

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our mission is to celebrate and share God's love in Jesus Christ

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have



loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

John 17:20-26

Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 29, 2022 at 8:15 & 11:00 AM
Liturgy of Holy Communion
Now the Feast and Celebration

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL'S!

If you are visiting with us for the first time, please share in all that is ours in Christ! We invite you to consider making St. Michael's your church home. Please ask us about our participation in God's mission in the world. By God's grace we celebrate and share Christ.

Our worship services this morning are streamed live to St. Michael's Facebook and YouTube pages. Please keep conversation to a minimum in the sanctuary, you may be picked up by our sound system. If you prefer not to be seen on camera please speak to an usher and they will seat you outside of the video frame. Thank you for your understanding.

Ministers: The People of St. Michael's
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INTRODUCTION

It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The assembly is invited to stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

ALL: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN #389 “Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing” TRURO

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev’ry place and time.
- 3 In ev’ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936 Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

GREETING

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

ALL: And also with you.

KYRIE

Cantor: In peace, in peace...

Refrain

Cantor: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

to Verses

Cantor: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all...

Refrain

Cantor: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

to Verses

Cantor: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word...

Refrain

Cantor: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

to Verses

Cantor: Help, save, and defend us, O...

Congregation:

God. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Now the Feast”

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



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.

Refrain



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain



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



God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

The assembly is seated

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING

Acts 16:16-34

Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

Lector: A reading from Acts.

¹⁶One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.” ¹⁸She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour. ¹⁹But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them

into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹ and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.” ²²The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. ²⁷When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” ²⁹The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” ³¹They answered, “Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” ³²They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, “Come, Lord Jesus,” with all who respond to this invitation.

Lector: A reading from Revelation.

¹²“See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” ¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. ¹⁶“It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.” ¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let everyone who hears say, “Come.” And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. ²⁰The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! ²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

The assembly is invited to stand.

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!

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL:

John 17:20-26

Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.

Pastor: The holy gospel according to John.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know

you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated

SERMON

The assembly is invited to stand.

NICENE CREED

ALL: 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

THE PRAYERS

Assisting Minister: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation, responding with “hear our prayer.”

A brief silence.

Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love. God, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Make worthy the work of scientists who look to the stars and planets, as well as scientists who look to atoms and molecules. Bring innovation and well-being to humanity through their discoveries. God, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. God, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry especially...those we name aloud now...and those we hold in our hearts. Open them to receive health and salvation in Christ Jesus through the Spirit's gift of faith. God, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Stir imagination and understanding throughout the church in the work of poets, theologians, and hymnwriters. Lead us into new visions and fresh expressions of your presence. God, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Pastor: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

ALL: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

ALL: And also with you.

The assembly is seated

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Offering is being gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. You are invited to place your offering in one of the offering plates located in the

rear of the Sanctuary or send your offering to the church office through the mail or by having your bank mail a check directly. You can also contribute using any of the electronic giving options found on our church website.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates”

The assembly is invited to stand.

OFFERTORY

“As the Grains of Wheat”



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,

2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.

all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen

Music: Marty Haugen

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seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is as follows:

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pastor: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

ALL: Come, Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **ALL: Come, Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **ALL: Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

LAMB OF GOD



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha-tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus-tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer-cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text: ICET; additional text by Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

The assembly is seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All who are guided by faith to receive the Lord's Supper are welcome at Christ's table. We give thanks as we receive the real presence of our resurrected Lord in, with, and under the bread and the wine. **Communion will be distributed continuously, in household groups, under the direction of the usher.** Take an empty cup to receive from a pouring chalice (let the communion assistant know if you prefer grape juice). Please let the pastor know if you require a gluten free host. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you." and each person may respond, "Amen". Worshippers who are not yet communing are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

After all have communed the assembly is invited to stand if able.

TABLE BLESSING

Pastor: The Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in Christ's Grace. **All: Amen.**

SONG AFTER COMMUNION

Congregation:



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



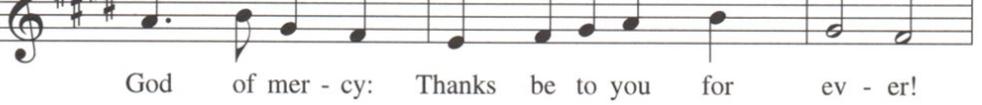
Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your



