



First Lutheran Church

“Connecting Hearts, Discovering Purpose in Christ”

5th Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Regarding Holy Communion

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is a family meal. We invite you to join us in this meal. If you are our guest this morning and have any questions regarding the Lord's Supper, please speak to Pastor Bart Loos before the service. As you prepare to receive this family meal, it is helpful to ask yourself these questions:

- Am I a baptized Christian who trusts in Jesus Christ alone for salvation?
- Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness?
- Do I believe that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine?
- Do I desire to live in the strength of the Holy Spirit and walk in the path of righteousness as revealed by God's holy laws?

If you have not spoken with Pastor Bart, we still encourage you to come up during communion and cross both arms over your chest to receive a blessing of forgiveness.

PRELUDE

I Am Jesus' Little Lamb - setting by Barbara Masters

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“With the Lord Begin Your Task”

LSB 869



1 With the Lord be - gin your task; Je - sus will di - rect it.
 2 Let each day be - gin with prayer, Praise, and ad - o - ra - tion.
 3 With your Sav - ior at your side, Foes need not a - larm you;
 4 If your task be thus be - gun With the Sav - ior's bless - ing,



For His aid and coun - sel ask; Je - sus will per - fect it.
 On the Lord cast ev - 'ry care; He is your sal - va - tion.
 In His prom - is - es con - fide, And no ill can harm you.
 Safe - ly then your course will run, Toward the prom - ise press - ing.



Ev - 'ry morn with Je - sus rise, And when day is end - ed,
 Morn - ing, eve - ning, and at night Je - sus will be near you,
 All your trust and hope re - pose In the might - y Mas - ter,
 Good will fol - low ev - 'ry - where While you here must wan - der;



In His name then close your eyes; Be to Him com - mend - ed.
 Save you from the tempt - er's might, With His pres - ence cheer you.
 Who in wis - dom tru - ly knows How to stem dis - as - ter.
 You at last the joy will share In the man - sions yon - der.

5 Thus, Lord Jesus, ev'ry task
 Be to You commended;
 May Your will be done, I ask,
 Until life is ended.

Jesus, in Your name begun
 Be the day's endeavor;
 Grant that it may well be done
 To Your praise forever.

INVOCATION

Deacon: In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Deacon: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

KYRIE

Pastor:



In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People:



Lord, have mer-cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor:



For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the



world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People:



Lord, have mer-cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor:

For Your peo-ple here, who have come to give You praise, for the strength to live Your Word, let us pray to the Lord.

People:

Lord, have mer-cy.
Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy.

Pastor:

Help, save, and de-fend us, O, God.

People:

A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE "Now The Feast"

Refrain

Now the feast and cel-e-bra-tion, all of cre-a-tion sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom: praise and glo-ry for ev-er-er-more!

Verse 1:

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

To refrain

freed and u - nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of God. _____

Verse 2:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and glo - ry to

To refrain

Christ _____ for ev - er. _____

Verse 3:

For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo - ple of God;

To refrain

to make all things new. _____

PROMISE OF CHRIST'S PRESENCE

Deacon: Our Resurrected Lord is with you.

All: And also with you. Amen!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: O God, You transform the minds of Your faithful according to Your will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 36

Reader: ¹Transgression speaks to the wicked
deep in his heart;

**All: there is no fear of God
before his eyes.**

Reader: ²For he flatters himself in his own eyes

All: that his iniquity cannot be found out and hated.

Reader: ³The words of his mouth are trouble and deceit;

All: he has ceased to act wisely and do good.

Reader: ⁴He plots trouble while on his bed;
he sets himself in a way that is not good;

All: he does not reject evil.

Reader: ⁵Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,

All: your faithfulness to the clouds.

Reader: ⁶Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
your judgments are like the great deep;

All: man and beast you save, O LORD.

Reader: ⁷How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All: The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

Reader: ⁸They feast on the abundance of your house,

All: and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

Reader: ⁹For with you is the fountain of life;

All: in your light do we see light.

Reader: ¹⁰Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you,

All: and your righteousness to the upright of heart!

Reader: ¹¹Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me

All: nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.

Reader: ¹²There the evildoers lie fallen;

All: they are thrust down, unable to rise.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.**

FIRST READING

1 John 2:28-3:24

²⁸And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.

²⁹If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. ⁸Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. ¹⁰By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

¹¹For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹²We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. ¹⁴We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. ¹⁵Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn

us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

¹[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. 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. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Elder: This is the Gospel of our Resurrected Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ!

Elder: Christ is Risen!

