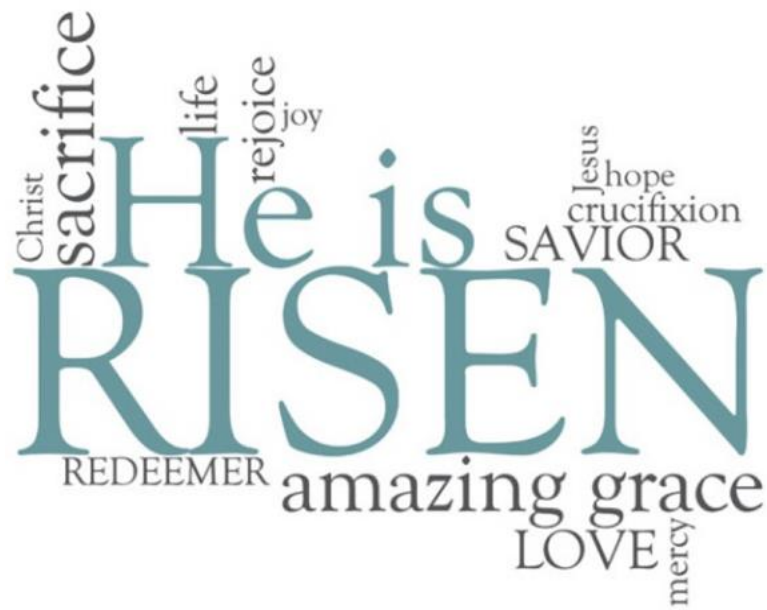


WELCOME TO WORSHIP

***Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026***



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Website Address:
www.holyspiritsecane.org
Church Email:
Holyspiritsecane@verizon.net
Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 9am – 2pm

To all who are tired and need rest; to all who mourn, and need comfort; to all who are friendless and need friendship; to all who are homeless, and need sheltering love; to all who pray, and to all who do not pray; to all who sin and need a Savior; to whomsoever will, this church opens wide its doors and in the name of Jesus Christ, says Welcome!

Welcome to Holy Spirit! Thank you for joining us today to worship the Living God! Through prayer, music, the proclamation of God's word and the sharing of a meal together we offer praise to God! Please come again and invite others to come with you. You are always welcome here at Holy Spirit!

We welcome the participation of all in worship. This worship bulletin is inclusive and contains the order of worship and all music you will need to participate. We sit and stand where indicated (*) in reverence to God; do what is comfortable for you. The people respond where indicated in **boldface** type.

A: Assisting Minister C: Congregation P: Presiding Minister

If you are having difficulty reading the bulletin, we have enlarged print bulletins available. Please ask the usher.

Visitors, please fill out a communion card and place in the offering plate.
Members, please fill out a communion card at least once per month and place in the offering plate.

OUR MISSION
“KNOW CHRIST! GROW! SPREAD GOD’S LOVE!”

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME, WORSHIP NOTES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

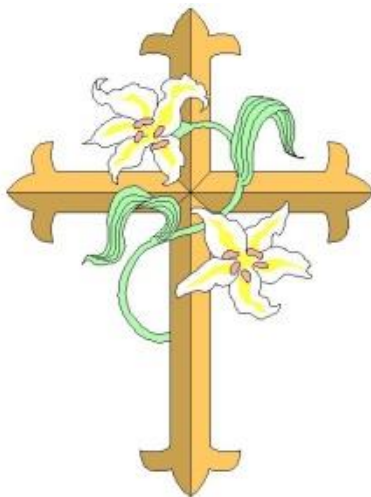
+ GATHERING +

(Please stand as you are able)

GREETING

P: Alleluia! This is the day the Lord has made.

