



APOSTLES LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE REVEREND JAY SERAFIN

7092 Main Street, Gloucester, VA 23061

(804) 693-9098 | apostles-elca.org | facebook.com/ApostlesELCA



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025 | 10:00 AM

Our Mission is to be a Caring Inclusive Christian Community responding to God's grace through Worship, Service, and Sharing the Gospel.



RECONCILING *in* CHRIST



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

WELCOME TO APOSTLES LUTHERAN CHURCH!

It is an honor to worship God with you this morning. We pray you experience the Spirit's loving presence as we share our words, our actions, and the Holy Meal.

If this is your first time worshipping with us, please fill out a card in the pew rack with your contact info. A restroom can be found by exiting the rear door of the worship space. It is directly in front of you to the right. Additional restrooms can be found in the back corner of the fellowship area, near the Pastor's office.

RECONCILING *in* CHRIST

We, the people of Apostles Lutheran Church, follow Paul's message to the Galatians (3:28): "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Believing that because we are all one in Christ, and created in God's image, all are welcome as beloved children of God. We welcome into the full life of the church all those whom God sends us. **Rejoicing in God's amazing diversity, we welcome people of all ages, races, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, and physical and mental abilities.** Centered in Christ, we commit ourselves to racial equity, breaking down dividing walls and building a community where all are beloved.

FOR PASTORAL CARE

The Reverend Jay Serafin is our pastor. Pastor Jay's **schedule is noted in the calendar on the back of this bulletin.** Call Pastor Jay at 570-205-7506 or email him at j80j84@msn.com (preferred) or pastor.apostles@gmail.com. Messages can also be left on the Apostles answering machine 804-693-9098.

PRAYGROUND

Welcome to our youngest members! The area in the front of our sanctuary is for families and young children. There are quiet toys, books and drawing materials. **We ask two things: 1) sit in the front pews near your children and 2) please sit with your children in the pews during the sermon.** They may return immediately after. Thank you and welcome!

NAME TAGS

Please wear your nametag! Guests: please fill out and put on a name tag before worship today. Blank nametags are in the baskets located in the pews.

GATHERING

The disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus. Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

PRELUDE AND SILENT PRAYER

*Martin Luther said of music: "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." Please take a moment to **silence all cell phones**.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please rise in body or in spirit. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #364

"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia"



M - fu - ra - hi - ni, ha - le - lu - ya,
 1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.



m - ko - mbo - zi a - me - fu - fu - ka.
 Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.



A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,
 For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.



m - si - fu - ni sa - sa yu ha - i.
 e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 and in its con - quest his might did show.
 On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

Refrain



Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha.
 Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.



Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.
 Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;
 Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.
 Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922
 Music: MFURAHINI, HALELUYA, Tanzanian traditional
 Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress
 Tr. © 1977 Howard S. Olson, admin. Augsburg Fortress

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

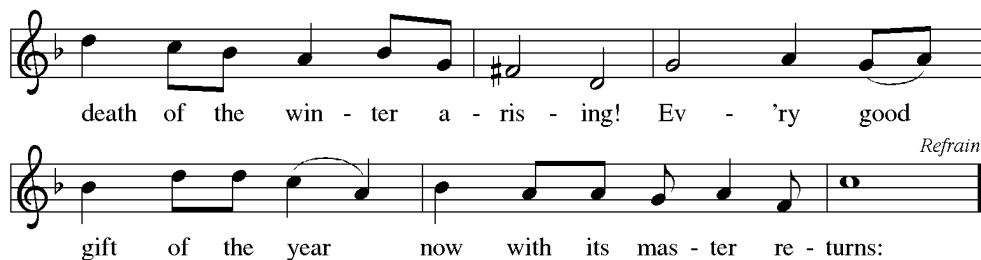
ELW #394

Hail Thee Festival Day, Verse 1

Refrain

Hail thee, fes - ti-val day! Blest day to be hal-lowed for - ev - er;
 day when our Lord was raised, break-ing the king - dom of death.

