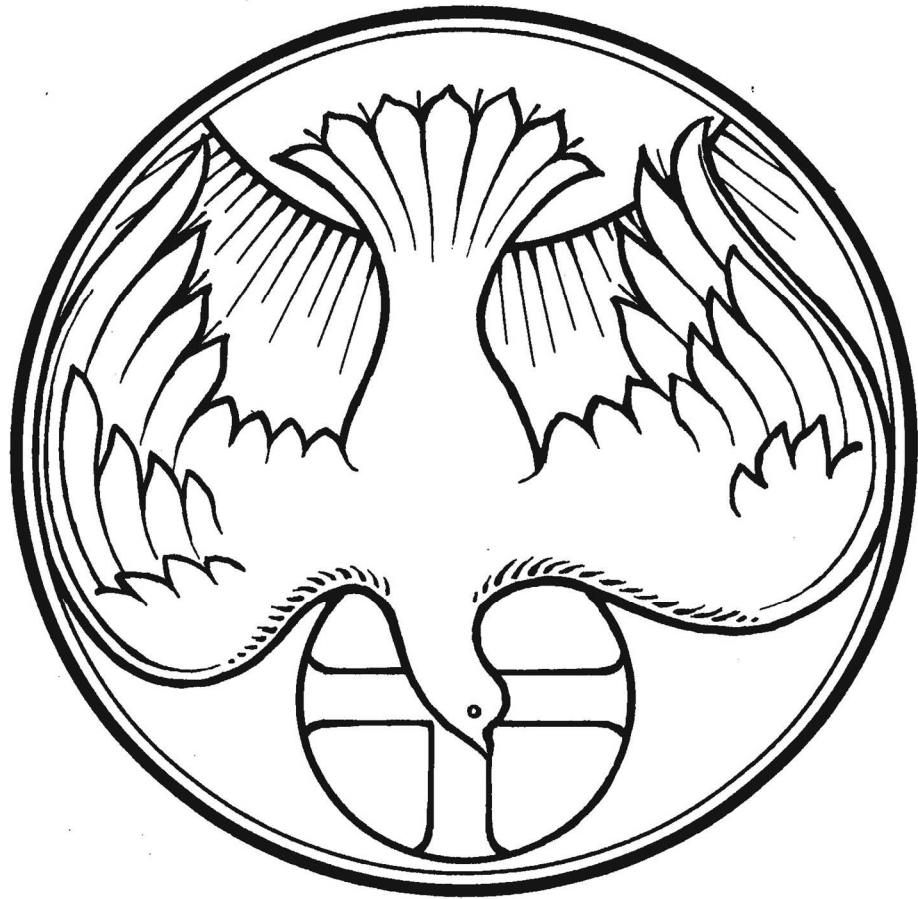
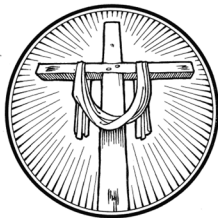


**A Prayer
Upon Enter-
ing Church**

Dear Lord, let me hear this testimony so clearly that my heart comprehends it and so often that I always am conscious of it. ... Lord, let Your Holy Spirit show me the whole truth, the truth about my sin, my unbelief, my self-righteousness, and my lovelessness. Let Him show me Your righteousness...

Amen.
~ Bo Giertz



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Cantate + April 28, 2024 + 9:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day. With Pentecost Sunday on the horizon, just a few weeks away, we get a foretaste of the Spirit's role and work from the lips of Jesus in John 16. Almost always Jesus explains why He does what He does and why He says what He says, a sign of a good teacher (Mark 10:51; Luke 7:40; John 1:38). Jesus, our Good Teacher, teaches us about the Spirit who will help in such teaching, taking what is Jesus' and declaring it to "you," the apostles and His Church today. What lessons concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment are in store?

