FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod

The 5th Sunday of Easter Confirmation Sunday

April 28, 2024 Divine Service, Setting Two – LSB 167 8:00 & 10:30*am, 5:00 pm *livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube



AS WE GATHER Jesus Christ Is the True Vine Who Bears Much Fruit in Us

"God is love," and He has manifested Himself to us by sending "his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him" (1 John 4:9, 16). By the ministry of the Gospel, "he has given us of his Spirit," so that we also believe and confess "that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh." In this way, we "abide in him and he in us," and we "love one another" (1 John 4:2, 7, 13). Such divine love is exemplified in Philip's preaching of "the good news about Jesus" to the Ethiopian eunuch. And when "they came to some water," the eunuch was baptized into the very Gospel that Philip had preached (Acts 8:35–38). That Ethiopian was thereby grafted into "the true vine," Jesus Christ (John 15:1), just as we are. Already we are clean because of the Word that Christ has spoken to us and by the washing of water with His Word. We now abide in Him by faith in His forgiveness. As He abides in us, both body and soul, with His own body and His blood, He "bears much fruit" in us (John 15:3–5).

<u>**Rev. Eric J. Edwards**</u> + <u>**Rev. Christopher Beck**</u> + <u>**Rev. Liwei Sui**</u> 2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN + 812-332-1668 + <u>office@faithbtown.org</u> + <u>www.faithbtown.org</u>

+ + + GATHERING + + +

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (arr. Healey Willan)

HYMN OF INVOCATION - LSB 700 - Love Divine, All Loves Excelling all loves Joy of 1 Love di vine, ex - cel - ling, 2 Breathe, breathe Thy lov ing Spir it In 0 _ to Al might - y, de - liv -3 Come. er; Let to us 4 Fin ish then Thy new cre - a tion. Pure -and) . heav'n, earth come down! Fix Thy in us to 'rv trou bled breast; Let all ev us in Sud all Thy life re - ceive: den -1y re spot less let us be: Let us see Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown. Thee Let find Thy in her - it: us prom - ised rest. nev - er. Nev turn. and er - more Thy tem - ples leave. re great sal - va - tion Per fect - ly stored in Thee. Je sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un -Take the love of sin a way ning; Al pha Thee we would be al bless - ing. Serve Thee ways Changed from glo ry in to glo -Till in -ry, bound - ed Thou Vis it with love art: us and 0 me ga be: End of faith, as -Thy hosts bove, Pray and praise Thee as а -Till heav'n we take place, we our cast our Thy sal - va - tion, En 'ry trem - bling heart. ter ev -its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty. ceas - ing, Glo Thy per - fect love. with - out ry in Thee, Lost crowns be - fore in won - der, love, and praise!

Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

■ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

(silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

- C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
 Amen.

+++ + WORD ++ ++

INTROIT - Psalm 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16

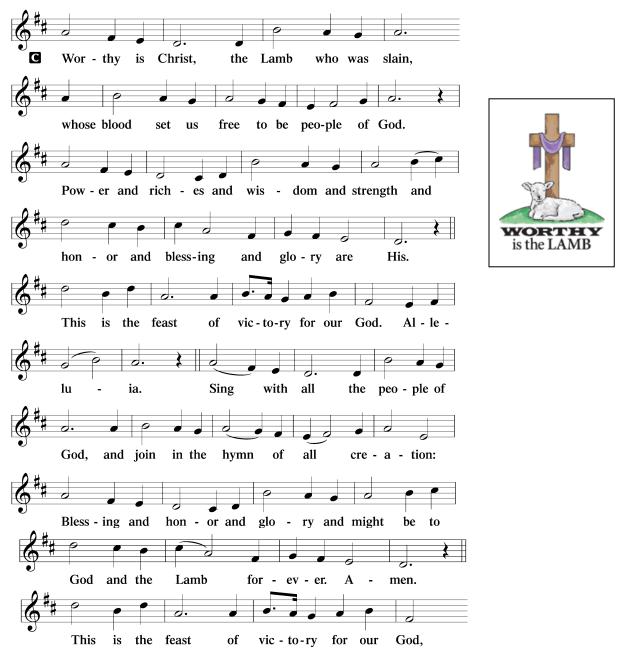
- *Leader:* A little while, and you will see me no | longer;* and again a little while, and you will | see me.
- C I will extol you, my | God and King,* and bless your name forever and | ever. Leader: Every day I will | bless you*
 - and praise your name forever and | ever.
 - **C** The LORD is gracious and | merciful,* slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
- *Leader:* All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,* and all your saints shall | bless you!
 - My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,* and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever. Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen. A little while, and you will see me no | longer;* and again a little while, and you will | see me.

