

***Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Your chains are broken; your prison doors are open. Go forth, then, with joy to live as one with the God who sends you out.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

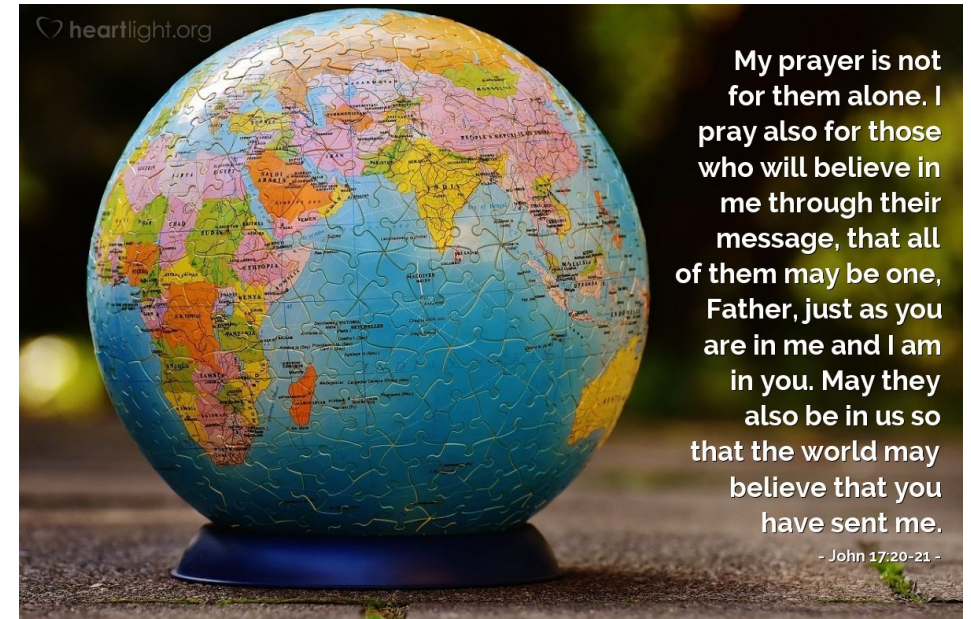
Praying Together

... for those who are homebound, ill, hospitalized or recuperating:

Gayle Agg, Nora Beach, Joan Clarke, Bruce Constant, Chuck Dickey, Olive Evanofski, Bill Flick, Barbara Fossa, Ken Frajter, Donna Franz, Barb Gaglione, Michelle Garnett, Rosa Garnett, Jane Gradert, Linda Johnson, Dorrie Kearns, Dylan King, Elaine Knerem, Nel Lanese, Barbara Mingee, Phyllis Nemeth, Dick Ptak, Madeline Ptak, Jean Rusher, Barb Toth, Maud Wright, Wilma Dancy, Bill Helmick, Nancy Helmick, Robert Lambrecht, Laura Mele, Judy Morgan, Kris Sandor, Lois Williams, Eugene Winfrey, the Copeland/Lane Family.

Last Week

General Fund receipts for week ending 5/25/2025:\$2237.00



My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

- John 17:20-21 -

**Lutheran Church of the Covenant
Maple Heights, OH**

Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Lutheran Church of the Covenant welcomes you to worship!
Here are a few notes to make you feel more at home as we praise the God of new life together!

Bulletins are available to be picked up at the back of the sanctuary.

We encourage you to participate throughout worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns!

Portions marked with * are when we invite you to stand as you are able to do so. There will not be a separate time for an offering, so a basket is placed in the back for those who wish to support our local ministry as well as the wider church.

A children’s table is located at the back of the sanctuary, where you’ll find some books and activities to help children feel more at home in worship.

Our Worship Leaders & Staff

Presiding Minister	Rev. Andrea McDonough
Organist	Gerry Mass
Lector	Ted Lockmiller
Reader	Karen Zack
Parish Administrator	Jennifer Lasher-Dobush
Custodian	Vince Besednjak

*Post-Communion Prayer

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

*Blessing

Now may the power that is in Christ Jesus, the strength of the Holy Spirit to baptize and save, and the fierce love of God, the Creator, keep you in grace and truth, now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: *In Christ There is No East or West* ELW # 650



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - 'ry-where their high com - mu - nion find;
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