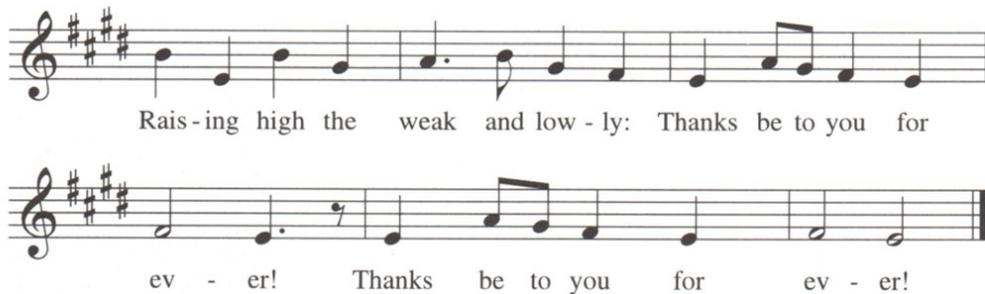
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of



life with us. 3. Praise to you, O



God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **ALL: Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Pastor: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, + bless you now and forever. **ALL: Amen**

SENDING HYMN “Crown Him with Many Crowns” *DIADEMATA ELW 855*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>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.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>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 burning eyes
at mysteries so bright.</p> | <p>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.</p> |

5 Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894, sts. 1-3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 4

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

ALL: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” MATERNA

Upcoming Commemorations

Jiri Tranovský, hymnwriter, died 1637

Sunday, May 29, 2022

Tranovský is considered to be the father of Slovak hymnody as well as an important reformer of the Slavic church. He translated the Augsburg Confession (the basis of Lutheran teachings) and published a collection of Slovak hymns.

Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

Tuesday, May 31, 2022

This festival marks the occasion when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited her cousin Elizabeth who was herself pregnant with John. Elizabeth pronounced Mary "blessed among women," and Mary responded with the song called the Magnificat.

Justin, martyr at Rome, died around 165

Wednesday, June 1, 2022

Born of pagan parents, Justin was influenced by an elderly Christian in Ephesus. He became a teacher of philosophy and the Christian faith. Jailed for practicing an unauthorized religion, he refused to renounce his faith and was beheaded.

Altar Flowers - The altar flowers this Sunday are given to the glory of God by Gloria Love, in loving memory of her husband, Richard Love Sr.

COFFEE HOUR

Parish Fellowship is excited to be hosting a Coffee Hour after each worship service **Sunday June 5**. Come and join us for coffee, treats, conversation and to celebrate our confirmands. It is good to be the church together!

MARTHA CIRCLE LUNCHEON

Martha Circle will host their end of year luncheon, Tuesday, June 7th at 12:00 Noon at Tutti Toscani. Contact Kathleen if you have any questions.

CHERISHING OUR ELDERS

Thank you to everyone who participated in "Cherishing Our Elders". "Cherishing Our Elders" is a new initiative from Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ that seeks to improve the lives of their senior clients. After some lunch and some fellowship time we made suncatchers, flower picture holders, magnets and pretty spring cards. We also donated snacks, hand cream, puzzle books, chap stick, nail polish and decorative door hangers to add to our gift bags. Thrivent Financial helped kickstart the day with a \$250 Action Team Grant to purchase many of the needed supplies. Thanks again for a fun and productive work session.

EASTERN EUROPE CRISIS RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response is joining companion churches and partners in response to this crisis. These partners provide immediate support and supplies. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has joined other religious leaders from Europe and around the globe in issuing an interfaith call for peace in the region.

There are ways to help in support of those in Ukraine, Russia and neighboring countries affected by this crisis. Please pray for healing, peace and hope in their time of need. An offering labeled "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" can be placed in the offering plate in the rear of the Sanctuary or sent to the church office through the mail or by having your bank mail a check directly. You can also contribute using any of the electronic giving options found on our church website.

BIBLE STUDY

Join us **June 1 - June 15** for our next series, A Prostitute, Two Prophets, and Poor Ol' Job. Please join us in-person or on Zoom. If you have questions please contact the church office or the Pastor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school will not meet during the Summer break. Enjoy your Summer and we will see you in the Fall for Rally Day.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June 12 through September 4 the worship schedule will be at **8:15 AM** - Spoken Liturgy with Holy Communion and **10:00 AM** - Bread of Life Liturgy with Holy Communion.

WURFFEL FUND COLLEGE LOAN

It is the time of year for the Wurffel Fund College Loan applications. Bishop Bartholomew's letter can be found here: <https://bit.ly/Bishopletter>, for information about the loan/scholarship. To access the loan instructions and application package use this link: <https://bit.ly/Wurffelloaninstapplica>. Applications are due no later than **July 1**.

SUMMER CAMP AT CROSS ROADS

Cross Roads offers unique summer camp programs for youth and families. Campers encounter God in nature, in worship, and in relationships during their time at camp. Our amazing summer staff of young adults create an environment for personal growth, wholesome fun, and an experience of genuine community.