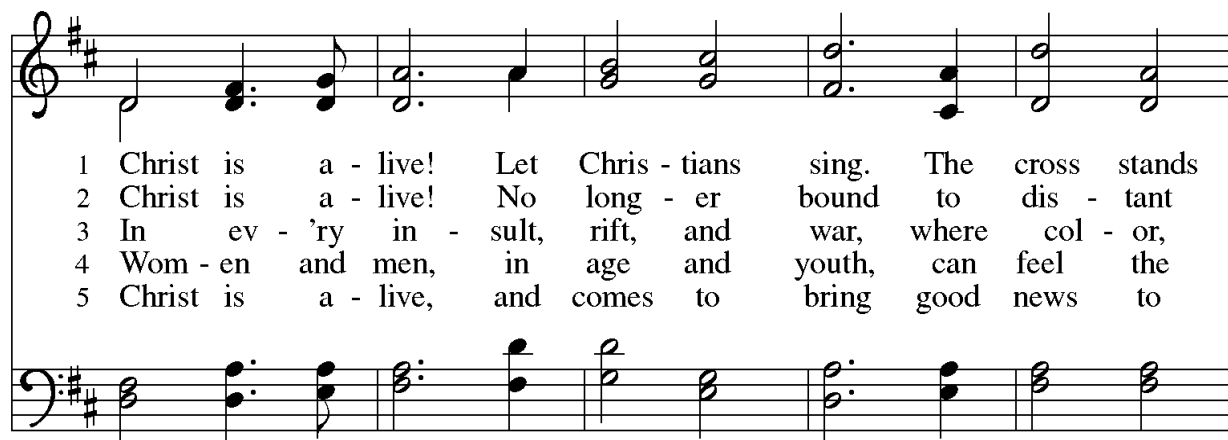
C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!



*GATHERING HYMN

ELW 389 (Verses 1, 2 & 4)

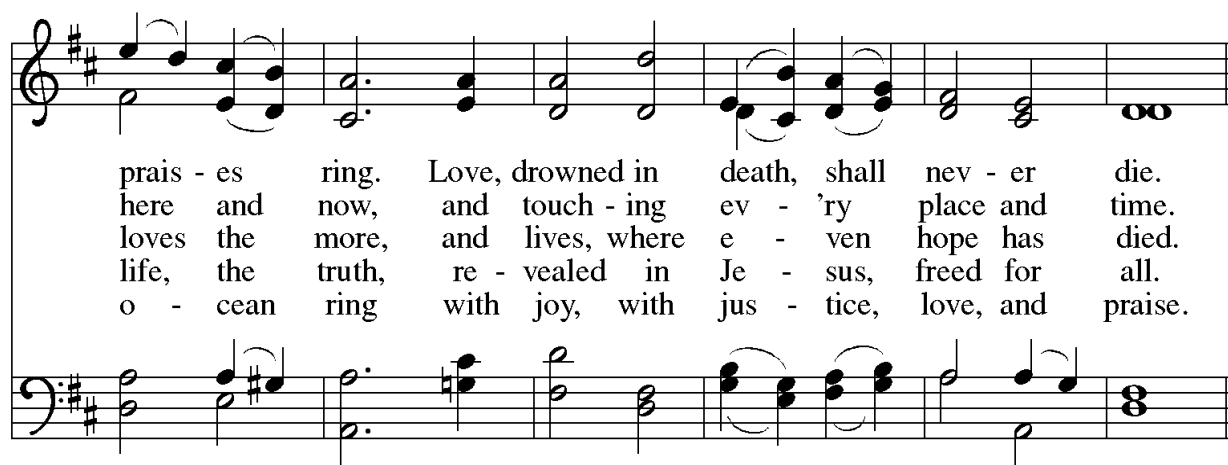
Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

A: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we give thanks for the Great Exchange,
the mercy and forgiveness that wrap
our true selves in sacred belonging and purpose.

(A: Water is poured into the font.)

P: For a word at the dawn of creation,
which spoke water and life into being.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

P: For the great flood that revealed nature's power
and God's commitment to life after death.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

P: For the river that carried Moses safely,
building a bridge between mothers and nations.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

P: We give thanks for the gift of Holy Baptism, which declares there are
no more godforsaken places, and nothing can separate us from
the love of God in Jesus who **+** forgives all our sins. For Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: God of life, we rejoice with the waters that cover creation;
our songs of praise echo their dancing tides and streams. Pour out your
Holy Spirit on this community and all of creation. Cleanse our fears.
Drown our divisions. Give us mercy and grace to drink so that our whole
lives are signs of death defeated and thirst quenched thanks to the risen
Jesus, the Son of God.

