



WORTHY IS CHRIST



+ Easter Sunday +
March 31, 2024

AS WE GATHER

At last! The day of Easter is finally here! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! The darkness of death is now overwhelmed by the light of Christ's resurrection victory. Satan stands defeated, and death is destroyed. The enemy no longer has power over Christ Jesus, nor does he have claim over your life either! As you bow in faith before Jesus and rise to sing your praises to Him early this Easter morning, may the joy of this day inspire you to find joy in your Savior every day. New beginnings start at the empty tomb, and there's no better way to begin our Easter celebration than at the break of day, joining together to sing the praises of Him who died yet was raised to life again. "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24).

REGARDING COMMUNION

After his resurrection, the crucified but now-living Jesus appeared to his disciples and said to Thomas (who had his doubts that Jesus could really be alive again): 'Touch my pierced hands and feel my wounded side; stop doubting and believe.'

We come to the Lord's Table with our own doubts and worries, fears and sorrows, often lingering on uncertainty and the realities we think are beyond change. Our Lord points us to his unchanging yet life-changing reality—he has died, he has risen, he will come again. His Holy Supper is the place where we encounter his saving, risen, and healing Body and Blood ... as he said: 'Those who feed on my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.' **Since Christian denominations have differing understandings of Holy Communion, if you are not a member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed here before, we ask that you speak with the pastor or elder prior to communing with us the first time. Those not communing are invited to cross their arms over their chests and approach the pastor for a blessing during the distribution. Also, if certain factors prohibit you from partaking of regular wine, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center circle of the tray. If you would like to begin sharing this sacred meal with us on a regular basis, please ask the pastor for a time of faith instruction and formation.**

***If you are in need of a gluten-free wafer for Communion,
please let Pastor or an Elder know.***

Liturgical Color:

White is the color of purity and is associated with festivals of Christ and his Church

Prelude

(Prayer request cards will be collected by an usher passing through the aisle.)

All will be asked to rise and turn to face the processional cross at the back of the Nave.

The Easter Exchange: "Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Pastoral Welcome

Processional Gospel Mark 16:1-8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

The Collect (spoken in unison)

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Processional Hymn..... "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" #457



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which He en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

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Divine Service, Setting One

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution.....page 151

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God . . . and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn "Alleluia, Jesus is Risen" #474



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the
3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
4 Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be
ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch -



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



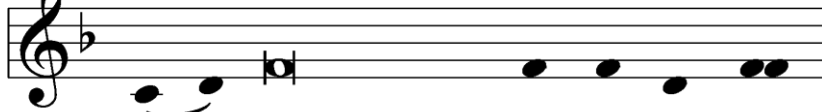
Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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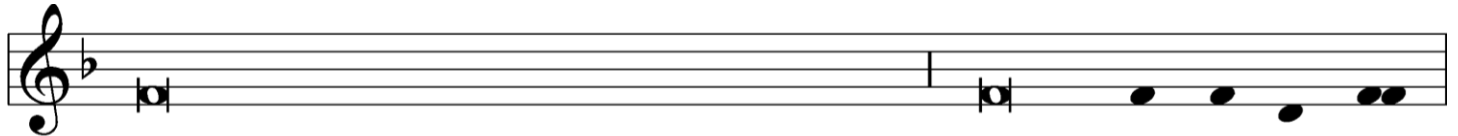
Kyrie.....*pages 152-153*



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



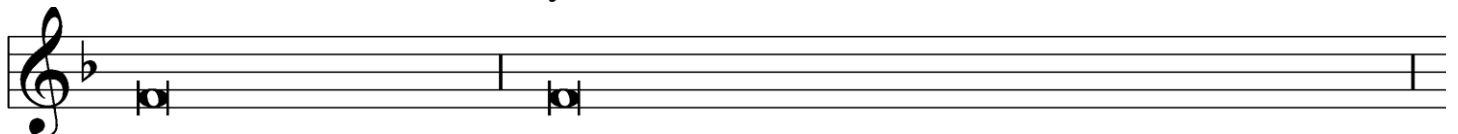
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



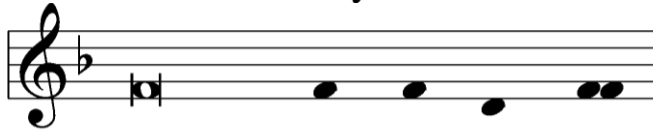
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



