

WELCOME



Third Sunday of Easter
ELW Holy Communion Setting Four
Sunday, May 4, 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



Welcome to Worship!

Today is a joyful and meaningful day in the life of our congregation as we celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism, also known as Confirmation. We give thanks for our confirmands who are publicly affirming the promises made at their baptisms and stepping forward in faith to claim their place as adult members of the church. May this service be a time of celebration, encouragement, and renewal for all of us as we continue our journey of faith together.

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.

A Note About Music in Worship

To help conserve paper and printing supplies, we are no longer printing the music in the bulletin.

When you see **ELW** followed by a number, that refers to a hymn found in the **back of the red hymnal**. If you see a "P" before the number, it refers to a **page** in the **front of the hymnal**.

Thank you for your flexibility and understanding as we make this transition. We appreciate your willingness to use the hymnal more regularly!

ORDER OF WORSHIP- Setting Four

Prelude by Renee Jesse

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* (ELW 392)

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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 149) **for the music**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people

of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever.

Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow 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: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Acts.

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” [⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹The Lord said to

him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”] Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 30

- ¹ I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
- ² **O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**
- ³ You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.
- ⁴ **Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance. R**
- ⁵ God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.
- ⁶ **While I felt secure, I said, “I shall never be disturbed.**
- ⁷ You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.” Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.
- ⁸ **I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**
- ⁹ “What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?
- ¹⁰ **Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper.” R**
- ¹¹ You have turned my wailing into dancing;

you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹²**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever. R**

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14

The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Revelation.

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

¹⁴And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151) for the music

Please stand as you are able.

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 21:1-19

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me." The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDRENS MESSAGE
SERMON**

The assembly is seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Borning Cry* (ELW 732)

PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMANDS PAGE 234—237 IN RED HYMNAL

The presiding minister addresses the assembly with these or similar words.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and I present Hunter Rayn, Kohl Marlyn and Maxwell Andrew who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

PEACE

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

OFFERING

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182) for the music

**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.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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) for the music

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.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *We Are Called* (ELW 720)

DISMISSAL

Postlude by Renee Jesse

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Any announcements need to be placed in the file on the church office door by Wednesday evening. Articles for THE LAMP are due in the office by noon on the second Wednesday of each month.

Share Your Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer you'd like included in the Prayers of Intercession, please fill out one of the pink slips in the pews. They'll be collected during the service. We would be honored to pray with you!

Congratulations to Maxwell, Hunter, and Kohl!

Today we celebrate with you as you affirm your faith and take this important step in your journey with Christ. May God bless you and guide you always, filling your hearts with wisdom, strength, and love.

Maxwell Andrew Kopplin, son of Dan Kopplin and Erin Kopplin. Sponsors: Jean Moran and Ron Bowers.

Kohl Marlyn Nuehring, son of Keith and Cyndi Nuehring. Sponsors: Teresa Mensen and Jerry Hertrampf.

Hunter Ryan Weber, son Of Jeff and Missy Weber. Sponsors: Dawn and John McMahon

Parish Ed Needs Your Help! We're looking for someone to assist with Worship Wednesday this fall. If you enjoy working with kids and want to make a difference in their faith journey, we'd love to have you on the team! Please contact the church office or Christy Phillips if you're interested.

Thursdays with God resume in May. We will meet in the Fireside Room At 6:30 pm on the following dates: May 1,8,15,22,29 and June 5 or by Zoom Link for Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87086730130?pwd=1FPCk8x1R90XscxGbTBrMaMhdUjLNU.1>
Meeting ID: 870 8673 0130 Passcode 110776

The Sound of LEGRAND, TODAY, May 4th, 2025 at 2 pm, First Presbyterian Church, Independence IA, 115 6th Ave NW, Independence, IA
Soprano Dr. Jessica Saunders and pianist Stephen Mulvahill present a program of songs by Michel Legrand featuring beloved selections from Amour, The Umbrellas of Cherbourg, and Yentl, along with timeless songs written in collaboration with Alan and Marilyn Bergman.

Jesup High School seniors Kaylie Bergman and Landon Vogel are partnering with Cedar Valley Angels® through their CAPS leadership class to collect donations for foster children and families in the Cedar Valley. Suggested donation items and QR codes were shared during a church service. Items can be dropped off at American Lutheran.

Love Box Items: Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Hand Soap, Hand Sanitizer, Dishwasher pods, Dish Soap, Disinfectant Wipes, Fruit Snacks, Individual Snack Bags, Granola Bars, Pack of pudding, Coloring Books, Crayons, Makers, Colored Pencils, Toy car/truck, Baby or Barbie Doll, Play-Doh, Family craft, game puzzle or activity, Toilet paper Church, Cowork 591, or Jesup High School through the end of April. For questions, contact Kaylie at Kaylie.bergman@jesup.k12.ia.us.

We are collecting items for LWR Personal Care Kits. You may drop them off at the church. List of items needed. We have a goal of 50 and unfortunately we have a slow start. As of today we need the following: 48 Dark Bath Towels, 20x40 or 52x27, 100 Full size bars of soap, unopened, 22 Adult size Toothbrush, and 37 Metal Nail Clippers.

Easter Lilies If you purchased a lily, please take it home with you today! They are located at the back of the sanctuary. Any remaining lilies will be available for anyone to take next Sunday, and after that, they will be disposed of. Thank you for helping us brighten our worship space this Easter season!

THIS WEEK AT ALC

Sunday May 4th

8:30am Worship & Communion
Confirmation

Thursday, May 8th

6:30 Bible Study ALC Fireside
room or by Zoom

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance 4/27/25 27
Current Balance 3/30/2025
Checking: \$3309.52
Improvement Fund: \$47670.08
Savings: 44611.90
Offering: 04/27/2025
Current: \$1060
Benevolence: \$285
Improvement: \$25
Funds for Leaders\$100
World Hunger \$200
Youth \$100

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tress Liturgies Annual License #23094.

Military members: Military members:

Christa Leach has returned from de-
ployment and is still with the 434th Air
Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana.
Jordan and Justin continue their
monthly drills with the 185th Air Refuel-
ing Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is sta-
tioned at Fort Knox, AZ. 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: Dennis & Joyce Becker
Deacon: Mary Adams
Reader: Suanne Westpfahl
Fellowship Host: Confirmation
Cake

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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 reg-
ular 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.