C: Amen.

*Adapted from Meta Herrick Carlson, *Speak it Plain: Words for Worship and Life Together* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2020)*

SONG OF PRAISE

ELW p. 140

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

² **Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;

for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵ **My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those
who persecute me.**

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.”

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and

“A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand, as you are able)

***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 14:1-14

P: The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and,

in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Rev. Christopher Drummond

(Please stand as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 810

O Jesus, I Have Promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

***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.**

(Please remain standing)

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

(response after: Merciful God.)

C: receive our prayer.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, 'Peace be with you'.

“LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH”

*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, siblings all are we
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow,
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*

(Please be seated)

OFFERING:

A: We worship through our tithes and offering. Now let us joyfully respond to God's goodness, through our personal giving.

It is only through your giving that the ministry and mission of Holy Spirit continues. Many people give electronically and we thank all growing disciples in advance for their generous giving. Offerings can also be dropped in the mailbox or mailed in.

*OFFERTORY

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart;
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart,

in my heart, in my heart,
 in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

+ TABLE +

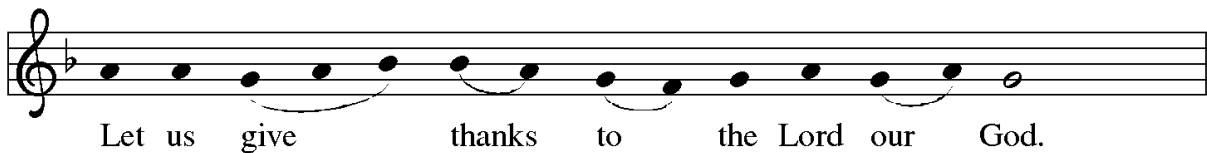
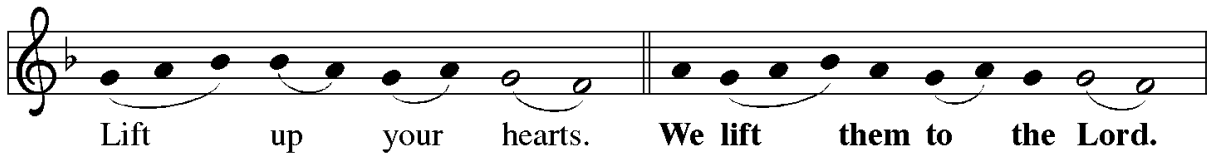
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