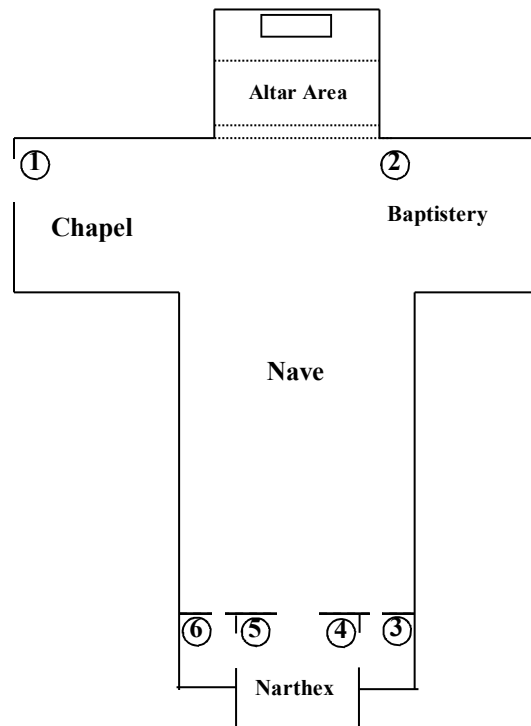
Sharing God's Blessings Today

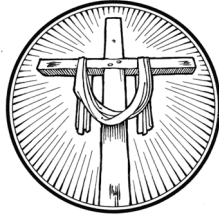
- Sunday's Radio Broadcast is sponsored by Mrs. Carolyn B. Lange and family in loving memory of Margaret Tiller.
- The sponsor charts for 2024 Radio Broadcasts, Flowers and Bulletins are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry.

To Share Your Offering

Offerings are received in **Zion's wooden offering boxes built into the walls of the church.** Please see the map, where the boxes are labeled by **number (1-6)** or ask an usher for assistance.

This returns us to an older and beautiful tradition of the Lutheran church in which offerings are not collected during worship so as to focus more intently on God's gifts and offerings to us.





PRELUDE

"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"

... J.S. Bach, Johann Gottfried Walther and Jeffrey Blersch

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand and turn toward the cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"

... LSB #490

GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

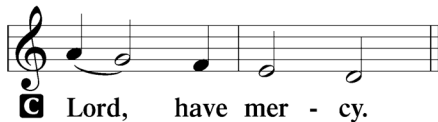
C: **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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.**

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



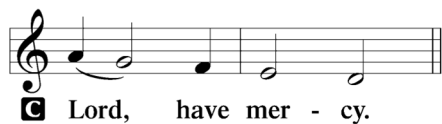
P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Into this new world, He will take something from the old world, namely His Son, and all those who belong to Him. We too, will enter the new creation.
~ Bo Giertz,
To Live
With
Christ,
1974 A.D.

When you come to knowing God, the initiative lies on His side. If He does not show Himself, nothing you can do will enable you to find Him. And, in fact, He shows much more of Himself to some people than to others – not because He has favourites, but because it is impossible for Him to show Himself to a man whose whole mind and character are in the wrong condition...

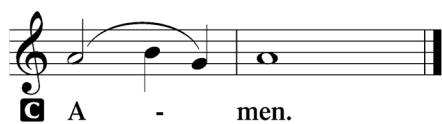
P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.



HYMN OF PRAISE

L: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -

lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

... Just as
sunlight,
though it has
no favourites,
cannot be
reflected in a
dusty mirror
as clearly as
in a clean
one.

~ C.S. Lewis,
Mere Chris-
tianity,
1952 A.D.

With every gift, God pushes our hands wider open to receive a still larger gift. The bother with us is that we often hold our hands open just enough for little gifts in fear that if the gifts get too big they may overwhelm us. The gifts may begin to take us over, and we may not be able to manage them...

SALUTATION AND COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.



☛ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray . . . O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 12:1-6

¹You will say in that day:

"I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

²"Behold, God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation."

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

⁴And you will say in that day:

"Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵"Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY *Psalm 66:1-8*

L: Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;*
sing the glory of his name;
give to him | glorious praise!