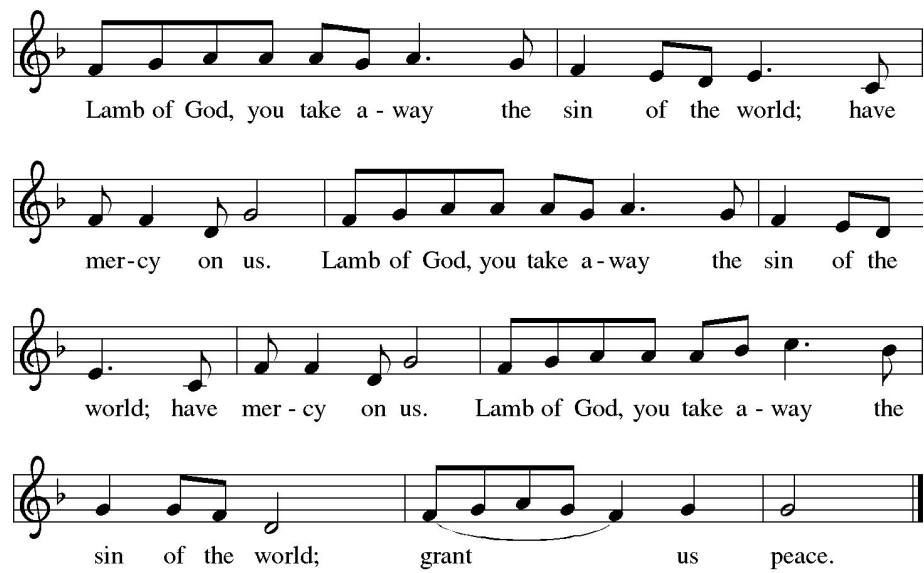
but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.
Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949

on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

*Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymn



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Seventh Sunday of Easter
9:00 a.m. June 1, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession & Forgiveness

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.
Trusting in the promise of grace, let us tell the whole truth about
ourselves and beg God’s mercy for the renewal and amendment of
our lives.

Gracious and Holy God,
you call us to your everlasting springs to be drenched and reformed,
but we fail to heed you. We do not turn with love to our neighbors
to ourselves, or to you. Forgive us for our failings, and guide us into
unity with all for the sake of the whole world. Amen.

In the compassion of the God who prays for us, with us, and in us +
you are forgiven, for the sake of the one who was sent to show us
the face of love and who died and rose, one with the Father and with
us. Amen.

*Gathering Song: *Crown Him With Many Crowns* ELW# 855



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

*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.**

Holy God, we praise you for your love: bringing order out of chaos, breathing life into dust, leading captives into freedom, consuming false idols with holy fire, calling wandering children home, giving bread to the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, raising the dead to life. Therefore we join our voices with saints and angels and all the faithful of every time and place, singing,

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



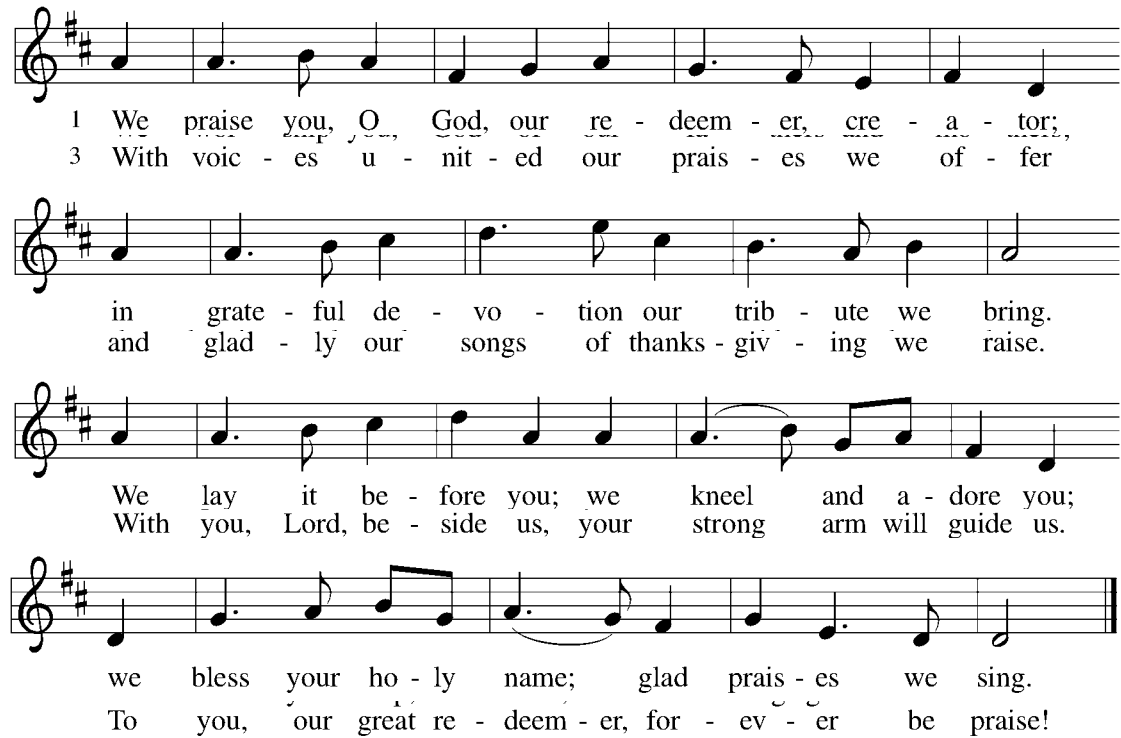
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,**



