

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 14th, 2023

## Happy Mother's Day



# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1  
Church: 905-685-8294  
[www.christlutheransc.ca](http://www.christlutheransc.ca)

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**Office Hours:** Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon

**Bulletin Announcements:** Please send to [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca).

Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

<b>Pastor:</b>	Pastor Todd Hoeffs	(289-362-0113)	<a href="mailto:pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com">pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com</a>
<b>Parish Assistant:</b>	Louise Gondosch	(905-329-8579)	<a href="mailto:parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca">parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca</a>
<b>Business Manager:</b>	Karen McCumber		<a href="mailto:business.manager@christlutheransc.ca">business.manager@christlutheransc.ca</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Pat Kimpel		<a href="mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca">secretary@christlutheransc.ca</a>
<b>Facebook:</b>	Lisa Gall		<a href="http://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC">www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC</a>
<b>Bulletin by email:</b>	Judy Mason		<a href="mailto:chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca">chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca</a>

A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube at:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING\\_TKT19c\\_OIBbMqGwLw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING_TKT19c_OIBbMqGwLw)

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**Prayer:** Lord, because You have promised to give what we ask in the name of Your only-begotten Son, teach us rightly to pray and with all Your saints to offer You our adoration and praise; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:**

Monday: Mark 1: 35-39	Wednesday: 1 Tim. 2: 1-8	Friday: Col. 3: 1-4
Tuesday: Col. 4: 2-6	Thursday: Acts 1: 1-11	Saturday: Luke 18: 1-8a

**Musicians:** 10 a.m. – The Band  
**Reader:** 10 a.m. – Don Fretz  
**Greeters:** 10 a.m. – Judy Slingerland

**EVENTS THIS WEEK:**

Today: 9:00 a.m. – Sunday School  
 NO Confirmation Class unit May 28  
 10:00 am – Worship Service with Communion  
 11:00 am – Mother & Mentor Mothers Coffee Time

Monday: 7:30 p.m. – Choir

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. – Precious Moments  
 7:00 p.m. – Mary Martha Meeting (Sewing for Haiti)

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – SOUL  
 7:15 p.m. – Women's Bible Study at Kuenzel's

**OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES** to John & Louise Gondosch & family on the passing of John's sister Kathy who has now gone to be with the Lord. God was so gracious in allowing the whole family to be there together with her beforehand. Thank you for continued prayers for John, his siblings & especially Kathy's husband Barry & son Jimmy.

**REMINDER TO THOSE WHO GET EARLY BULLETINS: YOUTH/CONFIRMANDS:**

We will be gathering **Friday, May 12 from 7-9 p.m. at the church** for a fun night & prepping for Sundays Coffee Time. See you there!



**MOTHER'S DAY COFFEE TIME AFTER SERVICE:**

In honour of 'Mothers & Mentor Mothers', we are having a special coffee time sponsored by our Youth following the service this morning. We look forward to fellowshiping together with all our family. Everyone is welcome!  
*"A woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."*

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Please feel free to join us this **Thursday, May 18, 7:15 p.m.** at the Kuenzel's as we continue our study of Romans. Remember to bring your Bible!

**PRECIOUS MOMENTS:** If you or someone you know would benefit from friendly conversation, a time for kids to play & sing; hear a Bible story and make a craft - please join us Tuesdays in the nursery area from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Coffee and tea are always on.



# Saturday, June 3

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

In conjunction with the Fitzgerald Neighbourhood Yard sale

**WE NEED HELP FROM AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE!**

*Here are some of the ways:*

1. **May 31-June 2** – We need people to help sort through, organize, and price items that have been donated. You may also bring in additional items for sale.
2. **Bake** some treats for the sale (cookies, squares, muffins) –anything wrapped individually or in small portions - bring them the morning of June 3 - already priced please!
3. **Plants** If you have any plants that you could pot and add to our plant sale
4. **Set-Up** - Come early on that Saturday morning *Especialy men-* we would sure appreciate your help carrying the tables and boxes. **We will likely start setting up about 7:45 a.m.**
5. **Man a Table** - We will need 2 or 3 volunteers at each table.
6. **Clean-Up** - Helpers to pack up and clean up afterwards
7. **HELP US ADVERTISE!!** mark your calendars, save the date --- Tell your friends and neighbours, spread the word as much as you can, put a notice in your apartment building, post about it on your Facebook page, any other way you can think of.



