

Crown of Life Lutheran Church
April 28, 2024



✠ In the Name of Jesus Christ ✠

The PRE-SERVICE MUSIC:

The PASTORAL WELCOME:

The Congregation stands and turns to face the cross at the rear of the Sanctuary.

The EASTER ACCLAMATION:

(From today's Gospel)

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- P** Christ is the true Vine; the Father is the Vinedresser.
- C** **We abide in Him; our Lord abides in us.**
- P** Christ is the Vine; we are His branches.
- C** **Bearing much fruit, we live to the Father's glory. Alleluia!**

The HYMN: "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

(Lutheran Service Book #457)



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which He en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
△ 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

The CONFESSION OF SINS 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.**
- P** 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.
- C** Amen.



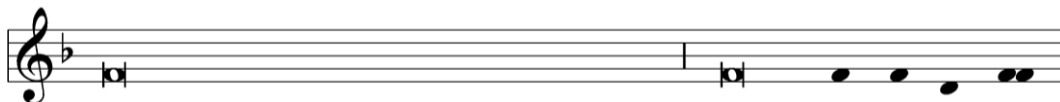
The INTROIT is chanted responsively:

(Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16)

A little while, and you will see Me no | longer,* and again a little while, and you will | see Me.
 I will extol You, my | God and King,* and bless Your name forever and | ever.
Every day I will | bless You* and praise Your name forever and | ever.
 The LORD is gracious and | merciful,* slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
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.

The KYRIE: “Lord, have mercy.”

(Pages 152,153)



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



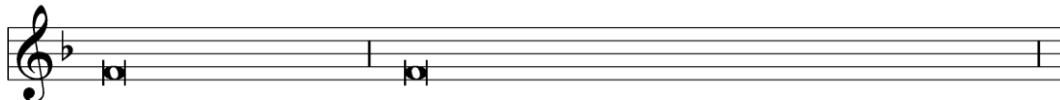
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



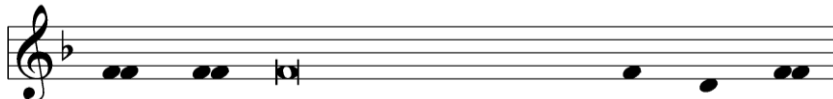
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

The HYMN OF PRAISE: "This is the Feast"

(LSB 155)



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



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

Continued...

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -
 blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*
Final Refrain
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The SALUTATION and the COLLECT OF THE DAY:

(Page 156)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(We are seated for)

The CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

The FIRST READING:

Acts 8:26–40

Led by the Holy Spirit, Philip visits with an Ethiopian riding in a chariot. His curiosity about the book of Isaiah allows Philip to share "the good news about Jesus."

An 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.

C Thanks be to God.

The PSALMODY:

Psalm 150; antiphon: v. 6



Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctu- | ary;* praise Him in His mighty | heavens!
Praise Him for His | mighty deeds;* praise Him according to His excellent | greatness!

Praise Him with | trumpet sound;* praise Him with | lute and harp!

Praise Him with tambou- | rine and dance;* praise Him with | strings and pipe!

Praise Him with sounding | cymbals;* praise Him with loud clashing | cymbals!

Let everything that has breath | praise the LORD!* Praise | the LORD!

**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.**

The EPISTLE:

1 John 4:1–11

The Spirit of God gives faith to acknowledge that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. Those who confess this faith love each other with the love that comes from God.

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(We stand for)

The GOSPEL PROCESSION with ALLELUIA VERSE

(LSB #952)

After the introduction, the Verse is sung two times. As it is sung, the Cross leads the Proclaimer past the Baptismal Font for the reading. All stand to hear the Holy Gospel.

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

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord!**

+ St. John 15:1-8 +

The true Vine gives life to the Branches. Connected to this source of spiritual life, disciples of Jesus Christ bear much fruit.

[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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ!**

After the Gospel is read, the Verse is sung twice more.

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

The CONFESSION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed

(Page 158)

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.

(We are seated for)

The HYMN OF THE DAY: "Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing"

(LSB #691)



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en
2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er
3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern
4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,
loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,
and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,
har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



Rich in love and joy and peace.
Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.
Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.
Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

The SERMON: "FROM CURIOUS TO CONNECTED TO CLEANSED TO CONFESSING"

(We stand for)

The PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

The GREETING OF PEACE:

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

*Worshippers are encouraged to greet each other with words such as
"Peace be with you," or "The peace of the Lord."*

(We are seated for)

The OFFERING OF OUR FIRST-FRUIT GIFTS AND TITHES:

*Please sign the "Friends in Christ" Register which is given to the first person of
each row and then is passed to the others next to you.*

A WORD ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER:

We rejoice in the gifts our Lord gives through His Holy Supper. Affirming the truths of His Word we also take seriously the call to a common confession of faith as we kneel at the altar. We ask all our guest worshipers to respect our pastoral practice of Close Communion.

+ THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

(We stand for)

The PREFACE:

(Page 160)

P The Lord be with you.

G And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G It is right to give Him thanks and praise.



The PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The SANCTUS: "Holy, holy, holy Lord..."

(Page 161)

G 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.

The PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Page 161)

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The LORD'S PRAYER:

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
**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.**

The WORDS OF OUR LORD:

(Page 162)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The PAX DOMINI:

(Page 163)

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

C A - men.

The AGNUS DEI: "Lamb of God"

G 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.

(We are seated for)

The DISTRIBUTION:

[8:00 Divine Service]

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

(Handchimes)

[10:45 Divine Service]

"Christ Is With Me"

(Sanctuary Choir)

*We were buried with Him into death,
 That as He was raised, by God's glory,
 We might walk in life made new by grace,
 Having died with Christ, we shall live with Him.*

*Christ is with me, everywhere I go;
 Never to leave me, this I know.*

*I have now been grafted to the Vine,
 Drawing life from roots, rich in mercy,
 Bearing fruit as I abide in Him;
 Fruit forever fresh, glorifying God. Refrain*

*I have now been crucified with Christ;
 I no longer live, Christ lives in me.
 Now I live by faith in God's own Son,
 One who loved me so – gave Himself for me. Refrain*

*Now I live by faith, faith in God's own Son,
 One who loved me so – gave Himself for me.*

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

(LSB #633)

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - 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 the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - 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!

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!

6 Now no more can death appall,
 Now no more the grave enthrall;
 You have opened paradise,
 And Your saints in You shall rise.
 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!

Please open the Lutheran Service Book in the pew in front of or next to you for the following hymn also sung during the Distribution of the Lord's Supper.

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”

(LSB #474)

(We stand for)

The COMMON DISMISSAL:

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.
- G** Amen.

The POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: **“Thank the Lord...”**

(Page 164)



G 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.

The POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The BENEDICTION:

(Hebrews 13:20-21)

P May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through (†) Jesus Christ,

C to Whom be glory forever and ever! Amen.

Silent Prayer

(We are seated for)

The GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

P Live this day and this week in the peace of Christ.

C Thanks be to God!

† To God Alone Be the Glory †

The PRESIDING MINISTER Pastor Brian Kachelmeier
The PREACHER..... Pastor Mark Barz
The LAY READERS..... Daniel Mullinix (8:00 am), Donald Etscheid (10:45 am)
The ORGANIST..... Connie Barz
The HANDCHIME PLAYERS..... Emilia & Esaia Fattig, Xavier & Xyler Robinson, James, Dana & Brien Salinas, Christian Smith, Rebecca & Timothy Snyder

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