1 We praise you, O, God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer
 in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
 and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.
 We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
 With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.
 we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
 To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!


*Offering Prayer

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

*Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
 Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**
 For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
 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 mer - cy.
 For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**
 Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

***Hymn of Praise**

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

hear our prayer.

For those concerns we name now silently or aloud . . . [A time of silence is kept.] Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For the saints of all times and places, by whose faith and hope we have been nurtured in accord with Jesus' prayer for his people and our prayers for each other. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, Gracious God, we pray all these things, asking you to hear our thanksgivings and our pleas, knowing you hear more than we can say and will grant what is needed; in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Music Interlude

The Offertory Hymn: *We Praise You O God* ELW #870
(next page)

Prayers of the People

Our Lord Jesus prayed for us that we might be one. Let us pray as one for the needs of the world, for the church, and for all with whom Jesus desires our unity.

God, our lifeblood and our light, you show us your new creation every day. You feed and clothe us and give us joy in your good earth. We praise you—our home and our true blessing. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For unity among all peoples— the body of Christ, divided by conflict, that we may be one; for people of all faiths to honor one another; and for the end to religious wars. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For peace among nations, between tribes, on school yards, in academic halls, within legislative bodies, and around kitchen tables in every home. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For the church's mission to proclaim the good news, that the world might know you; may the new life possible in faith break open all people to love one another. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of the earth and its creatures; for the oceans and rivers, heavens and depths, soil and dust; for plants and fish and birds and mammals, who together with ourselves are fed and blessed each day by the air, food, and water you provide. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For all people who cry out to you in this hardened time; for people who do not have work, those who have no safety net; those without dining tables or beds; those who do not have enough food. Holy God,

*Prayer of the Day

O God, who opens our prison doors and releases us from our faults, keep us near to you in the hours of each day that by the power of the prayer Jesus prays for us and the light of your Word we might drink of your living water, know true joy, and serve you to the end of time. **Amen.**

Children's Moment

First Reading: Acts 16:16-34

¹⁶ One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a female slave who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." ¹⁸ She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰ When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men, these Jews, are disturbing our city ²¹ and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us, being Romans, to adopt or observe." ²² The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³ After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep

them securely. ²⁴ Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴ He brought them up into the house and set food before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 97

¹ The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

² **Clouds and darkness surround the Lord,
righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.**

***Apostles Creed**

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,

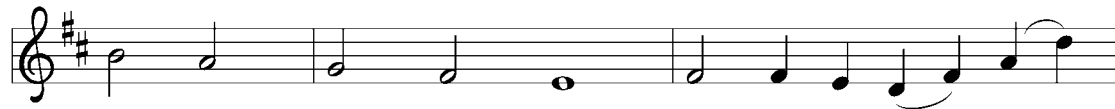
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: *I Know That My Redeemer Lives

ELW #619



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

³ Fire goes before the Lord,
burning up enemies on every side.

⁴ **Lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.**

⁵ The mountains melt like wax
before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶ **The heavens declare your righteousness, O Lord,
and all the peoples see your glory.**

⁷ Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in
false gods!

Bow down before the Lord, all you gods.

⁸ **Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O Lord.**

⁹ For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰ **You who love the Lord, hate evil!**

God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the
hand of the wicked.

¹¹ Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the honest of heart.

¹² **Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name.**

Second Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

¹² "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according
to everyone's work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and
the Last, the Beginning and the End."

¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have
the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁶ "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for

the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”
And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”
And let everyone who is thirsty come.
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.
²⁰ The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***Gospel: John 17:20-26**

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

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰ “I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵ “Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon