Prayer and Praises" is your personal invitation to join with the Prayer Ministry of our church in daily prayer. If you would like someone to stay on the prayer list, please call the church office at 760-247-7392, put your request on the prayer cards in the church, or go on-line at www.ascensionav.org. Otherwise, names will be removed after two months.

ACCORDING TO THEIR NEED:

Carol Buchanan Marvin Eisenbeiss Gwen Strasburg Rick & Didi Gift Charlene Krentz Renee Moore Linda Rogers Lonny Stumbaugh Isabel Benavides Rachel Clark Larry Cramins Gene Dooner Lynn Fairgrief Carol Furm Grace Lutheran Church Katherine Harris Dayna Hedden Pam Kaiser Emma Kraus Martin Lewis Military Sally O'Neil Persecuted Christians Donna Pringnitz Resurrection Lutheran Church Carla Rosen June Spradlin Frances Truslow Sue Twarowski Tammy VanVliet

Kenny Cabral Gaylon Pastella Marjorie Wilson Mo, LaDona, & Rocky Gamas Steve Martines Carolyn Penna Mildred Sears Nikki Stumbaugh Lorraine Chavez Congregation Sheree Davis Francis Durfee & Family **Riley Faith** Josh Garcia & Family Susie Griffin Pastor Harris Justin Huf Family Scott Kaiser Jennifer LaRue Jamar Liddele Jennifer Millgate Kavla Overmver Gail Peterson Nevin Purbaugh Peggy Rhoades Diane Short Carrie & Braden Stedge Delvin Tumbling Robert & Pat Tylisz Kat Walker

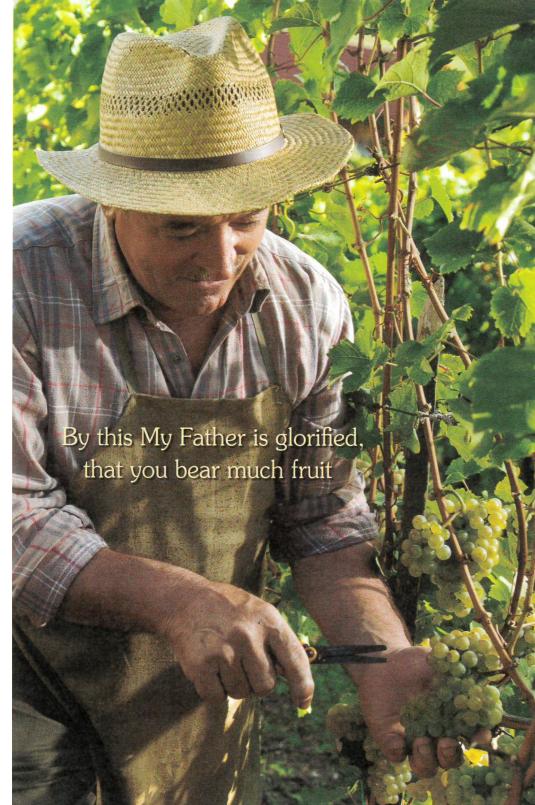
Pat Lorenzen Kevin Smith Detwiler Family Roger Hall Beverly Moglich Judy Pepper Barbara Stumbaugh Angela Alder Seve & Jackie Chavez Richard Connors Cathy DeRose David Enos Faith Lutheran Church Government Marty Hall Jeanne Hecksel Sandy Jurey John & Connie Kays Rvlee LaTrace Ronnie Longero Janet Mowery Tim & Marguerite Pastella Rita Poole Lori Reisner Dave Riffel Daniel Singleton Terry Strey Denise Turner & Family Deidre Tvska Cynthia Yancho

SAFE TRAVELS: Ashley Skiffington



About the Cover: Christians, like branches, bear fruit. Such is the only possible result of branches being connected to Jesus, the vine. Jesus is our source of life. He is the source of the fruit that we bear. For in Jesus, there is never-ending life that conquered the grave in order to forgive and give us life. A life in Jesus always bears much fruit, so we need the Word of forgiveness and life poured into us each day.

