

# May 18, 2025 Fifth Sunday of Easter



Presider: The Reverend Paul A. Miller

Phone: 201-261-0420

Email: church@cosparamus.org

Website: www.churchofthesavior-lutheran.org



#### 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 is took a lot of work to get to this pew today; you are doing a really good job!

# PRELUDE: Cindy Day: They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love



## Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of  $\pm$  the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.** 

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

# make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.

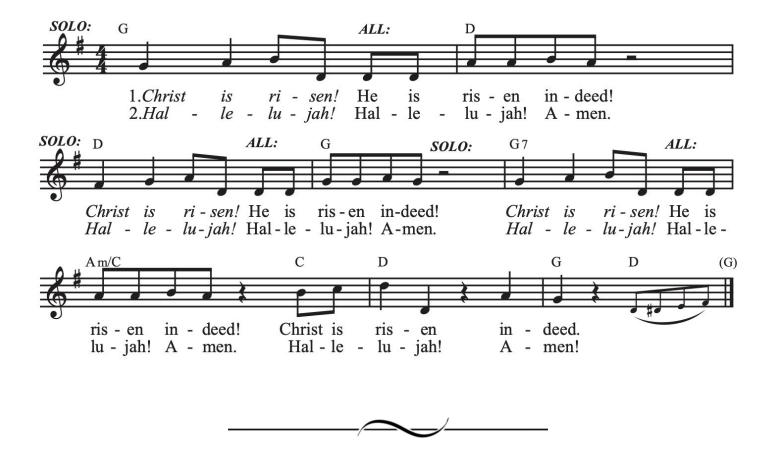
Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen** 

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!



#### GREETING

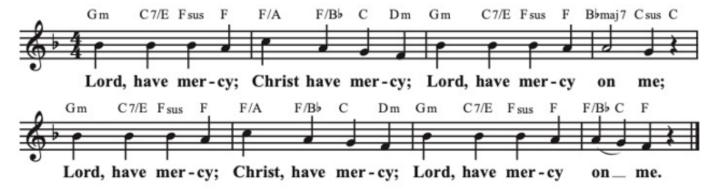
Pastor: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

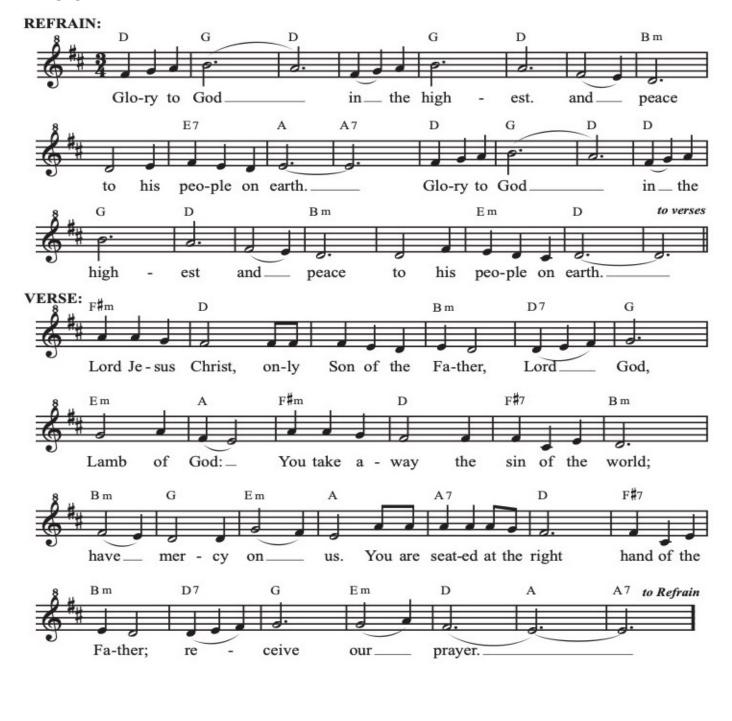


#### THE KYRIE

(CONGREGATION SINGS THIS AFTER WORSHIP BAND SINGS EACH VERSE)



#### THE GLORIA



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, 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 11:1-18

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saving, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' 15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

**People: Thanks Be to God** 



PSALM: Psalm 148

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup> wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;

<sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup> young men and maidens, old and young together.

<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,

whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup> The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!

#### SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

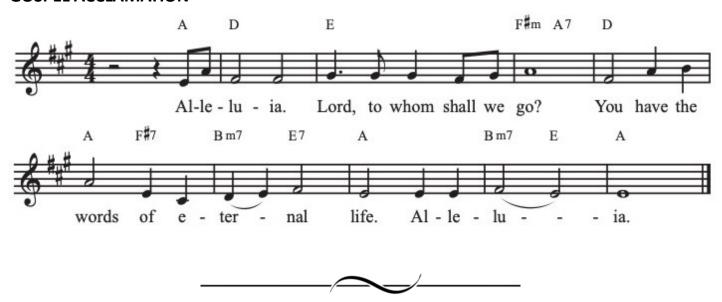
<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: Thanks Be to God



#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**GOSPEL: John 13:31-35** 

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

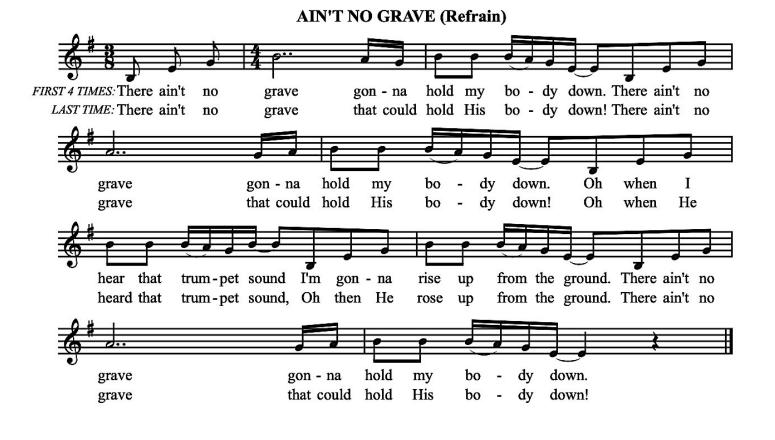
<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

People: Praise to you, O Christ.