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

"Nicene Creed"

On Screen

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Fruitful Trees, The Spirit’s Sowing”

LSB 691



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en
 2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er
 3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern
 4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,
 loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,
 and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,
 har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



Rich in love and joy and peace.
 Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.
 Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.
 Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

MESSAGE

OFFERING

Wondrous Love - setting by George Lachenauer

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Deacon: Lord, in Your mercy,
All: hear our prayer.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SIN

All: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for personal self-examination.)

Deacon: Most merciful God, as we prepare our hearts for Your Holy Body and Blood, we confess that 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 trusted You with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In Your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by Your Spirit that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Hear us as we say our communion family prayer...

COMMUNION FAMILY PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

On Screen

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

AGNUS DEI

Deacon: Lamb of God, who conquered the sin of the world.

All: Have mercy on us.

Deacon: Lamb of God, who defeated Satan, our enemy.

All: Alleluia!

Deacon: Lamb of God, You overcame death and the grave.

All: Alleluia! Grant us Your Peace.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Deacon: With joy, I announce that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives us all our sins. Now experience Christ's forgiveness in this Holy Meal in the Name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen. Thanks be to God!

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S PEACE

Deacon: The peace of our Lord, who came, lived, died, and rose amongst us, is with you now and always.

All: And also with you. Amen!

WE INVITE YOU TO SHARE THE PEACE OF CHRIST WITH YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS AT THIS TIME.

Please return to your seat before the first table comes to communion.

RECEPTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION HYMNS "What Wondrous Love Is This"

LSB 543



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.



“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”

LSB 641

Refrain

You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart With gift of fin-est wheat.

Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, The bread of life to eat.

1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, They know and
 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to You Our praise and
 3 Is not the cup we bless and share The blood of
 4 The mys - t'ry of Your pres - ence, Lord, No mor - tal
 5 You give Your - self to us, O Lord; Then self - less

heed his voice; So when You call Your
 grat - i - tude That You should count us
 Christ out - poured? Do not one cup, one
 tongue can tell: Whom all the world can -
 let us be, To serve each oth - er

fam - 'ly, Lord, We fol - low and re - joice.
 wor - thy, Lord, To share this heav'n - ly food.
 loaf, de - clare Our one - ness in the Lord?
 not con - tain Comes in our hearts to dwell.
 in Your name In truth and char - i - ty.

Refrain

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor:



May God bless us and keep us.

May God's face shine on us and be gracious to us.

May God look on us with favor and ✝ give us peace.

People:



A

men.

CLOSING HYMN

“Jesus Loves Me”

LSB 588

- 1 Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong.

Refrain

Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

- 2 Jesus loves me! He who died
Heaven's gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin,
Lets His little child come in.

Refrain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Little Rondo by Richard Blake

ATTRIBUTIONS

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- Liturgy from GIA
- “WITH THE LORD BEGIN YOUR TASK” Lutheran Service Book #869 © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. Public domain; Text: *Morgen-und Abend-segen*, Waldenburg, 1734; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890-1950, alt.; Tune: Peter Frank, 1616-75; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941
- “FRUITFUL TREES, THE SPIRIT’S SOWING” Lutheran Service Book #691, © 1984 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission. Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926; Music: Ralph C. Shultz, b. 1932
- “WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS” Lutheran Service Book #543, Public domain; Text: *A General Selection of...Hymns and Spiritual Songs*, Lynchburg, 1811, alt.; Tune: *Southern Harmony*, New Haven, 1835; setting: Donald A. Busarow, 1934-2011
- “YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART” Lutheran Service Book #641 © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Used by permission. Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97; Tune: Robert E. Kreutz, 1922-96
- “JESUS LOVES ME” Lutheran Service Book #588, Public domain; Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.; Spanish tr. unknown; Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68

Volunteers Serving Our Lord Today

(Please contact the office to sign up for Children’s Messages or to be an Usher.
Please see Nancy Peterson to be a Reader.)

Elder	Ryan Hart	Pro Presenter	Sophie Killian
Reader	Becky Guichard	Altar Guild	Nancy Peterson
Children’s Message	Jim Alfama		

First Lutheran Staff

Pastor	Rev. Bart Loos	Deacon	Paul Lang
Preschool Director	Nancy Durkovic	Admin. Asst.	Sophie Killian
AV Lead	Justin Alfama	Organist	Laura Dickey
Contemporary Music Leader	Erin Lewis		

FIRST LUTHERAN CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Phone: 310.545.5653 ✚ www.flcmb.org

SOCIAL MEDIA:

