

Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to

Glorify God

as we

Gather

around the Gospel to help people

Grow

in the **Gospel** and

Go

with the Gospel

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

May 25, 2025 6th Sunday of Easter

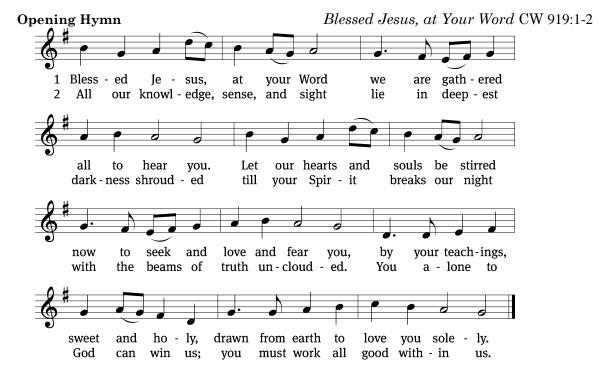


We Have Deep and Lasting Joy

Conventional wisdom says that joy is a direct result of circumstance. Our disposition is nothing more than the product of the events, conditions, and relationships of which our life consists. Therefore, it would seem that for our disposition to change, our circumstances need to change. But Jesus offers a joy that is superior. It is not a product of circumstance; it's a product of Easter.

Easter proves that God can take what normally causes people to weep and turn it into what causes people to rejoice. Sin, death, and shame went into Jesus' tomb. Forgiveness, life, and glory came out. Our risen Savior gives us a joy that remains constant in the highest of life's highs and the lowest of life's lows. Because he lives, we have deep and lasting joy.

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.



Stand

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins, Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

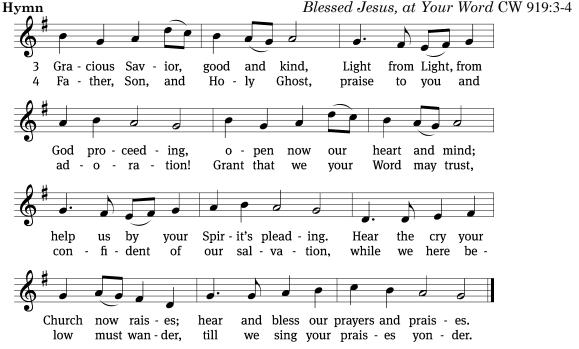
Absolution (pronouncement of forgiveness)

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



Text (sts. 1–3): Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684; (sts. 1–3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 4): Geistreiches Gesang-Büchlein, Berlin, 1707; (st. 4): tr. unknown, alt. Tune: Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Be Seated

Sunday 10:30 am service continues with the Rite of Holy Baptism. Sunday 8:00 am service continue on page 6.

THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM (Pg. 262)

M: Christ's almighty Word gives Baptism its power to save. Jesus promises in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." The apostle Peter declares in 1 Peter 3, "Baptism now saves you." Scripture also teaches that the power and promise of Baptism are intended for young and old alike. On the day of Pentecost, the apostle testified, "The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." By water and the Spirit, we are born again and are united with Christ and his people as members of the Church.

In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought *Luke* to be baptized. In Mark 10, it is written: *Jesus said to them, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

We see the Holy Trinity at work in baptism. Paul writes in Galatians 3, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. For it is in baptism that a child receives the benefits of the death and resurrection of Christ. It is through baptism that a child receives the gift of the Holy Spirit which, plants the seed of the faith. It is in baptism that God the Father adopts us as his children.

Holding firmly to your command and promise, we ask that you would look with favor on *Luke*. Through this water of Baptism, cleanse *him* from all sin and deliver *him* from death and the devil. Set *him* apart from the unbelieving world and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep *him* in the true Christian faith all the days of *his* life. Guide, strengthen, and protect *him* so that *he* may honor your holy name and at last receive, together with all your people, the promised inheritance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Luke Steven Schenian, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and the heart ${\tt T}$ to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Stand

EXHORTATION

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

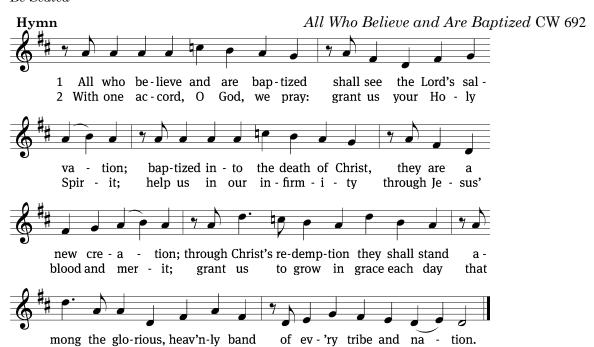
Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that *Luke* may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

M: Let us pray: We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received *Luke* as your own child and made her a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to him and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Be Seated



Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524
Text and tune: Public domain

this sac - ra - ment we may

e-ter-nal life in-her - it.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson Acts 14:8–22

As a witness of Christ's resurrection, Paul's joy and his ministry were unaffected by circumstance.

⁸In Lystra there sat a man who was lame. He had been that way from birth and had never walked. ⁹He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed ¹⁰and called out, "Stand up on your feet!" At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.

"When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" ¹²Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker. ¹³The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.

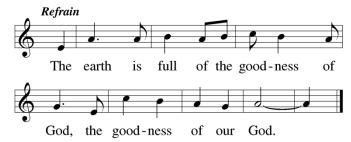
¹⁴But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: ¹⁵"Friends, why are you doing this? We too are only human, like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. ¹⁶In the past, he let all nations go their own way. ¹⁷Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." ¹⁸Even with these words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them.

