

**FIFTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

**MAY 2, 2021
IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Missouri Synod



**703 W 3RD Street
Mercedes
Texas 78570
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**Immanuelmercedes
@gmail.com**

**Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor
956.463.1305
eweber10@aol.com**

Website:

lutheranmercedes.com

Sunday

9:00 AM

Worship Service

10:30 AM

**Adult Bible Class
Sunday School**

Holy Communion:

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

**[www.facebook.com/
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Website:

Misionemanuel.com

**Office Hrs, M-F
8 am to 12 pm
CCLI # 2585510**



**“I am the vine, you are the branches.
He who abides in Me, and I in him,
bears much fruit; for without Me you
can do nothing. ” John 15:5**

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 2, 2021

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

This week we celebrate Holy Communion. We teach that in the receiving of the Lord's Supper each person receives the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and desire to partake of Communion, please ask to speak with Pastor Weber or one of the elders prior to the service.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - Risen and ascended Lord, You are the vine, and I am the branches. Apart from You there is no life. By Baptism, You have grafted me into Your gracious life. Cause Your Word to abide in me and make me fruitful to the glory of Your Father, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - The images Jesus uses as He proclaims the kingdom of God often come from the world of agriculture. His parables are filled with plants and trees and birds and animals. Grapes, grapevines, and vineyards are all used as illustrations by Jesus as He teaches the people who are His

first hearers and us also. As people who have been grafted as branches into Christ the Vine through Holy Baptism, we seek ways to strengthen that connection as the Holy Spirit works in and through us. We now nourish our faith as branches in Christ's vineyard as we grow in Him by Word and Sacrament.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

PAGE 203

WELCOME

PRELUDE

(A quiet time for prayer and meditation)



OPENING HYMN

Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow

LSB 476



1 Who are you who walk in sor - row Down Em - ma - us'
 2 Who is this who joins our jour - ney, Walk - ing with us
 3 Who are You? Our hearts are o - pened In the break - ing



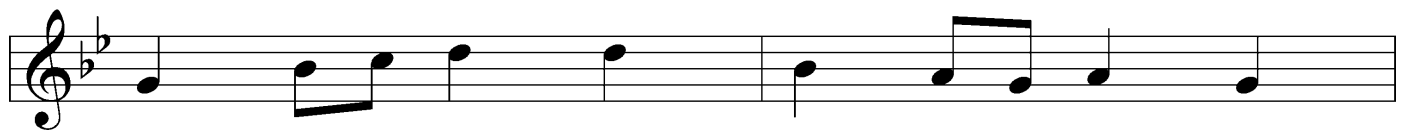
bar - ren road, Hearts dis - traught and hope de - feat - ed,
 stride by stride? Un - known Strang - er, can You fath - om
 of the bread— Christ the vic - tim, now the vic - tor



Bent be - neath grief's crush - ing load? Name - less mourn - ers,
 Depths of grief for one who died? Then the won - der!
 Liv - ing, ris - en from the dead! Great com - pan - ion



we will join you, We who al - so mourn our dead;
 When we told You How our dreams to dust have turned,
 on our jour - ney, Still sur - prise us with Your grace!



We have stood by graves un - yield - ing,
 Then You o - pened wide the Scrip - tures
 Make each day a new Em - ma - us;



Eat - en death's bare, bit - ter bread.
 Till our hearts with - in us burned.
 On our hearts Your im - age trace!

4 Who are we who travel with You
 On our way through life to death?
 Women, men, the young, the aging,

Wakened by the Spirit's breath!
At the font You claim and name us,
Born of water and the Word;
At the table still You feed us,
Host us as our risen Lord!

5 "Alleluia! Alleluia!"
Is the Easter hymn we sing!
Take our life, our joy, our worship
As the gift of love we bring.
You have formed us all one people
Called from ev'ry land and race.
Make the Church Your servant body,
Sent to share Your healing grace!

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Please stand

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.**

(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)

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

C **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 Christ, and by His authority, 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 Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT *Psalm 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16*

P “A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father.”

C I will extol You, my God, O King; and I will bless Your name forever and ever.

P Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever and ever.

C The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy.

P All Your works shall praise You, O Lord, and Your saints shall bless You.

C My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh shall bless His holy name forever and ever.

P “A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father.”