**HOMILY: Pastor Paul** 

### HYMN OF THE DAY: Ain't No Grave—Congregation sings refrain 4x



#### **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.

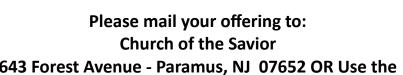
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Response: Your mercy is great.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE** 

SPECIAL MUSIC: Brenda Moderacki

**OFFERING** 



643 Forest Avenue - Paramus, NJ 07652 OR Use the QR code on right for your offertory giving.



ALL: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.



#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

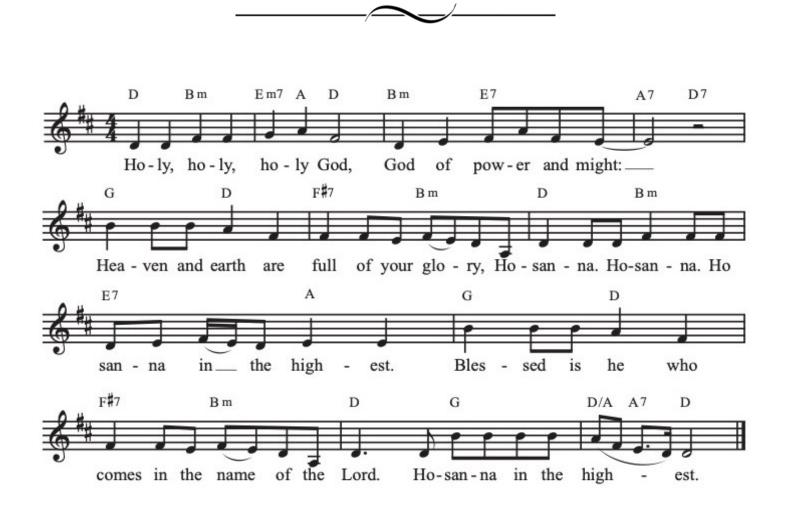
People: We lift them to the Lord.

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:



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

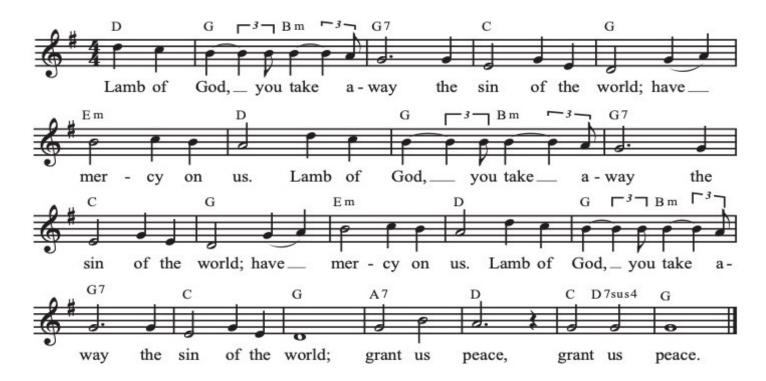
....proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

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

At conclusion of Eucharistic Prayer ....

People: Amen

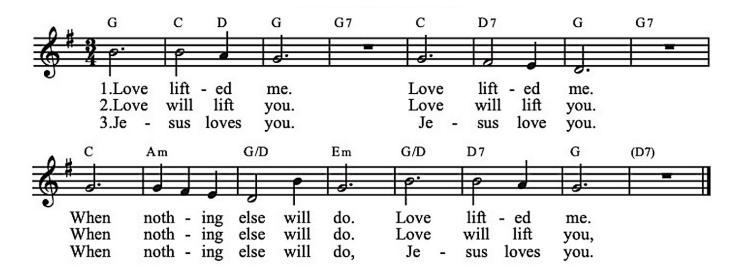
#### THE LORD'S PRAYER



#### **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**



# **COMMUNION HYMN: Love Lifted Me**





#### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

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



#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **BENEDICTION**

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.** 

#### **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

#### Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

### Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!



#### RECESSIONAL HYMN: Peace I Leave with You





# **SERVING TODAY**

DATE	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASST.	USHER
May 18	Michael Chomin	Brenda Heydt	Rick Henly
May 25	Sally Leara	Vicki Coyle	John Leara
Jun 1	Vicki Coyle	Sally Leara	Ed Moderacki

# **FLOWERS**

May 18 For: For our May 28th Anniversary of 59 ye
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From: Paul & Lorraine Miller

May 25 For: Joy for our Growing Family

From: Susan Conrad

Jun 1 For: Katie Henly's Birthday

From: Maggie Harrer & Rick Henly

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

May 18	Sunday School & Coffee Hour
	Congregational Meeting
May 20	Council Meeting
May 26	Memorial Day Church & School Closed
May 31	Clothing Drive: 9am—1pm
	75th Anniversary Community Tag Sale: 9am—3pm

# **MAILING LIST**

Not on our mailing list? Subscribe to it via this QR Code.

