

# SUNDAY APRIL 28TH, 2024

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



**OUR MISSION:** God calls us to live and share the amazing love and grace of Jesus Christ with all people.

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. Christ Lutheran Church is a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation that welcomes all. May God bless us in Word and Sacrament, music and community in our worship today. The service is complete in this bulletin. The spoken responses are **bolded text**. During your time at church today we recommend that you please wear a mask and practice social distancing, even if you have been vaccinated. Hand sanitizer and masks are available for all who wish to use them.

We acknowledge that our building of worship is built upon the territory of xučyun (Huichin), the unceded land stewarded by the Ohlone people who speak to their Creator and loved ones in the language of Chochenyo.

# INTRODUCTION

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

# GATHERING

# PRELUDE

# Welcome

# THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. <b>Amen.</b> Look, here is water!	entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia! At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John	
Here is our water of life! Alleluia! Immersed in the promises of baptism,	and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and	
let us give thanks for what God has done for		
us.	you opened the floodgates of your	
We give you thanks, O God, for in the	reconciling love,	
beginning	freeing us to live as Easter people.	
your voice thundered over the deep	We rejoice with glad hearts,	
and water became the essence of life.	giving all honor and praise to you,	
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.	through the risen Christ, our source of living	
The ark carried your creation through the	water,	
flood into a new day.	in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and	
Miriam led the dancing as your people	forever.	
passed through the sea	Amen.	
into freedom's land.	Look, here is water!	
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official	Here is our water of life! Alleluia!	
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# **GATHERING HYMN** — *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore You,God of glory, Lord of love;Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,Op'ning to the sun above.Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;Drive the dark of doubt away;Giver of immortal gladness,Fill us with the light of day!

2 All Your works with joy surround You, Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays, Stars and angels sing around You, Center of unbroken praise; Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain Praising You eternally! 3 Always giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest, Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest! Loving Father, Christ our Brother, Let Your light upon us shine; Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

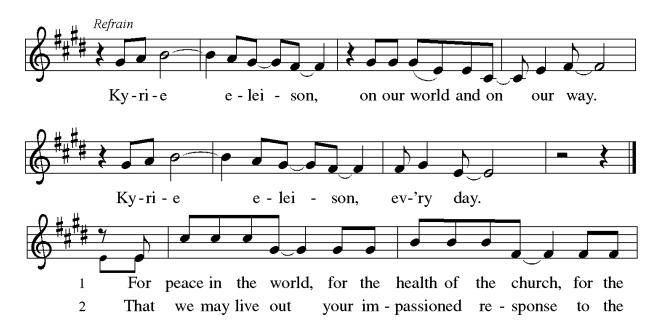
4 Mortals, join the mighty chorus, Which the morning stars began; God's own love is reigning o'er us, Joining people hand in hand. Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife; Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

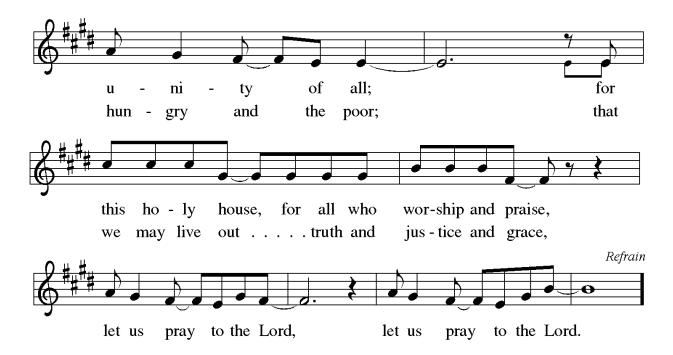
African American Heritage Hymnal, (2001)

### GREETING

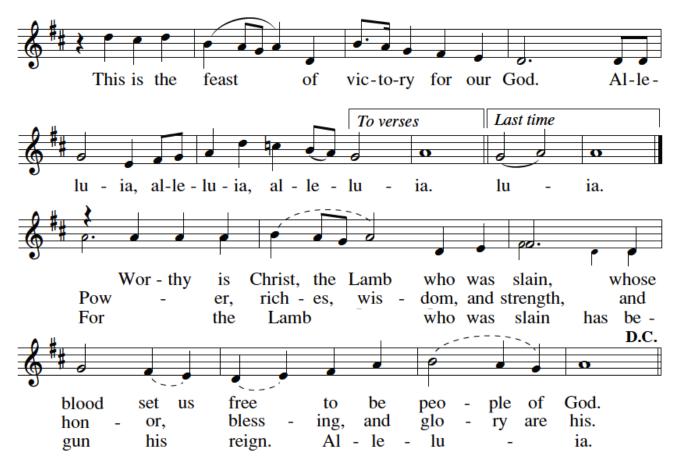
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

