

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024

Faith Lutheran Church
311 Judges Rd. #2B Wilmington, NC 28405

Welcome to our Visitors!

Welcome in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are glad you are here. It is our sincere prayer that God would refresh you by His Holy Word and Sacrament and that you would take with you His peace and joy. If you would care to give us your contact information, we would like to get to know you better and keep in touch. If you have questions or are interested in membership, please speak to anyone here.

Holy Communion

We come to the table at the invitation of the Lord, receiving the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Christians who share this faith and wish to join us at the table are welcome. Young children may be brought forward for a blessing.

Mission Statement

“...that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”

1 Peter 2:9

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Ministers: Members of Faith Lutheran Church

Pastor: Paul Ebert

Director of Parish Music: Debra Ebert

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Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

LBW Holy Communion Setting One
*Indicates for Congregation to please stand
Bold-Congregation responses

PRELUDE TWENTY-FOURTH

Arr. Emily Maxson Porter

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen

In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

To you who believe in Jesus Christ, he gives the power to become children of God and bestows on you the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in you, bring it to completion in the day of the Lord Jesus Christ.

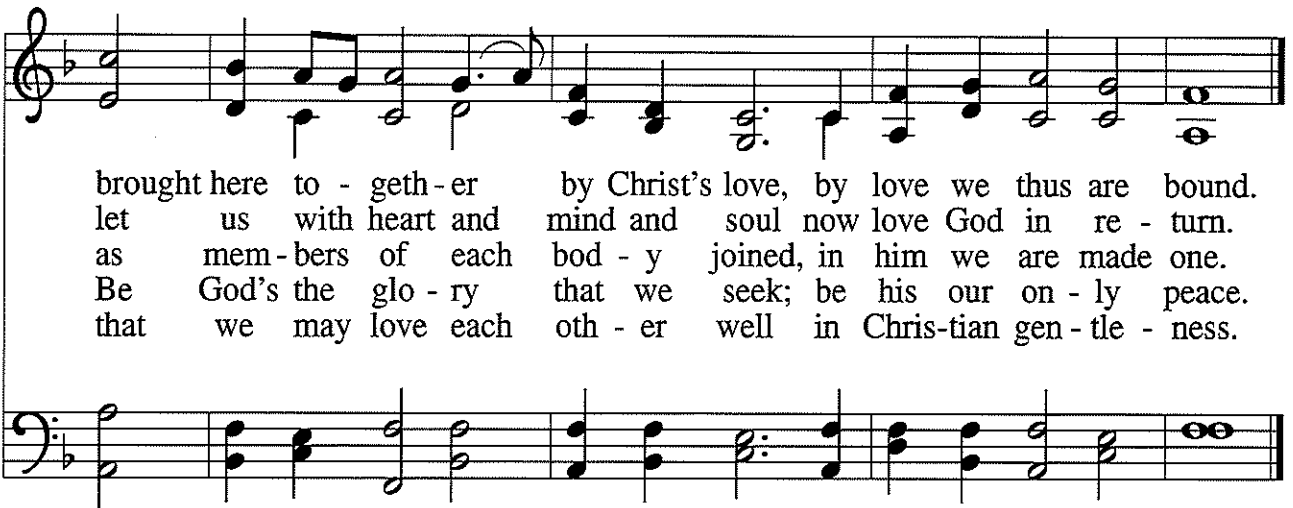
Amen

*ENTRANCE HYMN

Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760-1842

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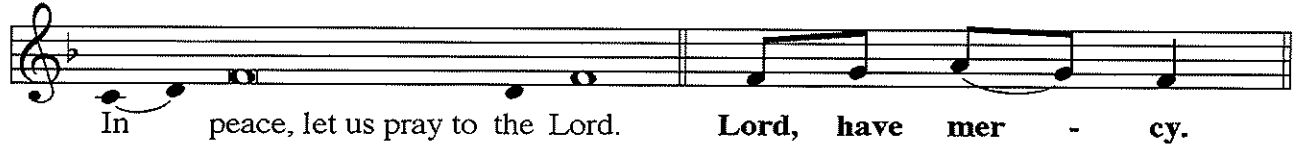
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***GREETING**

