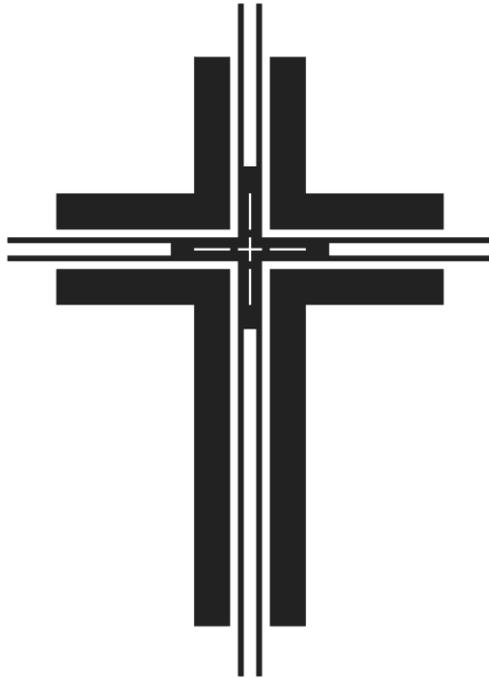


CHAPEL OF THE CROSS  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of the Word  
Fifth Sunday of Easter  
April 28, 29, 2024

## A SPECIAL WELCOME TO GUESTS

Welcome to Chapel of the Cross Lutheran Church. We are honored to have you here today to receive God's message of love through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. If you are new to the area and/or are looking for a church home, we invite you to join our family here at Chapel of the Cross. Our mission at Chapel is to teach and preach Jesus Christ, our Savior, because of what He has done for us, namely dying for our sins and rising from the dead to win victory over death. We want to strengthen each other with this truth, as well as proclaim it to all who have yet to hear it. We pray that today's service will strengthen your faith as God speaks His gifts of love, forgiveness, and eternal life to you, and as He moves you to thank and praise Him for these good gifts.

We send a live-stream to our website of our 8:00 a.m. service on Sunday and other special services. We believe that this technology is a wonderful way to reach out to our homebound, to our visitors, and to our world! Recordings of these services are also archived to the website, *chapelofthecrosslutheran.org*.

## ATTENDANCE

Please sign the attendance pad located at the end of the pew before or after service or use the QR code on the back of the bulletin to record your attendance.

## PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP | Easter prayer of St Hippolytus of Rome

*Christ is Risen: The world below lies desolate. Christ is Risen: The spirits of evil are fallen.  
Christ is Risen: The angels of God are rejoicing. Christ is Risen: The tombs of the dead are empty.  
Christ is Risen indeed from the dead, the first of sleepers, Glory and power are His forever and ever. Amen.*

How Deep the Father's Love for Us (8:00)  
*Words and Music by Stuart Tommsend, Arr. Dennis Allen*

Chapel Choir

*How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure;  
That He should give His only Son  
To Make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss,  
The Father turns His face a way  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One,  
Bring many sons to glory.*

*Behold the man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.*

*It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished*

*I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart;  
His wounds have paid my ransom.*



HYMN OF INVOCATION | At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing LSB 633, sts. 1-4, 8



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  
 △ 8 Fa - ther, who the crown shall give, Sav - ior,



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  
 by whose death we live, Spir - it, guide through all our days:



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!  
 Three in One, Your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

INVOCATION

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

**C** Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

EXHORTATION

**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.*

## CONFESSION OF SINS

- 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.

## ABSOLUTION

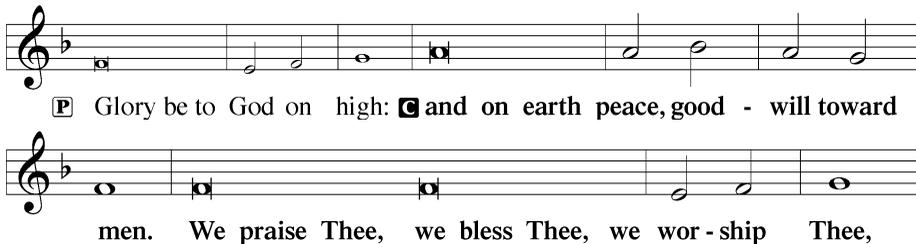
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## KYRIE



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



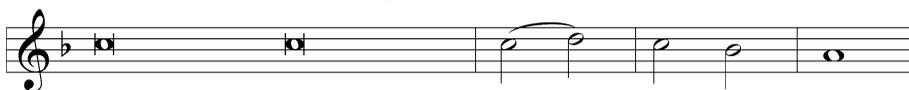
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



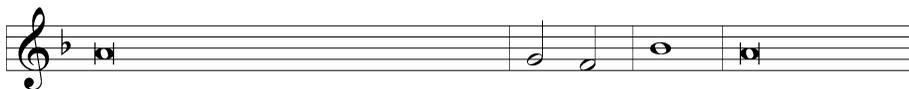
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



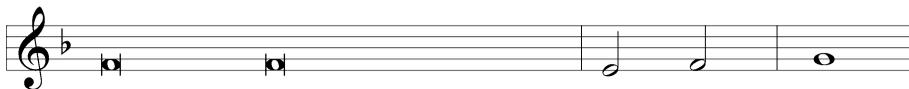
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## BAPTISM | Jarod Alexander Mick (10:15)

### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

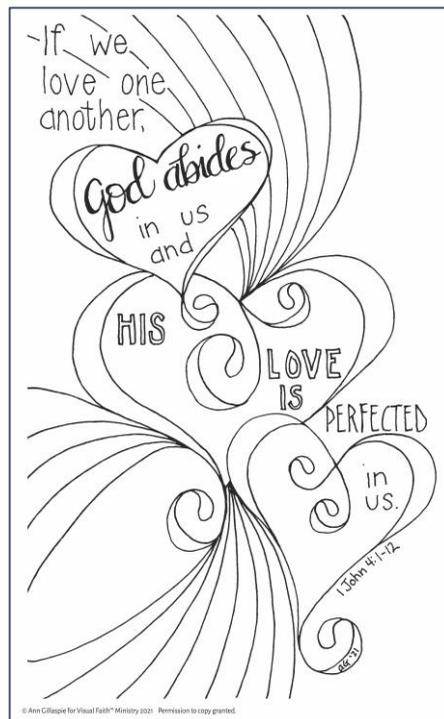
**P** The Lord be with you.

**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.**



## FIRST READING | Acts 8:26–40

<sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>And 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 <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>Now 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.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And 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?” <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And 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. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

## EPISTLE | 1 John 4:1–21

<sup>1</sup>Beloved, 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. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and 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. <sup>4</sup>Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We 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.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In 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. <sup>10</sup>In 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. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>So 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. <sup>17</sup>By 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. <sup>18</sup>There 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. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>If 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. <sup>21</sup>And 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.

GOSPEL PREPARATION | The Apple Tree  
*Arr. Richard Jeffrey*

Chapel Choir

The tree of life my soul has seen,  
Laden with fruit and always green.  
The tress of nature fruitless be  
Compared with Christ, the apple tree.

His beauty does all things excel.  
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell,  
The glory which I now can see  
In Jesus Christ, the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
And pleasure dearly I have bought.  
I missed of all but now I see,  
'tis found in Christ, the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,  
Here I will sit and rest awhile.  
Under the shadow I will be  
Of Jesus Christ, the apple tree.

HOLY GOSPEL | John 15:1–8

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every 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. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide 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. <sup>5</sup>I 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. <sup>6</sup>If 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. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

**A** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | Josh Eckstein



1 O bless-ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us  
 2 Through sum-mer heat of youth-ful years, Un - cer - tain  
 3 When au-tumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their  
 4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, We breathe our  
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to  
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing  
 heav - y har - vest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will  
 last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take  
 this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -



be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.  
 rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.  
 move With gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.  
 wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.  
 vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

## OFFERTORY

**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## OFFERING | *Offerings may be placed in the Offering Box in the narthex.*

- P** It is the Lord who blesses the work of our hands; therefore, we give to Him our thankfulness in our offering this day.
- C** Our offerings symbolize that all we have and all we are come from God. With thanks we return a part of what is His to Him, as an act of thanksgiving.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## 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.**

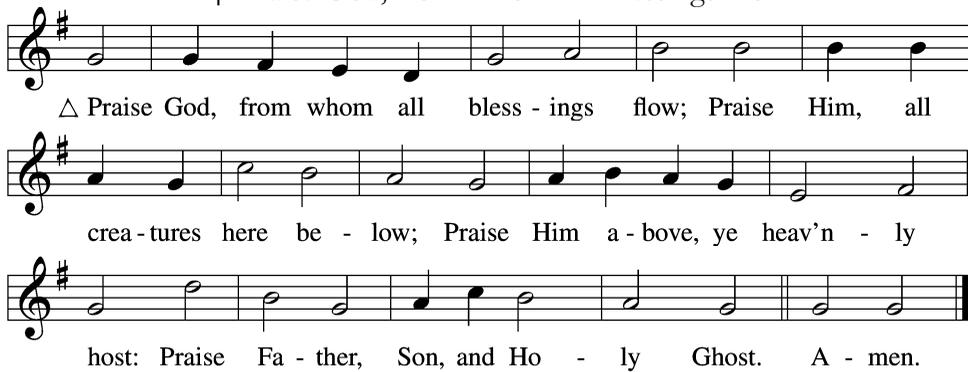
## BENEDICTION

**P** 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.

**C** **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN | Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LSB 805



△ Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP | Book of Common Worship

*We give you thanks, great God, for the hope we have in Jesus, who died but is risen and rules over all. We praise you for his presence with us. Because He lives, we look for eternal life, knowing that nothing past, present or yet to come can separate us from your great love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.*



*Gloria Patri*

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GLORY BE TO GOD THE FATHER



## CHAPEL OF THE CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

As the family at Chapel of the Cross,  
our mission is to  
SHARE the Gospel,  
SEEK the Lost,  
STUDY God's Word, and  
STRENGTHEN One Another.

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*office@chapelofthecrosslutheran.org*

### SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

#### **Preacher:**

Rev. Dr. Mark Hoehner

#### **Liturgists:**

Rev. Andrew Nelson

#### **Musicians:**

Angela Ohmie, piano

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**PAGE 15** – Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow – Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text and tune: Public domain

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Smartphones have built-in QR code readers in the camera app. Open your camera and hold so the code is visible in your viewfinder. If a pop-up appears, select it with your finger to link to the Google Document to record attendance. Fill out form and tap “Submit.”