



Church of the Savior

L U T H E R A N

April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter



Pastor: The Reverend Paul A. Miller
Phone: 201-261-0420
Email: church@cosparamus.org
Website: www.churchofthesavior-lutheran.org



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Welcome to Church of the Savior – Lutheran:

We are a community of believers, seekers, and doubters. We affirm all of God's people just as they are. We are a welcoming and inclusive community that does not require you to change in any way to worship with us.

We strive to make love grow both in our congregational life and in our nursery school. We recognize all the love we have is given to us from the Holy Spirit, we are but reflections of God's love. One of the ways we make love grow is by being accepting and existing the way Jesus taught us; living in harmony together no matter one's race, nationality, or gender. We strive to create and ensure the safest and most loving environment for everyone. We look forward to growing in faith with you.

With Regard to Holy Communion:

We celebrate Holy Communion nearly every week at Church of the Savior. Holy Communion is a sacred meal in which Christ comes to us in bread and wine. "This is my body given for you... This is my blood shed for you." We believe those words to be true. Christ is truly present in Holy Communion. When we receive the bread and wine of this meal, we receive his body and blood "in, with, and under the forms" of the consecrated bread and wine. All of God's beautiful children are welcome to our Lord's table — it's our Lord's table, after all, and all are invited. Let's be clear — it is not "my" table, or "our" table or a "Lutheran" table. It is our Lord's table, and he sends out the invitations — to everyone under the sun. This includes you to come forward just as are.

For the bread we provide two types of host, with gluten and without. If you would like gluten free let Pastor Paul know when you come forward. We offer both red wine and white grape juice.

To the Parents of Children:

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome! Sit toward the front where it is easier for children to see and hear what is going on. Little one's tire of seeing the back of others' heads.

Explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, ushers, choir, and the people who make worship happen. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

The way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to The Church, to God and to one another. Let them know, and let us show them, that they are at home in their house of worship. The presence of your child is a gift to Church of the Savior. We are blessed to welcome and worship with our children. We know that it took a lot of work to get to this pew today; you are doing a really good job!

We thank Kristin Stewart for once again sharing her talents with us this morning. Please join her and other members of the NJWS Flute Ensemble for a beautiful and entertaining concert of music for flute ensemble this Saturday, May 4th, at 7pm, at our Music at Savior concert.



PRELUDE: Kristin Stewart, flute: Sheep May Safely Graze from Cantata No. 208 (J.S. Bach)



Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: We Know that Christ is Raised

G D C C G

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

Em G G/B A D

Em-braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re-born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

Dm G7 C Am Em G/D

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:

C Am G D

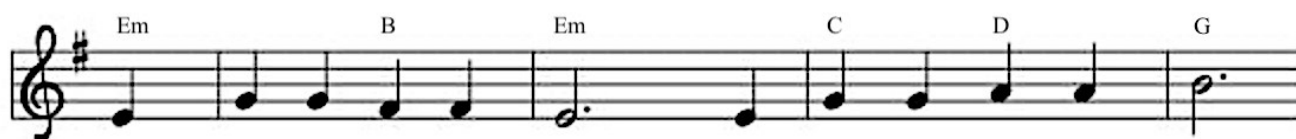
Hal - le - lu - jah!

GREETING

Pastor: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

THE KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

THE GLORIA



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] **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.

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: Thanks Be to God

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.

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: Thanks Be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Bb Gm F Eb Bb/F F Bb
Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Bb Gm F Eb Bb/F F Bb
Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

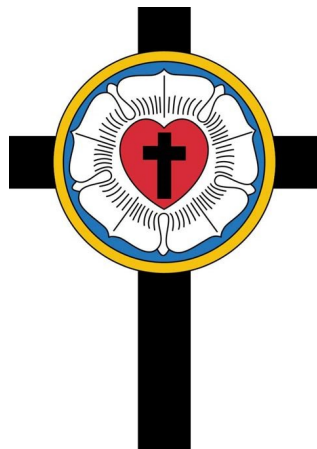
Bb F Gm D Eb Bb/F F Bb
Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“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.”