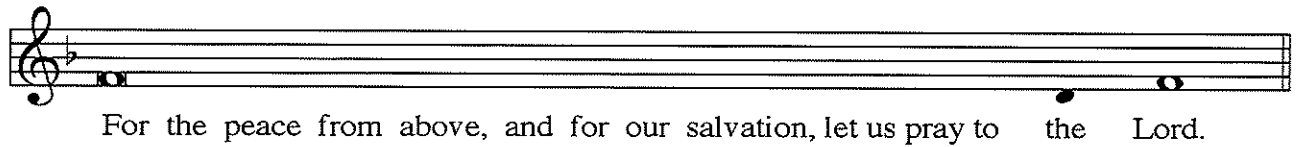
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***KYRIE**



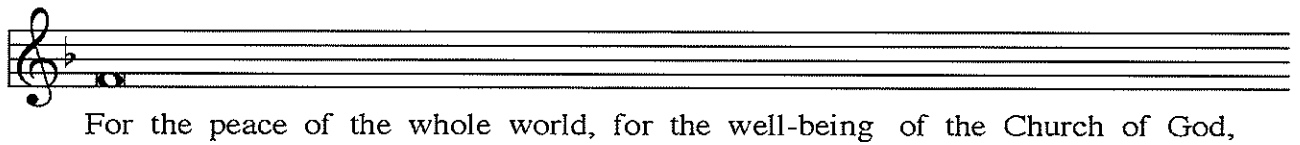
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



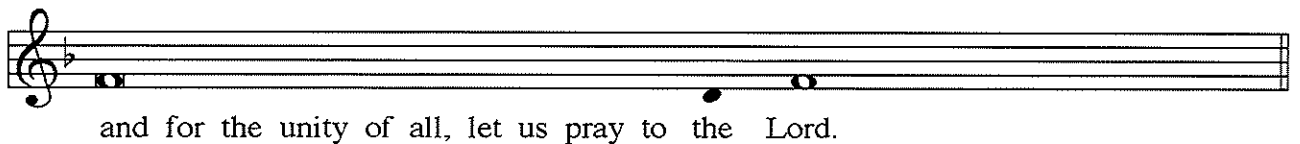
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



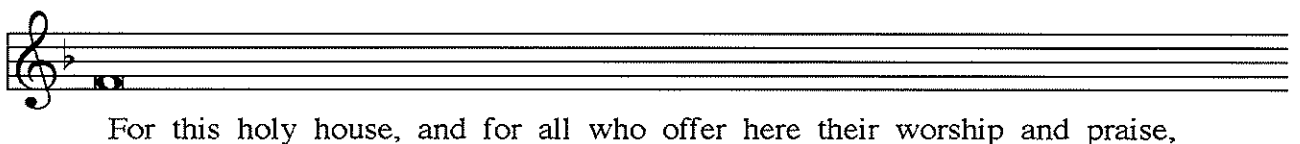
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



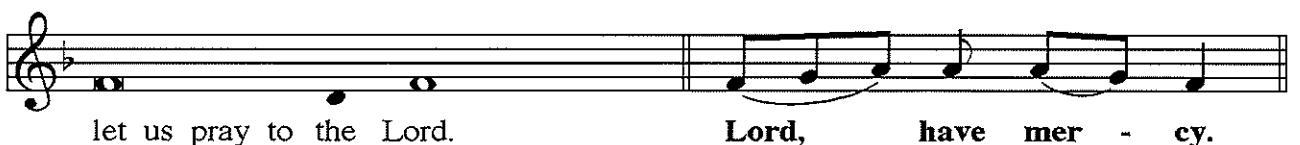
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men**

*HYMN OF PRAISE



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



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



Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



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



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



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



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



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

*HYMN OF PRAISE (cont)



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.