C: **Say to God, "How awesome | are your deeds!"*
So great is your power that your enemies come cringing |
to you.**

L: All the earth worships you
and sings prais- | es to you;*
they sing praises | to your name."

C: **Come and see what | God has done.*
he is awesome in his deeds toward the chil- | dren of man.**

L: He turned the sea into | dry land;*
they passed through the riv- | er on foot.

C: **There did we rejoice in him,
who rules by his might forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the | nations—*
let not the rebellious ex- | alt themselves.**

L: Bless our God, O | peoples;*
let the sound of his | praise be heard,

**All: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son,*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen**

... That we nevertheless have such uneasiness is betrayed by our notions of not letting our religion go too far, not too much Word of God, not church every Sunday, or not devotions every day. Some parts of our lives we simply must keep under our own control. To the extent that we still negotiate terms with God, we are setting ourselves up for a fearful crash. The God that can be negotiated with does not exist.

~ Norman Nagel, Sermon for the 5th Sunday of Easter, 1967 A.D.

But now the Spirit's help is needed in every age to understand. It is a message to all people and all times, so also to us and our time. It cannot be understood without the Spirit's help, which leads us into all truth – the truth about us, about things that have popped up since but that God knew would come. To be able to hear the Spirit speak, one must, first and foremost, hear the old truth about sin, righteousness, and judgment...

EPISTLE James 1:16-21

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. ¹⁹Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires. ²¹Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

VERSE

L: Alleluia. The right hand of the LORD exalts, the right hand of the LORD does valiantly! Alleluia.

C: We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 16th chapter.



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁵[Jesus said:] "But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰concerning righteousness, because I go to

the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. ¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Dear Christians, One & All, Rejoice”

... LSB #556

SERMON

“A Convicting Helper”

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

P: In Holy Baptism, our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As the holy apostles of the Lord declare, “Baptism now saves you,” and “As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” Living with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

... and then listen to the word every day with all his troubles and temptations and failures and duties and tasks in mind. So the Spirit leads into all truth.

~ Bo Giertz, Sermon on John 16:5-11 (1970 A.D.) in A Year of Grace, Vol. I

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

*~ Romans
6:3-4*

P: How are you named?

Sponsors: Remi Jo

P: Remi Jo, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✠ head and upon your ✠ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith that, living in the promise of Holy Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ. Is it your intention to serve Remi Jo as sponsors of this Christian faith?

Sponsors: Yes, with the help of God.

P: God enable you to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

Remi Jo is taken to the font.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood, you condemned the unbelieving and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea,

out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He hallowed water, making it a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that she who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away her sin, and bring her forth an inheritor of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please stand.

P: Remi Jo, do you renounce the devil?

Sponsors: Yes, I renounce him.

P: Do you renounce all his works?

Sponsors: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce all his ways?

Sponsors: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right

Baptism now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him.

*~ 1 Peter
3:21-22*

A person who acts contrary to God's Word is not justified because he has acted according to his conviction. He is condemned. The thoughts, the intentions, the principles that each person has by nature are the very things from which every person must be converted if he wants to be saved...

hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: 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

P: Remi Jo, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Remi Jo is carried to the altar steps. Please be seated.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray . . . God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Remi Jo: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the Spirit of joy in your presence.

C: Amen

P: Remi Jo, child of God, you have been sealed with the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Elder: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P: O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the father and mother of this child. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness and strengthen them in your Holy Spirit, that they may share eternally with their children the salvation you have revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Elder: Through Baptism God has made this new sister a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

C: We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.

P: Peace be with you.

Remi Jo is carried to her place in the congregation.

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Standing in the glorious light of the resurrection, let us pray.

P: . . . O Lord of life,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Hear our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY

"Song of Joy"

... Anna Laura Page

Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray . . . Living God,

C: in Christ you will raise us up from death to eternal life. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our

*... Not the convictions of our natural reason as to what is good and evil, and wherewith one can stand before God, avail before God, but the conviction that God gives through His Holy Spirit.
~ C.F.W. Walther, Gospel Sermons: Vol. 1, 1870 A.D.*

Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in His body and blood. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

And al-so with you.