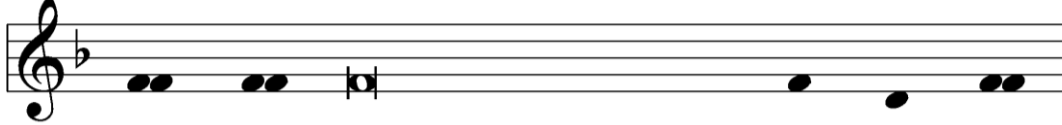
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

This is the Feastpage 155



Refrain

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



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



- 1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



Final Refrain

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



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

Salutationpage 156



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Collect of the Day (*spoken in unison*)

O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading **Isaiah 25:6-9**

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day,
“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the Lord; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem *“In Christ Alone”*

Epistle Reading **1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day *“The Day of Resurrection”, #478*



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil That we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, Let earth its song be - gin,
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, All praise to God the Son,



The pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The pass - o - ver of God.
The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light
Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.
All praise to God the Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, From sin's do - min - ion free,
And, lis - t'ning to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;
Let all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the throne



Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.
For Christ the Lord has ris - en, Our joy that has no end!
And hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry As - cribe to God a - lone!

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Sermon....."Entering into Easter Joy"

Please rise.

Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

Offering

Please rise.

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Offertorypages 159-160



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgypages 160-163

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and beneficial . . . evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus.....*page 161*

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving.....*page 161*

P Blessed are You . . . one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

The Words of Our Lord.....page 162

Proclamation of Christ

Lord's Prayer

Pax Dominipage 163

Agnus Dei.....page 163

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Distribution

(For standing, continuous distribution: Approach the pastor for Christ's bread & Body or a blessing then step to the left for Christ's wine & Blood—by common or individual cup—and then return to your seat ready to go and make known the joy and peace of Jesus' presence.)

Instrumental Selection

Communion Hymns "Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven" #477

1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:
 2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:
 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:
 Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
 See the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic-tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—
 Once He died, and once was bur-ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir-it, Fount of love and sanc-ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.
 Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor-ship and a - dore.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

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Communion Hymn “Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom” #481



1 Scat - ter the dark - ness, break the gloom; Sun, re - veal an
 2 Bear - ing the stan - dard from on high As the Lamb of
 3 Ban - ners of tri - umph, be un - furled! Trum - pets, sound through-



emp - ty tomb Shin - ing with joy for all our sor - rows,
 God to die; He who for us, so cruel - ly treat - ed,
 out the world! Cry - ing and sighs, give way to sing - ing:



Hope and peace for all to - mor - rows, Life un - e -
 Lives a - gain— our foes de - feat - ed! Where is your
 Life from death, our Lord is bring - ing! Let there be-



clipsed by doubt and dread: Christ has ris - en from the dead!
 sting, O death and grave? Christ has shown His strength to save!
 gin the ju - bi - lee— Christ has gained the vic - to - ry!

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Communion Hymn “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” #461



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
 3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
 4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
 plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
 guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
 in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
 soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
 me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

5 He lives to silence all my fears;
 He lives to wipe away my tears;
 He lives to calm my troubled heart;
 He lives all blessings to impart.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 He lives, and I shall conquer death;
 He lives my mansion to prepare;
 He lives to bring me safely there.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
 He lives and loves me to the end;
 He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
 He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!
 He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
 Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

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Please rise.

Post Communion Canticle *"Thank the Lord" page 164*



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.

He re-calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post Communion Collect..... *page 166*

- P** Let us pray.
- C** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this beneficial gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction..... *page 166*

Sending Hymn..... *"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" #466*

1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
2 For three long days the grave did its worst
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear!
4 "Go spread the news: He's not in the grave;
5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;

Re - joice and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.
Un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
You look for Je - sus who is not here.
He has a - ris - en this world to save.
Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.

For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
He who gives life did death un - der - go;
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare;
Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done;
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;




E - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 And in its con - quest His might did show.
 On - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing there.”
 E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won.”
 He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.