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



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



For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



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



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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. . . .

Life-giving God, through the blessed gift and sacrament of Holy Baptism, you abide in us, even as we abide in you. Through this holy and mutual abiding you give us life in Christ and strengthen and nurture our faith just as a vine gives life to its branches. Help us to grow in Christ so that we may be sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

FIRST LESSON:

The First Reading is from Acts, the 8th chapter.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw

PSALM: 150



¹Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple;
praise him in the firmament of his power.

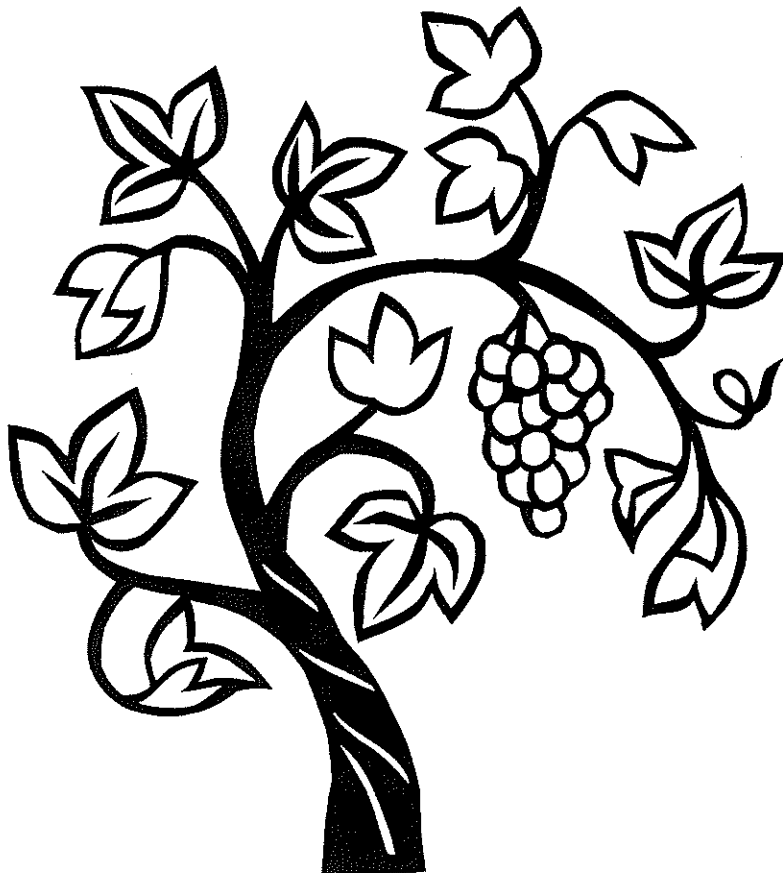
²Praise him for his mighty acts;
praise him for his excellent greatness.

³Praise him with the blast of the ram's horn;
praise him with lyre and harp. *Refrain:*

⁴Praise him with timbrel and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe.

⁵Praise him with resounding cymbals;
praise him with loud clanging cymbals.

⁶Let everything that has breath
praise the Lord. Hallelujah! *Refrain:*



SECOND LESSON:

The Second Reading is from 1st John, the 4th chapter.

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. ⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. [¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.]

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***ALLELUIA AND VERSE**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

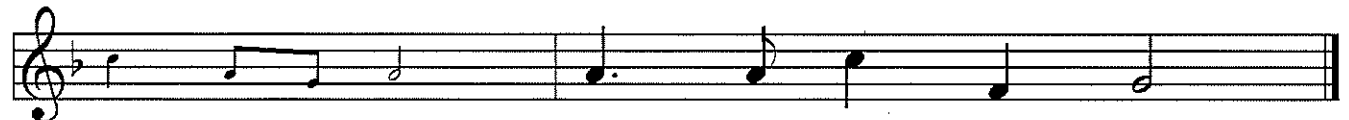
***GOSPEL:**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹{Jesus said,} “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pr. Paul