<https://www.facebook.com/flcmb/>

Activities This Week

April 28th, 2024 – May 5th, 2024

For details on the church calendar, please visit <http://www.flcmb>

Sunday 4/28	8:45am 10:00am	<i>Adult Bible Study "Life Together" (In-Person or Live on Facebook)</i> <i>Sunday Worship Service (In-Person or Live on Facebook)</i>
Monday 4/29	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	Staff & Leadership Prayer w/ <i>Holy Communion</i> First Ladies Prayer Group (<i>contact Maria Austin for location</i>) Shining Stars
Tuesday 4/30	9:40am 6:30pm	COL Chapel (<i>In-Person or Live on Facebook</i>) Elder's Meeting
Wednesday 5/1	12:00 – 1:00pm 5:45pm	Midweek Holy Communion Bell Choir Rehearsal
Thursday 5/2	5:45pm	New Testament Praise Band Rehearsal
Friday 5/3		
Saturday 5/4	8:00am – 2:00pm	Red Cross Blood Donation Drive – <i>In Memory of Lukas Lubs</i>
Sunday 5/5	8:45am 10:00am	<i>Adult Bible Study "Life Together" (In-Person or Live on Facebook)</i> <i>Sunday Worship Service (In-Person or Live on Facebook)</i>

April 21st		March Totals:		Fiscal Year (Sept-Mar)	
Offering	\$4,220	Income	\$29,553	Income	\$165,953
Other	\$60	Expenses	\$20,902	Expenses	\$170,570
Total	\$4,280	Over/(Under) M&M Plan	\$8,651	Over/(Under) M&M Plan	\$(4,617)

Our April Monthly Mission is:

One Tree Planted

They make it simple for anyone to help the environment by planting trees to restore forests, create habitat for biodiversity, and make a positive social impact around the world.

Our March Monthly Mission was:

Concordia University

\$245

Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks

Birthdays	28: Carsan Wolf; 3: Georgia McGee; 4: Melissa Bailey; Becca Itow
New Prayer Requests <i>(If your prayer request has exceeded two weeks, and you would like it continued, please resubmit your prayer request via our website or yellow Welcome Connection cards.)</i>	<p>Submitted last week: John Durkovic's unborn baby granddaughter, diagnosed with DiGeorge Syndrome + Nancy Klomp's brother and family, undergoing procedure to remove blood clot in chest + Sherrie Baca, recovering from a fall + Jamie & wife Patricia, friends of McAllisters, lost their son, Miguel, in a car accident + Cristy, Ken Redeker's niece, diagnosed with cancer + The Wilson Family, as they mourn the loss of their mother, Ashley Wilson + Lucy Santana, struggling with cancer, fear, and loneliness + Karen Bearns, recovering from final radiation treatment – thank God for progress and health and continued prayers of cancer free confirmation</p> <p>Submitted two weeks ago: Prayers for uplifting comfort and healing for Jim Alfama's 86yr old Auntie Nonnie, recovering from a fall & broken hip + Andrea Conrad, diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer + Lauren Heckman and family, at the loss of their baby + Lucy Santana, struggling with loneliness and cancer</p>
For Homebound Members	Pastor John Durkovic, DeeDee Sutton, Bonnie Stull, Terry Hlebasko
For those suffering from cancer	Cristy (Ken Redeker's niece), Tyler Barajas (Dane Kennedy's friend), Lucy Santana, Amy (Morgana Kennedy's friend), Karen Bearns, Annuka (Cheryl Vanick's friend), Julie Arciaga, Zoey (Kay Wells friend), Betty Long, Justine (Lynn Imamoto's sister-in-law), John Durkovic, Carol Bermans husband's aunt, Karen, Michelle (Julie Fellows' friend), Anna Baker's friend Gail Chambers, and Diana (Becca Itow's aunt).
For those mourning (past year)	The Mosha Family, The Fitzgerald Family, The Patrick Family, The Lubs Family, The Hlebasko Family, The Aguirre & McAllister Family, The Berman Family, The Lewan Family, The Jaeger Family, The Glassford & Allen Family, The Schaller Family, The Redeker Family, and The Kennedy Family.
For those suffering from Ongoing, Chronic Illnesses (autoimmune diseases, etc.)	Linda (Bob Badway's friend), Debbie Pifer, Maxine Loos, Avery & Finley Boyer, Lucy Santana, Hannah Rose, Emily Mendez, Bryana Haas
For Ongoing General Prayers	The ministries of First Lutheran Church & Circle of Love Preschool, Concordia Irvine, Pacific Lutheran Junior/Senior High School, the South Bay Community, elected officials, our nation, unemployed and underemployed, Armed Forces, medical professionals, those who suffer from natural disasters, police, and firefighters, those who are traveling, and for all persecuted Christians.