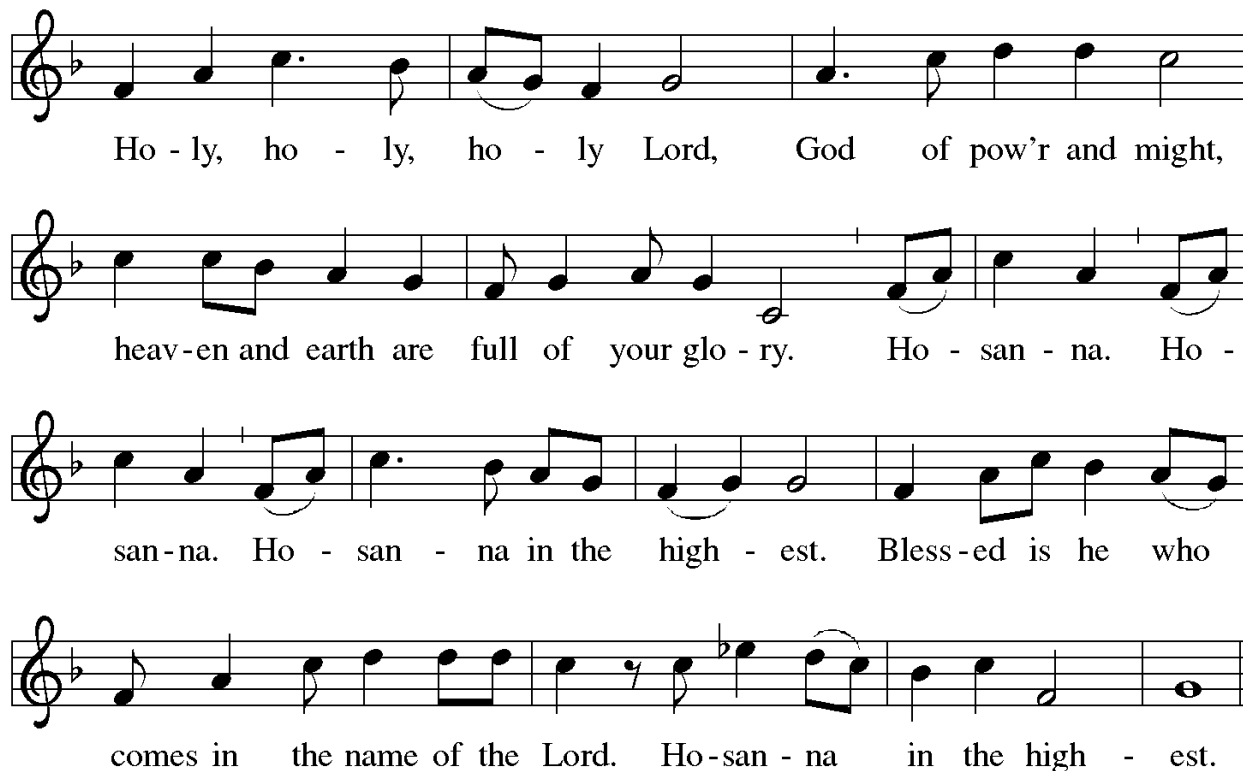
A: Merciful God,

accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

(Please stand as you are able.)

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. 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.

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. [...] Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life: reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Breathe ✝ new life into us.

C: Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

P: Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory and praise, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

P: Be what you see. See who you are, in Christ Jesus.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: These are the gifts of God for all of you—the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

In Holy Communion, we encounter the Real Presence of Jesus Christ as we reverently receive the consecrated bread and wine. Everyone is invited to receive this Sacrament—without exception; however, if you would prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest and the pastor will know to give you a blessing. Communion is received down the center aisle, and gluten free bread is available. Prepackaged communion cups are also available at the back of the church before the service begins. Please discard your cups on the way out. Thank you.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

(Please stand as you are able)

***P:** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ ✝ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Let us pray,
Holy One,

C: Through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

+ **SENDING** +

***FINAL BLESSING**

P: Please bow your heads. [...] And the blessing of our most-loving God: ✝ Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of life be with you this day and always.

C: **Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN

They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love

Peter Scholtes
arr. Michael Kravchuk

Presto

Choir

We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord, we are one in the Spir-it, we are
 We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand, we will walk with each oth-er, we will
 We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side, we will work with each oth-er, we will
 All_ praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Je-sus, His_

One in the Spir-it One in the Lord One in the Spir-it
 Walk with each oth-er Walk hand in hand Walk with each oth-er
 Work with each oth-er Work side by side Work with each oth-er
 Praise to the Fa-ther Whom all things come Praise to Christ Je-sus

7

one in the Lord, and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored: And they'll
 walk hand in hand, and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:___
 work side by side, and we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride:___
 on - ly___ Son, and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:___

One in the Lord Pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:___
 Walk hand in hand Geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:___
 Work side by side Guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride:___
 On - ly___ Son Praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:___

14

know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll

18

know we are Chris - tians by our love.

***DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Apr's Income: \$ 11,174 (Includes 75th Anniv. donations)

Apr's Expense: \$ 9,036 Average Attendance: 43

ALTAR FLOWERS are dedicated to the Glory of God in honor of the many May birthdays in our family by Bill and Cyndi Kline.