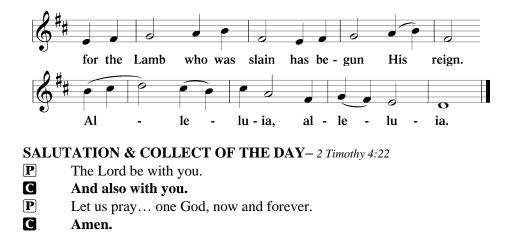




HYMN OF PRAISE - LSB 171 - This is the Feast - Revelation. 5:12-13; 19:5-9

Leader: This is the feast of victory for our God! Alleluia!





FIRST LESSON - Acts 8:26-40 - Philip witnesses about Jesus to the Ethiopian official.

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."

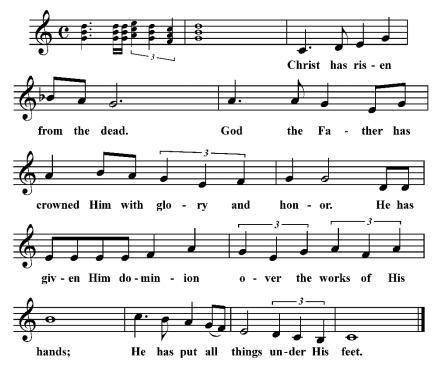
³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch 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 him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

С

GRADUAL – Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6 – The congregation sings all.



SECOND LESSON – 1 John 4:1-11 – An exhortation to lives of Christian love

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA and VERSE – *Romans 6:9; John 14:23* The congregation sings the refrain before and after the verses.



Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. **REFRAIN**

If anyone loves me he will keep my word, And my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. **REFRAIN**

HOLY GOSPEL – John 15:1-8 – Jesus says that He is the vine and His people are the branches. P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.



¹[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine 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."



HYMN OF THE DAY - LSB 633 - At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to Gives 2 Praise we Him. whose love di - vine His 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread 4 Praise we Christ. whose blood was shed. Pas chal rious King. Who has washed the tide our vic - to us in sa cred blood for wine. Gives His bod v for the feastan - 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 vic - tim. Christ the priest. Al - le the lu ia! wave that drowns the foe. Al - le Through the lu ia! Al - le Eat we man - na from a - bove. 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!
- Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall; You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

- 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! Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON – The Master Gardener – John 15:1-8

8 am - APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

10:30 am & 5 pm - NICENE CREED

C 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.



2024 Confirmands



Arielle Edwards Matthew 5:16



Sebastian Schaefer Proverbs 3:5-6



Margaret Sui 1 John 4:7

10:30 am + RITE OF CONFIRMATION +

RITE OF CONFIRMATION – LSB page 272

PARENTS' RESPONSE – Parents please stand

- ... Therefore, I ask you: Will you continue to guide and direct, support and encourage your children in word, in deed, and in example?
- **R** Yes, with the help of God

SPONSORS' RESPONSE – Sponsors please stand

- ...Therefore, I ask you: Will you continue to encourage, strengthen, and pray for these Confirmands, that they may grow in the Christian faith?
- **R** Yes, with the help of God.

CONGREGATION'S RESPONSE – Congregation please stand

- ... Do you this day give your promise before God to these Christians to help them fulfill their promises to the Lord?
- **G** We do, with the help of God.
- ${\ensuremath{\mathbb P}}$ Let us pray for the newly confirmed... one God, now and forever.
- **C** Amen.

P Peace + be with you. **C** Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **A** Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- \blacksquare ... one God, now and forever.
- **C** Amen.

"Confirmation is a rite by which a baptized person renews his baptismal vow, publicly confesses his faith and is received into communicant membership by the congregation."

(Explanation of Luther's Small Catechism)

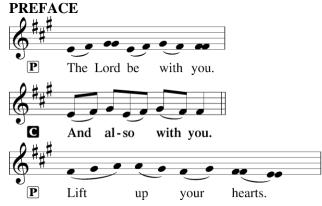
OFFERING - God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It (arr. Robert J. Powell)

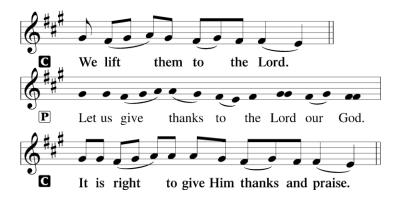


⁸ am – Continues with the Lord's Prayer (*page 14*) and conclude with the Benediction and Closing Hymn (*page 18*).

