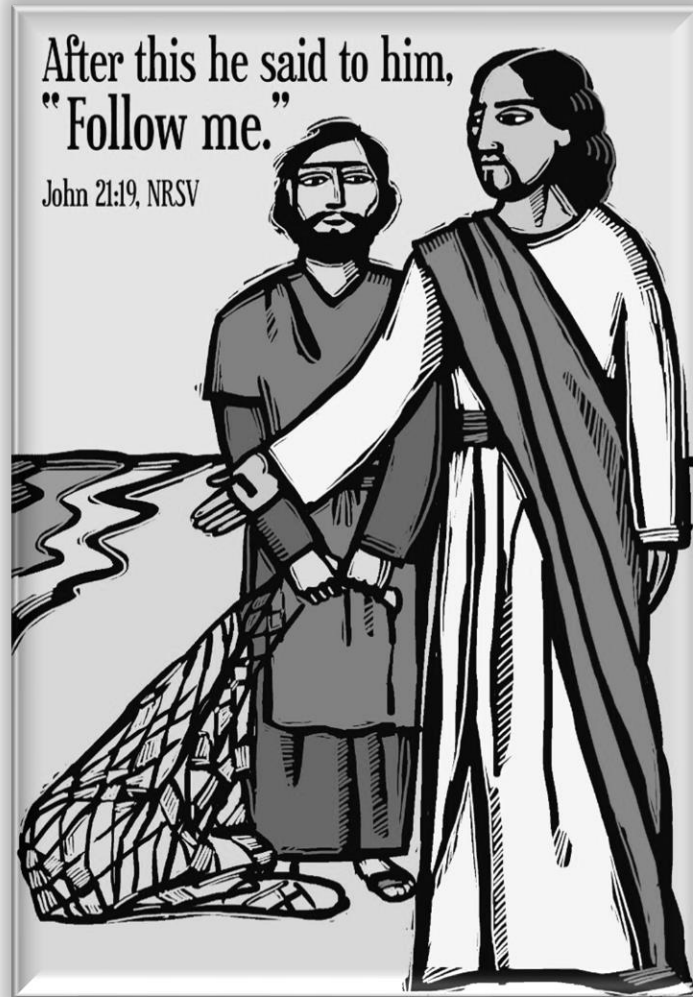


THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 4, 2025



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS-LCMS

*Welcoming all to walk together
toward abundant life in Christ.*

THEME: BE HEARERS AND DOERS OF THE WORD

⁴⁷ Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: ⁴⁸ he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. Luke 6:47–48 (ESV)

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE FOUR

A WORD TO OUR FRIENDS ABOUT COMMUNION:

As members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we believe that the body and blood of Christ are truly present “in, with, and under” the bread and wine when we receive the Sacrament. We do *not* believe that the bread and wine somehow mystically “change” into something other than bread and wine, *nor* do we believe that the bread and wine merely “represents” Christ’s body and blood; rather, we are bound by the words of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, when He said “Take eat, this is my body” and “Take drink, this is my blood.” We believe and teach that when we receive the bread and wine, we are also truly receiving the body and blood of Christ (because of His divine Word.) We also believe that the Sacrament of Holy Communion is more than just a memorial, we believe it is Christ truly coming to us and offering His body and his blood in an outward sign of His love for us and as an outward assurance of the forgiveness He won for us by His death on the cross. This is our belief and confession regarding the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and if you have any questions or concerns about our Communion practices and desire to partake of Holy Communion, will you please consult with the pastor beforehand. Having read this Communion Statement and prayerfully considered what you believe and confess, please complete the Pew Card found in the pew rack. After you place your tithes and gifts in the offering plate, please pass your Pew Card to the center aisle and the ushers will pick them up. May God truly bless our Communion Service this day.

COMMUNION OPTIONS FOR THOSE WITH ALLERGIES:

- *Gluten-free communion wafers* are available by taking one from the paten (plate) that is sitting separately in a white container.
- *Grape Juice* (clear liquid) is available in the center of the tray containing individual cups of regular wine (red liquid).

