

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



RUTH 1:1-17 AND JOHN 20:19-31

“RESURRECTION ENCOUNTER: THOMAS”

The risen Christ creates a community of forgiven sinners.

Let us rejoice in His Presence always.

2ND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

APRIL 7, 2024

lutheranchapelchurch.org

(704) 864-6491

LUTHERAN CHAPEL
APRIL 7, 2024
2ND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

***BOLD** indicates congregational responses.
* Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.*

GATHER

WELCOME

Who are you? We are children of God (1 John 3:2). What is our mission? The mission of Lutheran Chapel is to share God's love.

PRELUDE

"Jesu, Our Joy"

arr. Jay Rouse

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

1 John 1:8-9

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:1-17

- 1. You shall have no other gods.**
- 2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.**
- 3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.**
- 4. Honor your father and mother.**
- 5. You shall not murder.**
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.**
- 7. You shall not steal.**
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).**

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Mark 12:28-31

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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 loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958
 Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
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*THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

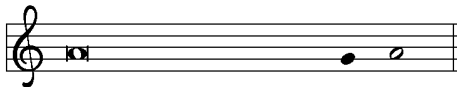
2 Corinthians 13:13

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

C: And also with you.

***THE KYRIE**

Mark 10:47



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



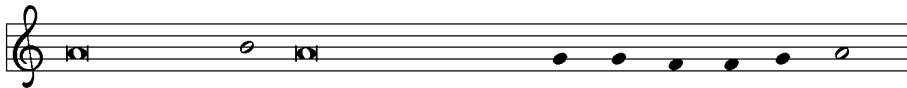
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

***GLORY TO GOD**

Luke 2:14, John 1:29

Assisting minister



A single musical staff in G major, 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody begins with a half rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



A single musical staff in G major, 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



A single musical staff in G major, 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4.

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



A single musical staff in G major, 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



A single musical staff in G major, 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4.

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



A single musical staff in G major, 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4.

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



A single musical staff in G major, 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



A single musical staff in G major, 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4.

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



A single musical staff in G major, 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F#4.

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

(In Unison)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

C: Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All children who want to come forward for the Children's Message are welcome to do so. Let the little children come unto our Lord always!

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

RUTH 1:1-17

Ruth along with the rest of the Moabites and other –ite people are supposed to be wiped out since the Conquest. Yet here the faith of Ruth in the LORD and her mother-in-law builds the foundation for the coming King.

¹In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. ²The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, ⁵both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. ⁷So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. ⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. ¹⁰They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." ¹¹But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹²Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, ¹³would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." ¹⁴Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." ¹⁶**But Ruth said,**

**"Do not press me to leave you
or to turn back from following you!**

**Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge,
your people shall be my people,
and your God my God.**

¹⁷**Where you die, I will die —
there will I be buried.**

**May the LORD do thus and so to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!"**

L: The Word of the Lord.

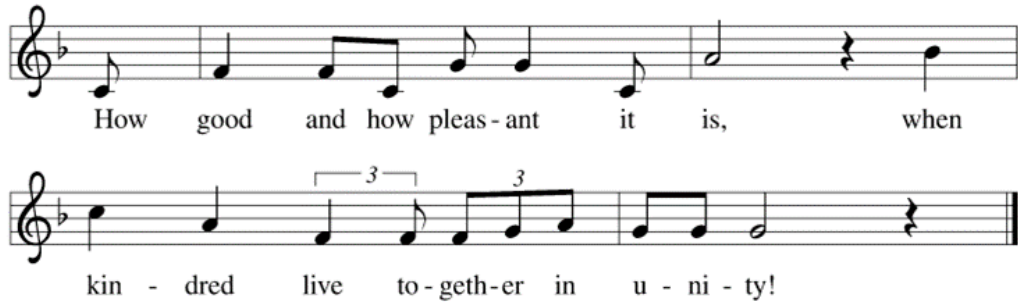
C: **Thanks be to God.**

STORY OF SALVATION TIMELINE

*The timeline below offers an overview of the Story of Salvation lesson from Genesis to Revelation. The + marks where we are now. A **memory verse is in bold**. A weekly Bible study is available as an in-person study on Sundays at 9am in Sunday School or Thursdays at 11am as well as online at lutheranchapelchurch.org. There are also printed copies in the prayer racks. Claim the gift for yourself!*

*Creation : Fall : Promise : Exodus : Conquest : + **Judges**: Kings and Prophets : Exile :
Restoration : 2nd Temple : JESUS : Apostles : Last Day : New Creation*

PSALM 133



Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary*
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It is like fine oil upon the head,
flowing, flowing down upon the beard,
Upon the beard of Aaron,
flowing, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.