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

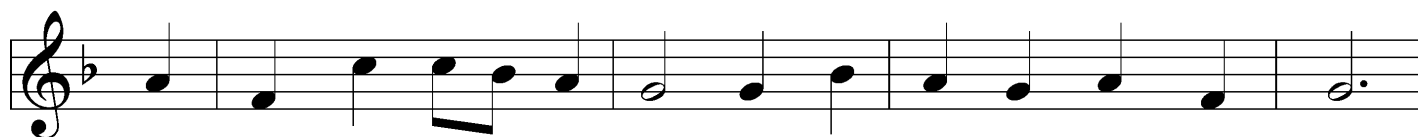
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with your spirit.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please sit

FIRST READING *Acts 8:26–40*

(Philip witnesses about Jesus to the Ethiopian official.)

26 Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, “Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is desert. 27 So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, 28 was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. 29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.”

30 So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 The place in the Scripture which he read was this:

“He was led as a sheep to the slaughter;
And as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
So He opened not His mouth.

33 In His humiliation His justice was taken away,
And who will declare His generation?
For His life is taken from the earth.”

34 So the eunuch answered Philip and said, “I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?” 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. 36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?”

37 Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.”

And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. 39 Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 150*

P Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty firmament!

C Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

P Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp!

C **Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!**

P Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals!

C **Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

EPISTLE *1 John 4:1-11*

(An exhortation to lives of Christian love)

1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5 They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. 6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through

Him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

P This is the Word of the Lord.


C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand


ALLELUIA and VERSE



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



These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

HOLY GOSPEL *John 15:1-8*

(Jesus says that He is the vine and His people are the branches.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You , O Lord.**

1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more₁₁

fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

All 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.

Please sit

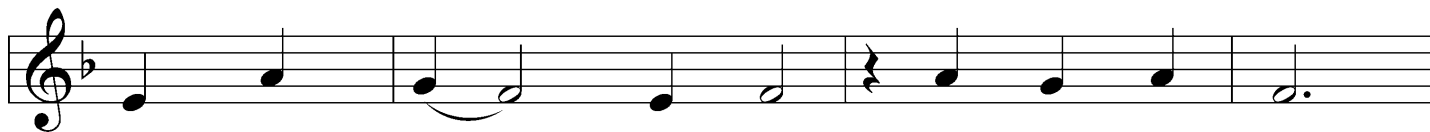
HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide

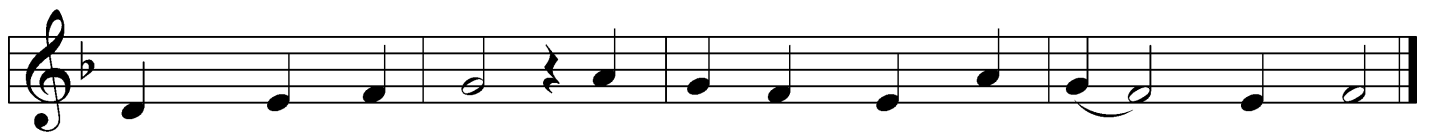
LSB 585



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, with us a - bide, For round us
 2 In these last days of great dis - tress Grant us, dear
 3 To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold Speak tongues of
 4 May glo - rious truths that we have heard, The bright sword



falls the e - ven - tide. O let Your Word,
 Lord, true stead - fast - ness That we keep pure
 fire and make us bold To shine Your Word
 of Your might - y Word, Spurn Sa - tan that



that sav - ing light, Shine forth un - dimmed in - to the night.
 till life is spent Your ho - ly Word and Sac - ra - ment.
 of sav - ing grace In - to each dark and love - less place.
 Your Church be strong, Bold, u - ni - fied in act and song.

5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
 That seeks to thrust Your truth aside
 Or with some man-made thoughts or things
 Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.

(Continued on next page) 13

6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;
Preserve our faith our whole life through—
Your Word alone our heart's defense,
The Church's glorious confidence.

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SERMON *"Remain in Jesus, the True Vine, the Source of all Forgiveness and Life"* (John 15:4)

OFFERING *(Please place your offering in the offering plate as you leave, thank you.)*

OFFERTORY *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* **LSB 955**




Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our



cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the



hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and



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Please stand

SHARING OF THE PEACE *“Peace be with you”* (John 20:21)
(Sharing through ASL (American Sign Language))

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil’s kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we

commend [names, and] all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

BLESSING ON THE SEED AND SOIL

P A custom in many agricultural areas around the world is to use one of the Sundays in the Easter season to ask God's blessing on the seed and the soil as a new cycle of sowing and growing begins.

On this day of special prayer, known as Rogation Sunday, we ask God's blessing on the seed that is planted, on the

soil that is cultivated, and on all those who labor in the fields of our land. Let us pray.