John 15:8; Scripture: ESV® Photo: © iStockphoto.com May 2, 2021 © 2021 CPH Printed in USA Concordia Publishing House • Your church's publisher • Visit us at CPH.org 2151



ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

22130 Ottawa Rd. Apple Valley, CA. 92308 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1645, Apple Valley, CA 92307 Phone: (760) 247-7392, FAX: (760) 247-9014 Pastor@ascensionav.org; office@ascensionav.org Website: www.ascensionav.org Rev. James Harris, Pastor

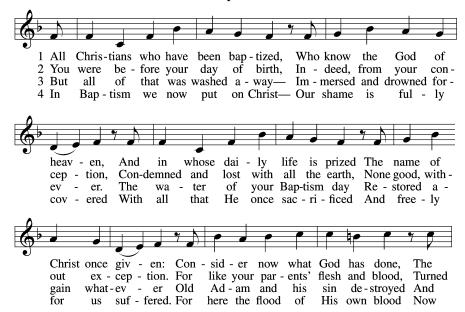
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00 a.m. Drive-In & Inside Service May 2, 2021 93.5 FM DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE: Page 184

Thoughts as We Gather

Easter is all about life, and our text, the *Gospel* for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, insists that it is only through our connection with Jesus Christ that we live the kind of life in Him that bears fruit. In the *First Reading*, Philip's explanation of an Old Testament messianic prophecy (Is 53:7–8) allows the Ethiopian eunuch to become connected to the Suffering Servant, Jesus Christ, by faith. The *Psalm* implores that "everything that has breath"—which is only given by God—"praise the Lord" (Ps 150:6). Finally, the *Epistle* is replete with witness concerning the fruit of God's love. Our loving, life-giving God creates the fruit of love in His people: "We love because He first loved us" (1 Jn 4:19).

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the Narthex, please include your address and home church. If this is your first time attending Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.

NO ANNOUNCEMENTS THIS WEEK

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Sun. (05/02) <i>Mite Box Sunday</i>	9:00 a.m.	Drive-In & Inside Worship	gifts He gives to e in - ward from the hi all our sin - ful sel
Wed. (05/05)	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study	makes us ho - ly, rig
Sun. (05/09) Mother's Day	9:00 a.m.	Drive-In & Inside Worship	5 O Christian, firmly And give God th It gives the power In all that you en
ATTENDANCE:			When nothing else Your Baptism stan
04/25/2021	9:00 a.m.	73	And then in dea
OFFERING:			6 So use it well! You In Christ a new As faithful Christia
Needed weekly:	\$ 3,737.00		Within your own
Received 04/25/21	<u>\$ 2,138.50</u>		Until that day whe His glorious robe of
Short	\$ (1,598.50)		Bestowed on yo Text: © 2004 Concordia Publishing Hou

. ev - 'ry - one Bap-tized in - to Christ Je - sus! high-est good, You con-stant-ly de - nied Him. elves em-ployed Ac - cord-ing to our na - ture. ight, and good Be - fore our heav'n-ly Fa - ther. nly hold this gift thanks forever! er to uplift endeavor. se revives your soul, ands and makes you whole eath completes you. ou are made new v creation! tians, live and do wn vocation, nen you possess of righteousness ou forever! _____COLOVOL: Text: © 2004 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276 Tune: Public domain

Stand

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

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- **C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

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 beginning, 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.



<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>: May 2 – Easter 5

John 15:2 – "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." God is interested in the fruit that we bear in good works, and He even prunes us so that we may bring forth more fruit. Trusting in our Lord's work for us, we are grafted by grace into His vine. We desire to be more like Him and grow into His image. That's growth in fruit bearing, and it always comes with some pruning.