Easter 1 All the fair beau - ty of earth from the



Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, 530–609; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: SALVE FESTA DIES, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Sit

FIRST READING

ACTS 9:1-6 [7-20]

Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵ He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” [⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no

one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

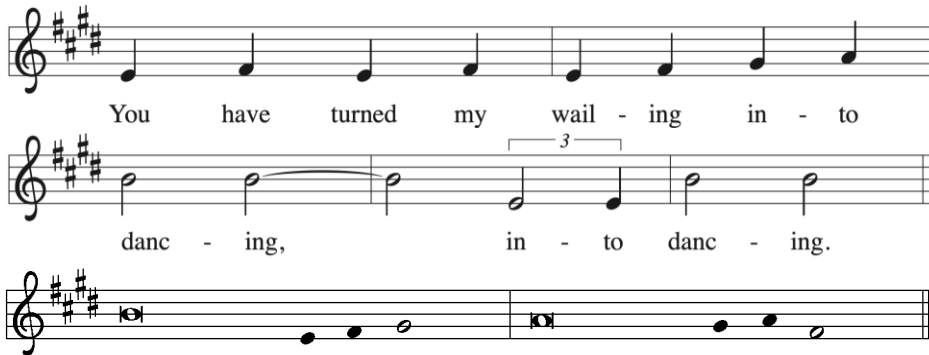
Response after the First Reading

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

PSALM 30



- ¹ I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lift- | ed me up
and have not let my enemies triumph | over me.
- ² **O Lord my God, I cried | out to you,**
and you restored | me to health.
- ³ You brought me up, O Lord, | from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down | to the grave.
- ⁴ **Sing praise to the Lord, | all you faithful;**
give thanks in ho- | ly remembrance. R
- ⁵ God's wrath is short; God's favor | lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes | in the morning.
- ⁶ **While I felt se- | cure, I said,**
"I shall never | be disturbed.
- ⁷ You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong | as the mountains."
Then you hid your face, and I was | filled with fear.
- ⁸ **I cried to | you, O Lord;**
I pleaded with | my Lord, saying,
- ⁹ "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down | to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or de- | clare your faithfulness?
- ¹⁰ **Hear, O Lord, and have mer- | cy upon me;**
O Lord, | be my helper." R
- ¹¹ You have turned my wailing | into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed | me with joy.
- ¹² **Therefore my heart sings to you | without ceasing;**
O Lord my God, I will give you | thanks forever. R

SECOND READING

REVELATION 5:11-14

The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

¹² singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!"

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea,
and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might
forever and ever!"

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

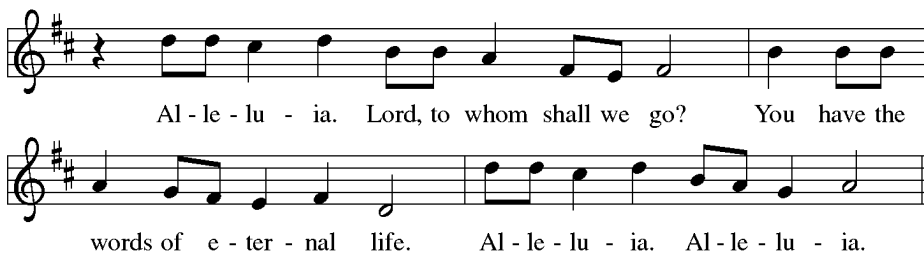
Response after the Second Reading

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or in spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The gospel is announced.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 21st Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

BACK TO FISHING

¹A while later, Creator Sets Free (Jesus) showed himself again to his followers by Lake of Circle of Nations (Sea of Galilee), *also called Sea of Rolling Water (Sea of Tiberias)*.

²Stands on the Rock (Peter) along with other followers of Creator Sets Free (Jesus) had gathered there. With him were Looks Like His Brother (Thomas), Creator Gives (Nathanael) from Village of Reeds (Cana) in Circle of Nations (Galilee), the two sons of Gift of Creator (Zebedee), and two other followers.

³Stands on the Rock (Peter) said to them, "I am going fishing."

They all agreed and said, "Take us with you."

So they took a canoe out onto the lake. *Under the light of the moon and stars* they worked hard all night. Again and again they threw out their nets and drew them back in—empty.

⁴Just as the first light of day was dawning, Creator Sets Free (Jesus) came and stood on the shore. But they did not know it was he.

⁵"Friends," he called out to them, "have you netted any fish?"

"No!" they answered.

⁶"Throw out your nets to the right of your canoe," he shouted to them. "You will find some fish there."

