

Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Hillsboro, Texas

... but those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.



Isaiah 40:31

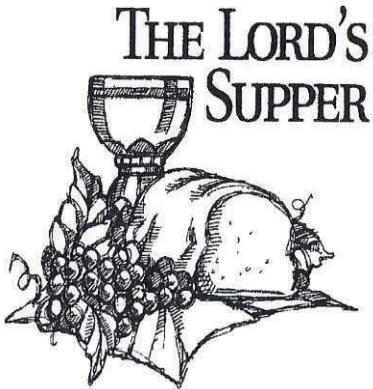
Freedom Celebration Service

REST FOR THE WEARY

July 5, 2026

TODAY'S MESSAGE: REST FOR THE WEARY

For more than two centuries, immigrants have come to the United States of America looking for new opportunities and for freedom and rest from a life of political tyranny, economic poverty and religious persecution in their home country. Unfortunately, living in the United States does not protect us from the devilish tyranny, the spiritual poverty and the constant persecution of sin that is all around us and within us. Like immigrants looking for a new home, we need rest for our weary souls. Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Through His cross, His Word, even His body and His blood, Jesus frees us from our sin and renews our strength. Jesus is rest for the weary.



In the Lord's Supper, Jesus gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. The Lord's Supper is also a very sacred and intimate proclamation of fellowship among those who confess the same faith (doctrine, teachings) concerning God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ. Therefore, we practice close communion and ask that those who are not confirmed members of an LC-MS congregation receive instruction prior to receiving the Lord's Supper.

Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29

Before receiving the Lord's Supper, we need to examine ourselves in the following way:

(1) Am I truly repentant (sorry) for all of my sins and do I truthfully desire to change my sinful life? (2) Do I believe that Jesus is my Lord and Savior and that in the Lord's Supper I receive His body and His blood for the forgiveness of all my sins? And (3) Have I been instructed in the Scriptures and have I publicly confessed my belief that the teachings of this church and the LC-MS are faithful to God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ?

If you have questions about what God's Word says concerning the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor and/or pick up our brochure titled "Fellowship in the Lord's Supper".

Those not confirmed are welcome to come to the altar, keep your hands down and folded and receive a blessing. For those who will be communing: **Non-alcoholic** wine is located in the center of each tray for those who have concerns with alcohol. We offer the **chalice** as well as individual cups. If you desire the chalice, do not take an individual cup from the tray and the pastor will serve you from the chalice. Christ is present in both to grant you forgiveness.

✠ ORDER OF SERVICE WITH COMMUNION ✠

["Divine Service: Setting One" from LSB p.151]

Please silence – or turn off – your phones and refrain from using them during the service.

Welcome

Opening Hymn

"Before You, Lord, We Bow"

LSB 966

**Before You, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns above,
And rules the world below, boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring, in joy and praise, our hearts we raise, to You our King!**

**The nation You have blest, may well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, protected by Your care.
For this bright day, for this fair land – gifts of Your hand – our thanks we pay.**

**May ev'ry mountain height, each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light, and its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue, be tuned to praise, and join to raise, a grateful song.**

**Earth, hear your Maker's voice. Your great Redeemer own.
Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride, your sin deplore, and bow before the Crucified.**

**And when in pow'r He comes, oh, may our native land,
From all its rending tombs, send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, with joy to sing, to heav'n's high King, salvation's song!**

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(sung)* **A - - - men**

Confession of Sins

Hebrews 10:22; 1 John 1:8-9

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.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

ALL: 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 the Word, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*

C: *(sung)* A - - - men.

Entrance Psalm [ESV]

Psalm 145:1-14

P: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

C: **Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

P: Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

C: **One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.**

P: On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

C: **They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.**

P: They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

C: **The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

C: **All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!**

P: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

C: **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

P: The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.

C: The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

ALL: 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.

Hymn of Praise

“Christ, by Heavenly Hosts Adored”

[TLH 566]

**Christ, by heav'nly hosts adored. Gracious, mighty, sov'reign Lord.
God of nations, King of kings. Head of all created things.
By the Church with joy confessed. God the Son forever blessed.
Pleading at your throne we stand. Save your people, bless our land.**

**On our fields of grass and grain, send, O Lord, the kindly rain.
And throughout this spacious land, crown the labors of each hand.
Let your kind protection be, over commerce on the sea.
Open, Lord, your bounteous hand. Bless your people, bless our land.**

**Give us rulers faithful, true, such as love and honor you.
Let the powers you ordained, be in righteousness maintained.
In the people's hearts increase, love of piety and peace.
Thus united, we shall stand, one wide, free, and happy land.**

Opening Prayer

ALL: God of time and history, we ask you to keep our nation under your care. It is by your grace and blessing that we know peace and freedom. Direct and lead us to live justly with our neighbors, peaceably in our communities and joyfully in our land, seeking the common good; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading [ESV]

Isaiah 40:25-31

“To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him?” says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God”?

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Your Word, O Lord, is truth, and your truth has set us free.** *John 8:32 and 17:17*

Epistle Reading [ESV]

Romans 7:14-25a

We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Your Word, O Lord, is truth, and your truth has set us free.** *John 8:32 and 17:17*

Gospel Reading [ESV]

Matthew 11:25-30

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter.