Please let Carole ([carolepink121@gmail.com](mailto:carolepink121@gmail.com)) or Lorraine ([lk\\_notl@yahoo.com](mailto:lk_notl@yahoo.com)) or any of our Mary/Martha LWML ladies know if you plan to come and help and what you might be willing to do.



## FREE FAMILY DAY BOWLING:

**Saturday, June 3, 2 - 4 p.m.**

106 Main Street, Port Dalhousie

There is no cost for the bowling and we look forward to a wonderful afternoon together

Please sign up in the Narthex  
(or email: [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca))  
by Sunday, May 28th

(Our next event is **\*\*Family Mini Putt**—Saturday, Sept. 9th)

**“THANK YOU” LUNCH for PASTOR JOHN: Sunday, June 4** after service. Meat and buns will be supplied. A sign-up sheet is at the back of the church for you to sign if you are able to attend so we know approx. how many people will be here and if you would like to bring a salad or dessert. Thank you! *Sponsored by the Fellowship Committee.*

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN** is important to all of us. We are looking for people to help "team teach" our Sunday school children this year; September - December; January - June. If you are excited to share God's Word to inquisitive minds we invite you to speak with our Parish Education Chairman Brandon Kemp or Louise.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: July 17 – 21, 9:00 am - 12 noon.** Only 2 months away!  
We are looking for volunteers to help "*shine Jesus light*" to children attending our VBS  
Whether you can help out 2 or 5 days, your support might be just what one of these children needs.  
Registration forms and Volunteer forms are available in the narthex.

**MARY MARTHA: *The following is our Mary Martha Schedule:*** feel free to attend any or all of our Tuesday night events!

**Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> –7 p.m.** – Bible Study—Sewing for Haiti

Devotion and Mission project work night. Please come out and help us cut out patterns (bring good cutting scissors, if you have them) and sew (we have some sewing machines at the church or you can bring your own) or assemble kits. There will be a basket for donations of packages of underwear (s, m, l) in the narthex. We will be preparing sanitary napkin kits for shipment to young girls and women where it is most needed through the Warehouse of Hope. Unfortunately, due to the unrest and insecurity in Haiti, at this time, we are unable to ship there. However, there is still a great need for them in other places.

**Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> – Potluck**



CAVE SPRING

VINEYARD

## WINE TASTING

### Wine and Food Adventure

\$40.00 each + tax

Saturday, May 27th at 1:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Fellowship Committee

Please see Tim, Marge or Judy Mason for tickets!!



## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

PICNIC 2023

Sunday, June 25, 11:00 am  
Burgoyne Woods, Section "C"

(11:00 am Service at the Church for those unable to attend the Picnic)

**Activities:** Games, Fun and Action for all

**Food:** Hamburgers, hotdogs and pop provided.

**Necessities to Bring:** Lawn Chairs, salads, dessert, plate & utensils

If you plan to attend, please contact: [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca)  
with number attending and preferences for hotdogs/hamburgers

**Last Sunday Attendance: May 7th, 2023 Attn: 10 a.m. – 82 SOUL:**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Weekly Need</u>	<u>Last Sunday</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>+ or – (--)</u>
Current:	297,841.00	5,840.02	2,332.00	85,939.81	(22,886.71)
LCC Missions	17,000.00	333.33	230.00	5,976.50	(235.04)
Property Improvement:			199.00	2,345.50	

**EFT Donations:** Beginning June 1, Christ Lutheran will assume responsibility for processing monthly Electronic Fund Transfer donations from Lutheran East District. If you are a current EFT donor, you will receive paperwork (please check your CLC mailslot). If you have ever considered making your donations via EFT, forms and instructions are available on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Your new contact for EFT service will be Karen McCumber.

**FLOWERS** have been placed on the altar this morning to the glory of God by James & Wendy Hyatt in loving memory of their mothers.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all my friends at Christ for your cards, Flowers, food and the beautiful Afghan made by ladies who donated their time on this project. Most of all thank you for your prayers, they meant the world to me. Love Ivy

**GREETERS:** A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board and we would ask that anyone who is interested in assisting for the coming year to please sign up. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know everyone in the congregation.