AS WE GATHER

Though Jesus walks on water, He was testing the limit by telling seasoned fishermen where to cast their nets. The disciples knew it was the Lord—it could only be the Lord. Then, when He broke the bread and gave thanks, they rejoiced that the crucified and risen Savior had showed Himself to them again. This is what we do every week. Jesus presumes to tell us what life is and how to live it, and we are weary of all the things that have disappointed us. But Christ can never disappoint us. He fills our nets with His life, addresses us with the voice of hope, and feeds us to everlasting life, and by this Word and Sacrament we know it is the Lord.

WELCOME, PRE-SERVICE MUSIC & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The TOLLING OF THE BELLS

(Please stand)

OPENING HYMN

In Thee Is Gladness

LSB 818

1. In Thee is gladness
Amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By Thee are given
The gifts of heaven,
Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest,
Our bonds Thou breakest;
Who trusts Thee surely
Has built securely;
He stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining
To see Thy shining,
Dying or living
To Thee are cleaving;
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!



2. Since He is ours,
We fear no powers,
Not of earth nor sin nor death.
He sees and blesses
In worst distresses;
He can change them with a
breath. Wherefore the story
Tell of His glory
With hearts and voices;
All heav'n rejoices
In Him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness,
Triumph o'er sadness,
Love Him and praise Him
And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b [18:20]



(Be seated)

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

KYRIE

LSB 204



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

COLLECT OF THE DAY

LSB pg. 156

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1–22

¹But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” ⁵And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹²and 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.” ¹³But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹and taking food, he was strengthened.

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. ²⁰And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” ²¹And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?” ²²But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Revelation 5:1–14

¹Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ²And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” ³And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

⁶And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying,

“Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth.”

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

¹²saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.



L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

ALLELUIA



LSB 205

HOLY GOSPEL

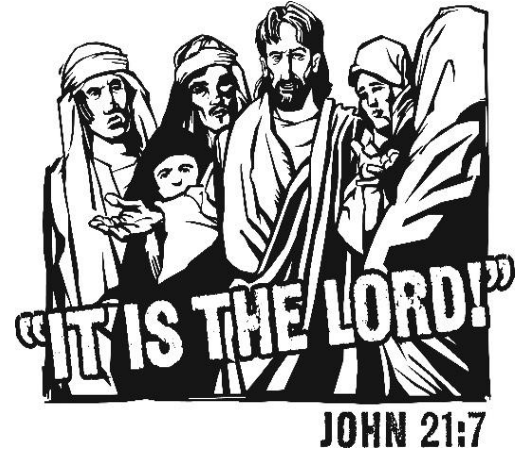
John 21:1–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³Simon 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.

⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, “Children, do you have any fish?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶He said to them, “Cast the net on 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 of the quantity of fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.



⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When 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.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved 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. ¹⁸Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY “Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake *LSB 688 sts. 1–2, 4–5*



1 “Come, fol - low Me,” the Sav - ior spake, “All in My
2 “I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly
4 “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your
5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the



way a - bid - ing; De - ny your-selves, the world for-sake,
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;
soul's sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,



O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.
well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.
of the soul And lead you to your heav'n - ly goal.”
bat - tle's strain The crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–2, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

SERMON

Rev. Dr. R. Brian Stolarczyk

(Please stand)

