

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 28, 2024, 9:00 a.m.



we start with **Christ**

In our *Sowing*

In our *Caring*

In our *Growing*

Sunday Worship 9:00 am (in person + online), followed by fellowship, coffee, & donuts

Wednesday Worship 6:30 pm (in person + online), preceded by 5:30 pm dinner

Please visit us at www.christianialutheranchurch.org

GATHERING: *The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection.*

† *Please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

† **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

†GATHERING SONG

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

ELW 789

(1) Sav-ior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your ten-der care.

In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us; we are yours.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us; we are yours.

(2) We are yours; in love be-friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin de-fend us, seek us when we go a-stray.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear us chil-dren when we pray.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear us chil-dren when we pray.

(3) You have prom-ised to re-ceive us, poor and sin-ful though we be;
you have mer-cy to re-lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, ear-ly let us turn to you.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, ear-ly let us turn to you.

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†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.**

†PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

I Am a "C"
Chorister Choir

**WORD: *God speaks to us in Scriptures read,
sung and preached.***

STORY TIME

READING: Acts 8:26-40 (pew Bible p. 893-894)

²⁶Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went

on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

†**GOSPEL READING: John 15:1-8 (pew Bible p. 878)**

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

SERMON: Pastor Jon Rhodes

SONG OF THE DAY

Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW 689

(1) Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

- (2) God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,
harvesting, milling for daily bread.
- (3) Father, providing food for your children,
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share
one with another, so that, rejoicing
with us, all others may know your care.
- (4) Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,
freely confessing your gracious hand.
Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;
your love sustaining showers the land.

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†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

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

†SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

*Children can bring their coins to the giraffe bank in the front.
To make an electronic offering or setup a recurring contribution,
please use this QR code.*



†OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

†LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

**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.**

SENDING: *The Triune God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

†**SENDING BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

†**SENDING SONG**

I Will Follow

Refrain: Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay;
When You move, I'll move. I will fol-low You,
Whom You love, I'll love; How You serve, I'll serve;
If this life I lose, I will fol-low You, yeah. I will fol-low You, yeah.

(1) All Your ways are good, all Your ways are sure;
I will trust in You a-lone.

High-er than my sight, high a-bove my life;

I will trust in You a-lone. **Refrain**

(2) Light in-to the world, Light in-to my life-I will live for You a-lone.
You're the One I seek, know-ing I will find all I need in You a-lone. **Refrain**

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†**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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