**HELP URGENTLY NEEDED** – The Worship Committee is urgently seeking four (4) volunteers to assist with the preparation of the weekly PowerPoint. Frequency of PowerPoint preparation would be on a rotating basis and dependent upon the number of helpers. PLEASE give prayerful consideration to serving our Lord in this capacity. For more information, please speak to either Kathy Kuhl, Judy Slingerland or Pastor Todd.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?** We are setting up a schedule to take meals to Eduardo and Daniela to help them out during Daniela's very challenging recovery from surgery. (*along with having a new baby*). If you would be interested in helping with a meal, please speak to, or email Carole ([carolepink121@gmail.com](mailto:carolepink121@gmail.com)) Thanks :)

**SOUL** is in need of nail polish. If you have any bottles that didn't suit you, are older, or nearly empty, we would appreciate them for an upcoming craft project on May 11th. Feel free to reach out to Jenn Hoeffs. Any donations can be placed in our mailbox or Pastor's office.



**Please Note—Granny Squares needed:**

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! The response has been overwhelming and extremely heartwarming that there have been so many Granny squares contributed. We have already completed 2 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> is almost finished. However, since this is an ongoing project we will gratefully accept more completed 6 inch knitted or crocheted Granny Squares in any pattern or colour. We would also appreciate any yarn that you may have, leftover yarn or full balls of yarn. In the narthex there is a white cube with yarn and hooks that you are welcome to take (or donate). There is another basket for completed squares. Once there are enough, we will make a Caring Squares blanket for whoever may be in need of a hug. On behalf of the Caring Squares, if you have any questions, call Lorraine at 905 964 5837)

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**HOLY COMMUNION**  
*Lutheran Service Book Setting One*  
**THE 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**May 14, 2023 + 10 AM Worship**

**FIRST HYMN:           *"I Know My Redeemer Lives"***

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.

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:**

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.   **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful  
and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all           unrighteousness.**

*[Brief silence for reflection]*

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:

**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 neighbours 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.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake, forgives you all of your sin. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**


**SPOKEN KYRIE:**

**Risen Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, hear us and give us Your peace. Amen.**


**THIS IS THE FEAST**

(LSB Page 155)


*Refrain*



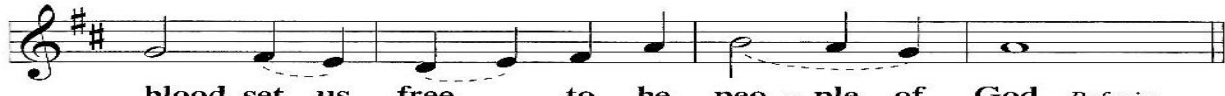
© This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.




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




1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



*Final Refrain*  
 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:**

Almighty and merciful God, You send Your Holy Spirit to be  
 the light and life of all Your  
 people. Open our hearts to receive his riches, so that we  
 may produce the fruit of the  
 Spirit in love and joy and peace. We ask this through  
 Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE WORD

### **The Old Testament:**        *Deuteronomy 6:4-16*

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all Your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. When the Lord your God has brought you into the land that he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—a land with fine, large cities that you did not build, houses filled with all sorts of goods that you did not fill, hewn cisterns that you did not hew, vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant—and when you have eaten your fill, take care that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. The Lord your God you shall fear; him you shall serve, and by his name alone you shall swear. Do not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who are all around you, because the Lord your God, who is present with you, is a jealous God. The anger of the Lord your God would be kindled against you and he would destroy you from the face of the earth. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

### **The Epistle:**                *Galatians 5: 13-16, 22-25*

[St. Paul writes:] For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.... Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh...By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **CHOIR ANTHEM:**                *“Wonderful, Merciful Savior”*

Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend;  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?  
Oh, ---- You rescue the souls of men. Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,  
Spirit we long to embrace; You offer hope when our hearts  
have hopelessly lost the way; Oh, ---- we hopelessly lost the way. Chorus:  
You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore.  
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,  
Oh, ---- our hearts always hunger for.  
Almighty, infinite Father, Faithfully loving Your own;  
Here in our weakness You find us Falling before Your throne;  
Oh, ---- we’re falling before Your throne: Chorus: Sung 2x  
You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore.  
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,  
Oh, ---- our hearts always hunger for. Oh, ----(repeat)  
You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore,  
You are the One that our hearts always hunger for. “Oo”-----



## SPOKEN ALLELUIA AND SCRIPTURE VERSE:

Alleluia! Jesus said to the people, "My mother and brothers and sisters are those who hear the Word of God and treasure it." Alleluia!

