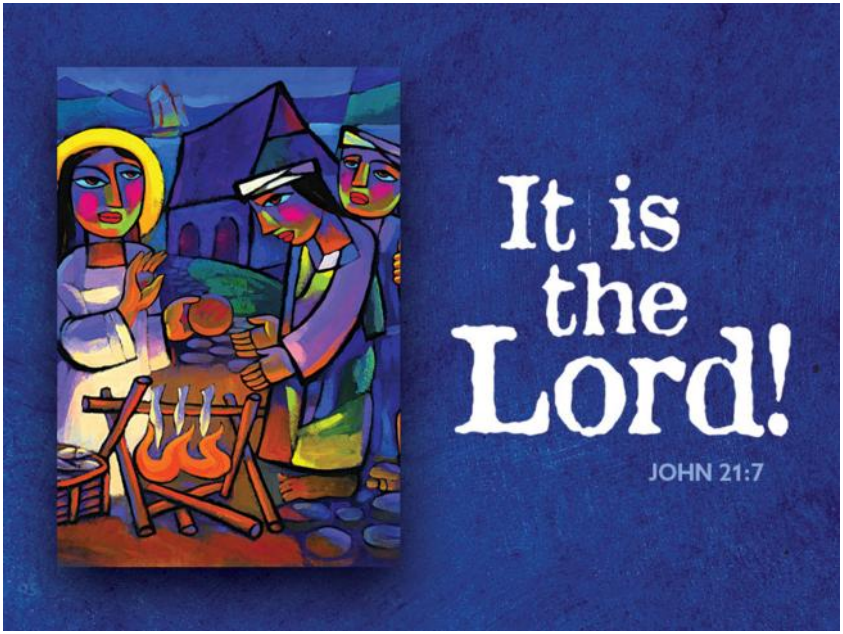


THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 4, 2025

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
34 E. Orange Street
Shippensburg, PA 17257-1993
Web Site: memluth.org
E-mail: office@memluth.org
717-532-4614

Welcoming all
Reaching out in love
Growing together in Christ
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name

Reverend Godfred Effisah
717-532-4614 (church office) or 571-572-0119 (cell)
pastor@memluth.org
Office hours: Monday through Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Children are an active part of Memorial's community of faith! We welcome you to worship each week! Children's bulletins and Quiet Bags (lots of exciting things to do!) are available at the doors coming from the parking lot. Please take one of each as they may help your children bring smiles into our time of worship!

Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone.

INTRODUCTION
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.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE *"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"* *- Burkhardt*

CHORAL INTROIT *"Jesus Stand Among Us"*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Please kneel or stand as you are able.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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.**