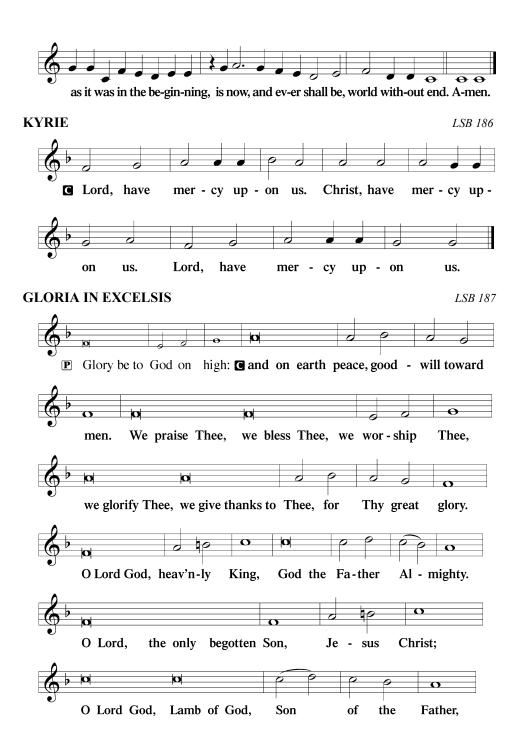
SERVING SERVICE TODAY:

ELDERRick FerrellHEAD USHERBruce Benson

SUNDAY READINGS

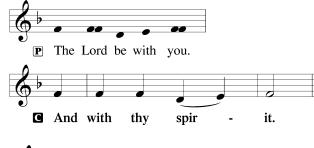
The readings for Sunday, May 9, 2021 are:

Acts 10:34-48 Psalm 98 (antiphon: v.2) 1 John 5:1-8 John 15:9-17



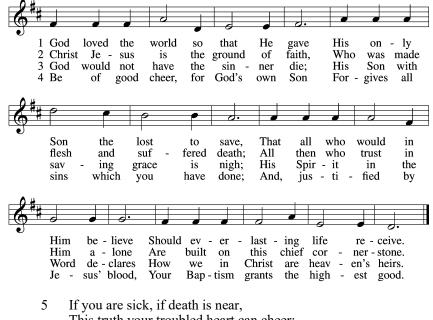


SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY





571 God Loved the World So That He Gave



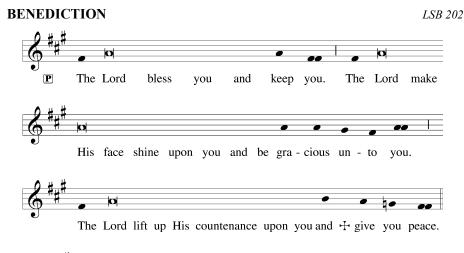
- This truth your troubled heart can cheer: Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.
- △ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To You, O blessèd Trinity, Be praise now and eternally! Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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P 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.



Sit

FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

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.C Thanks be to God.

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¹Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens! ²Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness! ³Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp! ⁴Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe! ^oPraise Him with sounding cymbals: praise Him with loud clashing cymbals! ⁶Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! **Praise the LORD!** This is the Word of the Lord. A С Thanks be to God.

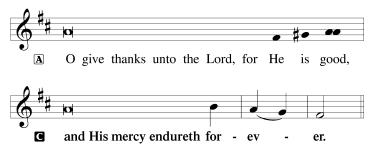
EPISTLE

1 John 4:1–21

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.

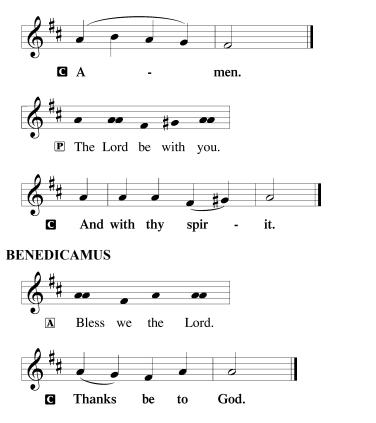
⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through 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,



P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.





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.

Stand



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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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.