## The Holy Gospel: St. John 15: 15-21

The Holy Gospel, according to Saint John, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter:

### Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus says]: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them." This is the Gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to You, O Christ.

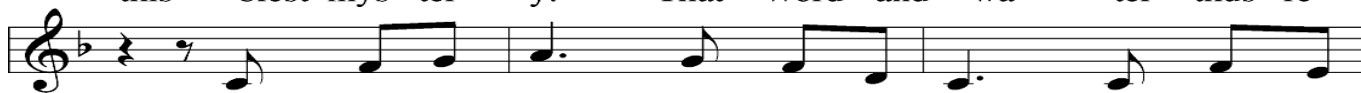
**THE NICENE CREED:** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, 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 worshipped 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.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### GOSPEL SONG: "Blessed Spring"



in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to  
faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing  
heav - y har - vest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will  
last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take  
this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -



1 O bless - ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us  
2 Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, Un - cer - tain  
3 When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their  
4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, We breathe our  
5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for

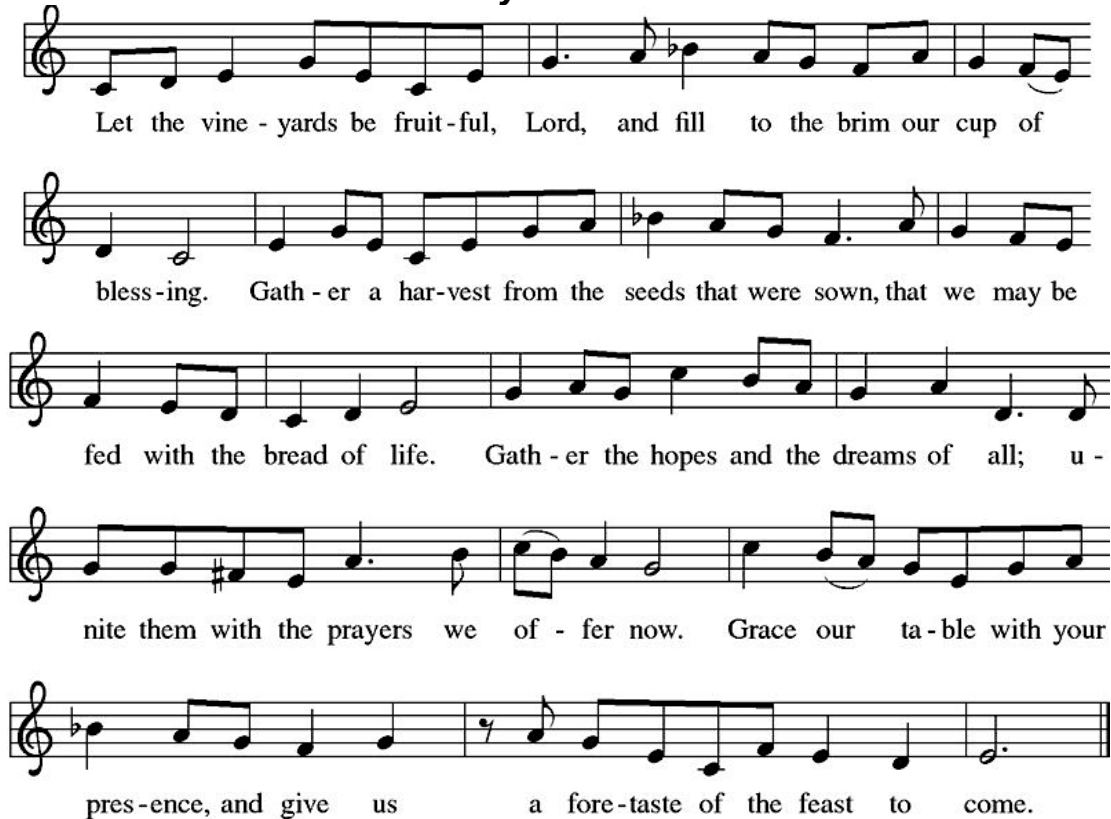


be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.  
rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.  
move With gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.  
wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.  
vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

