

**Stewardship 2025
United in Christ**



**Yesterday,
Today and
Tomorrow**

Psalm 46:7 “The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.”

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 2025
8:00 AM Traditional Worship**

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman

Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz

Lector: Marti Conant

Acolytes: Lainey Conant & Lila Yellow Bird

Ushers: Jim Lunde, Dan Matson, Myron Sime

Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

Life abundant and overflowing in this lifetime and life everlasting are the gifts of the Risen Christ. It was true in the first century. It is true today. It is true for all the baptized. As the 23rd Psalm tells us, “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

CALL TO WORSHIP: “Holy God, We Praise Your Name” set by Hopson

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P: Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C: make us one as you are one.

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C: Amen.

Stand

HYMN: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" ELW #789 Vs. 1-3

Vs. 1: Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.

In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your fold prepare.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.

**Vs. 2: We are yours; in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.**

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.

**Vs. 3: You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.**

**Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.**

GREETING

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.

LITANY

P: The word is near you.

C: on your lips and in your heart.

P: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

C: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

P: Faith comes from what is heard,

C: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "You Servants of God" ELW #825 vs. 1 & 4

Vs. 1: You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!

Vs. 4: Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

³⁶⁻³⁷ Down the road a way in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha, Gazelle” in our language. She was well-known for doing good and helping out. During the time Peter was in the area she became sick and died. Her friends prepared her body for burial and put her in a cool room. ³⁸⁻⁴⁰ Some of the disciples had heard that Peter was visiting in nearby Lydda and sent two men to ask if he would be so kind as to come over. Peter got right up and went with them. They took him into the room where Tabitha’s body was laid out. Her old friends, most of them widows, were in the room mourning. They showed Peter pieces of clothing the Gazelle had made while she was with them. Peter put the widows all out of the room. He knelt and prayed. Then he spoke directly to the body: “Tabitha, get up.” ⁴⁰⁻⁴¹ She opened her eyes. When she saw Peter, she sat up. He took her hand and helped her up. Then he called in the believers and widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴²⁻⁴³ When this became known all over Joppa, many put their trust in the Master. Peter stayed on a long time in Joppa as a guest of Simon the Tanner.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE: “I Love to Tell the Story” ELW #661 vs. 1

**Vs. 1: love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.**

**Refrain: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 10th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

²²⁻²⁴ They were celebrating Hanukkah just then in Jerusalem. It was winter. Jesus was strolling in the Temple across Solomon’s Porch. The Jews, circling

him, said, "How long are you going to keep us guessing? If you're the Messiah, tell us straight out." ²⁵⁻³⁰ Jesus answered, "I told you, but you don't believe. Everything I have done has been authorized by my Father, actions that speak louder than words. You don't believe because you're not my sheep. My sheep recognize my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them real and eternal life. They are protected from the Destroyer for good. No one can steal them from out of my hand. The Father who put them under my care is so much greater than the Destroyer and Thief. No one could ever get them away from him. I and the Father are one heart and mind."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Stand

HYMN: "The Lord's My Shepherd" ELW #778

**Vs. 1: The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want. he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me the quiet waters by.**

**Vs. 2: My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake;
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.**

**Vs. 3: Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.**

**Vs. 4: My table thou hast richly spread in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.**

**Vs. 5: Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,
and in God's house forevermore my dwelling-place shall be;
and in God's house forevermore my dwelling-place shall be.**

APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A Brief Silence

P: You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

Sit

OFFERING: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" set by Biery

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

P: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

THE 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BLESSING

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✠ Savior,
and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

SENDING HYMN: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" ELW #631

Vs. 1: Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!

Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;

visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Vs. 2: Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;

let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;

end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Vs. 3: Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;

suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.

**Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

POSTLUDE: “My Shepherd, You Supply My Need” set by Hobby & Miller

Welcome to Christ Lutheran

Announcements for May 11, 2025

Welcome to worship! May the Holy Spirit bless and nourish us as we worship together. We hope that you come again soon! If you are worshiping with us for the first time and would like more information about our congregation, please ask Pastor Paula.

Nursery items needed! Clothes to play dress-up, small doll accessories, pretend doctor or vet kits, dinosaurs and animal figures, storage baskets, board books hot wheels and magnetic drawing pads. New or gently used items are acceptable. See Sierra for more information.

High School and College GRADUATIONS are rapidly approaching. Perhaps you would like to give your 2025 graduate a personalized card with their name on the front. It could include a symbol of one of their interests such as music, theater, track, football, etc. Cards cost \$3.00 each. 100% of the money goes towards Scholarships or the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund. Please talk to Sandy Grant or Jean Johnson in the office. A custom-made card for less than most you find in the store!

Syttende Mai is next weekend, May 18th. We will be having the Traditional Service at 8:00 a.m., as well as the Norwegian Service at 10:30 a.m. We will have a Norwegian themed meal and Bake Sale to follow. We hope you will join us! If you would like to help (**and we need your help**). The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. We also need baked goods. Profits of this event will go toward organ repair.

We will Honor our Graduates at the **Baccalaureate Service** on **May 25th** during the **9:00 a.m.** service. In addition to honoring our graduates we will be handing out scholarships. **Jenny will be needing Bio information from all graduates.** Watch your e-mail/mail and return it to Jenny by May 18th.

Summer Worship Hours begin on May 25th. With one service per week at 9:00 a.m.

Church Middle School Lock-In- Friday, May 30th 7:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m. The Cost is \$20 (Kids that helped at the Sock Hop or the Syttende Mai Brunch, will not have to pay this fee? So, sign up in the Narthex). Activities include pizza, games in the gym, time to sit and hang out with friends, a nerf gun war, a camp out in the back yard with a fire (weather permitting) and more. You can invite a friend! All 5th through 8th graders are welcome. Sleep is optional. Breakfast will be served at 6:30 a.m. on Saturday. Parents pick up is at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday.

The CLC Crafters Club will meet on Sunday June 29th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Large Youth Room. We will be making a Patriotic wall hanging and a fun shelf sitter. Displays are on the desk in the Narthex. The cost is yet to be determined but should be \$10 to \$15.

Ladies Night Out is on Thursday June, 26th from 3:00 to 9:00pm. **Tickets go on Sale on June 3rd.** Over 30 Business Stops and over 70 Raffle Prizes. Funds raised are for Start, Seniors in Need and Stoughton Resettlement.

What a Mess VBS is the theme this year for **Vacation Bible School**. VBS runs for 4 consecutive Wednesday Evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. starting on **July 30th** and continuing **August 6th, 13th and 20th**. Kids will get together to learn about how God loves messy people. Kids will share a meal with their family and friends. Each week there will be a short skit, kids will make messy snacks and messy crafts and play messy games. Each week has a dress up theme and competition. Kids can join for all or some of the weeks. **All are Welcome! You do not need to be a member to join us.**

Baseball Sunday will be August 3rd. Worship in your favorite team's jerseys! A Baseball Brunch will be served: Brats, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers and more. The fun continues at **Mallards Ball Park** at 1:05 p.m. We'll meet here at the church to pool rides. The cost is \$16, which includes a free hat.

Boundary Waters Canoe Trip 2025- Monday, July 14th - Sunday, July 20th. Youth in Grades 7-12 and ALL INTERESTED ADULTS – The cost is \$450 (\$400 after \$50 campership). Please see the Ambassador for more information.

Sandy Grant is looking for a **Double Krum Kake Iron**. If you have one please reach out to Sandy.