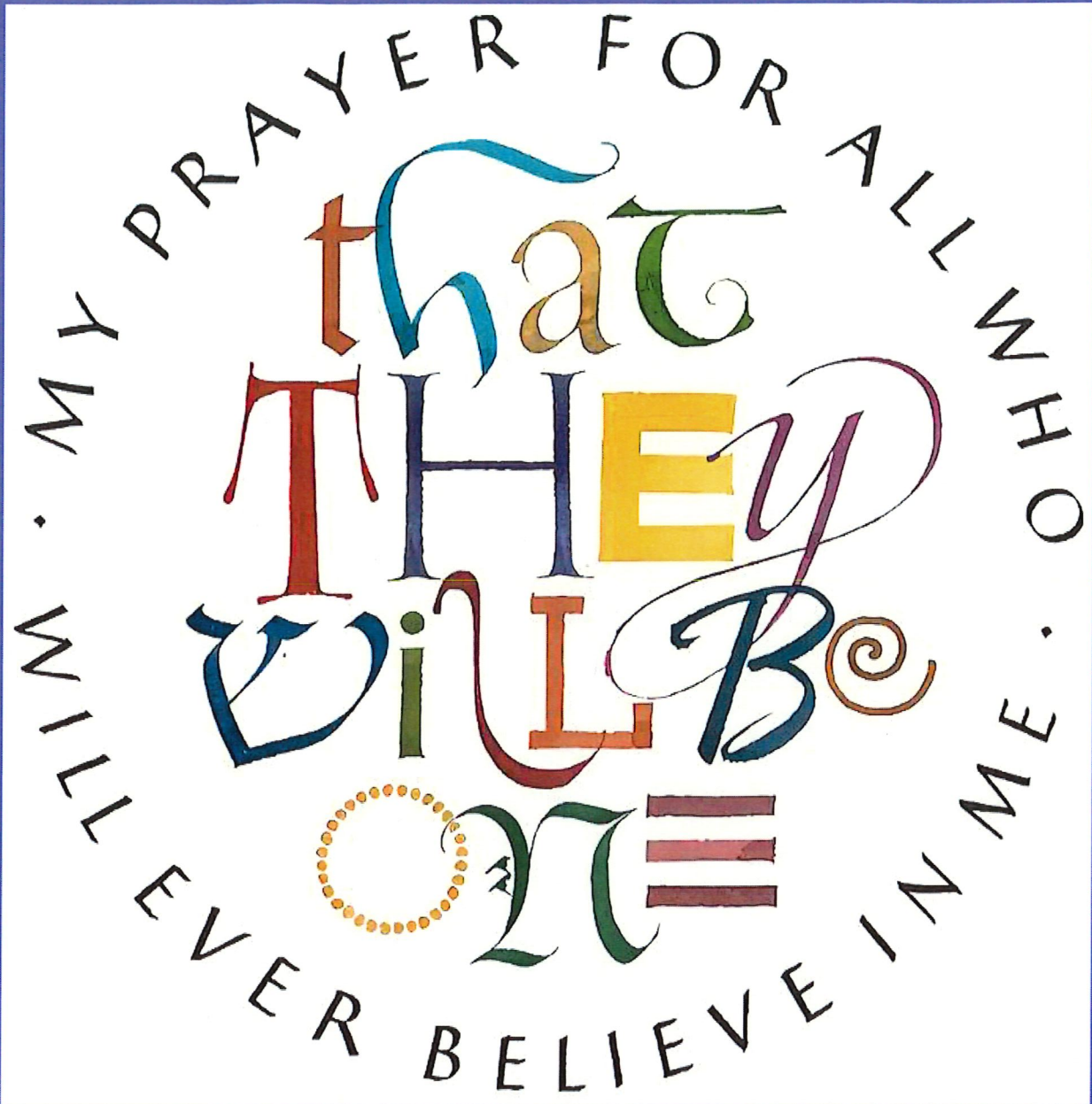


John 17:20-26



First Lutheran Church

June 1, 2025

7th Sunday of Easter

In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples are told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

LASST UNS EFREUEN

Paul Manz

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing, Opus 16

(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 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
 3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
 4 "You see him now, as-cend-ing high up to the por-tals of the
 5 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
 stand, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! and with his faith-ful fol-l'wers
 sky?" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav-ior!" thus they
 sky." Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
 cord: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You are, while end-less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
 see their Lord as-cend in maj - es - ty.
 say, "this is his glo-rious tri-umph day!" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
 see re - turn-ing in great maj - es - ty."
 run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



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

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

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: Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

L: A reading from Acts, the first chapter.

[Luke writes:] ¹ In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: A reading from Ephesians, the first chapter.

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from

the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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:

LUKE 24:44-53

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



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

⁴⁴ [Jesus said to the eleven and those with 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third

day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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.