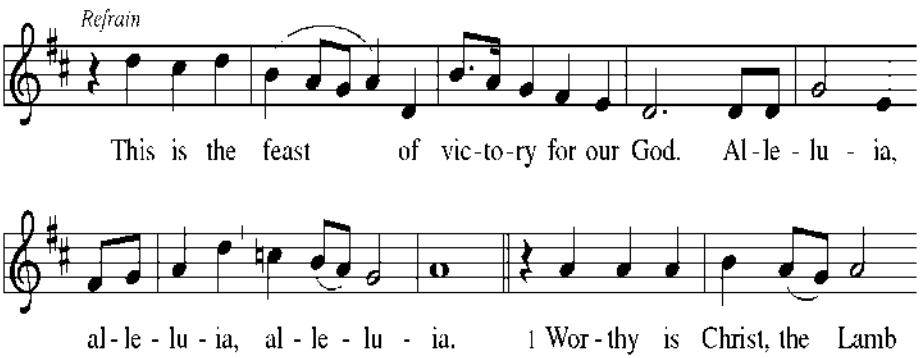
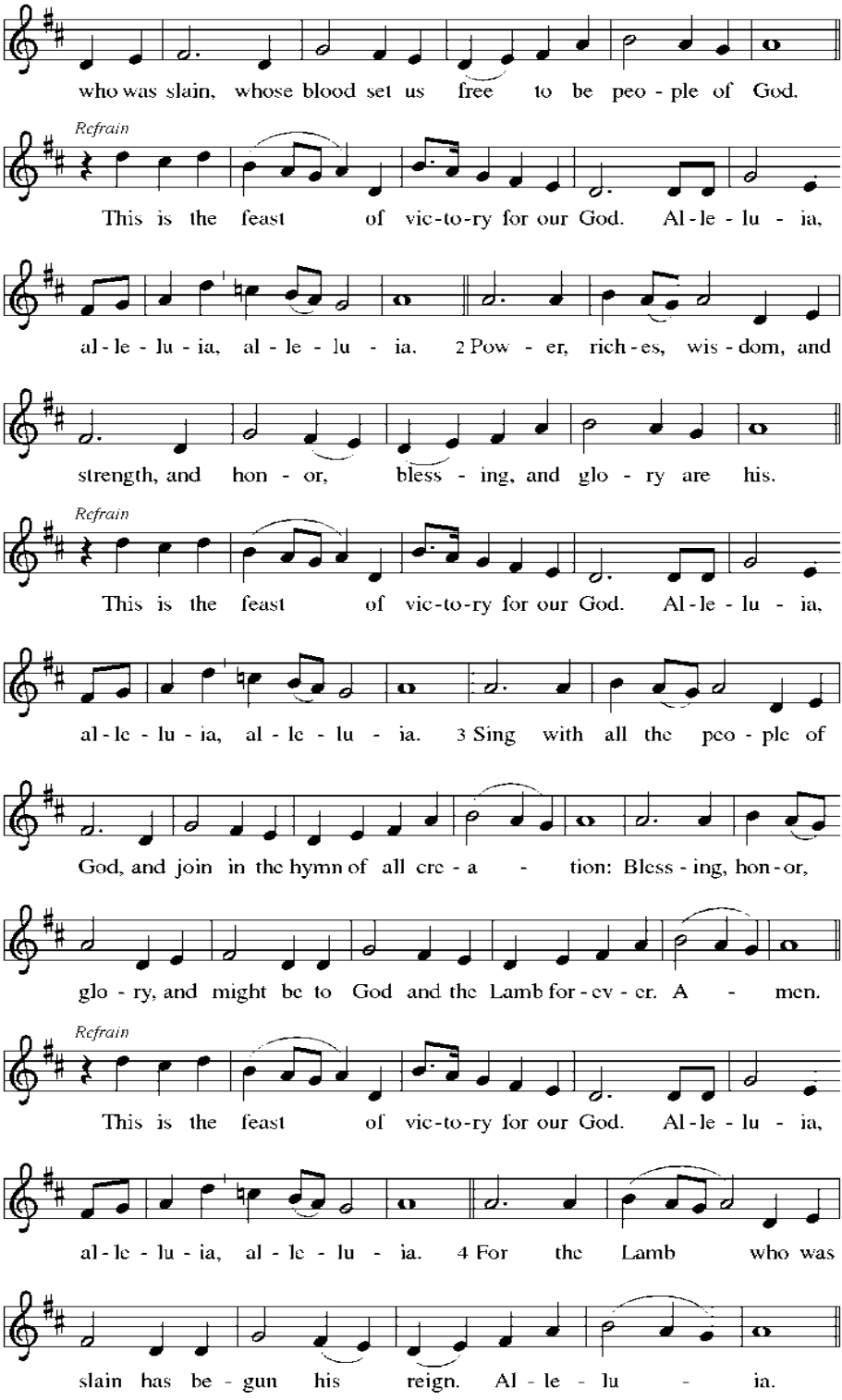
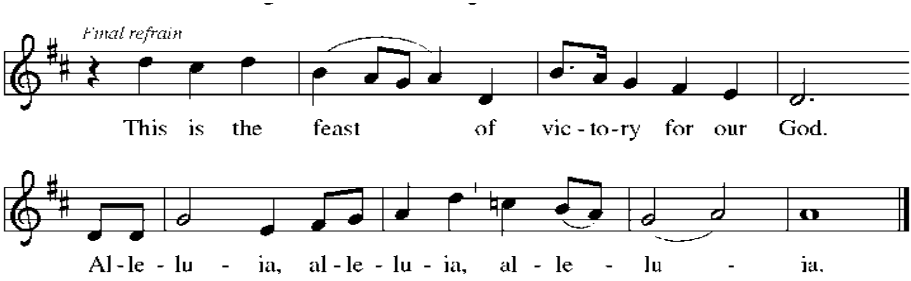
Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN *"The Church of Christ, in Every Age"* **ELW 729**

GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.
And also with you.

KYRIE **READ RESPONSIVELY**
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, amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *"This is the Feast"*

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

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.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING **Acts 9:1-6**

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.”

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 30 READ RESPONSIVELY

1 I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted 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 holy remembrance.
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 secure, 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 declare your faithfulness?
10 **Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me;**
O LORD, be my helper."
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.

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.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia.* Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the scriptures. *Alleluia. *(Luke 24:32)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 21st chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL **John 21:1-19**

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.

1 After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. 2 Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. 3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. 4 Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5 Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." 6 He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. 7 That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. 9 When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." 11 So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. 14 This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. 15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." 16 A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know

everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. [18] Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." [19] (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *"What Wondrous Love Is This"* **ELW 666**

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

A brief silence.

