

# ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. <sup>25</sup>“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach will



you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

John 14:23-29

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 22, 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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### *ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

*Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.*

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

“Praeludium”

## **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.**



*to Verses*

mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

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

*to Verses*

mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

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

*to Verses*

mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

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

*Refrain*

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

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

*Refrain*

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. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 16:9-15

*A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.*

Lector: A reading from Acts.

<sup>9</sup>During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. <sup>11</sup>We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup>On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup>A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup>When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING:**

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

*John’s vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God’s past actions. Yet in this new city, God’s presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.*

Lector: A reading from Revelation.

<sup>10</sup>And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

<sup>22</sup>I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup>The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup>Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup>But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

<sup>22:1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in

it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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 14:23-29

*As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.*

Pastor: The holy gospel according to John.

**ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

<sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. <sup>25</sup>“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my

name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

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.*

God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy,

**ALL: hear our prayer.**

Assisting Minister: Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy,

**ALL: hear our prayer.**

Assisting Minister: Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy,

**ALL: hear our prayer.**

Assisting Minister: Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace especially...those we name aloud now...and those we hold in our hearts. Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy,

**ALL: hear our prayer.**

Assisting Minister: Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people. Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy,

**ALL: hear our prayer.**

Assisting Minister: Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fountains, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died when we meet together at your river of life. 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**      **8:15 AM:** “O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing”  
**11:00 AM:** “Alleluia, Christ Is Risen” - Adult Choir

*The assembly is invited to stand.*

## OFFERTORY “As the Grains of Wheat”

*Refrain*

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

*Refrain*

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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## OFFERING PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**ALL: Amen**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### DIALOGUE

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

The musical notation is presented in four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 4/4. The first staff shows the Presider's part: "The Lord be with you." and the Congregation's part: "And al-so with you." The second staff shows the Presider's part: "Lift up your hearts." and the Congregation's part: "We lift them to the Lord." The third staff shows the Presider's part: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is" and the Congregation's part: "right to give God thanks and praise." The fourth staff continues the Congregation's part: "right to give God thanks and praise." The lyrics are written below the notes.

*Presider:* The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al-so with you.

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts. *Congregation:* We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is *Congregation:* right to give God thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and

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

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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:*

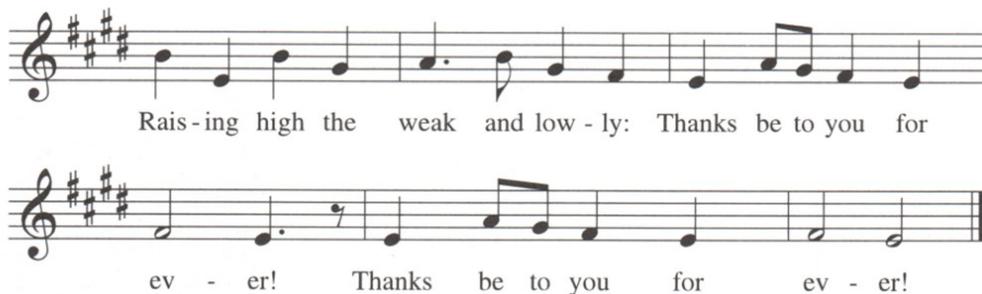


1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

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 "Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen" SURGE ECCLESIA *ELW 548*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Rise, O church, like Christ arisen,<br/>from this meal of love and grace;<br/>may we through such love envision<br/>whose we are, and whose, our praise.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia;<br/>God, the wonder of our days.</p>           | <p>3 Rise, remember well the future<br/>God has called us to receive;<br/>present by God's loving nurture,<br/>Spirited then let us live.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia;<br/>Spirit, grace by whom we live.</p> |
| <p>2 Rise, transformed, and choose to follow<br/>after Christ, though wounded, whole;<br/>broken, shared, our lives are hallowed<br/>to release and to console.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia;<br/>Christ, our present, past, and goal.</p> | <p>4 Service be our sure vocation;<br/>courage be our daily breath;<br/>mercy be our destination<br/>from this day and unto death.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia.<br/>Rise, O church, a living faith.</p>       |

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953-2021 Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **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**

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

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### **Upcoming Commemorations**

**Nicolaus Copernicus, died 1543; Leonhard Euler, died 1783; scientists**

**Tuesday, May 24, 2022**

These two men were both scientists who helped to explain the wonders of God's universe. Copernicus is best known for promoting the idea that the sun, not the earth, is at the center of our solar system. Euler was one of the founders of pure mathematics, and contributed to many other fields.

**John Calvin, renewer of the church, died 1564**

**Friday, May 27, 2022**

Gifted both as a systematic theologian and as an interpreter of scriptures, Calvin embraced the Reformation, and as a preacher in Geneva, Switzerland, brought a theocratic government to it. He is regarded as the father of the Reformed churches. From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

**Altar Flowers** - The altar flowers this Sunday are given to the glory of God by Janet Thompson in honor of Cooper's 8th birthday celebration.