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Blessed Lord, You forgave Peter his betrayal and appointed him to feed Your sheep. Forgive our sins, restore us to Your service, and bless all that we do that it may be to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P By Your grace, O Lord, You turned Saul from an enemy of Your kingdom into Your servant and sent him as an apostle to the Gentiles. Turn the hearts of our own rebellion, and by Your Spirit wear down our resistance to Your Word, that we also may be bold witnesses to Your mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P By Your power, O Lord, You order the nations of the earth and hold our leaders accountable for justice, for the promotion of virtue, and for peace. Bless us with good and honest leaders who will hear and heed Your voice that we may live peaceful and quiet lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- P According to Your will, O Lord, You heal the sick. Hear us on behalf of all who suffer any ill of body or mind and grant them strength for the day and keep them in Your grace to everlasting life. [Hear us especially for . . . *Elliana & Katie (family of Bill & Ronna Trueman), Carol Scheff, Debbie Zienert (sister of Dave & Geri Diener)*]
Guard us against despair and keep us in the day of trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P By Your grace, O Lord, You have named us as Your own in the baptismal water and joined us to Christ's death and resurrection. We give you thanks for those who celebrate birthdays this month (80+) [*especially... Ruth Albert, Angie Brown, Ann Hagey, Janet Jackson, Jeanette Kamke, Howard Meissner, Clyde Spencer, Phil Woodruff*]
and those celebrating anniversaries [*especially... Mike & Jeannie Barzona, Brian & Judy Daily, Nat & Melinda Fiordimondo, David & Faith Gruntman, Cris & Linda Kelly*] Grant that by Your grace we all may live holy, upright, and godly lives, displaying in our life and conduct the goodness of Your love and mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P As Your Son has granted, O Lord, we come to His Table there to receive the fruits of His redeeming work in this communion upon His body and blood. Nourish us for faithfulness in this life, and by this Holy Communion nurture in us the grace to keep us to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P By Your love You have provided us with a great company of witnesses through time and history and encouraged us through their witness. Deliver the grieving from their sorrows, [*especially . . . the family of Elias Ruiz, the family of John Vogel*] and bring us all together with Your servant Paul to behold You face to face in the life that death cannot overcome. Lord, in Your mercy.
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C **Amen.**

OFFERING

For those worshipping online, please visit www.lccross.org to find links to our Give+ secured online giving portal and our online Pew Card which is called a Connect Card. Or to fill out the card directly go to <https://forms.gle/X46ym1HuZ9DCsq9s6>