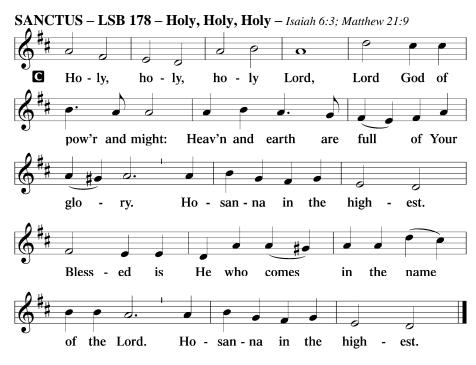


beginning at LSB 177





P It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising you and singing:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- **P** ... one God, now and forever.
- **C** Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

For Guests and Visitors Desiring the Sacrament As a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we confess, in accord with the Scriptures, that in this sacred meal Jesus Himself is *truly* present to forgive our sin and strengthen our faith.

Participation in this meal indicates that you **believe**, **have been baptized**, **and have been taught** according to our Lord's command **and are in doctrinal agreement** with this confession.

- If you are visiting from outside the Lutheran Church or are new to the faith, we welcome you to come to the altar with arms crossed to receive a blessing.
- If you desire to receive instruction for the Lord's Supper, please speak with one of our pastors.

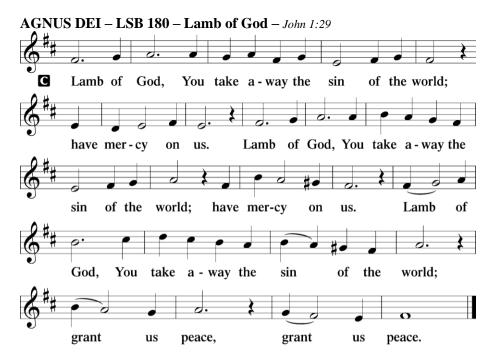
- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- **P** ... So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PAX DOMINI – The Peace of the Lord – John 20:19

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **C** Amen.

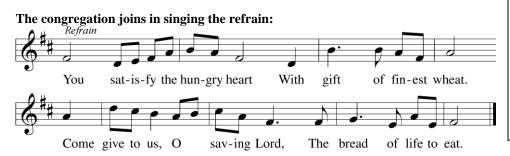




14

DISTRIBUTION

Choral Anthem - You Satisfy the Hungry Heart (arr. John Ferguson)

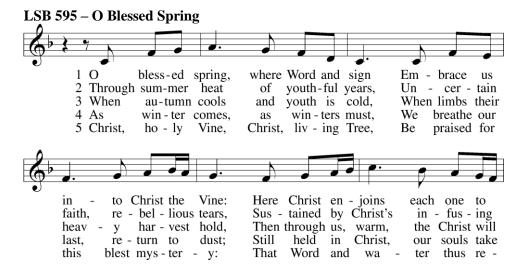


- As when the shepherd calls his sheep, They know and heed his voice;
 So when You call Your fam'ly, Lord, We follow and rejoice. Refrain
- 2 With joyful lips we sing to You Our praise and gratitude That You should count us worthy, Lord, To share this heav'nly food. Refrain
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share The blood of Christ outpoured?

Do not one cup, one loaf, declare Our oneness in the Lord? Refrain

- 4 The myst'ry of Your presence, Lord, No mortal tongue can tell:
 Whom all the world cannot contain Comes in our hearts to dwell. Refrain
- 5 You give Yourself to us, O Lord; Then selfless let us be, To serve each other in Your name In truth and charity. Refrain

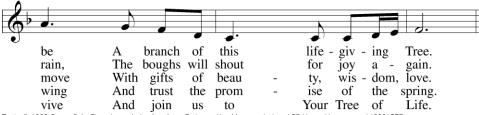
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Distribution Notes:

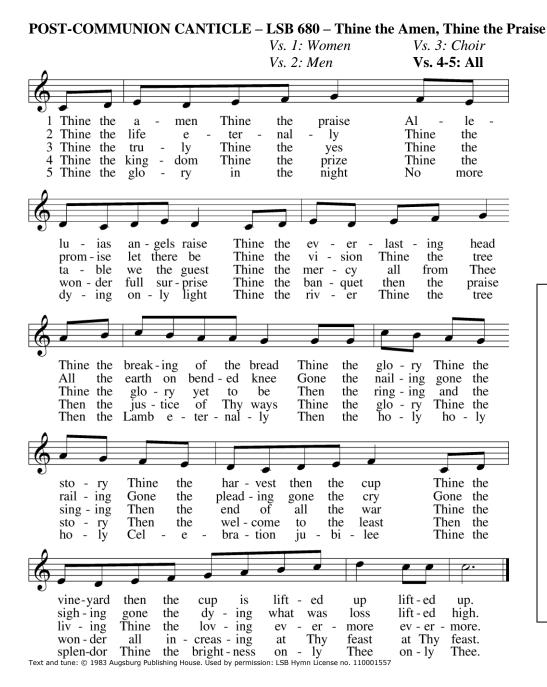
If you need **gluten-free wafers**, please let one of the pastors know.