Refrain




Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;



Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

- P** Grow in Christ,
- C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude

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The Men's Club will be handing out *hot cross buns* today in lieu of their traditional Easter breakfast. The *hot cross buns* were made by Warrensburg's own Green Truck Bakery. Make sure to read about the religious history and significance of these rolls, and to thank the men for making this treat possible!

Next week's readings:

OT: Acts 4:32-35; Epistle: 1 John 1:1-2:2; Gospel: John 20:19-31

Attendance Last Saturday: 31	Attendance Last Sunday: 98
Total Offering: \$1,986.64	Missions: \$0.00
Home Use: \$1,793.64	Benevolences: \$193.00

Serving us today:

Elders.....Willie Crespo, Alan Miller, Evan Florida
Musicians Rich Vanderburgh (Early), Jerrode Marsh (Late)
Lorraine Miller, Gary Moege, Cody Clemons (Late)
Altar Committee..... Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Bambi Burden,
Julie Crespo, Diana Holland, Georgia Luker
Flower Committee Penny Humphrey (Chair), Lori Sloan

This Week's Schedule

Monday		<i>Cindy's Day Off</i>
	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Tuesday		<i>Pastor's Extra Day Off</i>
	11:30 a.m.	Braille in Concordia
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	5:30 p.m.	Faith Night Potluck/Discussion
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
	10:00 a.m.	Creation School
	6:00 p.m.	Friday Family Fun Night
Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9
	9:00 a.m.	Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at www.blchurch.com , under the Sermons tab)
	9:15 a.m.	Christian Education
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	1:00 p.m.	Youth Catechesis

Prayers

For Roy and Judy Schache as they will be traveling back to our midst on April 7 (via Australia) after their months in Papua New Guinea!

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, are undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Charlie Becker, Mel Bockelman, Mark Brown, Carrie Brunkhorst (Dorothy's daughter-in-law), Ray & Mary Carstensen, Galen Cobb, Bob & Barbara Compton, Marion Droege, Rev. Tom

Fatka (Tommy Fatka's dad), Peggy Forstad, Ana Fonseca (Willie Crespo's grandmother), Wilma Gertz, Winnie & George Goldsmith (Steve's parents), Karen Haase, Juanita Holcomb (Peggy Forstad's mother), Kenny (Judy Smith's brother), Duane Limback, Mary Johnson, Lloyd McCarter, Ronnie Moody (Sheree's mother), Jay Rudy, Maryanna Savery, Rose Steitz, & Joe Zeman.

For a Safe Pregnancy for Paige Hart as she, Colin, and Henry anticipate the birth of the little one she's carrying.

For Military Members—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families.

Prayer Requests & Spiritual Care—If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Pr. Joel or email the church office. Also, if you're feeling the strain, feel free to call or text Pr. Joel or contact your elder or the church office. We rely upon the Holy Spirit and his gifts in Christ during every time of uncertainty and can never be thankful enough for the gift of each other!

Weekly Weekend Worship Services

Saturday Services start at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m. Sunday Services are live on Facebook, YouTube and the webpage at blchurch.com.

Faith Formation

Faith Night happens on the first Wednesday of every month (**April 3rd this time**) with our potluck meal starting at **5:30 to 6:00** (or so), followed by a faith discussion until 6:45 p.m. We will be reflecting on *Keeping Every Moment HOLY* and the living of Easter life!

Creation School—Join us on the first Friday **of each month from 10-11 am** for our faith-focused version of the trendy forest school. We'll do our best to enjoy Creation in all weather, so be sure to dress appropriately. Please invite any families with young children that you know, as the hope is to welcome all in the community into our green space.

Sunday School and Christian Education

Sunday School and Bible Class will resume next Sunday.

Wednesday Bible Study—Join us at **10:30 a.m.** in the conference room. Now that we're in Eastertide, we'll be starting a new book of the Bible. Come and see what we decide to explore!

Thursday Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.—Pastor Bertels is leading a Bible study on the book of Ephesians. It meets in the conference room and is open to all who have the interest and time available. Come and join us!

