

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
April 28, 2024—8:30AM
Third Sunday of Easter—Church at Corinth
We Proclaim and Practice Christ's Love



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN *All Are Welcome*

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.**

KYRIE AND HYMN OF PRAISE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Glory to God in the Highest* p. 139

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray: **God of community, you call us into loving and supportive relationships with one another in our church family. Through the Holy Spirit, unify our hearts and minds, that together we might strive to bring your healing grace into the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 18:1-4

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ²There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. ⁴Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

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

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

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

HYMN Lord of All Hopefulness

#765

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy:
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,

your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore*#817

You have come down to the lakeshore
seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy,
but only asking for me to follow.

Refrain: Sweet Lord, you have looked into my eyes;
kindly smiling, you've called out my name.
On the sand I have abandoned my small boat;
now with you, I will seek other seas.

You know full well what I have, Lord:
neither treasure nor weapons for conquest,
just these my fish nets and will for working. *Refrain*

You need my hands, my exhaustion,
working love for the rest of the weary--
a love that's willing to go on loving. *Refrain*

You who have fished other waters;
you, the longing of souls that are yearning:
O loving Friend, you have come to call me. *Refrain*

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**
Let us share words of peace with one another.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN *Create in Me*

ELW 186

Create in me a clean heart, O God And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from
me

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with your free spirit

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Generous God, you provide each of us and our church family with abundant resources. Accept these gifts out of what you have first given us, that we might work for the good of all that you have made. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

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.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *Sent Forth By God's Blessing*

#547

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
The tasks of our everyday life we will face
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Containers from donations to the Easter Breakfast and Spring Luncheon can be found in the kitchen. Please claim yours!

Thrivent T-Shirts: We have a large supply of t-shirts. Please stop in the gym and grab one (or more). They are sorted by size.

May clean up will be Wednesday, May 8th. Rain date will be Wednesday May 15th. There will be pizza, sandwiches, chips to fuel you up. We will be cleaning up outside and getting our property looking good!

FREE TV: 25 inch Sanyo. The TV does work. If you or someone you know needs a TV, please grab this one!

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS

We are now in need of only 3 wide tooth combs and 13 nail clippers to complete our 45 personal care kits which will be sent to Lutheran World Relief in May. Thanks for your donations! WELCA Mission Action

Graduate Recognition, Sunday, May 5th

We will recognize our graduating seniors on Sunday, May 5th at second service. We will have a small reception to follow. All are welcome.

Next Week

Tuesday, April 30th: Do-Days 9 am

Wednesday, May 1st: Men's Breakfast 7 am, Confirmation at 6:30, Choir 7
pm

Save the Date! May 8th Church Clean-up Day!