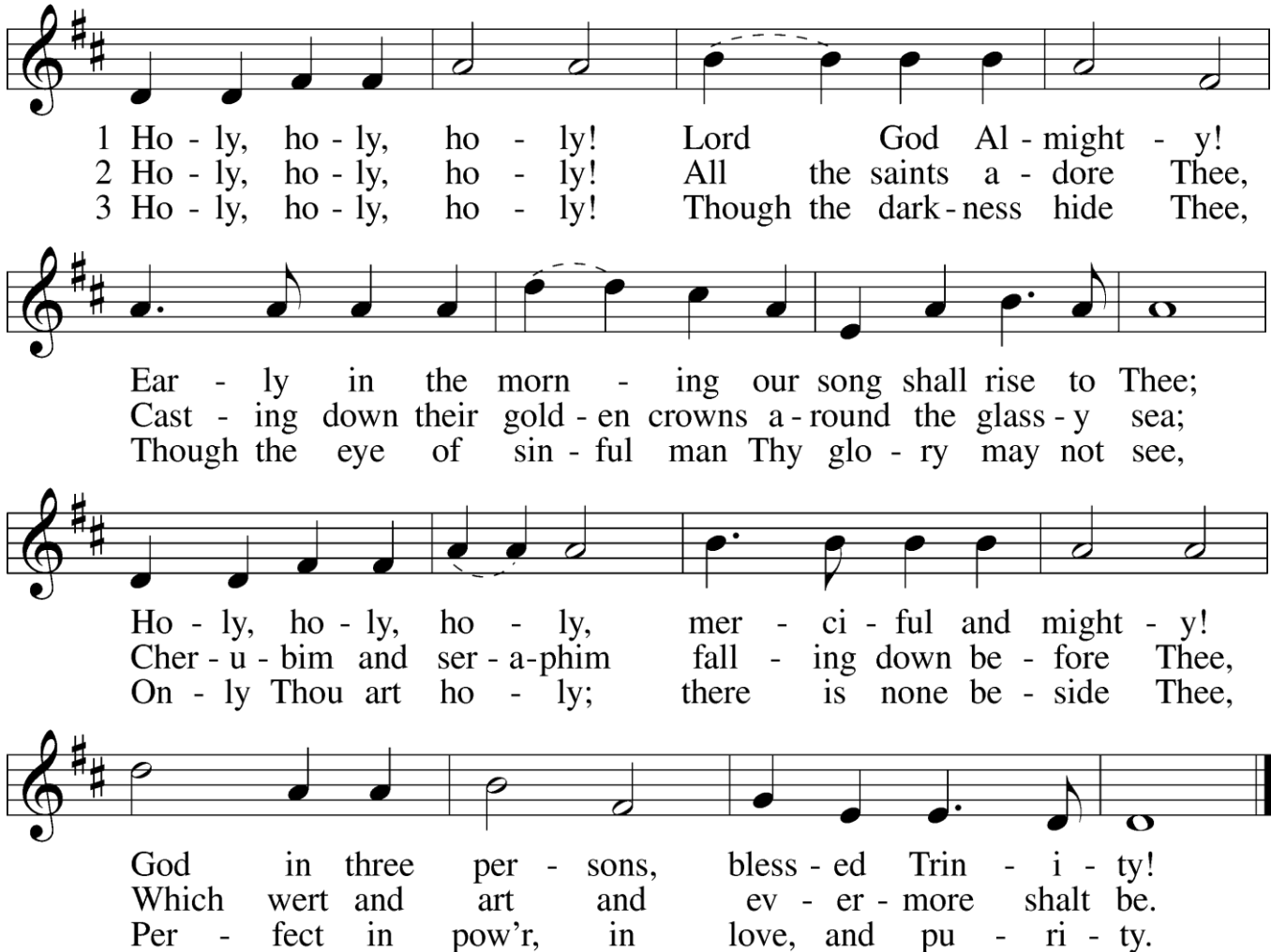


For those worshipping in-person, please indicate your attendance and any requests on the Pew Card. They can be placed in the offering plate during the collection.

OFFERING HYMN:

Holy, Holy, Holy

LSB 507 sts. 1-3



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore Thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide Thee,

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.
Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826

Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823-76

Text and tune: Public domain



PREFACE

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, with blessed Paul, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 208



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Holy Lord, mighty God, everlasting Father, from You and to You are all things. In Your goodness You made all things, and You created us for Your glory. When sin kept us from fulfilling Your purpose, You spoke the promise of our redemption to be fulfilled when Your own Son would be incarnate of the virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit and redeem us by His own suffering and death. Gathered according to His Word to receive the fruits of His death that gives us life, grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may receive worthily in faith this Holy Communion.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Mathew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

(Only by the almighty creative Word of God are we able to believe that the blessed sacrament delivers what God promises, the forgiveness for our sins. Mt. 26:28)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is My T blood in the new testament which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

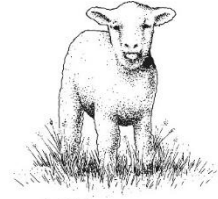
C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI
(Please sing)

(Latin term means Lamb of God)

John 1:29

1. **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**
2. **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**



"Behold,
THE LAMB OF GOD,
who takes away
THE SIN
OF THE WORLD!"
JOHN 1:29, ESV

DISTRIBUTION

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins. **Amen.**

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart **T** in peace.

C **Amen.**



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5. Mighty Victim from the sky,
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
 You have conquered in the fight,
 You have brought us life and light.
 Alleluia!

7. Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 Newborn souls in You to be.
 Alleluia!

6. Now no more can death appall,
 Now no more the grave enthrall;
 You have opened paradise,
 And Your saints in You shall rise.
 Alleluia!

8. Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, Your name we praise.
 Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68,
 alt.

Text: Public domain

1. Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem
drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.
2. Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies
won
Which now His brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.
3. Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring
eyes
At mysteries so bright.
4. Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.
5. Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all.