Music

Music Camps at Concordia Music Conservatory—Choir Camp will be held **June 3-7**, for children ages kindergarten to 8th grade, and Orchestra Camp will be **June 10-14**, for children ages 4th-12th grade. Enroll online at cmc-music.org. Register before **March 31** for the early bird discount! Early enrollment is \$135 per child. Regular enrollment, April 1-May 15 is \$160 per child and late enrollment, after May 15, is \$225 per child. Camps are 9am to 4pm daily on the campus of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO. Lunch and snacks are provided. The Friday of each camp there will be a closing concert at 2pm. If you have any questions, please contact CMC at 660-624-7950 or info@cmc-music.org.

Opportunities to Serve

Shine Event 2024—Plan to attend (and help with!) this year's **Shine!** event on **Saturday, April 13 at 10:00 a.m.** We will be launching our community garden's new growing season with a lively event filled with giveaways, planting, music and children's activities. *Can you contribute to planning work, setup/cleanup, music or planting guidance that day?* Please let Rebecca or Pr. Joel know and you'll be plugged in at the perfect spot.

Spring is here, so gardening season has begun! Potatoes were planted in bags on St. Patrick's Day and a vegetable garden workday was held this weekend, but there's still a lot to do! Pr. Joel is working on getting the Star of Bethlehem herb garden out front tended to for new growth, and if anyone would like to get some herbs for growing at home (that started growing in the wrong spot here), let him know. Talk to Rebecca, our CLF, or Pr. Joel and they'll find the perfect way for you to help with the enjoyable task of growing and tending to the wonderful gardens and greenspace we have here at Bethlehem!

Want to be on the Bethlehem Woods Trail Crew? Yes, we have our own nature trail at the back end of our property! Two of the bridges are in need of some major attention, so if you'd like to help with that and some of the other occasional maintenance back there, please contact Ron Rode (660.238.1557) and he'll let you know when the work is ready to start. Thanks!

Bulletin Board—**A section of the bulletin board at the North entrance has been dedicated to our congregation members who are home-bound and in nursing homes.** Please check it out to see how you can reach out to those who can no longer come to services regularly. Send a card or leave one in the pocket on the board to be delivered during a visit. If you have a picture of a loved one you can share, please send it to Rebecca to have it posted!

Mary Martha Guild

Concordia Zone LWML Spring Rally will be held on **Saturday, April 6 at Zion Lutheran Church in Blackburn, MO. Registration starts at 9:30 a.m.** At 10:00 a.m. Rev. Larry Tieman and Rev. Terry Tieman will present “Paul’s Journey” as they traveled some of the areas Paul traveled. Lunch will be served after the presentation. The ingathering will go to “Mites” collection. Please let Darlene Laubenstein know if you are interested in going.

2024 Missouri District Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention, Independence, MO. The early registration rate for the Missouri District LWML convention ends April 30. Early/late registration fees include a Saturday boxed lunch and Saturday evening banquet. Last day to book a hotel room at the convention site, Stoney Creek Hotel in Independence, is May 6. Be sure to use CODE LWML24 when you call the hotel at 816-908-9600. The room reservations open to the general public after that date. Don’t delay!—register today! Online registration can be found at missourlwml.org.

Fellowship

Everyone is invited to attend the **Concordia Zone Lutheran Laymen’s League Rally** on **Sunday April 14th**, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Emma. There will be a short meeting at **5 pm** in the church followed by a banquet meal in the Multi-purpose Building beginning at **6 pm**. The guest speaker during the evening meal event will be **Mr. Mark W. Eischer**. Mr. Eischer serves as the Announcer and Senior Producer of the world’s longest-running Christian radio broadcast, **The Lutheran Hour**. Eischer, born in Frankenmuth, Michigan, graduated from Concordia University-Chicago, joined the Lutheran Hour Ministries staff in January 1982 and has to date produced more than 1,800 weekly editions of the widely-syndicated program which debuted in 1930 and is now heard on about 1,700 radio stations throughout North America and online at lutheranhour.org. He helped to bring **Women to Women with Phyllis Wallace** into national syndication and recorded special Christmas and Easter broadcasts of **The Lutheran Hour** on location in Israel, Germany, Russia, and Greece. He and his wife Deb live in Oakville, MO. They have three children and two grandchildren. Tickets for the meal can be secured by contacting **Dennis Oetting (660) 233-6445** or by contacting the Holy Cross Lutheran Church office at **(660) 463-7869** Noon-3 pm M-F.