C: *(sung)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: *(sung)* Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn

"Come unto Me, Ye Weary"

LSB 684

**"Come unto Me, ye weary, and I will give you rest."
O blessed voice of Jesus, which comes to hearts oppressed!
It tells of benediction, of pardon, grace, and peace,
Of joy that hath no ending, of love that cannot cease.**

**"Come unto Me, ye wand'ers, and I will give you light."
O loving voice of Jesus, which comes to cheer the night!
Our hearts were filled with sadness, and we had lost our way.
But Thou hast brought us gladness, and songs at break of day.**

**"Come unto Me, ye fainting, and I will give you life."
O cheering voice of Jesus, which comes to aid our strife!
The foe is stern and eager. The fight is fierce and long.
But Thou hast made us mighty, and stronger than the strong.**

**"And whosoever cometh, I will not cast him out."
O patient love of Jesus, which drives away our doubt.
Which, though we be unworthy, of love so great and free,
Invites us very sinners, to come, dear Lord, to Thee!**

Sermon

REST FOR THE WEARY

**"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28 [NIV]**

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

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.

Offertory *(sung)*

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Offering *(Greet those seated near you. You may say, "The peace of the Lord be with you.")*

Offering Prayer

[LSB 781 (v.1-2)]

P: We give Thee but Thine own, whatever the gift may be. All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

C: May we Thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive. And gladly, as Thou blestest us, to Thee our first-fruits give! Amen.

Prayers

✠ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ✠

VISITORS and MEMBERS

Please read the message inside the first page of this bulletin re: participation in the Lord's Supper.

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: *(sung)* And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

C: *(sung)* **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalm 136

C: *(sung)* **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name . . .

Sanctus *(sung)*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

ALL: 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.

Words of Our Lord

Mt. 26:26-28; Mk. 14:22-24; Lk. 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed . . .

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

John 20:19

C: *(sung)* **A - men.**

Agnus Dei *(sung)*

John 1:29

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Grant us peace.**

Distribution Hymns

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

LSB 850

**God of grace and God of glory, on Your people pour Your pow'r.
Crown Your ancient Church's story. Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.
For the facing of this hour.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us, scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days.
For the living of these days.**

**Cure Your children's warring madness. Bend our pride to Your control.
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation, to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of Your salvation, be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving You whom we adore.
Serving You whom we adore.**

"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

LSB 618

**I come, O Savior, to Thy table, for weak and weary is my soul.
Thou Bread of Life, alone art able, to satisfy and make me whole:
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood, be for my soul the highest good!**

**Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning, that sinners may salvation see,
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning, so I, a sinner, come to Thee.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood, be for my soul the highest good!**

**Unworthy though I am, O Savior, because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never, for Thou my faithful shepherd art:
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood, be for my soul the highest good!**

**Weary am I and heavy laden, with sin my soul is sore oppressed.
Receive me graciously and gladden, my heart, for I am now Thy guest.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood, be for my soul the highest good!**

**What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith's bond and solid base.
It is the strength of heart and spirit, the covenant of hope and grace.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood, be for my soul the highest good!**

**Lord Jesus Christ, You have prepared, this feast for our salvation.
It is Your body and Your blood, and at Your invitation,
As weary souls, with sin oppressed, we come to You for needed rest,
For comfort and for pardon.**

**Although You did to heav’n ascend, where angel hosts are dwelling,
And in Your presence they behold, Your glory all excelling.
And though Your people shall not see, Your glory and Your majesty,
Till dawns the judgment morning.**

**Yet, Savior, You are not confined, to any habitation.
But You are present even now, here with Your congregation.
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, unmoved by any daring hand,
Or subtle craft and cunning.**

**We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your precious Word believing,
That Your true body and Your blood, our lips are here receiving.
This Word remains forever true. All things are possible with You,
For You are Lord Almighty.**

**Though reason cannot understand, yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is even now, at once in many places.
I leave to You how this can be. Your Word alone suffices me.
I trust its truth unfailing.**

**Lord, I believe what You have said. Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust, and let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears, refreshes me and stills my fears,
And is my priceless treasure.**

**Grant that we worthily receive, Your supper, Lord, our Savior.
And, truly grieving for our sins, may prove by our behavior,
That we are thankful for Your grace, and day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.**

**For Your consoling supper, Lord, be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev’ry place, the world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be, a blessed comfort unto me,
When living and when dying.**

Thank the Lord and sing His praise. Tell everyone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALL: We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, 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. Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: (sung) A - men, A - men, A - - men.

Closing Hymn

"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

[Tune: LSB 965]

**My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died. Land of the pilgrim's pride.
From ev'ry mountainside, let freedom ring.**

**My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love.
I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills.
My heart with rapture thrills, like that above.**

**Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees, sweet freedom's song.
Let mortal tongues awake. Let all that breathe partake.
Let rocks their silence break. The sound prolong.**

**Our fathers' God, to Thee, author of liberty, to Thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright, with freedom's holy light.
Protect us by Thy might, great God, our King!**

CLC MISSION STATEMENT: "We are a FAMILY LIVING and GROWING in God's Word, sharing God's love by TELLING others about Christ and SERVING them in His name."