Refrain

It is like the dew, the dew of Hermon
flowing, flowing down upon the hills of Zion.
For the Lord, has commanded the blessing;
life forevermore.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 JOHN 1:1--2:2

The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—
²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If

we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

John 6:68

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

***GOSPEL**

JOHN 20:19-31

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

Response after the announcement:

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

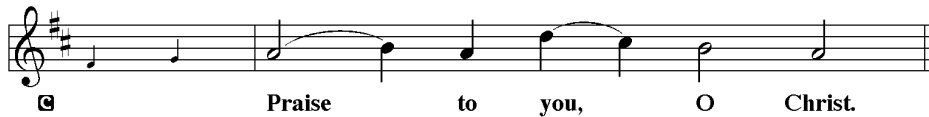
¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

“Resurrection Encounter: Thomas”

The Journey of Ruth the Moabite

Doubting Thomas, Believing Thomas

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus’ saving power: The doubt and joyless practice of religion is not of the risen Christ but a caricature of true faith.

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus’ ultimate saving power: In the risen Jesus we may rejoice, laugh, question, and trust in Him that all will be well.

So What? Doubt and faith go together in surprising ways. Trust Christ. Dare to question and explore.



1 The ris - en Christ, who walks on wound-ed feet
 2 The ris - en Christ, who stands with wound-ed side,
 3 The ris - en Christ, who breaks with wound-ed hand
 4 May we, Christ's bod - y, walk and serve and stand



from gar - den tomb through dark - ened cit - y street,
 breathes out his Spir - it on them to a - bide
 the bread for those who fail to un - der - stand,
 with those op - pressed in this and ev - 'ry land,



un - locks the door of grief, de - spair, and fear,
 whose faith still wa - vers, who dare not be - lieve;
 re - veals him - self, de - spite their lin - g'ring tears,
 till all are blessed and can a bless - ing be,



and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
 new grace, new strength, new pur - pose they re - ceive.
 en - flames their hearts, then quick - ly dis - ap - pears.
 re - stored in Christ to true hu - man - i - ty.

Text: Nigel Weaver, b. 1952

Music: WOODLANDS, Walter Greatorex, 1877-1949

Text © 1993 Nigel Weaver.

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*THE NICENE CREED

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

AM: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond **Hear our prayers.**

Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.

AM: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

THE MEAL

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

MUSICAL OFFERING

CHANCEL CHOIR

“We Walk by Faith and not by Sight”

Michael D. Costello

We walk by faith and not by sight; With gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e’er spoke: “My peace be with you here.”

We may not touch your hands and side, Nor follow where you trod;
But in your promise we rejoice, And cry, “My Lord and God!”

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief, And may our faith abound
To call on you when you are near, And seek where you are found:

That, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light
We may behold you are you are, With full and endless sight.

***OFFERTORY**

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

(In Unison)

C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

2 Timothy 4:22, Colossians 3:1, Psalm 136

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 our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure. 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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

***PREFACE FOR THE DAY AND THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** *Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,', 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.', 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes', and 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22, 1 Corinthians 11

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9-13

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

***LAMB OF GOD**

John 1:29



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

***DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

All baptized Christians are welcome to Holy Communion. Here we receive forgiveness, the gift of abiding in Jesus, the remembrance of His sacrificial love for us on the Cross, and the promise of eternal life (Luke 24:13-35, John 6:22-59, 1 Cor. 11:23-26). Please request grape juice or gluten free bread if needed. Taste and see the LORD is good (Psalm 34:8)!

Please take your communion cup as you leave and discard in trashcan.

P: This is the body of Christ given for you. This is the blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"I Am the Bread of Life"

ELW #485

Leader or All

1 "I am the Bread of life. You who
 2 "The bread that . . . I will give is my
 3 "Un - less . . . you . . . eat of the
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion,
 5 Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that

come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the life. If you be -
 you are the Christ, the

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, and you shall . . . live for -
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in . . . me, e - ven . . . though you
 Son of God, who have

me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er, you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to the world.

Refrain
 All

"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,

and I will raise you up on the last day."



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



- 1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;
- 2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
- 3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
- 4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,



you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

Text: Anonymous
Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous

SENDING

*THE BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

***SONG OF SIMEON**

Luke 2:29-32



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

AM: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
 where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Chorale Prelude”

Healy Willan

† † † † † † † †

OUR ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God in honor of Pauline Bradley’s 87th birthday by Jill and Scott and Family.

THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY

- Ministers People of Lutheran Chapel
- Pastor Michael Comer
- Administrative Assistant Becky Shaw
- Director of Music Kathie Riebe
- Choir Accompanist..... Jeanette Myers
- Assistant Minister..... Norman Overcash
- Lector..... Adrian Thornburg
- AcolyteRenwick Royston
- Crucifer..... Maddie Potter
- Head Ushers Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
- First Aid/AED/CPR..... Debra Hoffman
- Council Members of the MonthDrew Carpenter & Steve Ritchie

PARISH NEWS

NURSERY ATTENDANTS BY REQUEST: If your family is in need of a nursery attendant during the 10:00 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our standby attendants.

RESTROOMS: Restrooms are located on the bottom floor of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are located in the Educational Building and *do not require the use of stairs*. If needed, please see an usher for assistance in locating them.

ESTHER CIRCLE: Esther Circle will meet in the Fellowship Hall on **Monday, April 8 at 10am.**

REBECCA CIRCLE: Rebecca Circle will meet at the home of Suzie Ward (3015 Colony Ridge Dr.) on **Monday, April 8 at 7pm.** Gwen Lewis will provide the program.

CLOTHING GIVEAWAY: The *Outreach Committee* will be hosting an indoor/outdoor Clothing Giveaway on **Saturday, April 13.**

OWLS: Our next *OWL-standing* time of fellowship will be held at Strawberry Hill (Chesnee, SC) on **Thursday, April 18 at 11am.** *The church van will be leaving at 9:45.* We hope you'll join us.

CONGREGATIONAL COOKOUT: Please plan to attend a cookout on **Tuesday, May 14th @ 6:00pm** *under the picnic shelter* sponsored by the Men of the Church. There will be hamburgers, hotdogs, and all the trimmings. If you desire, bring a lawn chair, and come for a good meal, relaxation, and conversation with our church family. Hope to see you there!

DAILY PRAYER

A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!: Each morning and evening, pray to the LORD. Sunrise, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1*). A simple order is: **Sign of the Cross + Psalms + Bible in a Year + Canticle + Hymns + Prayers + Blessing.**

FEAST OF PSALMS: *Easter*

	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
AM	9, 16	30, 33	66, 93	99, 100	114, 115	118, 124	147, 148
PM	23, 24	47, 49	96, 98	111, 113	116, 117	145, 146	149, 150

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 15 April 7 to April 14, 2024

04/07 Morning Reading: Luke 9:18-36—Evening Reading: 1 Samuel 7, 8, 9

04/08 Morning Reading: Luke 9:37-62—Evening Reading: 1 Samuel 10, 11, 12

04/09 Morning Reading: Luke 10:1-24—Evening Reading: 1 Samuel 13, 14

04/10 Morning Reading: Luke 10:25-42—Evening Reading: 1 Samuel 15, 16

04/11 Morning Reading: Luke 11:1-28—Evening Reading: 1 Samuel 17, 18

04/12 Morning Reading: Luke 11:29-54—Evening Reading: 1 Samuel 19, 20, 21

04/13 Morning Reading: Luke 12:1-31—Evening Reading: 1 Samuel 22, 23, 24

04/14 Morning Reading: Luke 12:32-59—Evening Reading: 1 Samuel 25, 26

Morning: “*Song of Zechariah*” (Luke 1:68-79) **Evening:** “*Song of Mary*” (Luke 1:46-55)

Traditional Song: “*Thine is the Glory*” ELW #376

Sing a New Song: “*Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*” W&P #90

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Braylon Beam, Steve Bell, Olivia Berghello, Faye Anne Boyette, Shirley Bradley, Buddy Carothers, Miles Carpenter, Charles Edwards, Kathy Finch, Linda Hamilton, Henry Hoffman, **Ashton Knauf**, Nancy Rankin, Trish Ratchford, Doug Rhyne, Kay Robinson, **Pat Robinson**, Barbara Robinson, Joe Veale, and Gene & Myra Weaver

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Sheila Abernathy, John Austin, Sam Bell, Rick Belton, Stuart Boben, Deborah Carpenter, Jeff Cobb, Doris Coggins, Mary Collins, Carol Coutant, Tucker Doyne, Jameson Franklin, Mark Harrelson, Hanna Hayes, Alfred Helms, Chuck Huffstickler, Wade Huss, Michael Jemison, Rick Knowles, Bill Lankford, Pastor Terrell Long, Paul Nordberg, Rita Pasour, Randy Reel, Holt Robinson, Morgan Rosser, Dakota Shuford, Christy Carpenter Smith, Denise Smith, Marshall Snelgrove, Charlene Sorenson, Lisa Swilley, Becky Van Dyke, and Anthony Wynn.

To share concerns and updates for the prayer list you can contact the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439).