#### **KYRIE**





**HYMN OF PRAISE-** This is the Feast of Victory of our God



# PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

# Word

# FIRST READING-ACTS 8:26-40

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

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,

and like a lamb silent before its shearer,

- so he does not open his mouth.
- <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

# PSALM 22: 23-31

The congregation joins in singing the refrain:



I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the Lord. The lowly shall eat their fill; they who seek the LORD shall praise him: "May your hearts live forever!" **R** 

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families of the nations shall bow down before him. **R** 

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To him alone shall bow down all who sleep in the earth; before him shall bend all who go down into the dust. **R** 

And to him my soul shall live; my descendants shall serve him. Let the coming generation be told of the Lord that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born

# SECOND READING- 1 JOHN 4:7-21

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

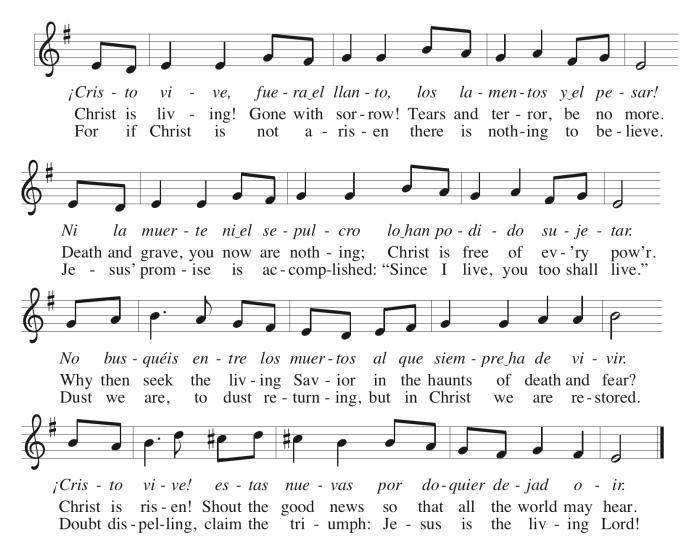
<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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



#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



# GOSPEL-JOHN 15:1-8

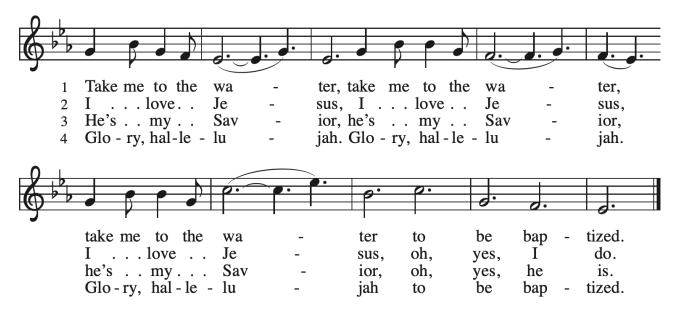
The Gospel According to... Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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

# SERMON-PR DEE EMMERT

HYMN OF THE DAY- ACS 957: Take Me to the Water



# THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

# **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering especially Karen, Julie, Sandy, Fred, Scott and Carol, Marty, George G., Maryann H., Michael H, Evie D., Pastor Sara, Elsa-Jennie and the family and friends of Roberta B., the family and friends of Shirley Cosgrove, and the family and friends of Ted E. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

### What else do the people of God pray for?

With thanksgiving for Dietrich Bonhoeffer and all the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.** 

# PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

# MEAL

Those worshipping online who wish to join in communion are invited to prepare elements at this time. For those in person—The white juice in the center rim is non-alcoholic, the red on the outside is wine. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

#### OFFERING

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

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

# 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. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...We praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

#### SANCTUS



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

With this bread and cup... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
O God of resurrection... Grace our table with your presence. Come, Holy Spirit.
Reveal yourself to us... burning with justice, peace, and love. Come, Holy Spirit.
With your holy ones... blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

