

Fifth Sunday of Easter



April 28, 2024

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Assistive hearing devices are available from the ushers.
- Please silence your cell phone.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Please be respectful of people who use this time to prepare for worship.

Prelude *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*, arr. Thomas Keesecker

Welcome

Hymn **Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!**



1 Christ is ris-en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
2 Christ is ris-en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
3 Christ is ris-en! Earth and heav-en nev - er-more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
Tell its grim, de - mon - ic chor - us: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na, ev - 'ry - one!

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TURNBULL, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962

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Music © 2006 Thomas Pavlechko, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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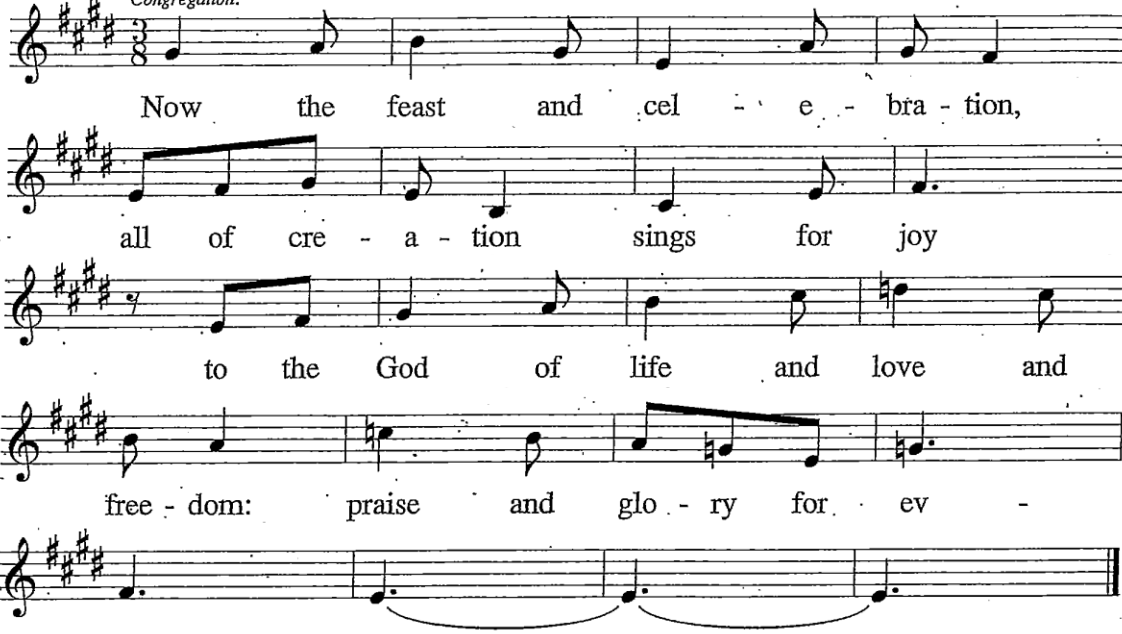
Greeting

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

Hymn of Praise

Refrain

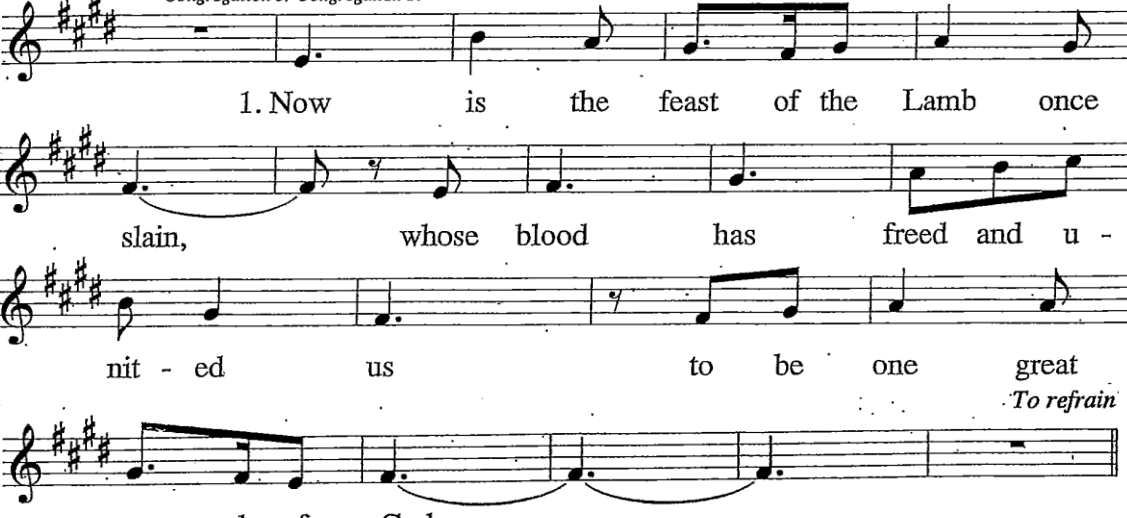
Congregation:



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 - more!