Risen Lord, ignite in our hearts a passion for prayer. Make our hearts yearn for your presence, helping us to seek you with all our being. In this Year of Prayer, teach us to pray with deep conviction, and never for shallow wishes, beliefs, or with a fleeting faith in you. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Risen Lord, we gather in your presence to thank you for your love and to celebrate the gift of our mothers and all women. A love that supports, sacrifices, nurtures, and challenges us in ways that strengthen and transform us. We give thanks for all those who have nurtured and cared for us, remembering especially; birth mothers, adoptive mothers, surrogate mothers, aunts, grandmothers, grieving mothers, and all women who have shared their faith with us. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Risen Lord, we pray for all who are preparing to attend the Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly next month. Reveal to them the ways in which you are calling us as a synod to be your hands and feet in this world, so that they can discern who our next leader should be. Help them to trust in your guidance. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Eternal and Risen God, the everlasting salvation of them that believe, hear us on behalf of your sick children, (*especially)* for whom we implore the aid of your healing mercy. Risen Lord, grant eternal rest to our beloved dead. In this life, you embraced them with your tender love. In company with Christ, who died and now lives, may they rejoice with you and all the faithful departed. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places (*especially Monica, mother of Augustine*). May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. 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.

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY *"Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"* **Senior Choir**

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord
alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

The Ushers will collect the offering.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" **ELW 884**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Let us pray together.
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.

THE 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.

PREFACE - EASTER
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *Read Together*
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

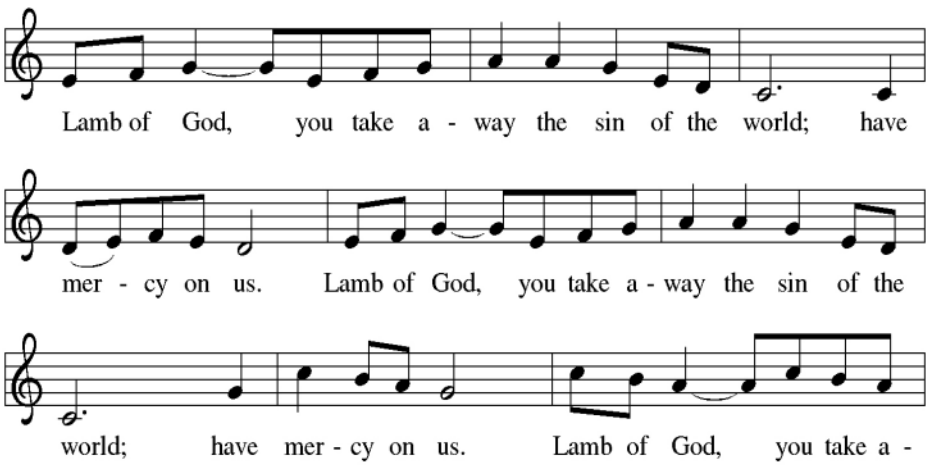
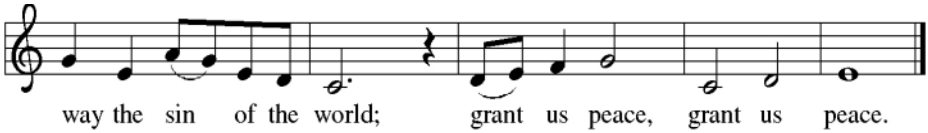
All glory and honor is yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

LAMB OF GOD **page 191**



INVITATION TO COMMUNION
Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION
All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward by the center aisle at the usher's direction. If you choose to have wine for communion, take an empty cup from the usher. If you prefer grape juice, receive a pre-filled cup at the altar. If you or a child has never received the sacrament, fold hands to receive a blessing instead. After receiving communion or a blessing, you may choose to remain at the altar for extra time in prayer. When you return to your pew do so by the side aisles. Please deposit the empty cup in the basket.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Let us pray together.
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

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 *"You Servants of God"* **ELW 825**

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!

Please be seated.

POSTLUDE *"For the Strength of the Hills"* *- Stephens*

Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387
Sunday, May 4, 2025
Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.

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Evelyn Fuller
Bernita Killian
Karen Larson
Doug & Pat Maun
Jeanne Naugle
Dorothy Railing
Trina Ruth
All Caregivers

Pastor
Pastor Godfred Effisah

Organist & Pianist
Nancy Fogelsanger

Senior Choir / Bell Choir Director
Kathy Kerr

Parish Coordinator
Amy Piper

Preschool Director
Shirley Perry