## MESSAGE

### OFFERTORY:

#### **“Let The Vineyards”**



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 give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

[https://images.slideplayer.com/29/9491194/slides/slide\\_49.jpg](https://images.slideplayer.com/29/9491194/slides/slide_49.jpg)

**OFFERINGS** are received.

### **THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*Jesus promises that we are not left as orphans, but that he comes with his Father through his Spirit to make his home with us. Let us pray that God bless our homes with his healing presence.* Heavenly Father: thank you for the wonderful blessings you have given us, including our earthly families, and our spiritual family, the church. Bless your church in all places that it may be like a mother to all who seek God's help.

We pray, Risen Lord: **hear our prayer and answer us. Alleluia!**

Thank you for giving us your word and sacraments, and sending the Holy Spirit to us by these means. Grant that the Spirit would strengthen our faith and our sharing of it. Bless all pastors, teachers and church workers to faithfully teach and serve. Grant that their service would bear much fruit for you, and help all of those who hear your word believe.

We pray, Risen Lord: **hear our prayer and answer us. Alleluia!**

Bless and strengthen all mothers, sisters, grandmothers, aunts, nieces and all women who nurture and offer mothering comfort to others in need. Especially be the help to those who watch over children. May they remain firm in their faith and please keep them safe and secure.

We pray, Risen Lord: **hear our prayer and answer us. Alleluia!**

Comfort and provide for all those who are orphaned, and lead them to know you as their Heavenly Father. Help children who have been separated from their families, especially those who are in refugee camps and do not know if other family members are alive or of their whereabouts. Give them the support they need. Thank you for the work of CLWR as they share your love and word with struggling

people around the world. Please bless them with all that they need to be fruitful in their work of bringing your help and compassion to those who are hurting.

Risen Lord: **hear our prayer and answer us. Alleluia!**

Meet the needs of those who are sick, dealing with medical testing, chronic ailments, facing surgery or recovering from surgery. In particular we pray for *(insert names here)* and others whom we now name in our hearts...

Risen Lord: **hear our prayer and answer us. Alleluia!**

God of new life, you provide us with the care and nurture we need to grow as your newborn children. May your Son Jesus Christ come to us, so that in him we may live together with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT

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 Him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good, right and joyful that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God: but chiefly are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb, Who was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By His death He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He has restored to us everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and all the company of Heaven, we praise Your glorious name and join their un-ending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(LSB Page 161)

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.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER: *Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name....***

## WORDS OF OUR LORD:

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying: "Take, eat; This is My + Body which is given for you, this do, in remembrance of Me. 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, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**LAMB OF GOD***LSB tune # 163*

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.

**THE COMMUNION:***Christ, We Adore"**[Tune: Abide With Me]*

Christ, we adore, O hidden Saviour, blest,  
 Who in Your Sacrament are pleased to rest;  
 All flesh and spirit in Your presence fail,  
 Yet here Your presence we devoutly hail.

In this memorial of Your death, O Lord,  
 Such does Your Body and Your Blood  
 afford:

O may our souls feed upon You now,  
 So we, by faith, in humble worship bow.

How, like the pelican will feed her brood,  
 Did pierce Yourself to give us living food;  
 Your Blood, O Lord, one drop has pow'r to  
 win  
 Forgiveness for our world and all its sin.

Fountain of goodness, Jesus,  
 Lord and God: Cleanse us, unclean,  
 with Your most cleansing blood;  
 Increase our faith and love,  
 that we may know  
 The hope and peace which from  
 Your presence flow.

O Christ, Whom now beneath a veil we see,  
 May what we thirst for soon our portion be:  
 To gaze, unveiled and see You face to face,  
 The vision of Your glory, and Your grace.

*Words: Thomas Aquinas, Trans. James Russell Woodford (1850) Music: Abide With Me*

*"How Great Thou Art"*

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
 consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
 I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
 Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

**Chorus:** *Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
 How great thou art! How great thou art!  
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
 How great thou art! How great thou art!*

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
 Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
 That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
 He bled and died to take away my sin.