Verse 1:

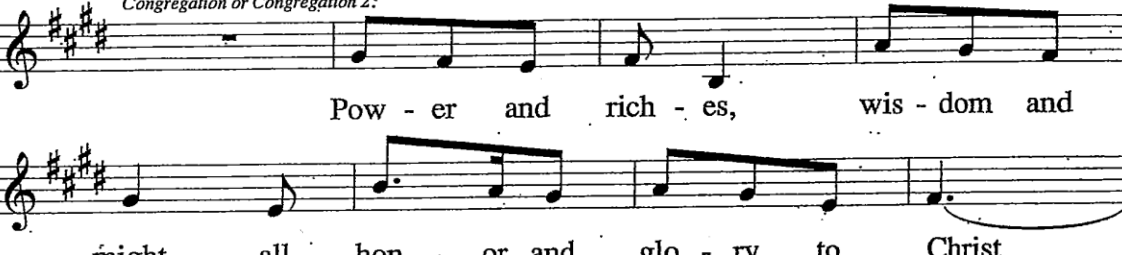
Congregation or Congregation 1:



1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great
peo - ple of God. *To refrain*

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:



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

To refrain

for ev - er.

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,

to make us peo - ple of God; to make

To refrain

all things new.

Please be seated

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading

Acts 8:26-40 (The Message, alt.)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God's angel spoke to the apostle, Philip: "At noon today I want you to walk over to that desolate road that goes from Jerusalem down to Gaza." He got up and went. He met an Ethiopian eunuch coming down the road. The eunuch had been on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and was returning to Ethiopia, where he was minister in charge of all the finances of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. He was riding in a chariot and reading the prophet Isaiah.

The Spirit told Philip, "Climb into the chariot." Running up alongside, Philip heard the eunuch reading Isaiah and asked, "Do you understand what you're reading?"

He answered, "How can I without some help?" and invited Philip into the chariot with him. The passage he was reading was this:

As a sheep led to slaughter,
and quiet as a lamb being sheared,
He was silent, saying nothing.

He was mocked and put down,
never got a fair trial.

But who now can count his kin
since he's been taken from the earth?

The eunuch said, "Tell me, who is the prophet talking about: himself or some other?" Philip grabbed his chance. Using this passage as his text, he preached Jesus to him.

As they continued down the road, they came to a stream of water. The eunuch said, "Here's water. Why can't I be baptized?" He ordered the chariot to stop. They both went down to the water, and Philip baptized him on the spot. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of God suddenly took Philip off, and that was the last the eunuch saw of him. But he didn't mind. He had what he'd come for and went on down the road as happy as he could be.

Philip showed up in Azotus and continued north, preaching the Message in all the villages along that route until he arrived at Caesarea.

May we open ourselves to what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Amen.**

Psalm 22:25-31



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live
forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
who rules o- | ver the nations.**

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore
the LORD.

**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**

They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!"

Please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat optional*

Gospel

John 15:1-8 (The Message, alt.)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

During the Last Supper, Jesus said to his disciples, “I am the Real Vine and my Abba God is the Farmer. My Abba cuts off every branch of me that doesn’t bear grapes. And prunes back every branch that is grape-bearing so it will bear even more. You are already pruned back by the message I have spoken.

“Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can’t bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can’t bear fruit unless you are joined with me.

“I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you’re joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can’t produce a thing. Anyone who separates from me is deadwood, gathered up and thrown on the bonfire. But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. This is how my Abba God is revealed—when you produce grapes, when you mature as my disciples.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Message

Who Are Your Vines?

Musical Reflection

Love Lifted Me

Howard E. Smith, arr. Sandra Eithun
Chime Choir

I was sinking deep in sin,
Far from the peaceful shore,
Very deeply stained within,
Sinking to rise no more;
But the Master of the sea
Heard my despairing cry,
From the waters lifted me—
Now safe am I.