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. A common time signature 'C' is placed below the first note.

P: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. A common time signature 'C' is placed below the first note.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. A common time signature 'C' is placed below the first note.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising you and saying:

SANCTUS ("Holy")

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of'. The second staff contains 'pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your'. The third staff contains 'glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' A common time signature 'C' is placed below the first note of the first staff.

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

In the same way also he took the cup after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me."

LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: 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

ACCLAMATION

P: This is the feast of victory for our God.

C: Alleluia!

Neither you nor I could ever know anything about Christ, or believe on Him, and have Him for our Lord, unless it were offered to us and granted to our hearts by the Holy Spirit through the preaching of the Gospel. The work of redemption is done and accomplished. Christ has acquired and gained the treasure for us by His suffering, death, resurrection, and so on...

SEQUENCE HYMN "Christ Is Arisen"



1 Christ is a - ris - en From the grave's dark



pris - on. So let our joy rise full and free;



Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!



2 Were Christ not a - ris - en, Then death were still



our pris - on. Now, with Him to life re - stored,



We praise the Fa - ther of our Lord. Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Now let our joy rise full and free;



Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. If you cannot use the steps to the altar, you may either ask an usher to have Communion brought to you, or you may go to the altar in the side (west) chapel. Those not communing may cross their arms over their chest for a blessing.

Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremendous benefits. His Body and Blood forgives our sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today” ... Jeffrey Honoré

“Great is Thy Faithfulness” ... LSB #809

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” ... LSB #528

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

*... But if the work remained concealed so that no one knew about it, then it would be useless and lost. So that this treasure might not stay buried, but be received and enjoyed, God has caused the Word to go forth and be proclaimed. In the Word He has the Holy Spirit bring this treasure home and make it our own. Therefore, sanctifying is just bringing us to Christ so we receive this good, which we could not get ourselves.
~ Martin Luther, Large Catechism, 1529 A.D.*

**A Prayer
As You Go**
Lord and
Master, You
who prom-
ised to send
us the good
Spirit, send
Him also to
me. He is
the Helper,
the Com-
forter, and
the Consol-
er. Let me
recognize
His voice in
all my diffi-
culties so I
can be as
calm and
bold as is
only possi-
ble in the
Holy Spir-
it...Amen.
~ Bo Giertz

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Alleluia!
C: **Christ is risen. Alleluia!**

Please turn toward the cross as it is carried out of the sanctuary.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"The Day of Resurrection"

... LSB #478

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

"The Day of Resurrection"

... Kevin Hildebrand

+ Soli Deo Gloria +
To God alone be glory

Serving at Worship

<u>Presiding:</u>	The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde
<u>Preaching:</u>	The Rev. Christopher S. Johnson (Pr. Reiff to Bethany at 10:30 am)
<u>Organist:</u>	Kantor Irene Beethe
<u>Musicians:</u>	Zion Handbell Choir
<u>Radio:</u>	Scott Schubring
<u>Lector:</u>	Grace Mueller
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Piper Kulesa, Wyatt Kulesa, Hunter Renken
<u>Communion:</u>	Pr. Ted Gulhaugen, Steve Zeinemann
<u>Elder:</u>	Julie Fernstaedt
<u>Ushers:</u>	Don Budnik, Lynn Budnik, Andy Kieffer, Leah Kieffer
<u>Altar Guild:</u>	Debra Thomas, Bonnie Waack

Acknowledgements

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Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

Church Telephone: 715-848-7286

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Associate Pastor Christopher S. Johnson
Kantor Irene Beethe
Office Manager Jessica G. Ray
Custodian Cody Augustine
Deployed Chaplain Joseph C. Pinzl
Pastor Emeritus Theodore B. Gulhaugen

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To visit our webpage:
www.zionlutheranwausau.com

Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour
Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM (or
click "Listen Live" at www.wsau.com)

**Member Congregation of Lutheran Con-
gregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)**