## Chorus

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then \*I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, My God, how great thou art!

## Chorus

Words – Stuart K. Hine, 1899 - 1989: Music:  
folk melody, adapted by Stuart K. Hine  
[http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/h/o/w/g/how\\_great\\_Thou\\_art.htm](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/h/o/w/g/how_great_Thou_art.htm)

### “Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”

[Ash Grove]

Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con -  
fess - ing, The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take  
leave. The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex -  
tend - ed The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be -  
lieve. The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls  
reach - ing, Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for  
all. His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u -  
nite us To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.

With praise and thanks-giving, to God ev-er-liv-ing,  
the tasks of our ev'ry-day life we will face;  
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er-car-ing,  
em-bracing His chil-dren of each tribe and race!  
With Your Feast You feed us, with Your life now lead us,  
Un-ite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the liv-ing, with praise and thanks-giving,  
give hon-our to Christ and His name that we bear!

Words: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997 © 1964 World Library Pub.; Music: Welsh, THE ASH GROVE, used with limited use permission, © 1972 Inter-Lutheran Commission on worship, All God's People Sing Children's Hymnal, CPH, 1982, St. Louis, MO USA

**POST COMMUNION HYMN:**                      **"Thank The Lord"**                      (LSB Page 164)

☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.

He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Let us pray: Almighty God, Who has given Your Son, Jesus Christ, as a Sacrifice for sin and the True Example of a godly life, give us grace that as we have received Him in the Holy Communion Feast we may daily abide in Him, hearing and believing His Holy Word and living out our days in peace and joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.                      **Amen.**

**BENEDICTION:**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, + and give you peace.                      **Amen.**

LAST HYMN:

“Lord Of All Hopefulness”



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:  
Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,  
Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
Be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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<https://www.gracelutheranracine.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/738-Lord-of-All-Hopefulness.pdf>

**REV. TODD HOEFFS**  
**EASTER 6 / Mom's Day**  
**Deuteronomy 4:4-6**  
**"Teach Your Children Well"**  
**May 14, 2023**

Did any of you ever work at a job Where the break-room area for eating your lunch Had those big signs CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF, YOUR MOTHER DOES NOT WORK HERE! While it's not deserved, because women have so many roles suited to their talents, Yet mothers are often left to clean up many family messes.

Mothers, fathers and all caregivers are supposed to serve their loved ones, Protect them, love them and care for them. Not all parental people are loving. This is why God gives us His Son Jesus, Who is the personification of pure love. God is the only One Who can love us as we need to be – Unconditionally, sacrificially and eternally. This is because humans are not capable of loving consistently Apart from God. There are other forms of love in the everyday world, But the love God has for us Inspires us to love others as we are loved. Love is important. The word "love" is mentioned over 700 times in English language Bibles. Love moved our God to create the world and all that is in it.

Love moved Him to create people in His image. Love inspired Him to lift up His people from the depths of sin By bringing about a Saviour to make right all that humanity made wrong. Until that time arrived, God worked through His children to pave the way for the Saviour. He expected people to love each other and live fairly, justly and kindly. The 10 Commandments, A word of corrective command and a word of promise, A law to condemn sin and grace that there be hope to live under them.

God always knew people could not live up to the 10 Commandments. There is no salvation in trying either. As sinful people, we break all of God's Word all of the time; As saved people in Christ, we keep all of God's Word all of the time. When Moses wrote Deuteronomy, the world was still almost 2,000 years away From receiving their Saviour Jesus. Yet, the wonderful teaching given believers must be held in prominence. Called the Shema, the teaching about "Loving the Lord Your God" Makes up prayers and poems recited daily. Shema is Hebrew for listen: Moses is preparing the next generation of Israel to enter the Promised Land. A land where they may live and worship and enjoy life as God's children – Always remembering that His love is all they need to enjoy peace. This happens because loving God involves heart, body, mind and soul. Every movement of your day involves gratitude toward a Loving God. Sadly, over time, priests and scribes of Israel's religious leaders added law after law, so that by Jesus' lifetime, tradition had it that there were 613 legal rules. Not that they had worked so well. Israel and its rulers behaved so badly that the Exile into captivity by foreign invaders overtook them. Rigid interpretation and enforcement of law became an important mechanism for the Jewish theological elite to maintain power. By the time Jesus lives on earth, the original belief in Deuteronomy became ensconced in rigid tradition and working your way at making God happy. Jesus dismantles all of the legalism and focuses on the GREATEST COMMAND, The shema,



Listen, Love the Lord Your God And love your neighbour as yourself. They didn't get any of the law right, so focus on this. The greatest And hardest part.