Non-alcoholic grape juice, containing *a trace amount of wine*, is available in the center of the tray.



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LSB 611 - Chief of Sinners Though I Be 1 Chief of though sin - ners Ι be, Je sus shed His Je -2 Oh. the height of sus' love, High than the er 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm heal the to 4 Chief of Christ is all in sin - ners though Ι be, 5 O Sav - ior, af - ford Your my help By Spir - it blood for me. Died that Ι might live on high, the heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than depths of sea, wound - ed heart. Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n, Him all to me; All my wants to are known, and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray, I might nev Lives that die. the branch er As is Last - ing as e ter ni - ty! Love that found melifts Joy that the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to All sor - rows His own. He sus - tains my are the Keep me in the nar row way; Grace in time of the vine, Ι am His, and He is mine. to won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not. walk with God In the way that E - noch trod. hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife. While I need sup ply live and when I die. Text and tune: Public domain



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P

... one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

Kyrie, Hymn of Praise, Offertory, Preface, Sanctus, Agnus Dei - from Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission. LSB Hymn License .NET, number 100011699.

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Gradual: "Christ Has Risen From the Dead" -Setting: Jonathan Mueller

Alleluia – © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker; admin. OCP Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100011699.

Post-Communion Hvmn: "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise" - Setting: Carl Schalk

BENEDICTION – Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

P Christ is risen! Alleluia! C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!





Today's altar flowers are given in thanksgiving and to the glory of God in honor of **our Confirmands**.

SILENT PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

POST-SERVICE MUSIC – At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (arr. Jacob B. Weber)

TODAY: SUNDAY, April 28

9:15am Sunday School + Bible class



10:30am **Rite of Confirmation** (*page 11*) 6:00pm **FLY** (movie night)

Monday - Tuesday, April 29-30 Pastors at Southern Indiana District Pastors' Conference

TUESDAY, April 30

1:00pm Fellowship Ministry Team 5:15pm First Steps in Music 6:15pm Children's Choir 8:25pm Softball (Twin Lakes, F2)

WEDNESDAY, May 1



 10:00am Men's & Women's Bible studies
 11:15am Lunch & Learn – Advance Care Planning (presenter: Katie Tremel, MSW, LCSW - Program Manager, Cancer Support Community)
 6:30pm Created Male & Female Watch Party & discussion

7:00pm Senior Choir (4th grade – adult)





SATURDAY, May 18

11am-1pm

Ladies of all ages - Join us for a delicious Tea and a Silent Auction to benefit <u>New Hope Family Shelter</u>.

Donations for the Auction - handmade or purchased - may be left in the Sunday School across from the kitchen *with your name on it* in case we have questions.

Please sign up <u>online</u> or on the podium in the narthex, so we have a count for food.



SATURDAY, June 1

Soiree in the Garden with Steven Curtis Chapman

Dr. C.R. Powell and PAACS are thrilled to extend this special invitation to you for an extraordinary evening that promises to be both uplifting and impactful. This time will be filled with

inspiration, music, and the opportunity to learn how we can play a part in changing lives for the better.

<u>**RSVP by May 10</u>** via the link in Friday@Faith email or the EVENTS bulletin board (or click the picture, if using the digital bulletin). Contact Kathy Powell (kathypowell@hotmail.com) with questions.</u>

SPIRIT CAMP 2024



To support Spirit Camp with your Time and Talents - either *before* or *during* the week - **sign up at FaithBtown.org** or on the podium in the narthex.

Contact *Sarah Beck* or *Alyse Cannon* at <u>spiritcamp@faithbtown.org</u> for more information.



Spirit Camp Service Project

Operation Christmas Child is a project of international Christian relief and evangelism organization *Samaritan's Purse*.

This unique project sends a message of hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes, while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas – Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift.

You can help by donating any of the following items (please remember these must all fit together in the shoeboxes):

- **Toys** small toys for boys or girls: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, plastic kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, small Etch-A-Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, coloring/activity books
- School Supplies pens, pencils with sharpener, crayons (boxes of 24 or less preferred, but will take any and all!) or markers, small notebooks/notepads, solar calculators, etc.
- Hygiene Items toothbrushes, toothpaste, bars of soap, combs, washcloths, etc.
- **Other** sunglasses, flashlight with extra batteries, ball caps, socks, t-shirts, hair-clips, watches, small picture books
- Financial Gifts each box costs \$10 to ship.

Operation Christmas Child provides the boxes. **Thank you for your generous donations of the items to fill them!**

> *Please contact Tati Huss with questions: 812-272-8986 or tatiana.m.huss@gmail.com

> > +++

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