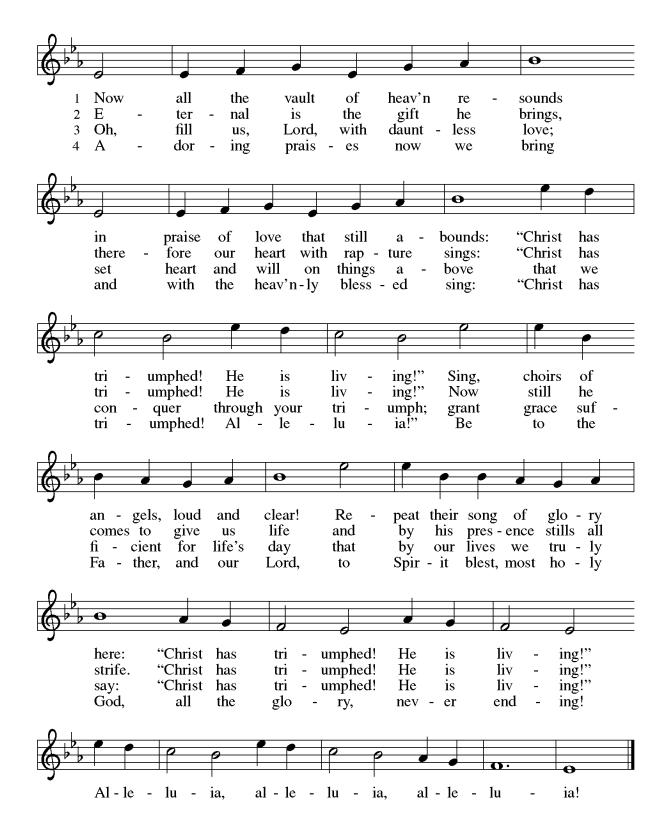
#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

COMMUNION HYMN- ELW 367: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

# SENDING

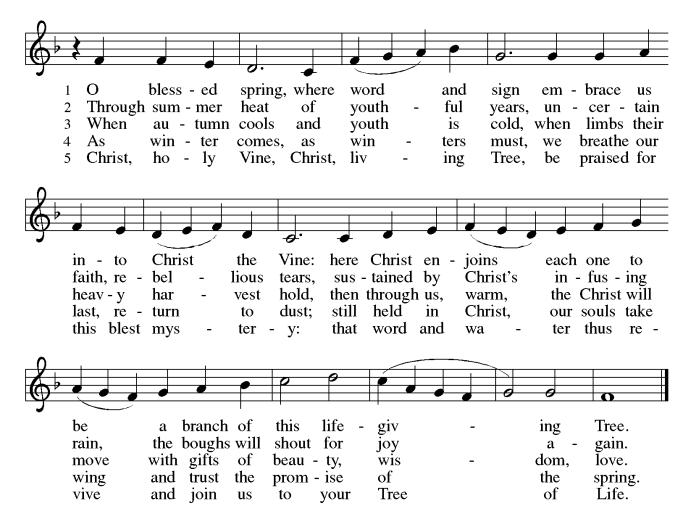
### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Announcements

#### BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!** The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always. **Amen.** 

### SENDING HYMN- ELW 447: O Blessed Spring



#### DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

### WORSHIP FROM HOME!

Join us and invite friends and neighbors to our Sunday worship service!

**Facebook Livestream:** Every Sunday morning there will be a video livestream of worship available on our church <u>Facebook page</u>.

**Online Bulletins:** Bulletins for each worship service are available online every week. To download a copy, go to the church website and visit our <u>Bulletins page</u>.

And Don't Forget Your Offering: Thank you for your continued financial support of Christ Lutheran. It is very much appreciated. Options for giving include bringing offerings in person, mailing checks, or giving electronically with Tithely. For the latter, simply click the "Giving" tab on the church website. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amy Tieku at 510-290-2125

### HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT CLC

#### Sunday

10:00ÅM CLC Worship 12:00PM Good Table Worship **Monday** 9:00-3:00 Senior Center 6:00-9:00 PM Irma's De Chico **Tuesday** 

7:00 PM Lady AA Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM Hand bell Ensemble Practice Saturday

**9:00 AM-12:00 PM—Church Clean Up** 6:00 PM Millenium AA Meeting

# PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

Julie D.	Marty S.	Joan
Mike and Liz S.	Molly B.	Pastor Doris Ng
Chad B.	Scott & Carol F.	Evie D.
TJ Baar	Mark M.	Dee
The Vale	George G.	Anna
Community	Philip Y.	Elsa-Jennie B.
Robin & Wendy	Maryann H.	Friends and
Sandy Z.	Michael H.	family of Roberta
Carolina S.	Heidi	B.
Orlando G.	Jan	Friends and family of Shirley
Karen H.	Roz	C.
Laurie P.	Pat	Friends and
Fred	Duwayne	family of Ted E.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

May 4th— 9am-12pm Church Clean Up- all hands on deck for a variety of jobs. Decision makers to heavy lifters needed.

May 18th— Church Garage Sale– volunteers needed 7am-3pm

**Choir Practice**— All are welcome! 9-9:30am May 12th, May 19th.

May 19th— Choir singing at Worship

June 7th-9th— Synod Assembly. Registration open!

# PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Ministers: The Congregation Presiding/Preaching: Pr. Dee Emmert Minister of Music: Daniel Alley Guitarists: George Fosselius & Randy Mayer Lector: Kim M Coffee Hour: Usher: Communion Set-up/Clean-up: Carla L. Worship Assistant: Flowers: Flower Ministry

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