Refrain:

Love lifted me,
Love lifted me,
When nothing else could help,
Love lifted me. (*Repeat*)

All my heart to Him I give,
Ever to Him I'll cling,
In His blessed presence live,
Ever His praises sing.
Love so mighty and so true
Merits my soul's best songs;
Faithful, loving service, too,
To Him belongs. [*Refrain*]

Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

**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.**

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

After each petition: "Your mercy is great, O God." **Receive our prayer.**
Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy,
Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and
her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece
Michele Wolfe, Maddie Sutphin, Skye Andree, Carolyn Moehring, Kris Kauffman,
Emily Ott's aunt Kathy Richter, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, John Kennedy's
sister and brother-in-law, Becky & Vic Wolfe, Kathie Ehrich, Elaine Warren,
David Williams, Rose Jordan, Mary Watt, Lorien Dana
For the people of Intercessor Lutheran Mission in Columbus
For Redeemer community members Sue and Tim Watson

Time with the Young People

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Members are encouraged to move around the sanctuary to greet each with a hearty handshake or a hug.

For those who have special concerns or who do not wish close contact, please offer a sign of blessing to let others know you are more comfortable greeting them from a distance.

We will continue to take a moment to greet those who are worshiping via livestream before greeting those in the sanctuary.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.



In body or spirit, please stand

Offertory

You Are Holy

1*

You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2

You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* *May be sung in canon.*

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÅR HELIG, Per Harling

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Great Thanksgiving

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 God thanks and praise." The score is divided into parts for the Presider and the Congregation. The Presider's part is indicated by the label "Presider:" above the first staff, and the Congregation's part is indicated by "Congregation:" above the second staff. The Presider's part continues through the third and fourth staves, and the Congregation's part continues through the fifth and sixth staves.

Presider: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al - so with
Presider: you. *Congregation:* Lift up your hearts. We
Presider: lift them to the Lord. Let us give
Congregation: thanks to the Lord our God. It is
right to give God thanks and praise.

We stand in the resurrection garden of God – a place filled and shaped by love and ripe with all it might become when we are open to the Spirit’s life and ours becoming one. This is the table of the risen Christ – a place fashioned and furnished by love and rich with its promises. So come – whether you have seen and believed, or are dubious and doubting still, whether you confess confidently, or come to this meal with a fragile, fearful heart. Come and share these gifts of grace, encounter Christ. Come and be healed by Love and transformed by Life.

We remember with wonder and joy that Love, though broken on a cross, was not defeated. We rejoice that Love, though swallowed by death, was not silenced. Neither defeated nor silenced, Love lives and speaks words of welcome, healing and hope to all. In awe of all you have done and all you are doing through us, we join our voices with that of Creation and with all those who bear witness across the world and throughout the ages to the eternal power of your Love and Life:

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
 One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Before the bright dawn in the garden in which Love was resurrected, before the cold silence of the tomb by which Love was swallowed, before the brutal horror of the cross on which Love was broken, before the bitter struggle of the Gethsemane garden through which Love affirmed its choices, Jesus ate a final supper with his friends.

He took bread, blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take this, and eat! This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me." After supper, he took a cup of wine and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

And so we pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

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.**

Recalling that meal and honoring that life, eating this bread and drinking this cup, we thank you, God, for making us part of the ongoing story of your Love and Life. Now, we pray, send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine, that we may once again encounter Christ's Love and be transformed by Christ's Life.

Sharing the Meal

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.
So do we.

Please be seated

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.



Hymn

Beautiful Savior

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in God's flow'rs and bloom - ing spring;
 bright in the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

Hymn

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Refrain

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
 this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.
 Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin
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Please stand in body or spirit

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give you thanks, Holy God, that in this meal, Jesus Christ, Love resurrected, has met us once again in this garden and touched and transformed us with Life. May the peace of the Resurrected One – the challenging peace of committed life, the liberating peace of selfless love, the vibrant peace of new possibility – recall us to radical living, empower us for rich loving, and transform us with radiant joy. **Alleluia! Amen.**

