

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Music Sunday
April 28, 2024



WELCOME VISITORS

*We invite you to pick up a Visitor's Packet as you leave the service today.
Thank you for joining us this morning! We are blessed by your presence.*

Children are always welcome at worship.

*If desired, there is an unstaffed nursery available for parents and their children
on the second floor in first classroom on right side of hallway after restrooms.*

*Large print bulletins for today's worship are available,
please feel free to ask an usher if interested.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

April 28 – May 5

Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Donuts and Coffee
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Music Sunday
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	LWR Quilters
	1:30 p.m.	Bible Study Room 2
Thursday	12:00 p.m.	National Day of Prayer Service (Menno Haven Life Center)
	6:00 p.m.	Rose Ringers
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Donuts and Coffee
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship w/Holy Communion



*Thank you to our talented Musicians, led by
Deacon Freda Dorand, for sharing their gifts with us
this Sunday and throughout the year.*

Gathering

WELCOME

PRELUDE

“*Con Fan Tutte*”

by W.A. Mozart

Piano duet: Cassie Craven and Freda Dorand

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Please stand as you are able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty,
you are the river of life; you are the everlasting wellspring.
In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
In baptismal waters, our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Glory to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism and the outpouring of the Spirit.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world’s need through this living water.
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.
Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace.
We ask this through Christ, who reigns with you and the Spirit now and forever.
Amen.

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; he sets the pris-'ner free.
5 To God all glor - y, praise, and love be now and ev - er giv'n

the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
His blood can make the foul-est clean; his blood a - vails for me.
by saints be - low and saints a - bove, the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

CHILDREN'S CHOIR *"Tell the World that Jesus Loves You"*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said,

“Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 22:25-31

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat^l and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts^l live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, “The LORD has acted!”

SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our

sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

by William Kirkpatrick

Rose Ringers

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for

whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand as you are able following the prayer.

Christ for the World We Sing



1 Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
2 Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
3 Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
4 Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring



with lov - ing zeal: the poor and they that mourn, the faint and
with fer - vent prayer: the way - ward and the lost, by rest - less
with one ac - cord; with us the work to share, with us re -
with joy - ful song: the new - born souls, whose days, re - claimed from



o - ver - borne, sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.
pas - sions tossed, re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
proach to dare, with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
er - ror's ways, in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

Text: Samuel Wolcott, 1813–1886
Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

OUR RESPONSE

GATHERING OF GIFTS

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church,
including the care of those in need. Online giving is
available at felcc.org or by scanning this QR code.*



ANTHEM

“Come to the Music”

by Joseph Martin

Heather McEndree, piccolo/Cassie Craven, percussion

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith in God; the Father, the Risen Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Please be seated.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

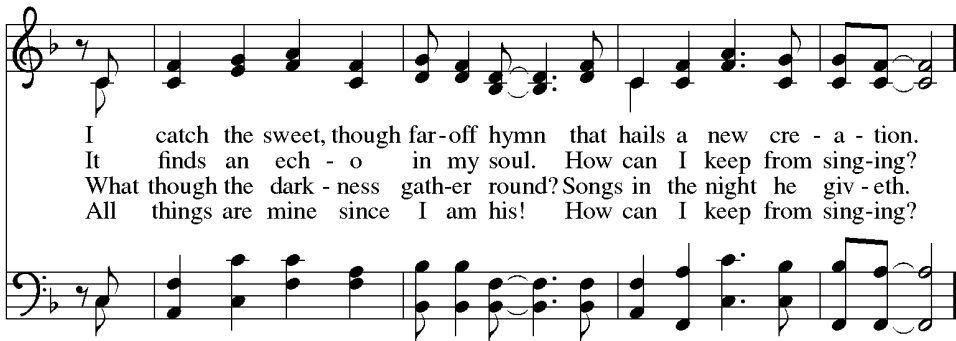
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.
Amen.

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899 Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

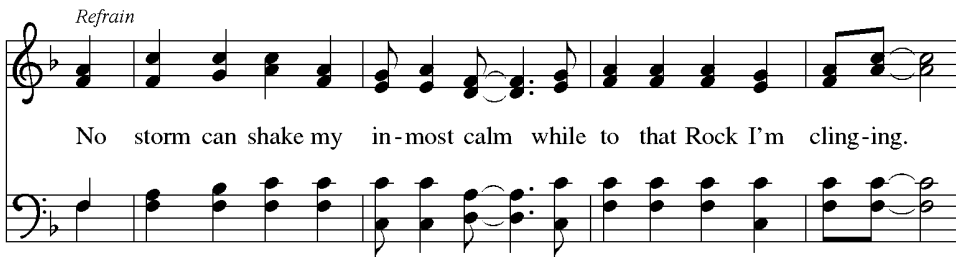


1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com - forts die? The Lord my Sav - ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing?
What though the dark - ness gath - er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing - ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in - most calm while to that Rock I'm cling - ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav - en and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?

DIMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Richard and Helen Cover by Jane and Denny Love and Family.