Exercise Class happens at **9:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** in the Fellowship Hall. This class is low impact exercise open to anyone, men or women.

The Games and Card Group meets on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room downstairs. Everyone is welcome to come to this fellowship time.

The Quilting Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from **9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.** (September through May). Anyone is welcome to help with this project. No special sewing skills are needed. Bring your own lunch or go out and grab something. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia Luker.

This and That

Are you in need of Large Print Materials? Lutheran Braille Workers offers free large-print materials such as Bibles, The Lutheran Witness, devotionals, Lutheran Service Book and Portals of Prayer among others. Visit lbwloveworks.org if you would like to order any of the large-print materials.

The Johnson County Resource Center happens every Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the basement of First Presbyterian Church (206 N. College)—providing breakfast, a hot lunch, and a place to hang out. Housing assistance and case management are provided, as well as Medicaid signup. **Katy Trail's Mobile Medical Unit will be resuming its services in April!**

Ongoing thanks to those who generously give to the Bethlehem Emergency Fund, which enables Pr. Joel to assist members and certain people in the community who are in crisis situations. Much appreciation for your good support in shining the light of Christ! If you'd ever like to hear some of the stories of how these funds have been used, just ask Pr. Joel.

2024 Elders

Evan Florida (last name begins A-B) 660-238-4919, evan.keyrealty@gmail.com

Jimmy Smithers (last name begins C-E) 660-864-5370, jimmyds1980@gmail.com

Rich Vanderburgh (last name begins F-H) 660-864-3762, rvburgh@gmail.com

Willie Crespo (last name begins J-R) 660-679-8121, crespo6fam@gmail.com

Alan Miller (last name begins S-Z) 660-909-1764, alormiller@aol.com



EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS

Rohn and Georgia Luker

In Memory of:

Our loved ones that have passed

Ben and Cindy Smith

In Memory of:

Our loved ones that have passed

Dorothy Anderson

Our loved ones that have passed

Melvin Theroff

In Memory of:

Pris Callison (his wife)

Ricky and Janice Bertels

In Memory of:

Our loved ones that have passed

Larry and Judy Smith

In Memory of:

Our Parents

Larry and Karen Haase

In Memory of:

Albert & Alvena Haase (Larry's parents)
Kenneth & Mary Egbert (Karen's parents)

Sue Cottrill

In Memory of:

John A. Cottrill (her husband), Lawrence
and Marie McMullin (her parents)
Irvin and Virginia Cottrill (in-laws)
Irvin Lee Cottrill (brother-in-law)

Bill and Pat Brasel

In Memory of:

Clay Epperson (their grandson)

Peggy Hoyer

In Memory of:

Kimberly Carter (her granddaughter)

Diana Holland

To the Glory of God

Pat Spanton

In Memory of:

Denniss Spanton (her husband)

Carol Kurz

In Honor of her children:

Pr. Joel, Pr. Erich, Nathan & Meriam

Schumaker Family

In Memory of:

Ann Schumaker

Darlene Laubenstein

To the Glory of God

SueAnn Carter

In Memory of:

Her parents, brother and husband

Lana Vanderburgh

In Memory of:

Her mom and dad

SueAnn Carter and Penny Humphrey

Thank you for providing the flowers for the Easter Cross

On behalf of Rebecca and Cindy, we would like to say thank you to all of those who helped provide food and desserts for each of our Lenten meals. Also, to all of the groups here at Bethlehem who helped serve and clean up. We were able to provide all the meals by using a Thrivent Grant, our Jeremiah 29:11 membership and other items available through Manna Harvest.

Contact Information

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093

Our Mission

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

Our Vision

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



Rev. Joel R. Kurz

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am–5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am-5pm

Otherwise by appointment

Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

Email: jkurz@blchurch.com

Website: www.blchurch.com Facebook: [blcwarrensburg](https://www.facebook.com/blcwarrensburg)

Office Manager

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

660-747-6742

csmith@blchurch.com

Congregation Life Facilitator

Rebecca Holland-VanWey

Wednesday: 1pm-5pm

Thursday: 1pm-5pm

rholland@blchurch.com

Bookkeeper

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 9am-11am

Thursday: 9am-11am

thillsman@blchurch.com

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for live streaming on the web, viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.