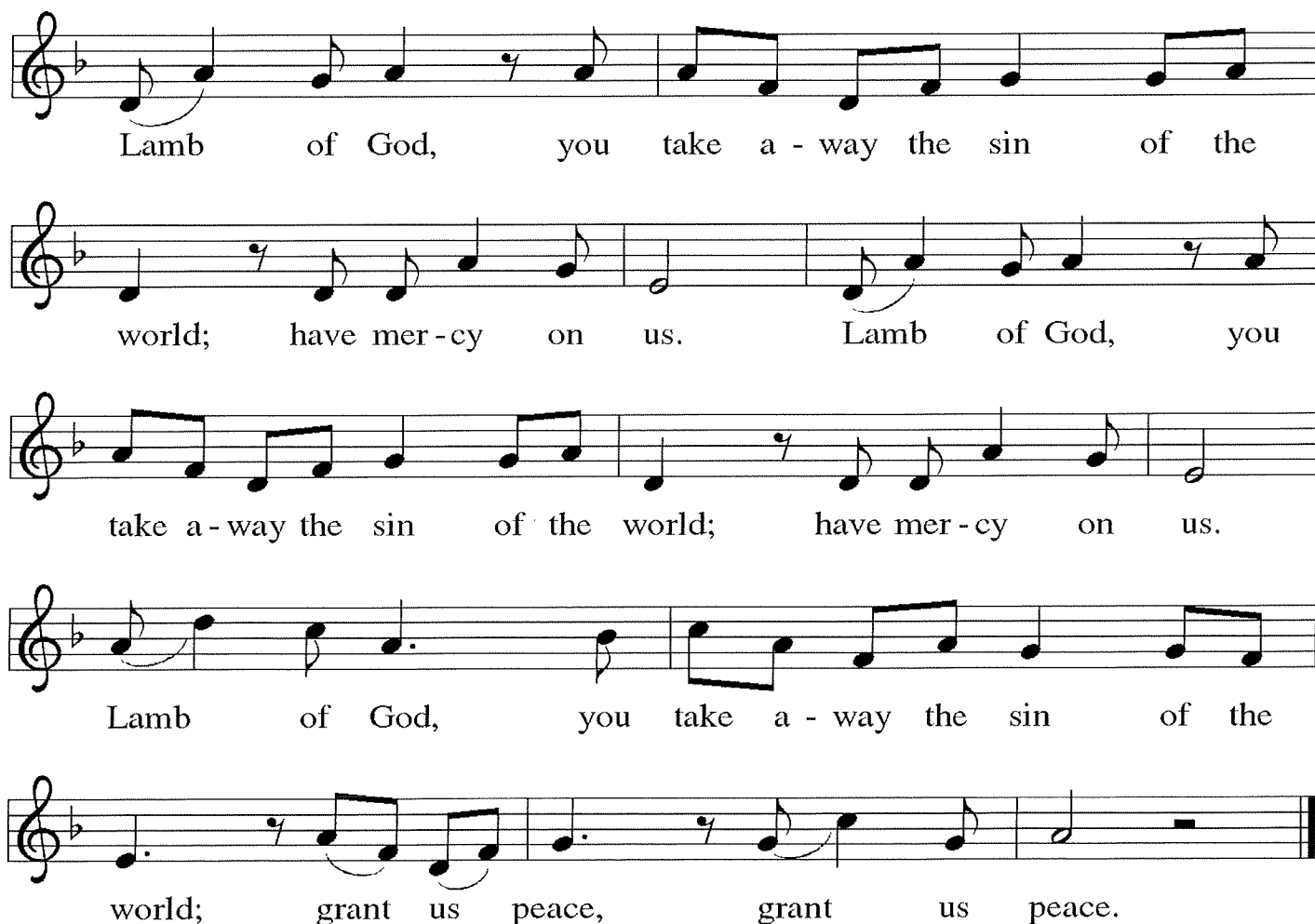
A basket is available for disposal of your individual communion cups.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of grace.

Receive the gift of new life.

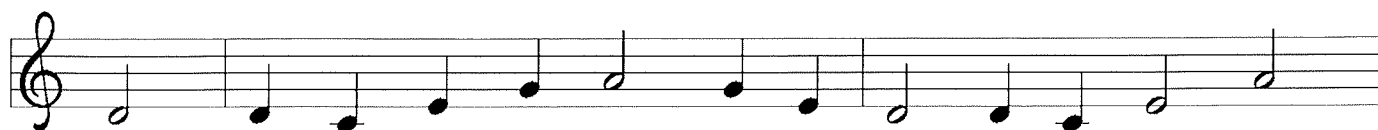
COMMUNION SONG



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, grant us peace.

