

WELCOME



Fifth Sunday in Lent
ELW Holy Communion Setting Four
Sunday, April 6, 2025

OUR MISSION

Jesus Christ calls American Lutheran Church to nourish the world by faithfully sharing His gifts.

Praise God that we can worship together! We pray you will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and strengthened in the faith that trusts in our Lord Jesus Christ and praises him for the gift of our salvation. Peace be with you!

CONTACT US

Church office: 319-827-6626

Church website: www.americanlutheranjesup.org

Pastor's email: patmohrkelly@gmail.com

Secretary's email: secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org

Introduction to the day



Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are so happy you've joined us today. If you have any questions about our service or facilities, please reach out to an usher. If you are a guest please fill out the yellow slip and place it in the offering plate.

The children will be invited up front during the children's message – please feel free to join us!

All who are baptized are welcome to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing only, come with your hands folded.

If you are looking for a church home, know you are always welcome here.

ORDER OF WORSHIP- Setting Four

Prelude by Shirley Bergman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* (ELW 324)

GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE (ELW p. 147)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY .

Let us pray.

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love

given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 126

¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”**

³ The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

⁴ **Restore our for tunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb. R**

⁵ Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Philippians.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151) Sung

Please stand as you are able.

Return to the Lord, your God,

**for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

GOSPEL: John 12:1-8

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (ELW 334) vs.1-3*

Ushers to collect Prayer requests

Blessing of the Quilts

Acts 2, 43-47 Congregation recite together

43Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. 44All who believed were together and had all things in common; 45they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, 47praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

L: God, our neighbors around the world are in need of hope. Your Spirit is a mighty force, your whispers of hope bring light into the world. Open our hearts and hands to see your presence in our neighborhoods and across the world.

C: Jesus, help us speak words of hope to our neighbors.

L: God, we give you thanks for the pieces of fabric, thread, sewing machines. May their presence be a sign of hope, may these quilts wrap our neighbors in unending love, and may these kits offer dignity and healing.

C: Jesus, help us see hope in our neighbors.

L: God, we give thanks for all the hands that fashioned hope into a quilt, for the hands that collected and sorted, for the hands that continually open wider so that no one feels left out.

C: Jesus, help us see hope in our neighbors.

L: God, we ask you to guide the staff and partners at LWR. May their voices and hands be a beacon of hope. Keep them safe. Keep them filled with your strength and perseverance.

C: Jesus, help us share a taste of hope with our neighbors.

L: God, be with our neighbors who will receive these gifts. May they be wrapped in love, may they taste your goodness, may they touch signs of your hope. Whether or not we know their names or where they live, they are our neighbors, our brothers and sisters in Christ. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, the One who is our hope.

C: Amen.

Sending

L: Recognizing God's abundant hope, go and be a sign of hope to our neighbors near and far: offering hands to hold, sweet scents of justice,

and a feast of God's goodness. In the name of the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CREED (ELW p. 152)

Please stand as you are able

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A brief silence.

Response to petitions: God, of mercy, **Hold us in love.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Noisy Offering– Jesup Ministerial

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182) Sung

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153) Sung

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *Beneath the Cross of Jesus (ELW 338)*

DISMISSAL

Postlude by Shirley Bergman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor is asking that if you have a prayer request that you use the pink slips in your pew to write it on and they will be collected after the hymn of the day.

Lent Services

April 9 ALC 6pm Meal 7pm Service

April 17 Maundy Thursday 5:30 ALC 7pm ZION

April 18 ALC Good Friday Open Prayer & Reflection 12pm-3pm

April 18 Ecumenical Good Friday Service 7pm United Methodist

April 20 Easter Sunday 6:30am Zion, 8:30 am ALC coffee & donuts
9am Worship Service

We are collecting items for LWR Personal Care Kits. You may drop them off at the church. List of items needed. Dark Bath Towels (20x40 or 52x27), Full size bars of soap, unopened, Adult size Toothbrush, Strong Toothed Comb, Metal Nail Clippers

April The Noisy Offering and Lent offerings are designated for the Jesup Ministerial. This organization is made up of the following churches in our community: American Lutheran Church, Zion, St. Athanasius, United Methodist, First Presbyterian, and Jesup Bible Fellowship.

Quilters in Need of Bedsheets-The Quilting Ladies are in need of gently used or new bedsheets to use as backings for their quilts. All sizes, flat or

fitted, are accepted. However, please note that we cannot use sheets with patriotic designs, camouflage, or writing.

If you have any sheets to donate, please bring them to the church. Your generosity helps us continue this meaningful ministry, and we appreciate your support!

May 10th, EWALU is having an open house! There are 2 fun new programs added this year for 8th grade grads and 9-12th, check it out! Camp is a great way to connect with God and other kids your age. PS You don't have to be a Lutheran to attend! There are pamphlets on table in lower narthex for more camper information. EWALU.org ALC does have funds set aside to help you attend.

Pastor Pat will be conducting **1st communion classes** for 4 Sunday evenings, April 6. classes will be at ALC from 5 - 6 pm. Parents are invited to attend also. 1st Communion will be on Palm Sunday.

Jesup Community Blood Drive Tuesday, April 22nd 1pm-5:30pm
American Legion, 931 6th St, Jesup Call Monica at 319-415-5275 to schedule and appointment

Please keep in your prayers: *Emelia Dahl Jacobson - Send cards to Emelia at Hiawatha Care Center, Room 53, 405 North 15th Avenue, Hiawatha, IA 52233.*

THIS WEEK AT ALC

Sunday April 6th

8:30am Worship With Communion Fellowship to follow

5pm 1st Communion

Tuesday April 8th

9am Quilting

Wednesday April 9th

6:00PM Lent Meal ALC

6:15pm Worship Wednesday

Sunday April 13th Palm Sunday

8:30 Worship with Communion

1st Communion, Presentation of Bibles and WW Singing and playing bells

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance 3/30/2025 40

Current Balance as of 2/28/2025

Checking: \$1695.60

Savings : \$44,599.40

Improvement \$46,943.77

Offering: **3/30/2025**

Current: \$1430

Benevolence: \$260

Improvement: \$25

Jesup Ministerial: \$73.82

Women's Ministry \$220.00

Military members: Military members:

Christa Leach has returned from deployment and is still with the 434th Air Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana. Jordan and Justin continue their monthly drills with the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is a student at Iowa State and currently home from Arkansas in the Army Reserves as Cassidee and Cole. Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We remember them in our prayers.

ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:

Pastor: Pat Mohr-Kelly

Music: Shirley Bergman

Usher: Mike & Chris Waring

Deacon: Mary Adams

Reader: Keaton Lynse

Fellowship Host: Crystal Lynse

ELECTRONIC GIVING IT'S EASY!



Simply Giving is a stress-free, no hassle way to set up automatic giving to ALC. You have the ability to set up one-time or regular giving at a frequency that works best for you. Use your smartphone to scan the QR code below

or download the Give+ App to get started. Feel free to reach out to Mike Waring or Sara Borland for more info.