Almighty God, You bless the earth to make it fruitful, bringing forth in abundance whatever is needed for the support of our lives. Bless the seed and the soil that there may be growth and gracious abundance in the time of harvest. Prosper the work of farmers and all those who labor to bring food to our table. Grant them seasonable weather that they may gather in the fruits of the earth and proclaim Your goodness with thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C 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, Lord, our God, for You have graciously blessed us through the Word Incarnate, Jesus Christ, who has come in the flesh and for our sake died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death. Rejoicing in our Baptism, which creates faith in our hearts and daily renews us, we laud and magnify Your holy name. With joy, we join in the unending praise of the angels and archangels and all the company of heaven.

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and have showed Your gracious power to us through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You nourish us that we may grow in grace. Grant that we may receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood as we gather at His command. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

C 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

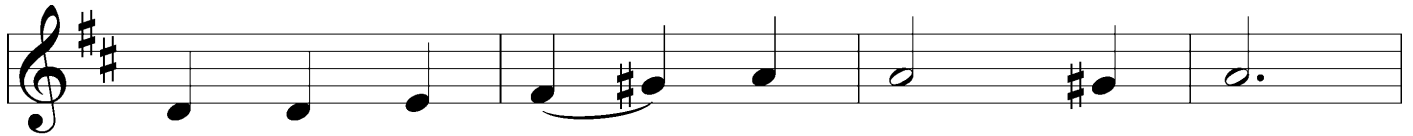
Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.



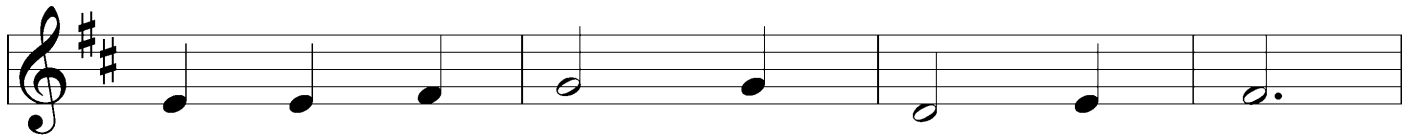
AGNUS DEI



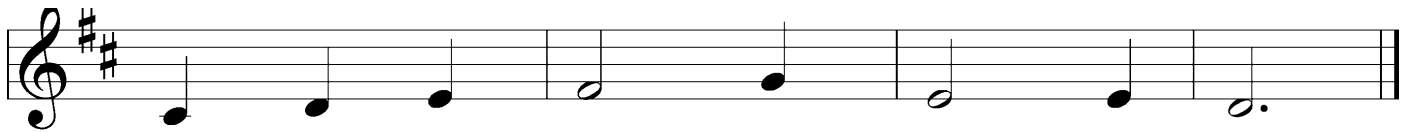
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Please sit

SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION



Please stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Holy Father, we ask You now, by this blessed food and drink, to deliver Your Church from every evil, to teach it to love You perfectly, and to make it truly one, even as this bread was made from many grains of wheat to become the carrier of the body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the wine was drawn from the fruitfulness of many grapes. Grant that we ever abide in the Word, Christ Himself, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

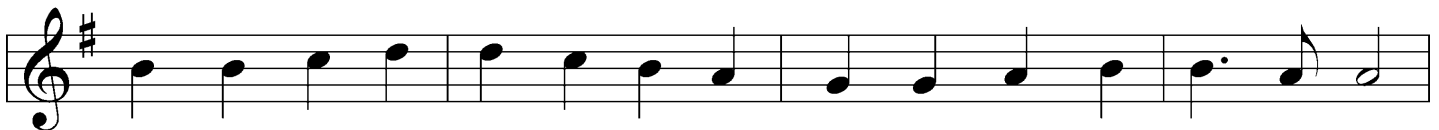
BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26

C Amen.

Please sit

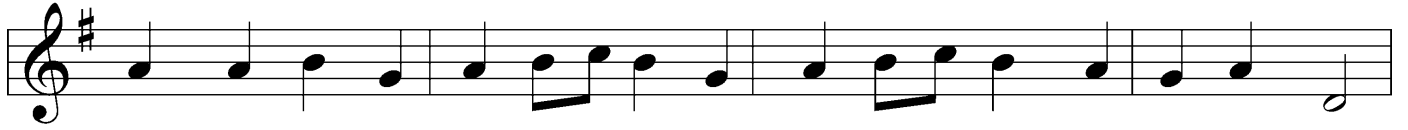
SENDING HYMN *Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven* **LSB 477**



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:
2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:
△ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
See the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic - tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—
Once He died, and once was bur - ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.
Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor - ship and a - dore.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE



Portals of Prayer for April to June 2021 are available
in the Narthrex or office.