625 Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread

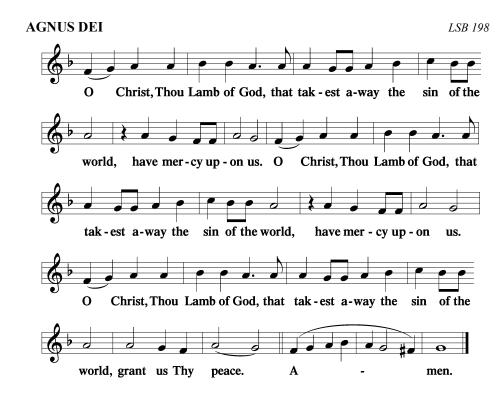


Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

■ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.

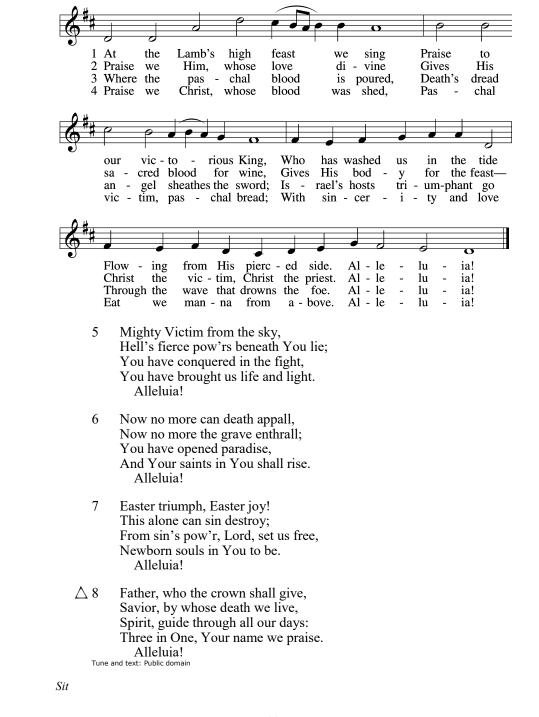
C Amen.





DISTRIBUTION

633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



SERMON TEXT: John 15:1-8

SERMON THEME: Abide in Me

ROOM FOR SERVICE NOTES:

LORD'S PRAYER



THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

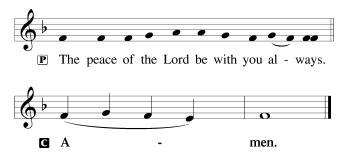
LSB 197

LSB 197

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, [**P**] 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."

PAX DOMINI

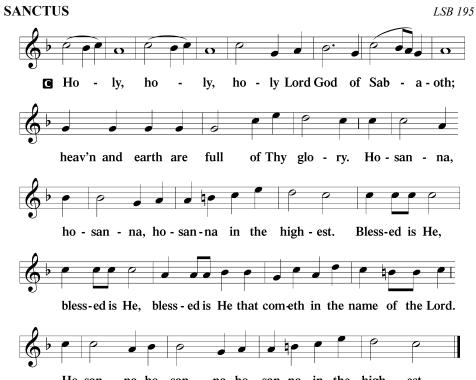


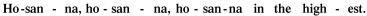
The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts P and minds in Christ Jesus.

С Amen.

Stand

It is truly meet, 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:







PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- ▶ For all God's people that as branches of the vine, all sin and dead works would be pruned and cut off from them; and that drawing life from the Son, they would continually produce the fruits of faith and good works, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- ▶ For the Church on earth, that she would be protected from all false teaching and the spirit of the Antichrist, and so always confess Christ come in the flesh and remain faithful to Him, our only true God, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For all teachers and catechumens, that they would be guided in God's Word and ever increase in understanding, faith and love for Christ, the Lamb led to the slaughter in our place and risen from the dead, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

- **P** For our president and all in authority, that they may serve honorably and in accord with God's good order, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For all who bear the cross in suffering and affliction, <u>[especially</u>,] that they would ever look to the Lord and so fix their hearts where true joy is found, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For all who come to God's feast of love, that they may worthily eat of Christ's body and blood, abiding in this love of God, and God in them, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Heavenly Father, You are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Hear and answer our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, and Your saints shall bless You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder.

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PREFACE