Youth Camp (Grades 2-8): Multiple Weeks
High School Week (Grades 9-12): July 10-16
Adventure Camp (Grades 4-8): July 17-23
Leaders In Training (Grade 11): July 31-Aug. 13
S.E.E.K. (Grades 8-10): July 31 – Aug. 13
Family Camp: August 14-19
Family Camp Weekend: August 19-21

Reach out to the Bruesehoff Family if you have any questions about camp talk to Pastor Chris about financial resources that are available. For more Information go to: www.crossroadsretreat.com/

**MAY 29, 2022
SEVENTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



Jesus prays for us.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 17:20-26	Jesus prays for his disciples
Monday	Acts 16:16-34	Paul and Silas in prison
Tuesday	Revelation 22:12-21	Christ is coming soon
Wednesday	Romans 8:26-30	A wonderful future for God's people
Thursday	Romans 8:31-39	God's love in Christ Jesus
Friday	Hebrews 7:22-28	Our Lord is a priest
Saturday	Psalms 97	The Lord brings justice
Sunday	John 14:8-17, 25-27	Jesus promises the Holy Spirit

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." **John 17:20-21 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, just as you and Jesus are one, give us the grace and mercy to be one with you and with all believers so that the world may see and believe. Amen.

Mealttime Prayer:

God of abundance, we thank you for this gift of food, a sign of your love for us and all the world through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus, the Holy One of God, be with you. (Revelation 22:21)



MAY 29, 2022

HYMN OF THE WEEK

O Jesus, I Have Promised



**taking
faith
home**

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What words would you use to describe someone with whom you have a close relationship?
- How do your relationships with friends compare with the kind of relationship you would like to have with God?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 17:20-26.

The Gospel of John is a favorite book of the Bible for Christian mystics, those who focus on the indwelling of God's presence in the life of the believer. In John 17, Jesus begins his prayer by praying for himself, then for the disciples with him. Jesus also prays for us, the future generations of believers. It is a powerful prayer that extends to us the intimacy Jesus has with the heavenly Father. It is parental language that is itself filled with closeness. The relationship is extended to us all so that we may be as close to God as Jesus is. The original Greek language used in John 13:23 about the loved disciple suggests being close to the heart of Jesus. It is the imagery used by the mystics that announces the dramatically intimate relationship we have with God through Jesus. This is an intimacy that knows the suffering, love and glory of God. It is also a closeness that opens us to love the world like God loves the world through Jesus.

Discuss: How do you experience closeness to God through prayer?

Pray: **God of love and glory, give us hearts to love you and to love the world that you love through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how do you pray and show care for the world that God loves?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Jesus prays for us to have a close relationship with other believers and with God. Take time this week to sit in silence and imagine God's presence in and all around you through Christ, the Alpha and the Omega (Revelation 22:13), the beginning and the end. Conclude by praying: **God, you search my heart and know the mind of the Spirit. May the Spirit pray for all the saints according to your will. Amen.** (Romans 8:27)



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

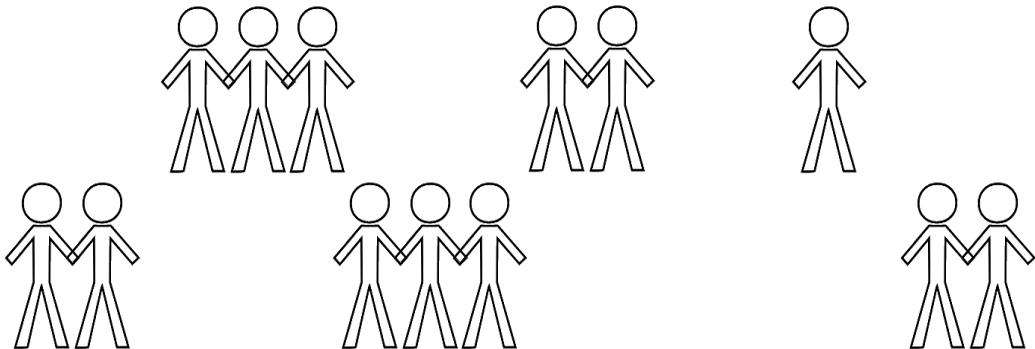
DIGITAL SIGN IN

To help keep each other safe, you are welcome to sign in with our new digital sign in. Please use the QR Code that can be found here in the bulletin or on the tables in the Narthex. You are also welcome to still sign in on the hard copy on the table in the Narthex.



WORSHIP SEATING ARRANGEMENTS

We are asking that folks try not to sit directly behind each other during worship and instead sit in-between the groups in the pew directly in front of you. Think about it like taking a class picture back in school, when you had to stand in the 'window' between the two people in front of you.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.