Adult Bible Class/Sunday School
at 10:30 a.m.

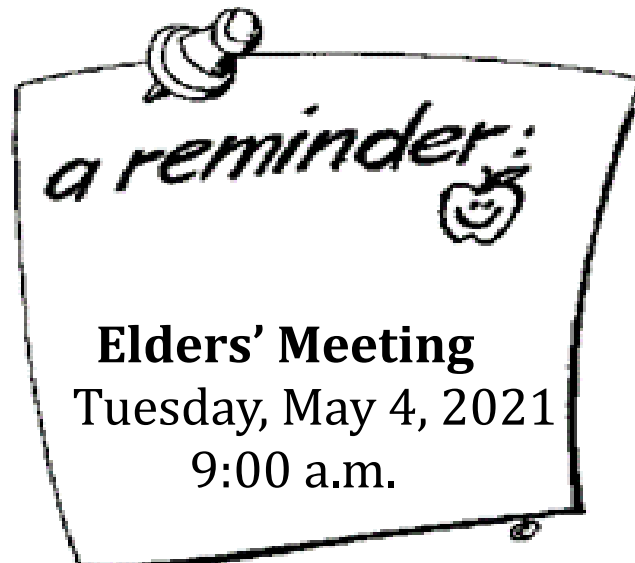
Tim Sorenson will be leading the class!

Memory Verse Challenge

The LCMS invites everyone to join together memorizing a verse
together each week.

This week's memory verse: John 1:4

"In him was life, and the life was the light of men. "





**Birthdays
Members**

- 2 J. T. Marchant
- 6 Harriet Eckrich
- 6 Tammy Sorenson
- 16 Dale Cross
- 20 Pat Herbsleb
- 20 Maggie Weber
- 22 Joe Winston
- 24 Robert Eilers

Winter Texans

- 8 Forrest Wixon
- 16 Don Boyd
- 22 Joseph Bleess
- 25 Dennis Zecher

Immanuel Lutheran School

- 24 Yarel Martinez

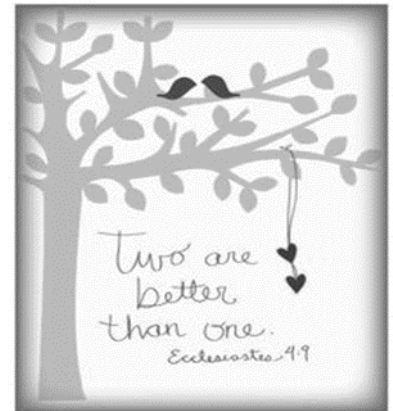


**Anniversaries
Members**

- 28 Bob & Evelyn Waters

Winter Texans

- 1 Terry & Carol Powers
- 11 John & JoAnne Schroeder
- 23 Lawrence & Verney Jorgenson



Jesus Christ Is the True Vine Who Bears Much Fruit in Us

“God is love,” and He has manifested Himself to us by sending “his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him” (1 John 4:9, 16). By the ministry of the Gospel, “he has given us of his Spirit,” so that we also believe and confess “that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh.” In this way, we “abide in him and he in us,” and we “love one another” (1 John 4:2, 7, 13). Such divine love is exemplified in Philip’s preaching of “the good news about Jesus” to the Ethiopian eunuch. And when “they came to some water,” the eunuch was baptized into the very Gospel that Philip had preached (Acts 8:35–38). That Ethiopian was thereby grafted into “the true vine,” Jesus Christ (John 15:1), just as we are. Already we are clean because of the Word that Christ has spoken to us and by the washing of water with His Word. We now abide in Him by faith in His forgiveness. As He abides in us, both body and soul, with His own body and His blood, He “bears much fruit” in us (John 15:3–5).

4/25/2021	<i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>												
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Sunday Worship</td> <td style="text-align: right;">21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plate:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Envelopes:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,280.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donation:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,280.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bible Class:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8 \$ 3.00</td> </tr> </table>	Sunday Worship	21	Plate:	\$ 0.00	Envelopes:	\$ 1,280.00	Donation:		Total:	\$ 1,280.00	Bible Class:	8 \$ 3.00	<i>Readings:</i> <i>Acts 10:34-48</i> <i>Psalm 98</i> <i>1 John 5:1-8</i> <i>John 15:9-17</i>
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Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule		
May Sunday Servants:		
Elder:	Joe Winston	
Altar Guild:	Billie Jo Neuhaus & M.aribel Perez	
Music:	Bonny Winston	
This Week	Fifth Sunday of Easter	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
Next Week	Sixth Sunday of Easter	
Usher:	Ken Eilers	
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am
26	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am