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903
Text: Public domain

1. By all Your saints in warfare,
For all Your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus,
Forevermore be blest!
For You have won the battle
That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory
Reflected from Your throne.
2. Praise for the light from heaven
And for the voice of awe;
Praise for the glorious vision
The persecutor saw.
O Lord, for Paul's conversion,
We bless Your name today;
Come shine within our darkness,
And guide us on our way.
3. Then let us praise the Father
And worship God the Son
And sing to God the Spirit,
Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne,
Ascribing pow'r and glory
And praise to God alone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.
Text: Public domain



(Please stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P 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 T give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839 sts. 1, 3–5



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the
5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now
find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science
wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who
won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - joice.
sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.
walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,
You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

SILENT PRAYER & PARTING ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE



You have been a blessing to us! Please use this time to “check-in” with your Christian brothers and sisters around you. Coffee and donuts are being served for fellowship at 9:00am in the Fellowship & Ministry Center along with our Adult Bible Class and Youth Sunday School. Please stop by and enjoy.

Acknowledgments

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Pastor: Rev. Dr. R. Brian Stolarczyk ~ Winter Assistant Pastor: Rev. Jerry Menk
Organist: Stephen Kopp III ~ Flute Soloist: Raymond Stolarczyk
Handbell Co-Directors: Bill & Ronna Trueman ~ Vocal Choir Director: Arnie Piering
Clarinet: Bill Trueman ~ Drums: Chris Wrightsman
Saxophone: Cheryl Domingo ~ Trombone: Arnie Piering

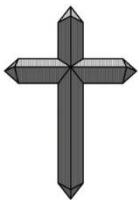
May 4, 2025

Welcoming all to walk together toward abundant life in Christ

The **ETERNAL LIGHT** this month is provided to the Glory of God by
The LCC Altar Guild in remembrance of our sainted friend ~ Joyce Schankin.
The **FLOWERS** on the altar this week are provided to the Glory of God by
Bob Trapp in memory of Bob & Marge's anniversary.

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Bell Tollers	Wayn Nelson, Bill Trueman
Elders on Duty	David Aiken, Wayn Nelson
Communion Assistant	Tim Boisseau, Brian Daily
Greeters/Ushers	Dorothy Christman, Gary Fleming
Altar Servers	Nancy Bird, Pam Specht
Safety Team	David Aiken, Mark Keck
Streaming Team	Marita Noe, Alex Scherer, Luke Stolarczyk



OFFICE HOURS:

By Phone: Monday – Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm
(941) 627-6060 ~ Fax: (941) 627-5467

By email: secretary@lccross.org

Find us on the Web: www.lccross.org

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel or Like us on Facebook.

IF YOU HAVE any comments, questions or suggestions, please contact:

Parish Administrator	Jennifer Strefling:	941-627-6060
Head Elder	Jim McCabe:	847-471-1421

In case of Emergency you may reach	<u>Pastor Stolarczyk:</u>	<u>Cell: 941-979-7490</u>
	<u>Pastor Menk:</u>	<u>Cell: 941-327-9453</u>

IN OUR PRAYERS

Homebound Care:

John & Lois Arens, Bob Bartelson, Fran Boatwright, George & Dee Buono, Laura Cox, Millie Cox, Dave & Gayle DeBraccio, Marv & Lil Fitzwater, Aida Florit, Bruce & Connie Frilstad, Betty Golembieski, Hedi Heinrich, Janet Jackson, Cris & Linda Kelly, Val Korman, Millie Tyczka

Strength, Healing, Guidance: *

Elliana & Katie	Family of Bill & Ronna Trueman; healing
Lisa Anne Denofrio	Daughter Tom & Krystyna Johnson; complications
Sam Jackson	Healing & recovery
Bruce Kirkland	Healing & recovery
The family of Elias Ruiz	Peace & understanding
Chris Sabin	Healing & recovery
Carol Scheff	Healing & recovery
Ronna Trueman	Recovery & strength
The family of John Vogel	Peace & understanding
Ken & Mary Werring	Recovery & healing
Debbie Zienert	Dave Diener's sister; peace & comfort

**Prayers will run for four consecutive weeks unless otherwise notified.*

Battling Cancer:

Adriana	Family Noel & Linda Hyde; diagnosed lymphoma
April	Friend of LCC; battling cancer
Ivana	Friend of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez; battling cancer
Jeanette	Sister of Augusto Vazquez; battling cancer
Mike	Son of Phil Woodruff; battling cancer
Rick Bausch	Son Barbara Durst; battling cancer
Dave DeBraccio	Battling with Leukemia, healing & strength
Bill Docherty	Brother-in-law Joy Hougan; battling cancer, surgery
Matt Doctor	Brother-in-law of Diane Barton; strength & peace
Tom Druin	Friend of Bill & Dorothy Christman; battling cancer
Randy Hornby	Friend of Dorothy Christman; battling cancer
Robert Jeffery	Brother of Jean Wrightsman; battling leukemia
John Kewn	Son-in-law Davis & Del Rozak; battling cancer
Todd Klietz	Battling cancer
Emily Reidel	Friend of Dave & Gayle DeBraccio; battling cancer
Patricia Ruiz	Family of Fadely/Maestas family; battling cancer
Lisa Sayers	Friend of LCC; battling cancer
Tracy Shattuck	Brother Meredith Kecken; battling cancer, healing
Carmen Torres	Sister-in-law of Augusto & Isabel Vazquez; cancer
Lori Truelove	Niece Joyce Schankin; cancer battle; strength, peace

Connie Warner
Michael Woodruff

Friend of Mary Woodruff; diagnosed lymphoma
Son of Phil & Mary Woodruff; battling cancer

Military:

US Army SSG. Paul Behling
USAF TSGT David Cope Jr.
US Army CSM Matt Hopkins
USAF Sr. Airman

Son of Ron & Cohleen Nottingham; stationed FL
Son of David and Shelly Cope stationed in NM
Grandson of Dave & Gayle DeBraccio; in Kuwait
Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; in FL

Shawn Golembieski
US Navy ENS Joe Golembieski
US Navy Seaman Nick Golembieski
USCG SCPO Robert Kecken
USAF SrA Riley Latarski
Marines LCPL Jonathan Metz
Marines LCPL Kyle Spilker
USAF TSGT Kalin McDonnell
US Army PFC Parker Woodruff
Bragg

Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; in VA
Grandson of Stan & Betty Golembieski; Seabound
Son Jerry & Meredith Kecken; stationed in CA
Granddaughter Bill & Dorothy Christman in ND
Grandson of Jerry & Joyce Metz; in MD
Grandson in law Chuck Anderson; in Japan
Granddaughter Bill & Dorothy Christman; in MA
Grandson of Larry & Delila Woodruff; in Fort

Family Prayer: We remember all our **families** during times of personal and family **trial and tribulation.**

We commend to our gracious God the body and soul of John Vogel, beloved member of LCC.

If you know of someone needing church prayers, please contact the church office at 941-627-6060. Be sure to have the name, relationship to the church family and what is the need for the prayer.

LCC ATTENDANCE REPORT
& WEEKLY INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT 2025

Week Of: 04/27/2025		
On-Site Attendance	Weekly Contributions	
	Income:	\$ 3,808
	Expense:	\$ 11,170

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

OFH = Old Fellowship Hall

Thurs-May 8	9:00am	Altar Guild Communion Set Up (Sacristy/Sanctuary)
		Shepherding Leaders Meeting (FMC)
Sat- May 10	9:00am	Stephen Ministry Supervision Meeting (FMC)
Sun-May 11		MOTHERS DAY
Wed-May 14	3:30pm	Board of Elders Meeting (OFH)
Sun-May 18	11:45am	LCC Voter's Meeting (FMC)
Tues-May 20	6:00pm	Church Council Meeting (OFH)
Sun-May 25		MILITARY APPECIATION SUNDAY

- ✝ There are some **FREE** hearing aid batteries located on the cubbies in the Narthex. If you are in need, please feel free to take as many as you need. Thank you to the anonymous donor who provided them!

- ✝ An exciting opportunity is here to get involved at LCC. Our **Altar Guild** is looking for new members to help them continue the important work in maintaining the beauty and reverence of our church sanctuary. Over the past few years, we've experienced a decline in volunteers due to life changes, and we'd love to welcome some fresh faces to our team! The commitment is minimal – we only require your service every few months, making it a manageable commitment for everyone, even those who are only here part of the year. Please contact Lori Nelson (941) 875-5295 or Joyce Spier (941) 276-3210 or the church office for more information or to sign up to help!