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



Wednesday, April 10 ~ Evening Prayer Service

Psalm 18 “*Battle Song of David*”

Thursday, April 11 ~ Story of Salvation Bible Study

Ruth 1:1-17 *The Faithful Moabite*

Sunday, April 14 ~ Service of the Word

2 Samuel 7:1-17 and Luke 24: 36-48 “*Resurrection Encounter: Road to Emmaus*”

CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, APRIL 7 - SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

- Sun-07** 8:00 am Breakfast (Family Life Center)
 9:00 am Sunday School
 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
 11:30 am Chancel Choir
 8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
- Mon-08** 8:30 am Preschool
 10:00 am Esther Circle (Fellowship Hall)
 7:00 pm Rebecca Circle @ home of Suzie Ward
- Tues-09** 8:30 am Preschool
 10:00 am Clothing Closet Workday
 7:00 pm CBS (Conference Room, Chapel, Classrooms)
- Wed-10** 8:30 am Preschool
 5:30 pm Chapel Ringers
 7:00 pm Evening Prayer Service (Chapel)
- Thur-11** 8:30 am Preschool
 11:00 am Bible Study (Library)
- Fri-12** 9:00 am CBS (Fellowship Hall)
- Sat-13** **8:00 am Set-up for Clothing Giveaway**
 9:30 am Hungry Peeps Support Group (Fellowship Hall)
 1:00 pm Break down of Clothing Giveaway

Excursus: On the Judges

The period of the Judges (approximately 1400 to 1000 BC) was a time of struggle. The conquest of Canaan, accomplished largely in the days of Joshua, began to fall apart. The temptations of Canaanite tribes, intermarriage, and false gods led the twelve tribes of Israel astray leading to a cycle of fall into mess, oppression, and eventual deliverance through the various judges the LORD lifted up. Judges such as Deborah, Gideon, Samson, and others were filled by the “Spirit of the LORD” (re: Judges 14:6) to save Israel. The period ends with a horrific civil war between the tribes of Israel almost wiping out the tribe of Benjamin (Judges 19-21). The book of Ruth is a powerful story of both loss and faithful perseverance set in this period. The last judge, Samuel, sets the stage for the time of the Kings and Prophets.

Journey of Samuel, Judge and Prophet

Call of the LORD

Samuel, last of the Old Testament judges and first of the prophets after Moses, lived during the 11th century B.C. The child of Elkanah, an Ephraimite, and his wife Hannah, Samuel was from early on consecrated by his parents for sacred service and trained in the house of the Lord at Shiloh by Eli the priest. His mother sang the Song of Hannah giving thanks for his birth (1 Samuel 2). Samuel’s authority as a prophet was established by God (1 Samuel 3:20). As a youth, Samuel was given the difficult call to rebuke Eli and the abuses done by his sons against their people (1 Samuel 3:10-14).

Ebenezer – Thus Far the LORD Has Helped Us

The Philistines continue to go in power. In a catastrophic defeat, the armies of Israel are beaten and the Ark of the Covenant is taken away. Over a course of seven months, the LORD afflicts the Philistines with plagues and desecration of their idol Dagon (1 Samuel 5-6). Eventually the Philistines put the Ark out of their territories. Samuel prayed to the LORD for strength to defeat the Philistines and won a great victory. The Ebenezer stone was erected as a remembrance of this. Samuel kept a circuit of visits throughout the tribes as he judged the tribes and lived in Ramah. Yet his sons, Joel and Abijah, did not follow in their father’s faithfulness and instead took bribes and perverted justice (1 Samuel 8:1-3).

Anointing of Kings

This led to Israel’s desire for a king. Samuel argued mightily against this insisting the LORD alone is the true King (1 Samuel 8 and 12). He relented when the LORD called him to anoint Saul as the first King of United Israel (1 Samuel 10:1). Sadly, as a result of Saul’s disobedience to God, Samuel ended up repudiating Saul’s leadership. The LORD called Saul to anoint the boy David to eventually be king in place of Saul (16:13).

Death and Legacy

The death of Samuel is reported at 1 Samuel 25:1. Then there is a mysterious appearance of Samuel after his death when he comes to King Saul and the Witch of Endor and announces the coming death of the King (1 Samuel 28). Samuel’s loyalty to God, his spiritual insight, and his ability to inspire others made him one of Israel’s great leaders. The commemoration day (heavenly birthday) for Samuel in Lutheran and Orthodox churches is on August 20.

So What? Plain Sense Stuff: The truth will set you free (John 8:32). It may not make you popular or win worldly support but truth telling set Samuel free when he honestly rebuked Eli and his family, his own adult sons, and even King Saul. Samuel put God’s call first in his life, then his country, family, etc. Samuel speaking after death is a strange story that reminds us of the mystery of life after death. Samuel’s humility led him to anoint kings even though he thought the monarchy was wrong for his nation.