MINISTERS – ALL BAPTIZED PEOPLE OF GOD**Scheduled to serve 5/3**

Donna G. – Assisting Minister

Gary P. – Usher

Greg C. - Counter

Donna D. – Altar

Scheduled to serve 5/10

Greg C. – Assisting Minister

Alan S./Alan D. Ushers

Gary P./Volunteer - Counter

Donna D. - Altar

*******WEEKLY CALENDAR*******

Mon, May 4 6:30pm – Girl Scouts (Mtg Rm)

Wed, May 6 7:30pm - AA (Hall)

Thu, May 7 7:00pm – AA (Hall)

Sat, May 9 9:00am Tea Prep (Hall)

11:00am – DA (Mtg Rm)

1:00pm – Women's Tea (Hall)

Sun, May 10 10:15am–Worship Service

Coffee Hour

12:30am – Song of Praise

PASTOR DRUMMOND'S INSTALLATION SERVICE – Sunday, May 17. Service for this day will be at **3:00pm** with reception afterwards. **Please note there will be no service at 10:15 this day.**

*****PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS*****

Healing:

Annie Berner
 Eileen Maloney
 Lisa McDonough
 Hugh Mullarkey
 Lois Saunders
 Betty Lake
 Anne Rainsford
 Dolores Maurer
 Marie Schall
 Geralyn Gerakaris
 Joan & Harry Chaykun
 Nikki Miller
 Jack Bierling

Jackie Bernduer White
 Jackie Dewitt
 Maureen Colahan
 John Turner
 Lynn McGrane
 Sue Thomas
 Jean Cilurso
 Phyllis Horton
 Lou Vallies
 Linda Martin
 Bill McVian
 Suzie Thomas

(If you would like to add someone to the prayer list for May, please call the office)

Also please remember in your prayers homebound members: Ruth Dell'Orefice, Jane Croghan, Diane Kuhn, Hank Kuhn, Janet Kline, Dudley Henriques, Gerilyn Gerakaris, and Bob Kerns.

Men & women in our armed forces, firefighters, police officers and emergency services personnel.

Announcements and Upcoming Events



Saturday, May 9th at 1:00pm in the Social Hall.
 Sign-up sheet is on bulletin board outside office. Space is limited so make sure you sign-up.

PRE-K GRADUATION –Thursday, May 14th at 10:30am. Members are invited to attend and cheer our students.

COFFEE HOUR–May 10 after service sponsored by Bill and Cyndi Kline.

COUNCIL MEETING –Monday, May 11th at 7:00 in the hall.

NURSERY SCHOOL MTG – Tues, May 12th at 6:00pm in the mtg room – dinner meeting.

MEMORIAL DAY – May 25th Office Closed.

COUNTERS NEEDED – We are in need of one or two counters for the second week of the month. If you are able to volunteer for this, please call the office or speak to Gary P.

ALTAR FLOWERS - THANK YOU everyone who signed up to sponsor altar flowers throughout the year. 2026 Flower Chart is now on the bulletin board. Please take a dedication form when you sign up and return to office. **Flowers are \$20 per vase.**

BULLETIN COVERS –There is a sponsor sign-up sheet to sponsor special bulletin covers for **special occasions**. The cost is \$15.00. Please see sign-up sheet outside the office.

BOTTLE CAPS - Plastic caps of any sort are now being collected and shipped to a manufacturer to make Buddy Benches for schools so children can connect and share in friendship together. On behalf of those who will benefit from your donations, thank you.



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church and Nursery School
2545 Franklin Avenue, Secane, PA 19018
Office: 610-544-2707

OUR STAFF

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Pastor – The Rev. Christopher Drummond

Director of Music – Samuel Stevenson

Office Secretary – Jeanne Warner

Holy Spirit Nursery School

Pre-K Teacher – Nancy Harris

Teaching Assistant – Colleen Hall

Pre-School & MMO Teacher – Shelly Avila

Teaching Assistant – Michelle Brackin

GOSPEL MESSAGE

The words of today's gospel are most often heard during a funeral service. It is a popular choice of scripture for that occasion because the words provide wonderful assurance that the one who has died in Christ has now taken up residence in their heavenly home. The gospel begins by Jesus saying that he will prepare a place for each one of us. But as the text continues, we can see that our place is not an isolated room of our own in a giant heavenly mansion. Jesus' words are less about a place than a relationship: our relationship with Jesus and God the Father. They tell us that in Jesus we know all we need to know about God, and just as we can have a relationship with another human person, we can also have a relationship with God that will one day be as real and obvious as are our relationships with one another. The hope of one day being with Christ fully and forever is as real as the works we are called to do in his name today.

This text allows us the opportunity to contemplate what is ultimately unknowable, yet is also a central part of our faith: what heaven will be like.