People: Praise to you, O Christ.



HYMN OF THE DAY: He Is the Vine and You Are His Branches

♩. = 120

HE'S THE VINE AND YOU'RE THE BRANCHES



1 & 5. He is the vine and you're His branches. His
 2. A - bide in Him as He's in you. His
 3. You have been pruned by the Word He's spo - ken. His
 4. You can't bear fruit when you don't a - bide. His



ban-ner o-ver you is love. He is the vine and
 ban-ner o-ver you is love. A - bide in Him as
 ban-ner o-ver you is love. You have been pruned by the
 ban-ner o-ver you is love. You can't bear fruit when you



you're His branches. His ban-ner o-ver you is love.
 He's in you. His ban-ner o-ver you is love.
 Word He's spo - ken. His ban-ner o-ver you is love.
 don't a - bide. His ban-ner o-ver you is love.



He is the vine and you're His branches. His
 A - bide in Him as He's in you. His
 You have been pruned by the Word He's spo - ken. His
 You can't bear fruit when you don't a - bide. His



ban - ner o - ver you is love. His ban - ner o - ver
 ban - ner o - ver you is love. His ban - ner o - ver
 ban - ner o - ver you is love. His ban - ner o - ver
 ban - ner o - ver you is love. His ban - ner o - ver



you is love.
 you is love.
 you is love.
 you is love.

HOMILY: Pastor Paul

CONFESSION OF FAITH - THE NICENE CREED

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.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Response: Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

**SPECIAL MUSIC: Kristin Stewart & Choir: What Wondrous Love is This
OFFERING**



**Please mail your offering to:
Church of the Savior
643 Forest Avenue - Paramus, NJ 07652 OR Use the
QR code on right for your offertory giving.**



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

spi - rit with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pre - sence, and

take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of

Thy sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with Thy free Spir - it. A - men.



ALL: 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 true vine. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE FOR THE SEASON

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

F C/E Dm Bb/C Dm C Bb C

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

Bb F Bb/G F Dm Gm Bbsus F

heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

F C/E Dm Bb/C Dm C Bb C

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

Bb F Bb/G F Dm Gm Bbsus F

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

....proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

At conclusion of Eucharistic Prayer

People: **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C7 F Dm Gm Bb F Am/E Dm Am/C Bb C



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

Am Gm Dm Bb Bb/G C7 Dm Dm/Bb C F



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION



COMMUNION HYMN: Kristin Stewart, flute: "Air" from Overture in D (J.S. Bach)

COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His Grace! **Amen.**

Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell eve - ry one what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.

Send us with your pro - mi - ses, O God, and lead us forth in joy —

— with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Holy God in Love Became

Very slow

C G/B Am C/E F G C F C G/B Am C/G Dm D7/F#

Ho - ly God, in love, be - came Per - fect Man to bear my

Gsus G C G/B Am C/G F E7 Am G/F F

blame. On the cross He took my sin. By His

Em Am Gsus G C A A7 D A/C# Bm D/F#

death I live a - gain. Ho - ly God, in

G A D G D A/C# Bm D/A Em E7/G# Asus A D A/C#

love, be - came Per - fect Man to bear my blame. On the

Bm D/A G F#7 Bm A/G G F#m Bm Asus A D

cross He took my sin. By His death I live a - gain.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

SERVING TODAY

DATE	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASST.	USHER
April 28	Sally Leara	Susan Conrad	John Leara
May 5	Wendy McFarland	Rick Henly	Antoinette Walder
May 12	Vicky Coyle	Maggie Harrer	Rick Henly

FLOWERS

April 28	For:		
	From:		
May 5	For:	IMO Matjasinski, Keese and Duffy Families	
	From:	Marge Duffy	
May 12	For:		
	From:		

MAILING LIST

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3. Tap the notification to open the link associated with the QR code.