(Please be seated)

REFLECTION

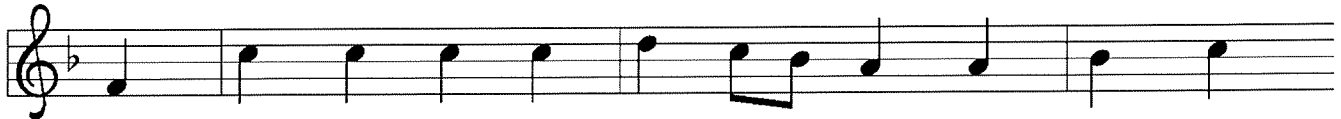
REVEREND CHRISTIAN DITTMAR

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Christ, Our Hope

ELW # 604



ALL 1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's
Women 2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den
Cantor 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som
Men 4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us
ALL 5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry



might-y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to
has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in
of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by
ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.
all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

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: God of empowerment, you have blessed the church with art, poetry, and
music. Inspire leaders and congregations to seek more ways to be your
creative hands and feet on earth.

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

BRYN CALFARIA

Michael Burkhardt

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

(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.

The musical notation is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

PREFACE FOR ASCENSION SUNDAY

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, who, enthroned forever at your right hand, intercedes for us as our great high priest.

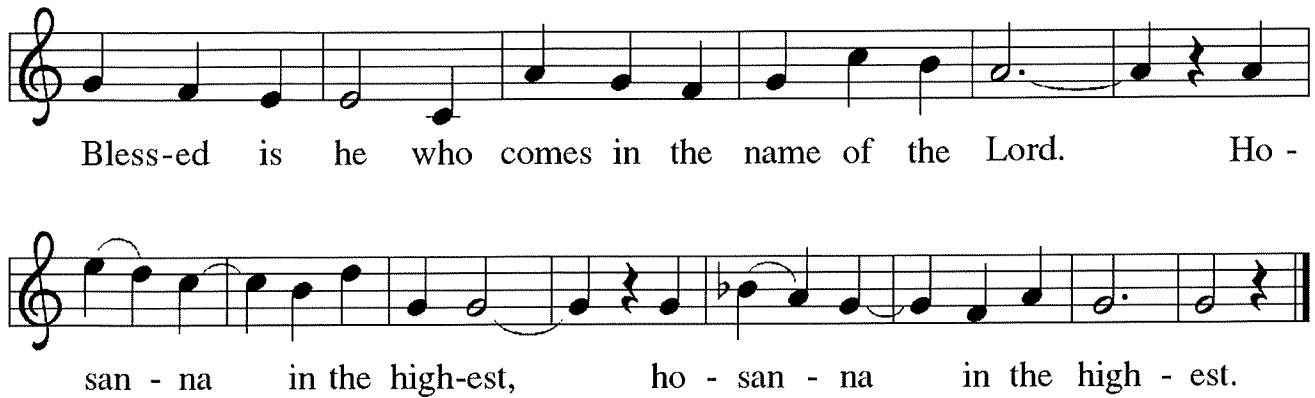
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter
and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their
creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we
praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

The musical notation is written on two staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some half notes and rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.



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.



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.



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



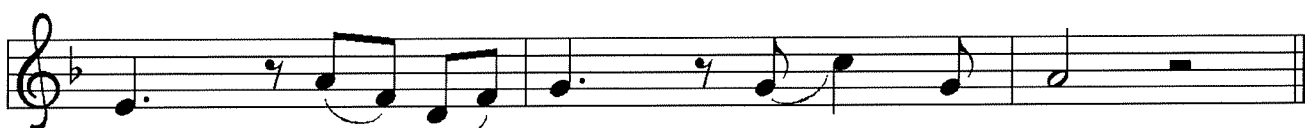
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



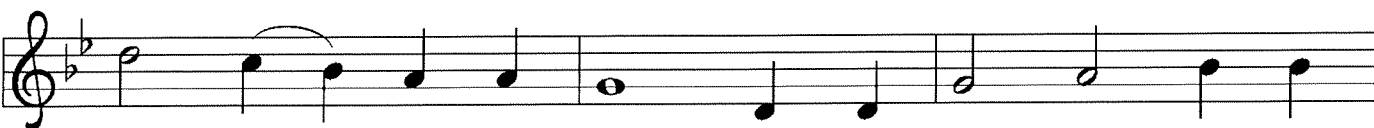
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

ELW # 475



1	Lord,	en - throned	in	heav'n - ly	splen - dor,	first - be -
2	Though	the	low - liest	form now	veil you	as of
3	Pas - chal	Lamb,	your	of - f'ring,	fin - ished	once for
4	Life - im -	part - ing	heav'n - ly	man - na,	strick - en	



got - ten from the dead, you a - lone, our strong de -
 old in Beth - le - hem, here as there your an - gels
 all when you were slain, in its full - ness un - di -
 rock with stream - ing side, heav'n and earth with loud ho -



fend - er, lift - ing up your peo - ple's head. Al - le -
hail you, branch and flow'r of Jes - se's stem. Al - le -
min - ished shall for - ev - er - more re - main, Al - le -
san - na wor - ship you, the Lamb who died, Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus, true and
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! We in wor - ship
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! cleans - ing souls from
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! ris'n, as - cend - ed,



liv - ing bread! Je - sus, true and liv - ing bread!
join with them; we in wor - ship join with them.
ev - 'ry stain; cleans - ing souls from ev - 'ry stain.
glo - ri - fied; ris'n, as - cend - ed, glo - ri - fied!