### **Cherishing our Elders**

Please plan to join us **today** in a hands-on inter generational project to support Lutheran Social Ministries "Cherishing our Elders" program. LSM provides affordable housing, social services and healthcare to more than 1,400 NJ seniors. Many are home-bound and have limited incomes. LSM's ministry helps seniors with food and personal care items and nurtures fellowship with cards or room decorations. Our work session will begin with a light lunch at 12:00 Noon in the social hall. All ages and abilities welcome to join in! Project details to follow; contact Kay McConnell with questions. LSM info: <https://www.lsmnj.org/cherishing-our-elders/>.

### **SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY**

Thank you to everyone who came to help with St. Michael's Spring Clean-up Day.

### **JOSEPH'S HOUSE BREAKFAST CASSEROLES**

Joseph's House continues its ministry to feed the homeless in Camden. Thank you to the "Casserole Crew" for their support. **The next opportunity to provide twelve (12) breakfast casseroles is Thursday, May 26.** Please sign up using the new digital link: [https://bit.ly/jhbc\\_May22](https://bit.ly/jhbc_May22). Casseroles can be dropped off at the Elkins Road door on May 26 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

### **MARTHA CIRCLE LUNCHEON**

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

### **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 **May 25-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.

### **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/](http://www.crossroadsretreat.com/)

### **YOUTH SUNDAY FILMING**

We will be filming the sermon for Youth Sunday on **May 28 at 2:30**, as well as working through the details of which parts of the worship service each youth will lead. All youth, of all ages, who would like to participate in Youth Sunday are welcome to come. The intent is to have all of the youth contribute to the sermon. Youth Sunday is being planned for June 19. Contact Elizabeth ([stmichaelslutheran.youthgroup@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelslutheran.youthgroup@gmail.com)) if you have any questions.

### **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!

**MAY 22, 2022  
SIXTH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER**



*God leads, we follow.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 14:23-29</b>	<b>The sending of the counselor</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Acts 16:9-15</b>	<b>Paul travels to Macedonia</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5</b>	<b>River of life</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Proverbs 3:5-6</b>	<b>Trust God</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Acts 1:1-11</b>	<b>The ascension of Jesus</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Numbers 6:22-27</b>	<b>Blessing for the people</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalm 67</b>	<b>Tell the nations to praise God</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 17:20-26</b>	<b>Jesus prays for his disciples</b>

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*“When she [Lydia] and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us. Acts 16:15 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God, help us to understand how you lead us each day to care for others for the sake of Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Thank you, God, for giving us food; for the food that we eat and the friends that we meet. Thank you, God, for all that you do. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lord be gracious to you and bless you and make God's face to shine upon you. (Psalm 67:1)

**MAY 22, 2022**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*Down to the River to Pray*



**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:

- Do you make your own decisions or rely on others to help you make decisions? Explain.
- When is a time you felt God was leading you in your life and/or relationships?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Acts 16:9-15.

Congregations are urged to establish vision and mission statements and make plans accordingly. In the midst of such important planning, it is important to remember who is in charge, who is doing the actual leading. We may take aim at ministry objectives, but when we arrive at the goal or destination, hopefully, we recognize that God was there awaiting our arrival. In Acts 16, Paul and his fellow missionary friends believe they are led by a vision of a man from Macedonia to go there. When they arrive, it is not a man, but a group of women whose hearts are opened, and it is Lydia who opens her home to them. Whether it is Paul in his day or we in our day, it is good to remember that it is not we ourselves who bring God to people.

*Discuss:* How have you shared your faith with others as Lydia did?

*Pray:* **God, just as you led Paul to Macedonia, lead us each day that we may bring joy and the good news of Christ to waiting hearts. Amen.**

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, where do you sense God is leading you to serve others?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



Psalms 67 is a prayer reminding us that God blesses us and continues to bless us. Think or talk about ways you and those you know have been blessed by God. Pray the Psalm by inserting your name or that of another and say: **God, our God, has blessed \_\_\_\_\_. May God continue to bless \_\_\_\_\_; let all the ends of the earth worship our God. Amen.**

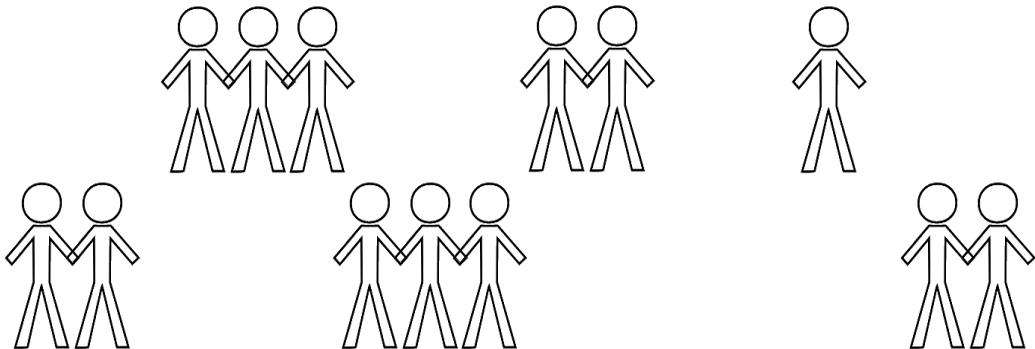
## DIGITAL SIGN IN

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.