They did as he said, and the net was filled with so many fish they could not pull it into the canoe. ⁷*He Shows Goodwill (John)*, the much-loved follower of Creator Sets Free (Jesus), said to Stands on the Rock (Peter), "It is our Wisdomkeeper!"

Stands on the Rock (Peter) had taken off his outer garment to fish. He put it back on and jumped into the water. ⁸The shore was not far, so the others made their way in, dragging the net full of fish behind the canoe.

They came to the shore and stepped out of the canoe. ⁹They saw a warm fire with fish cooking over the coals and some frybread to eat.

HE FEEDS HIS FOLLOWERS

¹⁰Creator Sets Free (Jesus) *looked up from cooking and* said, "Bring me some of the fish you caught."

¹¹Stands on the Rock (Peter) climbed into the canoe and pulled the net to shore. The fish were large, and they counted them—one hundred and fifty-three in all! But even with so many fish the net did not tear.

¹²Creator Sets Free (Jesus) said, “Let us eat.”

They all sat down to eat, but no one dared ask, “Who are you?” They knew it must be their Wisdomkeeper.

¹³He took the frybread and gave some to each of them, along with a piece of fish.

¹⁴This was the third time he had shown himself to them after coming back to life from the dead.

STANDS ON THE ROCK RESTORED

¹⁵When they had finished eating, Creator Sets Free (Jesus) took Stands on the Rock (Peter) and sat down with him by the lake.

He spoke to him, *using the name his family gave him*, “One Who Hears (Simon), son of Gift of Kindness (John), do you love me more than the others love me?”

“Yes, Wisdomkeeper,” he answered, “you know I am your friend.”

“Then feed my lambs,” he said.

They sat looking out over the water and listening to the sound of the waves coming in to the shore.

¹⁶Then a second time Creator Sets Free (Jesus) asked, “One Who Hears (Simon), son of Gift of Kindness (John), do you love me?”

“Yes, Wisdomkeeper,” he answered him again, “you know how deeply I care for you.”

“Then watch over my sheep,” he said.

The sound of the water birds could be heard in the distance, and the sun felt warm as it rose higher in the sky.

¹⁷Creator Sets Free (Jesus) asked him a third time, “One Who Hears (Simon), Son of Gift of Kindness (John), do you love me as a friend?”

Stands on the Rock (Peter) felt his heart sink because he asked the third time, “Do you love me as a friend?”

“Wisdomkeeper!” he said, “you know all things, you must know how deeply I care for you. I am your friend!”

Creator Sets Free (Jesus) said to him again, “Feed my sheep.”

¹⁸Creator Sets Free (Jesus) then said to him, "I tell you from my heart, when you were a young man, you dressed yourself and walked wherever you wanted. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will dress you and take you to a place you do not want to go."

¹⁹He was telling him the kind of death he would die, to bring honor to Creator.

Then he said to Stands on the Rock (Peter), "Come, walk the road with me."

This was the same invitation he had given years earlier to Stands on the Rock (Peter) in Circle of Nations (Galilee) after the canoes had been filled with fish.

The gospel concludes:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

PASTOR JAY SERAFIN

Silence is kept after the reflection.

Please rise in body or in spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #369

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!"



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt.
Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1781–1821

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*We share a sign of Peace with our neighbors saying **Peace be with you** to which we respond **And also with you**. Please know that it is fine if you do not want to shake hands but would rather just share a sign of peace.*

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Sit

OFFERING

CHOIR ANTHEM

"The Lamb"

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

To give online:

✚ Visit apostles-elca.org/contributions

✚ From your mobile phone, text the word GIVE to 844-215-5453

DOXOLOGY

ELW #884

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Tune: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois;
setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