2,000 years later, we still aren't getting this right. Love your neighbour is one of the hardest things about our faith. Whether we like to admit it or not, we constantly fail at loving. I once had a younger Lutheran pastor say, "Why talk so much about love in sermons; the world has so abused the idea of love." What a strange mentality. If we left out everything the world messed up there'd be little more to say than AMEN. Simply because GOD says love is important, We love. AGAPE love is used here. This is God's Love for us in Christ; It's the way mother and parents and spouses love each other.

Agape love looks beyond the self and personal needs

And seeks the best outcome of the other person. It's unconditional and selfless. Jesus tells his disciples the night of His betrayal and arrest to LOVE one another. We usually want to love this way. It's hard to do when its inconvenient. Like the times a person approaches me and says: "Any spare change? I need some food or a bus ticket." How should I love this neighbor of mine? Give him the money as requested? Buy him a bus ticket? Tell him "no." Question him to see if he's telling the truth? Attempt to find out what his bigger problems might be – like why he has no money or family or friends to help him out? And what about the monetary needs and obligations that I already have? I have lots of neighbours to love. We all do. Loving your neighbor in the best way is not always easy to determine. We certainly can't meet all our neighbour's needs. But that doesn't mean we ignore or justify why we don't need to really love anyone. There are many needs we can meet.

*"Do this and you will live,"* says Moses and Jesus. Love God, love your neighbour as yourself. That's living. We often think that living is about accomplishments, or seeing the world, or finding pleasure. "A good living," is a job, money and things to do. True living according to Jesus, is loving your neighbour. Jesus' agape type of love is the basis of trust. Why would I want to be a believer in Jesus without trusting in Him? Why choose a life of anxiety when you can live in trust? Love and faith and trust are all connected. You and I receive agape LOVE from the Father because we can only give away what we've received. We get love, we give love.

We get Christ, we give Christ away. We are baptized into Jesus' life and death, We live out His life and death daily As the sinner in us dies and the new person lives and loves. Love is risky and vulnerable. It's taking a chance at being rejected or isolated. It's easier to be angry or hateful or resentful, Which only creates stress, anxiety, bitterness and cruelty – all so unloving traits. We are not called to be dismissive but devoted. We are not called to be oblivious but observant – of needs and how we may alleviate the pressures and hurts of someone else. We are all finding it increasingly difficult to love our neighbours. We are exhausted by trying to get to know and reach out to people. There is a loss of empathy due to all kinds of burn out. Misery loves company as the saying goes. When we stay together, We are stronger. The weaker members of the Body of Christ Can be assisted and strengthened by the stronger members. We feel safe and secure when we spend time with those who share the same concerns. Together, we can love and help and solve problems collectively.

In here we have well-being, fellowship and purpose. As we come together in this faith community, we leave behind fear and selfishness and love each other and the Spirit's work. Agape Love is an action word. Agape love is Jesus outstretched on Calvary's cross, dying, offering His own life as the lost loving sacrifice that not only blankets us in love, but carries us into daily life filled with His love. When you're encountering situations where you know you will be stressed, or tired, or tempted to lash out, we pray that our God's Spirit will empty of what harms us and fill us up with Jesus. Love begins with God's Love, moves us to love Him by loving others as we love ourselves. If we can love our own selves, we can love other people. Loving self is not being # 1 important in life. We love ourselves best by loving others. Our identity is set as baptized siblings of Jesus. We can't love the God we don't see while hating the neighbour we do see. Christian faith is never separated from caring for people. Christianity without people becomes a dusty, museum like club. We love a God Who is flesh and blood real, Whom we eat and drink in real time, with real presence, with real love to fill us up.

When we encounter the living Lord in here, We will also encounter Him out there among His creation. We may also have this in view when we greet women and mothers and guardians and all those who mother other people,  
And by God's Loving will, Teach all children well.  
Amen.