- ✝ Our Prayer Chain leader, Cheryl Domingo, will be away **May 13th - June 18th**. During this time, please direct all prayers to the church office at: secretary@lccross.org or by calling 941-627-6060. Jennifer will be overseeing the chain during Cheryl's travel. We appreciate your understanding and wish Cheryl & Romy safe travels!

- ✝ Join Pastor Stolarczyk's Thursday Bible Study – Lost Books?
 Ever wondered if some texts were intentionally excluded from the Bible and why? Can we be sure the correct texts made it into the Bible? In Lost Books? we will explore these questions with help of Dr. Paul Maier, Dr. Randall Price, Dr. Jeffrey Kloha and Bible Museum curator Joel Lampe.
 Join us on Thursdays through May 22nd to explore this topic at 10 AM in the FMC.

- ✝ This month we will be celebrating Armed Forces Sunday.
 On Sunday, May 25th we simply want to give thanks to God in honoring the men and women who faithfully answered the call to serve in our Nation's military. As part of military appreciation month, we will be requesting donations, which we will gather up (together with gifts received in November during our Veterans' Day celebration) and send outward to the active military individuals we pray for each week.
 We also will be sending "Appreciation" or "Thank You" cards to them. Please take a card from our table and sign and return them to us unsealed.
 If you have any other ideas or thoughts on how we can celebrate our troops and all that they sacrifice for us, please feel free to contact:

Nancy Carter: 863-307-6894 or cartern237@gmail.com
 Dorothy Christman: 203-417-2770 or djcgolf@att.com
 Marita Noe: 941-628-2295 or gem_ministry@yahoo.com

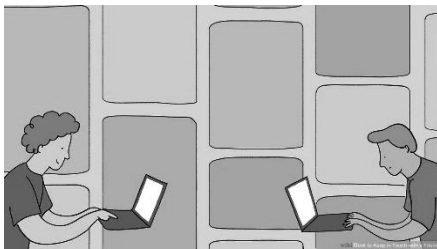


Beginning May 5th, the Church Parking Lot will be undergoing the resurfacing project. During this work time, we do anticipate some potential conflicts with our available parking. At this time, we do not have a set schedule or length of time in which these conflicts could take place. We do expect there to be times when spaces are limited/unavailable near the buildings, the loss of use of our portico drive through area and closures of several parking spaces at a time. We do expect these events to take place mostly during the work week, but we are unsure how they could negatively affect our weekend operations.

It is also uncertain how long this project will take so currently we are estimating a minimum of 4 weeks to expect these kinds of scenarios.

We do suggest that if you need special parking accommodation during this time, that you reach out to the church office before visiting the campus to ensure if ample parking would be available for your needs. If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to reach out to Ron Scheff (269) 250-0047 or call the church office. We do appreciate your understanding during this time.

For those wishing to keep in touch with Pastor & Mary Menk while they are back north – please note their Illinois info:



Rev. Jerry & Mary Menk
458 Kevin Lane
Grayslake IL 60030
Phone: 847-848-7698
grmenk133@gmail.com

Dear Lutheran Church of the Cross family,

I struggle to express my surprise and gratitude at receiving almost 50 birthday cards for my 50th birthday. Over several days, I opened, read, and reflected on the notes, images, and Scripture verses of every individual card and signature. As I did, I thought about your role in my life this past eight years and the kindness of God through my past experiences.

For some time, I had been contemplating the transition from 49 to 50, picturing black balloons, “over-the-hill” posters, and reminders that I may have more years behind me than ahead.

Yet your cards and your individual comments have shifted my perspective and have given me a renewed gratitude for God’s daily grace. They reminded me of the grace of God which is new every morning and which will sustain me through the days ahead. Most importantly, they reminded me that my greatest hope is not found in my days on this side of eternity, but in the sure and certain promise that Jesus is coming back soon. In fact, today we are all one more day closer to His return.

From the depths of my heart, I thank God for each of you at LCC. Your love and support make ministry a true joy and a calling from the Lord.

With gratitude, Pastor Stolarczyk