OLD HUNDREDTH
Psalm 150; Is. 6:1-4; Rev. 4:8

Please rise in body or in spirit

OFFERING PRAYER

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

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

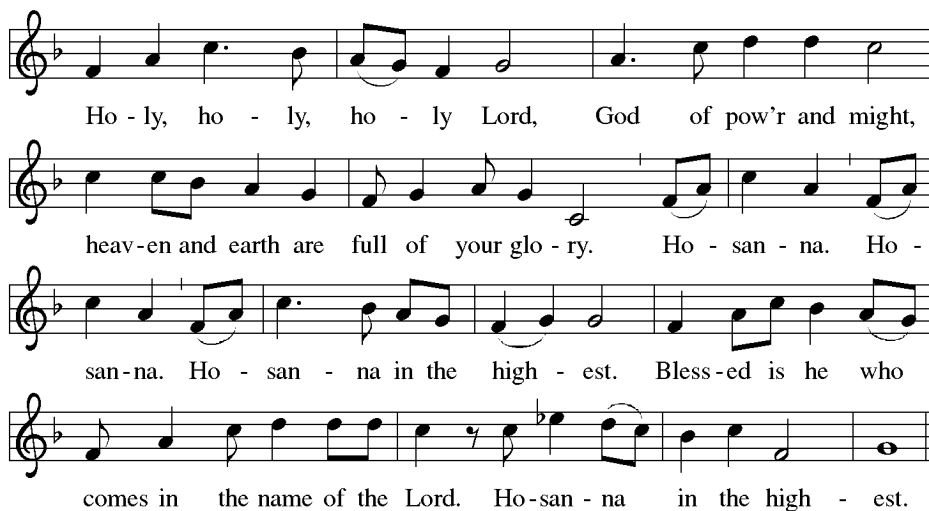
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The great thanksgiving continues.

... 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.

The great thanksgiving continues.

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The great thanksgiving continues.

... Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

The great thanksgiving continues.

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

Come, Holy Spirit.

The great thanksgiving concludes.

... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Sit

COMMUNION

All are invited to join us at the Lord's table to receive the presence of Jesus through the bread and wine. Jesus himself invites you and Jesus turns no one away.

You will be invited to come forward either to receive the elements or to receive a blessing. For those receiving the elements, after receiving the bread, please take a glass from the tray held by the acolyte. There are pre-filled glasses of grape juice in the tray for those who do not drink wine. Gluten free wafers are also available upon request.

LAMB OF GOD

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.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

ELW #379

"Now the Green Blade Rises"



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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After all have returned to their places, all rise in body or in spirit.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission back into the world.

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW #376

"Thine Is the Glory"



- 1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
- 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
- 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP LEADERS

	Serving Today	Serving Next Week
Worship Leader/Preacher	Pastor Jay Serafin	Pastor Jay Serafin
Lay Assisting Minister	David Leunig	Doug Dalager
Lector	Karen Johnston	Doug Dalager
Acolyte	Ray Scholz	Chase Ambrose
Accompanist	Janet Gomez	Janet Gomez
Altar Care	The Alberts	Janet Gomez
Communion Bread	The Alberts	Janet Gomez
Greeter/Usher	Heinz Albert	Karen Johnston
Technology	Doug Dalager	Chris Hawkins

SERVANTS FOR THE WEEK

	Serving This Week	Serving Next Week
Cleaning Team	Alberts/Runk	Gomez/Grimes
Tellers	Ben Grimes/Chris Hawkins	Betsy Liljeberg/Barbara Runk
Fellowship Set Up	Jennie Hawkins	Ray Scholz
Fellowship Food	Alberts	Judy Wright/Nancy Wagner
Fellowship Clean Up	Alberts	Scholz

APOSTLES LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Today we gather on the original and ancestral homelands of the Pamunkey, Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Rappahannock, and Nansemond peoples and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING

The newly formed Women's Group will be meeting this **Saturday, May 10th, at 9:30 AM.** Nancy Wagner and Lynn Scholz will be making a presentation on homelessness. We would LOVE to have you join us!!

MMIWGR SUNDAY

Today, we observe MMIWGR Sunday – Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Relatives. We will acknowledge the land on which we gather, have a special prayer, and our Gospel will be read from First Nations Version – An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament by Terry Wildman. The crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women is not new. It is more than an epidemic-instead is part of the spectrum of violence experienced by Native women. This crisis of MMIW has deep roots in colonization and genocide and can be attributed to the lack of legal protections as a result of the systematic erosion of tribal sovereignty stretching back more than 500 years. For more information, you can find it at the ELCA's Truth and Healing Movement or you can talk to a Reconciling in Christ team member.