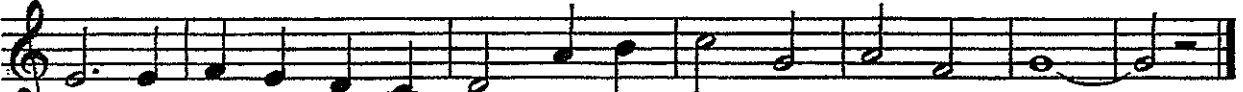
HYMN OF THE DAY Vine and Branches

Trevor Thomson

Refrain



I am the vine and you the branch-es. Re-main in



me as I re-main in you; you will bear great fruit in me.

Verses



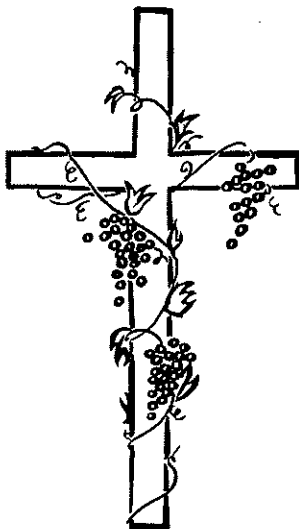
1. A new com-mand - ment I give you: e - ven
2. No great - er love is there than this: than to
3. I am the liv - ing bread from heav - en; if you



1. as I have loved you, now love one an - oth - er.
2. lay down your life, your life for your friends.
3. eat this bread, you will live for - ev - er.

Text based on John 6:35-63; 13:14-15; 15:1-13.

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***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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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**

*THE PRAYERS

Set our minds on heavenly things:

Response: Fill us with your joy.

*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(We greet one another with the peace of the Risen Christ.)

OFFERTORY “Many are the Lightbeams” *Choir*

Text: Verbum Forlong AB Tune: Olle Widestrand and Marty Haugen

Many are the lightbeams from the one light. Our one light is Jesus.

Many are the lightbeams from the one light; we are one in Christ.

Many are the branches of the one tree. Our one tree is Jesus.

Many are the branches of the one tree; we are one in Christ.

Many are the gifts giv'n, love is all one. Love's the gift of Jesus.

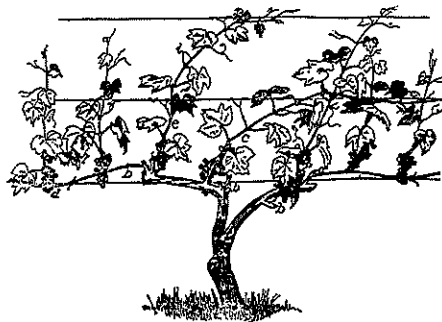
Many are the gifts giv'n, love is all one; we are one in Christ.

Many ways to serve God, the Spirit is one; servant spirit of Jesus.

Many ways to serve God, the Spirit is one; we are one in Christ.

Many are the members, the body is one; members all of Jesus.

Many are the members, the body is one; we are one in Christ.



***LET THE VINEYARDS**

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

The musical score consists of six staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The notes are written in a simple, melodic style, with lyrics printed below each staff. The lyrics are: "Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come."

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray...

Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 him thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

***SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



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.

***THANKSGIVING**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

***LAMB OF GOD**



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.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

I Received the Living God

Refrain




I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



- 1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;
- 2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
- 3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
- 4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,



