

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome and thank you for joining us for worship today! In our service we gather before our almighty and saving God to hear His holy and powerful Word, offering Him our prayers and praises along the way as He strengthens our faith and walks us ever closer to our eternal home with Him.

TODAY'S FOCUS

The love of God who lives in us leads to a life of obedience. Jesus promises to send His disciples a Counselor who gives us the ability to do what He asks. Today's lessons teach us that love for our risen Lord means obedience to His commands. Yet that obedience is only possible through Jesus' promises and the faith that those promises create.

SERVICE NOTES

For your convenience the order of service is printed on the following pages. The order of service is an abbreviated form of the Order of Morning Service. All hymns, unless otherwise noted, are found in The Lutheran Hymnal (1941).



THE ORDER OF MORNING SERVICE

HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee | 394

1 My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
Oh, let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!

2 May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me,
Oh, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!

3 While life's dark maze I tread
And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my Guide.
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
From Thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;
Oh, bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul! A-men.

INVOCATION & CONFESSION OF SINS

Matthew 28:19; 1 John 1:8-10

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

C: Amen.

M: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: **Who made heaven and earth.**

M: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C: **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

M: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

M: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only-begotten Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all!

C: Amen.

INTROIT & GLORIA PATRI

Isaiah 48:20; Psalm 65:2; 66:1-2

M: With a voice of singing, declare, proclaim this, utter it even to the ends of the earth; say, "The Lord has redeemed His servant Jacob!" Alleluia! O You who hear prayer, to You all flesh will come. Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth! Sing out the honor of His name, make His praise glorious.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

SALUTATION & COLLECT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

M: Let us pray: Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from You. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to Your gracious will; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON: ACTS 17:22-31

Paul introduced the people of Athens to the One they knew as the "unknown God."

Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; ²³ "for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: ²⁴ "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. ²⁵ "Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. ²⁶ "And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, ²⁷ "so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; ²⁸ "for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.'

²⁹ "Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising. ³⁰ "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, ³¹ "because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

SECOND LESSON: 1 PETER 3:15-22

Peter encourages us to set the Lord apart as holy in our hearts.

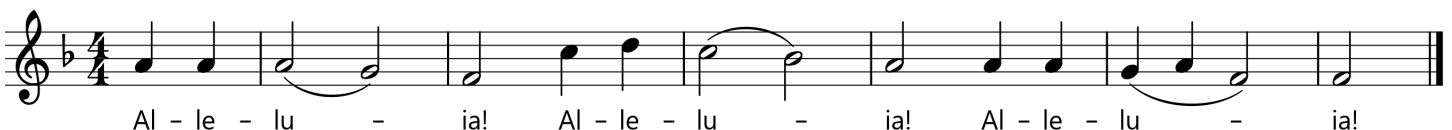
But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; ¹⁶ having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. ¹⁷ For *it is* better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, ¹⁹ by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

²¹ There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

GRADUAL

John 14:23

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia.



GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 14:1-12

Jesus is the way and the truth and the life.



C: Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord!

"If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—¹⁷ "the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ " A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. ²⁰ "At that day you will know that I *am* in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

²¹ "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice | 387 v. 1, 3, 4, 6

1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
With exultation springing,
And, with united heart and voice,
And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God hath done,
How His right arm the vict'ry won;
Right dearly it hath cost Him.

4 But God beheld my wretched state
Before the world's foundation,
And, mindful of His mercies great,
He planned my soul's salvation.
A father's heart He turned to me,
Sought my redemption fervently:
He gave His dearest Treasure.

3 My own good works availed me naught,
No merit they attaining;
Free will against God's judgment fought,
Dead to all good remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair
Left naught but death to be my share;
The pangs of hell I suffered.

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 power He wore,
A servant's form, like mine, He bore,
To lead the devil captive. A-men.

SERMON - 1 PETER 3:15-22

Always Ready to Answer

1. Ready to point to Christ.
2. Made ready by Christ Himself.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE WORD

M: Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart, that by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C: A - men, a - men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN

1 Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing;
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Thy love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us, Oh, refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness!

2 Thanks we give and adoration
For Thy Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Thy salvation
In our hearts and lives abound;
Ever faithful, Ever faithful
To the Truth may we be found!

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing | 50

3 So where'er the signal's given
Us from earth to all away,
Borne on angels' wings to heaven,
Glad the summons to obey,
May we ever, May we ever
Reign with Christ in endless day!
A-men.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARE WE STILL SAFER AT HOME? - When the state supreme court struck down the current "Safer-at-Home" extension, the Brown County public health department stepped in with a local, county-wide order that keeps current conditions in place for now (including limiting attendance at church to less than 10 in a room.) The county-wide order comes to an end on May 20. As of today we do not know what will happen next, whether the county will continue its order or the legislature and governor work together to provide a statewide response. Therefore, for now, we are sticking with our original plan to reopen for public worship on May 31. We will keep you apprised if the situation changes.

MEDITATIONS - Your Meditations for June-August are in your church mail boxes. You are welcome to pick them up from church, or if you'd like pastor to bring you your copy, please call the office.

THANK YOU! - Thanks for your continued support during this difficult time. We know many of you are making sacrifices in your life daily. Your prayers, your words of encouragement, and your financial support are deeply appreciated. For your convenience, we have a secure online giving portal on the home page of our website at christthekinggb.org. There, you can make a one-time donation or set up ongoing, regular offerings.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE KING:

SUNDAY (5/17)	Divine Worship, 9:00 a.m.
MONDAY	Confirmation, 4:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	Online Bible Class, 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY	<i>The Ascension of Our Lord</i>
SUNDAY (5/24)	Divine Worship, 9:00 a.m.

OUR MISSION

Christ the King Ev. Lutheran Church gives all praise and thanks to the Triune God for His grace received through Word and Sacrament by sharing the saving Gospel of Christ with the people of this community and the world.