Please remember in your prayers ...

Healing: Douglas Baysinger (5/23), Kathy Blough (5/20), Joanne Caskey (5/6), Kira Coy (5/15), Diane & Gary DaRe (5/22), Jay (5/8), Julie Diehl (5/23), June Diehl (5/14), LaVonne Dorseth (5/15), Joanne Fisher (5/22), Destinee Gray (5/17), Denise Heinbaugh (5/28), Emmet and Sherrill Kessinger (5/18), Tyler & Sharon McKeon (5/19), Dia Schumacher (5/25), Garry Shatzer (5/3), Juanita Shaw (5/8), Don Shoop (5/27), Harry Miller, Sr. (5/2)

Long Term Care: Pat Dent, Charles Kampmeyer and Joe Pine

Military: Tawny & Brad Arnold, Rubens Paul, and Paul Whelan

ATTENDANCE April 21 65 in person 18 on line



A special welcome to Pastor Nienstedt. We are thankful to have you with us today, sharing God's message of hope.

PASTORAL CARE through today, will be Denise and Martin Horn at 717-496-5372.

MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANTS a brief meeting will be held in meeting room one after worship today to answer any questions you may have.

SOCK IT TO ME SUNDAYS The collection basket is available through today. Please see your Newsletter for more details. Thank you for sharing God's love with our neighbors in need.

PENTECOST GERANIUMS if you haven't ordered your flowers yet you will find forms at the elevator and entrances to the Sanctuary.

GIVE - N - TAKE to maintain a supply of non-perishable food please bring one food item with you when you come to church. A container will be in Memorial Hall for collecting. Blessings from the Neighborhood Task Team.

FIRST LUTHERAN'S SCOUT TROOP #128 is selling \$5 Camp Cards to help raise money for the boys to attend summer camp in June. The card includes discounts and coupons for Sunnyway Foods, Karn's, Papa John's, Red Robin, Jiffy Lube, Hoss's, Firehouse Subs, JoAnn Fabrics and many more! See Sam or Kristy Nienstedt if you would like to purchase a card and help support our Scouts!

COMMUNITY NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER You are invited to attend a National Day of Prayer event (a time to honor and pray for our country) at the New Life Center, Menno Haven Scotland Avenue, Chambersburg, Pa. Thursday, May 2, 2024, 12-12:45 P.M. Sponsored by Chambersburg Kiwanis Clubs and Radio Station 103.7 FM.

PENTECOST AND CONFIRMATION LUNCH On May 19 you are invited to attend a luncheon in honor of our four young people who will be affirming their faith in worship that morning. A sign up sheet is in Memorial Hall or you may call the church. This will help us know the amount of food to prepare. There is no cost for the lunch. Come and celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit in these young people's lives!

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: For those folks who have or will place altar flowers, Everlasting Love Florist is very willing to fulfill your order. They are aware of the process to pick up empty altar vase holders and return them filled with your order. Their minimum cost per altar vase is \$35 (\$70 for two vases). There may be an additional cost for specific flower requests. Please call 717-263-5009 and place your order by Wednesday for the following Sunday.

ST. SERAPHIM FOOD KITCHEN Saturdays 9am-1pm Volunteers from First have signed up through May. We just need 2 people for each Saturday that First is assigned. First serves one Saturday/month. The Soup Kitchen is located near the Salvation Army. Our work consists of making sandwiches, setting up a drink station, serving soup and chatting with those who come in for a meal. Our new schedule will start in June.

ANNUAL SPIRITRUST LUTHERAN CHAMBERSBURG AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE will take place during the month of May. Anyone can join with a minimum contribution of \$1.00. Your generous support will continue to allow the auxiliary to make donations to The Inn and Skilled Care Endowment Funds at The Village at Luther Ridge, SpiriTrust Lutheran Home Care & Hospice. If you would like to join the Auxiliary or need more information, please contact Tudy Gates or Mary Beth McGraw-Warne.

STIRRING UP MEMORIES the SpiritTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary is preparing a custom cookbook featuring favorite recipes from our local Lutheran congregations, as well as team members and residents at the Village at Luther Ridge. For more information, please go to the Church bulletin board and for Recipe Collection Sheets (deadline for submission is May 31). Please call Mary Beth MaGraw-Warne at 717-372-8282 for any questions you may have.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>April 28</u>	<u>May 5</u>	<u>May 12</u>
Lector:	Becky Hoover	Doris Burdick	Ralph Burdick
Soundboard:	Bob Lawyer	Mark Nicholson	Marlin Maclay
Communion Assistants:		Donna Ross Mike Ross Karen Sloan	
Greeters:	Karen Maclay	Doris Burdick Ralph Burdick	Doris Burdick Ralph Burdick
Altar Guild:	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods
Ushers:	Rick Gates Denny Love Kathy Shoop Bob Wildeson	Jim Brown Bill McCoy Carol McCoy Rick Gates	Jim Brown Bill McCoy Carol McCoy Rick Gates