What Wondrous Love Is This

ELW# 666



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
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



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.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

(Please stand)

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
C: Amen.

SENDING

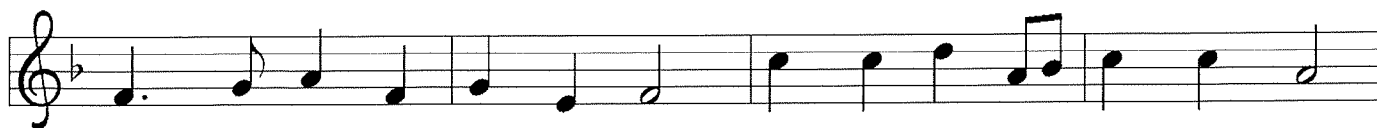
CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

C: Oh God,
your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure.
We are grateful for the goodness
you have shown us through the years,
and we ask now for confidence to go forward into the future.
Bless our community of faith, bless our healing,
bless the changes that are before us,
bless our call process and the pastoral leaders
who will shepherd us through this time of transition.
We thank you now for the wisdom you will show us
as we align with your will, and servant or servants
you are already preparing to send us in your blessed time.
Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry
and our future.
In his name and for the sake of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.





- 1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" All on earth with an - gels say;
 2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, fought the fight, the bat - tle won.
 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
 4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious king! Where, O death, is now your sting?



raise your joys and tri - umphs high; sing, O heav'ns; and earth, re - ply.
 Lo! The sun's e - clipse is o'er. Lo! He sets in blood no more.
 Death in vain for - bids his rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
 Once he died our souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

- 5 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
 Praise to thee by both be giv'n.
 Thee we greet triumphant now:
 hail, the resurrection, thou!
- 6 King of glory, soul of bliss,
 everlasting life is this:
 thee to know, thy pow'r to prove,
 thus to sing, and thus to love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS, Pierre de Corbeil, d. 1222

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L: Go in peace.

P: In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Flor Peeters

*V. Finale, Opus 127
 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

Events in Review

Sunday **May 4**

10:00AM Church Service

Monday **May 5**

10:00AM Bible Study @ Willows

5:00PM No Bells of Praise

Tuesday **May 6**

Election Day

Wednesday **May 7**

7:00PM Worship & Music Meeting

Next Week

Sunday **May 11**

Mother's Day

10:00AM Church Service

Monday **May 12**

10:00AM Bible Study @ Willows

5:00PM Bells of Praise

Wednesday **May 14**

9:00AM Piece Corps

Saturday **May 17**

Columbian High School Graduation

5:00 PM Vanover Wedding
Reception

Graduates

If you know someone who is graduating this spring, please let us know. We would like to gather information regarding their school accomplishments and plans for the future.

Please get in touch with the office

419 447-1323 or

firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com

Or Diane Greene @ 419 934-1081

canacab@sbcglobal.net

Lawn Mower for the Week



Pete Myers

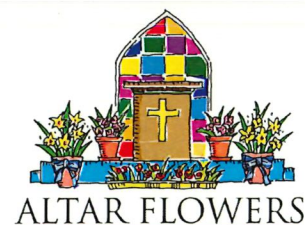
Altar Flowers

Altar flowers were given today in
honor of

**Tim & Shelley Ross's 24th
Wedding Anniversary**

By Michael & Zachary Ross

Cookie Sign up sheets are located on the Dietz Room wall. Fellowship time is before and after Church Service. Approximately 4 dozen cookies are needed each week.



Contact Us



First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore Street
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

419-447-1323

www.firstlutherantiffin.com
firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com

Interim Pastor

Pastor Mark Schuring (740) 360-2306
theskipster55@gmail.com

Emergency Pastor

Pastor Mark Schuring (740) 360-2306
theskipster55@gmail.com

Our Worship Leaders

Altar Guild: Donna Brueggmeier,
Deb Hohman & Sharon Losey

Cantor: Elijah Shiley

Facebook Camera:
Tim & Shelley Ross

Host:

Reader: Linda Ellinger

Worship Assistant: Linda Ellinger

Director of Music: Curtis L. King

Pastor: Pastor Christian Dittmar

Our Mission Statement

"God is among us!"

**"We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel,
forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need."**

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May 5, 2025