T-SHIRTS FOR PRIDE SUNDAY

This year the Reconciling in Christ Ministry team is offering fun T-shirts to be worn in June and any other time during the year. A sign up sheet in the Narthex will show the different designs. **Please place your order and pay before May 11th.** T- shirts cost \$30 which includes shipping.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

Peter raises Tabitha/Dorcus from the dead

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

A white-robed multitude sings before the Lord

Gospel: John 10:22-30

Jesus promises eternal life to his sheep

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Heinz Albert, Rich Bitting, Manning Freeman, Don Garfield, Betty Hauch, Linda Hodges, Ellen Kendzierski, Ellen Quirk, Michael Schlemmer, Keith & Juanita Sturdy, George Thomas, Jewel Thomas, Sue Turner, Lena Woodlief, Nancy Wagner

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Patricia Armentor, Paul Bauer, Karen Bell (Pam Moore's sister), **Bob & Dixie, Calli Bonfey, Patricia Boyd & Brad Zelmer, Amanda Brown, David Brown, Dennis & Dorothy Brown, Sally Burkholder, Amy Carter, the Clements family, Laura Clodfelter, Jackie Collier, Ben Davis** (friend of Donna Ambrose), **Tommy & Kathie Davis, Jenny DeSha, Linda Edwards, Colton Elliot** (Michael Schlemmer's cousin), **Emily, Melissa Ethan, Laura Fleige** (Janet Gomez's sister), **Teresa Floersheim-Miller** (Ingrid Peterson's mother), **Suzanne and Frank Gibson, Steven Godwin** (Juanita Sturdy's grandson), **Jimmy & Fay Gray** (Chris Hawkins' family), **Karen Guire, Mike Hall, Melvin Hawkins** (Chris Hawkins' father), **Chaneice Hayden** (Daniel Hayden), **Rosie Heins, Sherry Helpap, Carl & Kaleb Hess, Adam Hewko** (nephew of the Hansons), **Aris Hibbs** (friend of Ray Scholz), **Spencer Hodges, Ray Hughes, Wendy Isernia** (Heinz and Irene's daughter), **Suzanne Kinkade** (friend of Ellen Quirk), **Legend, the Little Family, Marion Lucier, Manuel, Lotte Mathias, Wayne Mathews, Wayne McCormick, Michael, Sylvia Midgette** (grandmother of Krystle McMahan), **Debbie Minteins, Keith Morgan, Gary Mowery, Carol Pascale** (Lynn Jaeger's mother), **Chastity Perkins** (co-worker and friend of Donna Ambrose), **Brad Person** (Lilly Frost's uncle), **Dick Peterson & his brother, Monique Raposa, Joan Ritter, Glen Robertson, Carol Schlemmer, James Schollian** (friend of Nancy Wagner), **Michael Scholz** (nephew of Ray Scholz), **Scott, Erin Seamonson** (Lara Jaeger), **Joseph Serafin** (Pastor Jay's father), **Kathy Shackelford, Elana Sierson, Fred Smith, Tammy Smith, Jean Sterling, Susie, Dave Wagner** (husband of Nancy), **Wayne McCormick, Chuck Webb** (Tina Britt's father), **Makenzie Webb** (niece of Tina Britt), **Elizabeth & Steven White, Vicki Williams, Cory Woodlief, Jim Wright** (Judy Wright's husband), **Logan & Shannon Wymer, Greg Yvonovich** (friend of Margaret & Ben Grimes), **Derek Zwiers** (friend of CK Ambrose)

OUR SPONSORED CHILDREN IN GUATEMALA

Amayra, Hugolino, Manuela and Pablo

PRAYER REQUESTS

There is a book located at the rear of the worship space for you to write any prayer requests you have for today. Fill out a "Prayer Request" (on the back of each pew) and place it in the offering plate to add a prayer request to the "Prayer List" included in the bulletin and the newsletter. **Please print legibly!**

THIS WEEK AT APOSTLES

MAY 4, 2025 – MAY 11, 2025

TODAY	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Service Coffee Fellowship/Sunday School
MONDAY	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM 7:00 PM	Pastor Jay in the office AA
TUESDAY	7:00 PM	Al-Anon/AA
WEDNESDAY	4:00 PM – 8:00 PM 6:00 PM	Pastor Jay in the office Luther's Legacy for Laity
FRIDAY		Girl Scouts
SATURDAY	9:30 AM 6:30 PM	Women's Group Young and Sober
SUNDAY	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Service Sunday School/Coffee Fellowship

HAPPY BIRTHDAY To ...

Gerald Britt – May 6th | Dave Wagner – May 8th

HAPPY BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAY To ...

Gerald Britt – May 8th

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY To ...

Tina and Gerald Britt -May 6th