Text: George H. Bourne, 1840–1925

Music: BRYN CALFARIA, William Owen, 1814–1893

(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.



SENDING SONG

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise



1 Hail the day that sees him rise; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 There for him high tri - umph waits;
3 High - est heav'n its Lord re - ceives;



To his throne a - bove the skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates;
Yet he loves the earth he leaves;



Christ, the Lamb for sin - ners giv'n, Al - le - lu - ia!
He has con - quered death and sin;
Though re - turn - ing to his throne,



En - ters now the high - est heav'n! Al - le - lu - ia!
Take the King of glo - ry in.
Still he calls us all his own.

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

LLANFAIR

Albert L. Travis

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

Ascension Sunday

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: God of empowerment, you have blessed the church with art, poetry, and music. Inspire leaders and congregations to seek more ways to be your creative hands and feet on earth.

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of abundance, your love can be seen in each plant, each creature, and every landscape. Nurture crops as they develop. Protect new animal life. Restore habitats destroyed by natural disaster or human neglect.

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of the nations, you are enthroned above all. Bring an end to divisions that break down the human family. Enable cooperation between governments and international organizations to pursue peace and equity.

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of compassion, you console all who are hurting. Help us recognize the deep hurts of grief, loneliness, broken relationships, and trauma in our midst. Guide us in caring for one another.

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of change, you promised to be with your disciples as they faced an unknown future. Amid graduations and other transitions, sustain your people with your presence and love.

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: God of life, we give you thanks for the lives and examples of our beloved siblings in Christ. Nourish and deepen our shared faith in your promises.

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.



Columbian High School

Zachary Shawberry son of Jeff & Ellie Shawberry

Attending Miami University to study Finance

Chloe Orians daughter of Amy & Brian Mills

Attending University of Cincinnati to study Political Science & Law

Mitch Stephey son of Andrew & Heidi Stephey

Attending Bowling Green State University to study Finance

Xavier "Stewie" Matthewson son of Emily & Jon Matthewson

Grandson of Gloria Stacy, Great Grandson of Bonnie & Larry Frankenfeld

Enlisted into Air National Guard to become an Electrical Engineer

Mohawk High School

Zaine Reis Son of Nicole Reis,

Grandson of Char & Rodney Reis

Attending The Ohio State University at Marion to study Engineering Technology

Seneca East High School

Andrew Fay son of Rob Fay & Jamie Lodemeier-Fay

Attending Heidelberg University to study Math Education

Events in Review

Sunday **June 1**

10:00AM Church Service
Honoring Graduates

Monday **June 2**

No Bible Study

Tuesday **June 3**

9AM -5PM Life Line Screening

Next Week

Sunday **June 8**

10:00AM Church Service
Confirmation

Monday **June 9**

No Bible Study
Sharing Kitchen

Wednesday **June 11**

9am Piece Corp

Thursday **June 12**

Sharing Kitchen

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



Graduates

High School Graduates

Zachary Dennis Shawberry

Chloe Layne Orians

Mitchell Joseph Stephey

Andrew Fay

Zaine Reis

Xavier Joseph London Matthewson

Sharing Kitchen

Dates for our participation in the Sharing Kitchen are June 9th & 12th

There is a sign up sheet located on the lobby table if you would be willing to volunteer.

Lawn Mower for the Week

(beginning on Thursdays)



Steve Livoti

Geranium Order

Geranium Order forms are available on the table in the lobby. Orders must be in no later than June 1st to have your honor/memorial names printed



\$10.00 a piece

Contact Us



First Lutheran Church

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419-447-1323

www.firstlutherantiffin.com
firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com

Interim Pastor

Pastor Mark Schuring

(740) 360-2306

theskipster55@gmail.com

Our Worship Leaders

Altar Guild:	Luise & Ken Zeop
Cantor:	Elijah Shiley
Facebook Camera:	Shelley & Tim Ross
Host:	Judy Kimmel
Reader:	Melissa Chester
Worship Assistant	Melissa Chester
Director of Music:	Curtis L. King
Presiding Pastor:	Pastor Dittmar

Emergency Pastors

Pastor Mark Schuring

(740) 360-2306

Mike Porter

(585) 813-5009

Pastor Philip Scherr

(814) 756-9435

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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June 1, 2025