WE ARE SENT

Hymn

Let All Things Now Living



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



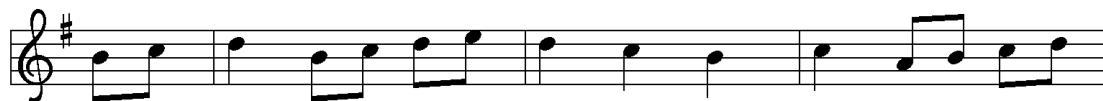
God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

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Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

Let All Things Now Living, arr. John Carter

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The communion liturgy is adapted from "Enter with Joy," by Pat Bennett, published by Wild Goose Publications.
The Message (MSG) ©1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002 Eugene H. Peterson

Dave Shull on Vacation April 29-May 12

Dave is taking two weeks' vacation, beginning Monday morning, April 29. He will return to work on Monday, May 13.

If you have an emergency pastoral care need while he is away, please contact the Rev. Julianne Smeck, pastor of Hope Lutheran Church. You can reach her at 734-972-6126.

Redeemer Member Al Rider will preach and preside at the table on May 5. Redeemer member and Trinity Lutheran Seminary student Naomi Morgan will preach on May 12; Larry Trover presides at the table that day.



Adult Ed – April 28, 11:15 am

The Director and three intervention specialists from the Columbus Violence Reduction program will speak to us about the work of this new city initiative. The BREAD organization worked tirelessly to convince the city of the value of such a program. Now up and running, it is doing remarkable work building relationships with members of gangs who are open to living a different kind of life.

In-Person and Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88957366923?pwd=TnV6cFB4ZUpET25USTgzZ0diZlhnQT09>

Meeting ID: 889 5736 6923 = Passcode: 383835
Phone only: 1-312-626-6799



LSS Food Pantry

***First Wednesdays
12:30-4:00 pm***

***Contact Kathleen Zwanziger
to volunteer***



Sister Act

***WALKING HUMBLLY WITH GOD
Understanding Justice***

Learning about Palestine

Wednesday May 1 – 6:30 pm

Please join us for fellowship and service



Fans! Fans! and more Fans!

Sister Act is again sponsoring the collection of **box fans** to be distributed at our June 20 food giveaway. The goal for this year is **170 fans**.

You may either donate fans [watch for sales!] or make a monetary contribution for the purchase of fans – just put “fans” in the check memo.

If you have questions, contact Julianne Johnson.



Come Together as a Community of Hope

Join us as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of Alfred Tibor's Promise for Life sculpture commemorating Holocaust survivors. Let us promise to never forget and stand united against hate.

SUNDAY, MAY 5
2 P.M.

TRINITY LUTHERAN SEMINARY
2199 E. Main St.



Registration is required. Please scan the QR code.



Bible Study
St. Paul's

Letter to the Romans

Tuesdays + 1:00 pm
Beginning May 14

In-Person and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82259660622?pwd=R2pHTWl1bHR0N1FHbFRZdStqbK9Bdz09>
Meeting ID: 822 5966 0622 = Passcode: 435549
Phone only: 1-301 715 8592



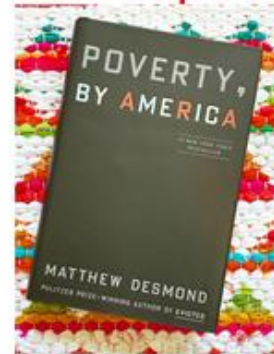
2024
DIRECTORY UPDATE

Copies available
in church office

Followers of Jesus,
sharing God's love with all
...an adventure for life

Summer Book Study

Wednesdays
June 19 & 26
July 3 & 10
7-8:30 pm



Matthew Desmond's Poverty, By America

Join us to discuss a book that begins with the statement: "The United States, the richest country on earth, has more poverty than any other advanced democracy. Why?"

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Kathleen Zwanziger
Cantor	Wendy Stoica
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Ashley Bird
Verger	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica
Communion Prep	Kathleen Zwanziger, Naomi Morgan
Producers	Michele Disbro, Sue Yehling
Hospitality	Joanie and Dave Engel

*Flowers are given by **Margie Frazier and Dave Lippert** in memory of **their parents**.
Noisy Offering will go to World Central Kitchen.*

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER APRIL 28 – MAY 5

Today	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
	12:30 pm	Youth Gathering
Wednesday	12:30 pm	RLC at LSS Food Pantry
	6:30 pm	Sister Act – Understanding Justice
Next Sunday	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education



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Office hours –9am-1pm, Mon-Wed; 9am-noon Thu
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America