Refrain

you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

Text: Anonymous

Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

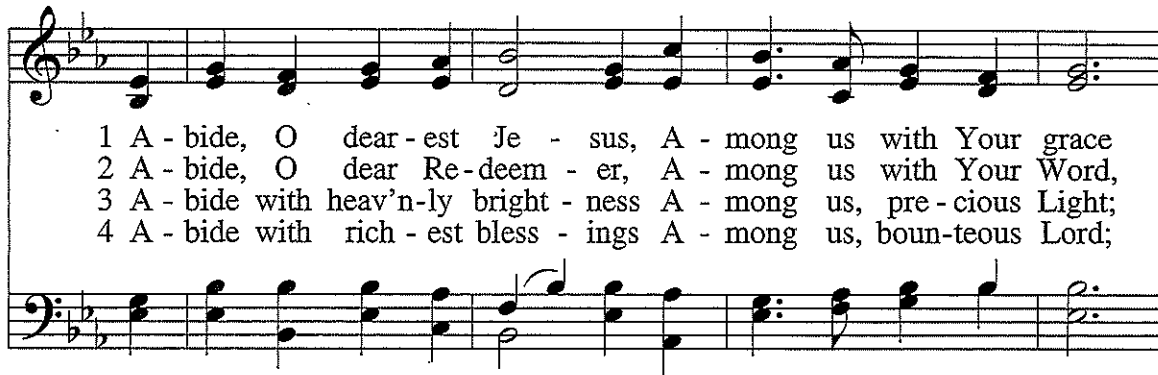
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

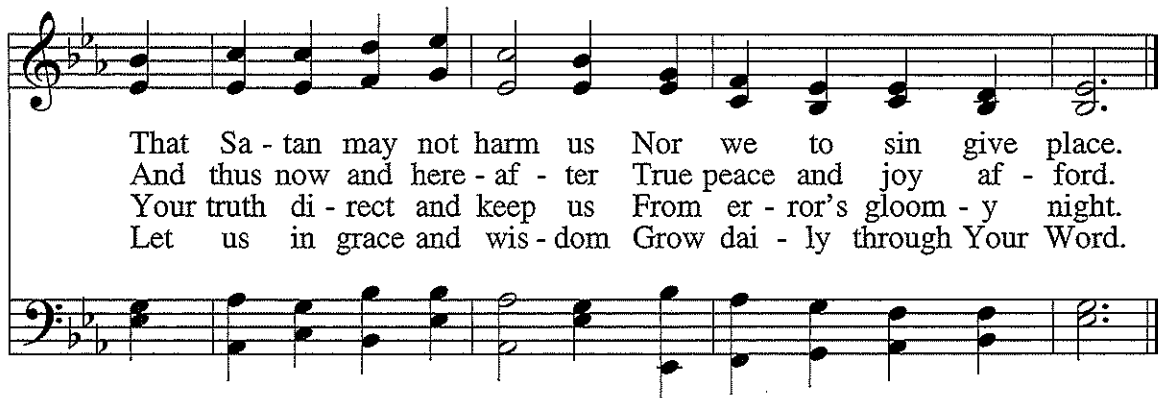
Amen



***SENDING HYMN** Abide, O Dearest Jesus



1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, A - mong us with Your grace
2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, A - mong us with Your Word,
3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness A - mong us, pre - cious Light;
4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings A - mong us, boun - teous Lord;



That Sa - tan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.
And thus now and here - af - ter True peace and joy af - ford.
Your truth di - rect and keep us From er - ror's gloom - y night.
Let us in grace and wis - dom Grow dai - ly through Your Word.

5 Abide with Your protection
Among us, Lord, our strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us
And overcome at length.

6 Abide, O faithful Savior,
Among us with Your love;
Grant steadfastness and help us
To reach our home above.

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN
76 76

Text and music: Public domain

Luke 24:29; John 1:4–5, 14, 17; 12:46; 2 Thess. 3:3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING THE FAMILY OF FAITH

This Week: 4/28

Reader: Renate Gray
Communion: Renate Gray
Fellowship: Gina Schiess
Usher: Frank Gray

Next Week: 5/5

Reader: Zan Bramley
Communion: Zan Bramley
Fellowship: Lynn Heim
Usher: Ken Schiess

Birthday: Thursday, 5/2 Margaret Ebeltoft

Upcoming Calendar: Sunday, May 5th, Pr. Paul and Deb gone to VT.
Sunday, May 12th, Chicago Folk Service
Sunday, May 19th, Confirmation of Anna Porter

Given to the Glory of God last week: \$645