¹⁹Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. ²⁰But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe.

²¹They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, ²²strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 65 (Red Hymnal)





Praise awaits <u>you</u>, O God,* you call forth <u>songs</u> of joy.

You care for the land and <u>wa</u>ter it;* you soften it with showers and <u>bless</u> its crops.

The streams of God are filled with <u>water</u>* to provide the peo<u>ple</u> with grain.

Refrain

You crown the year with your <u>boun</u>ty,* and your carts overflow with abundance.

The grasslands of the desert <u>o</u>verflow;* the hills are clothed with <u>glad</u>ness.

The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are man<u>tled</u> with grain;* they shout for joy and sing.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Marty Haugen. © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Second Lesson Revelation 21:21-27

The great joy we have now will soon be made perfect and complete.

²¹The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass.

²²I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. ²⁵On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. ²⁶The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. ²⁷Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. Alleluia. (Psalm 30:5 NIV)

Stand

Gospel John 16:16–24

Jesus promises that our grief will be turned to perfect joy.

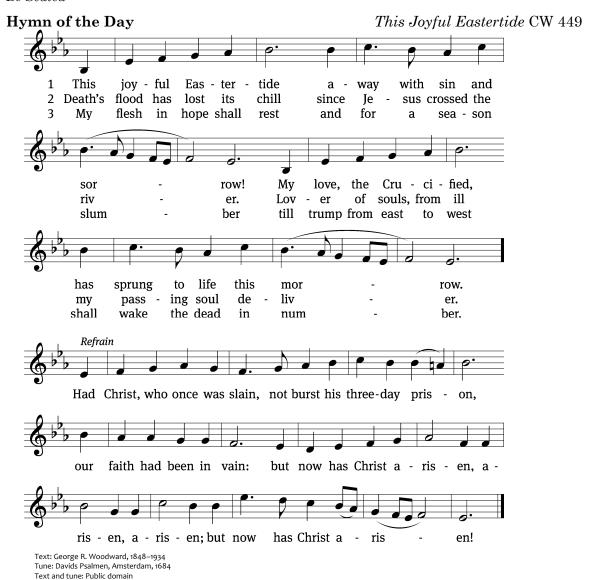
¹⁶Jesus went on to say, "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me."

¹⁷At this, some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying."

¹⁹Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me'? ²⁰Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. ²¹A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. ²²So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. ²³In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ²⁴Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



Sermon John 16:16–24

Stand

Nicene Creed

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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be Seated

Offering

Stand

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy



Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God



Be Seated

Communion

Please remember to register for communion using the sheets in the back of the church, elder's room or the sacristy room and in the basement. 2 individual cups of white grape juice are available in each tray for those who prefer/need to have a nonalcohol alternative to wine. Gluten free wafers are also available. Hold your hand palm down to let the server know you would like the gluten free wafer.

You can use the questions on page 295 in the hymnal or the review of Lord's Supper on page 293 of the hymnal to prepare for communion.

Distribution Hymn

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice CW 557



- 1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, with ex-ul-ta-tion
- 2 Fast bound in Sa tan's chains I lay; death brood-ed dark ly
- 3 My own good works a vailed me naught, no mer it they at -
- 4 But God be held my wretch-ed state be fore the world's foun-



spring - ing, and, with nit - ed heart and voice and ho - ly o'er me. Sin was mv tor - ment night and day: in sin mv tain ing; my will a - gainst God's judg-ment fought, no hope for of tion, and, mind - ful his mer-cies great, he planned for



rap - ture sing - ing, pro-claim the won - ders God has done. how Yet deep and deep - er life moth - er bore me. still fell: My fears in-creased till sheer de - spair me re - main - ing. left sal - va fa-ther's heart he turned to tion. Α me, sought



his right arm the vic - t'ry won. How dear - ly it has cost him! had be - come liv - ing hell. a so firm - lv sin pos - sessed me. on - ly death to be mv share and hell to be mv sen - tence. re - demp - tion fer - vent - ly; he gave his dear-est trea - sure.

- 5 He spoke to his belovèd Son:
 "It's time to have compassion.Then go, bright jewel of my crown, and bring to all salvation.From sin and sorrow set them free; slay bitter death for them that they may live with you forever."
- 6 The Son obeyed his Father's will, was born of virgin mother, and, God's good pleasure to fulfill, he came to be my brother.

 No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore; a servant's form like mine he bore to lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I myself will be; for you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, your friend divine, and evermore you shall be mine; the foe shall not divide us.
- 8 "The foe will shed my precious blood, me of my life bereaving; all this I suffer for your good; be steadfast and believing.

 Life will from death the vict'ry win; my innocence shall bear your sin,

and you are blest forever.

13

9 "Now to my Father I depart, the Holy Spirit sending and, heav'nly wisdom to impart, my help to you extending.
He will a source of comfort be, teach you to know and follow me, and in all truth will guide you.

10 "What I on earth have lived and taught be all your life and teaching;
 so shall my kingdom's work be wrought and honored in your preaching.
 Take care that no one's man-made laws should e'er destroy the gospel's cause; this final word I leave you.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Thank The Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.







M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus

Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.





 22 I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

- Revelation 21:22-23

Acknowledgments

Common Service © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-725297
Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

Artwork © 2012-2024 Ian M. Welch, paramentics.com. All Rights Reserved.

In You Is Gladness

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556-c. 1622

Text and tune: Public domain

