Welcome to Emmaus Lutheran!



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 28, 2024

GOD'S DIVINE SERVICE TO US: Jesus Christ Is the True Vine Who Bears Much Fruit in Us

"God is love," and He has manifested Himself to us by sending "his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him" (1 John 4:9, 16). By the ministry of the Gospel, "he has given us of his Spirit," so that we also believe and confess "that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh." In this way, we "abide in

him and he in us," and we "*love one another*" (1 John 4:2, 7, 13). Such divine love is exemplified in Philip's preaching of "*the good news about Jesus*" to the Ethiopian eunuch. And when "*they came to some water,*" the eunuch was baptized into the very Gospel that Philip had preached (Acts 8:35–38). That Ethiopian was thereby grafted into "*the true vine,*" Jesus Christ (John 15:1), just as we are. Already we are clean because of the Word that Christ has spoken to us and by the washing of water with His Word. We now abide in Him by faith in His forgiveness. As He abides in us, both body and soul, with His own body and His blood, He "*bears much fruit*" in us (John 15:3–5).



WELCOME! What a blessing to gather together to worship the One True God! The Lord will bless your worship as he brings His gifts to you through Word and Sacrament. May we all respond with prayer, praise and thanksgiving. We invite you to prepare for worship in silence and prayer. Remembering your Baptism, you are encouraged to make the sign of the cross when you see this symbol + in the bulletin. If you are a guest, Pastor Olsen would love to meet you and we ask that you sign our Guest Book located in the front hallway.



WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN: Worship is a time for the entire family to be together to hear the Word of God, for faith comes by hearing (Rom. 10:17). Therefore we encourage parents and children of all ages to sit together in the service. Understanding it is difficult for little ones to sit for long periods, *Totes for Tots* activity bags are available as you enter church *(by the information table)* for children to use during the worship service. Each bag contains books

and quiet toys. Please return the bags and their contents after the worship service. Thank you! A *Cry Room* is also available in the Preschool/Mrs. MacKenzie's room (east hall), where you can listen to the worship service.

DON'T UNDERSTAND THE WORSHIP SERVICE? If it is your first time, some things may seem foreign. Worship does not come naturally we have to learn it. It does not come on the first try; the first hour in a foreign country the language and customs may be foreign. The liturgy is the special activity of the baptized people of God. It has its own special language like we do in our workplaces. It has its own customs like we do in our families. Every Sunday we learn more of worship and faith. The liturgy is where God reveals Himself to us and gives us Hs gifts. Here we learn who He is and how to respond to Him. The words of worship come from the Scriptures and its form has been used for 2,000 years. So don't worry if it all seems strange. You learn by practicing - join us each week!

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the House of the Lord..." Psalm 122:1



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

RESTROOMS are located on each side of the sanctuary. There is a baby changing table located in the girl's locker room on the west side. We also have a **Family Restroom** (handicap accessible & baby changing station) located at the southwest corner of the building, just outside the Church Office.



DIVINE SERVICE

Setting One Pg 151

Prelude

Welcome

Divine Service

Lutherans follow an order of worship based exclusively on Scripture and focused completely on Jesus. Through the Word and Sacraments, God speaks to His people.

Opening Hymn 465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds θ 0 living! 1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In 2 E is There ter nal the gift He brings, -3 O fill Lord, with us, daunt - less love; Set ∆4A dor - ing prais - es now we bring And Ο love that still "Christ has tri - umphed! praise of a - bounds: heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! fore our will on things a - bove That heart and we con - quer the heav'n-ly bless-ed sing: "Christ has with tri - umphed! He ing!" Sing, of is liv choirs an - gels, loud and ing!" He is liv -Now still He comes to give us through Your tri -Grant suf - fi - cient for life's umph; grace ia!" Fa - ther A1 le - lu -Be to the and our θ their clear! Re song _ peat of glo ry life And by His all pres stills ence day That by our lives we tru ly Lord, lv To Spir it blest. most ho here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has - umphed!" tri strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv ing! -"Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv _ ing!" say: God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end ing! -0 Al - le - lu ia, al - le - lu ia, al - le - lu ia! Al - le - lu ia, al - le - lu ia, al - le - lu ia! Al - le - lu al - le - lu - ia, ia! ia. al - le - lu ia! Al - le - luia. al - le - lu ia. al - le - lu Text: © 1958 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001612 Tune: Public domain

Christ has triumphed! He is living! (Revelation 5:13; 7:11-12; Romans 8:11; Colossians 3:1-12; 1 Corinthians 15:57)

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

Invocation

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

- **C** Amen.
- 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.

1 John 1:8-9

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- **C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful Co and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, ac aq and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left sir undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart: we of 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.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. [John 20:19-23]

C Amen.

| Confession is the act by which one admits or confesses sin(s) and the guilt of sin. |
|---|
| Absolution literally means "set free." |

This Latin term was

aphiemi, meaning

"to set free. cancel.

used as a translation of the

biblical word

or forgive."

Invocation is from the Latin for "call upon": the words

service; serves as a reminder of Holv

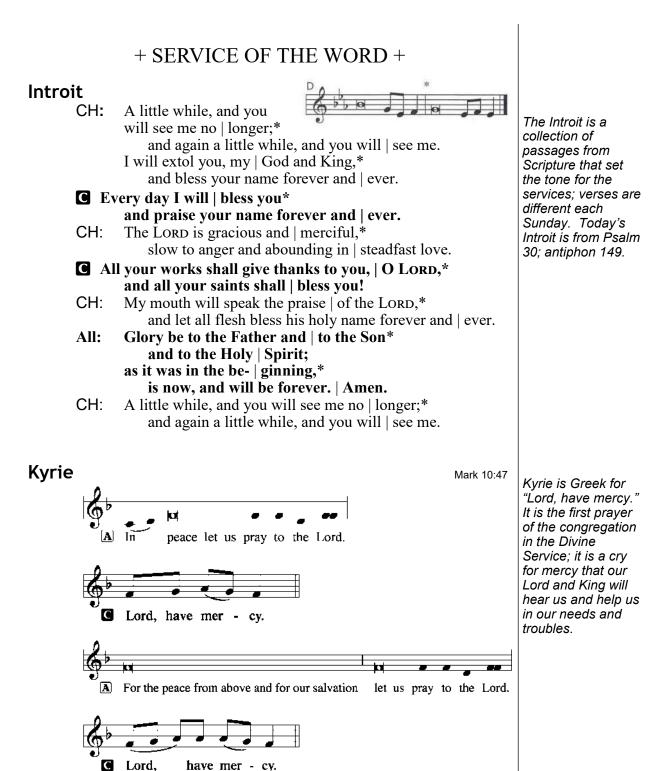
L = Liturgist/Lector **C** = Congregation

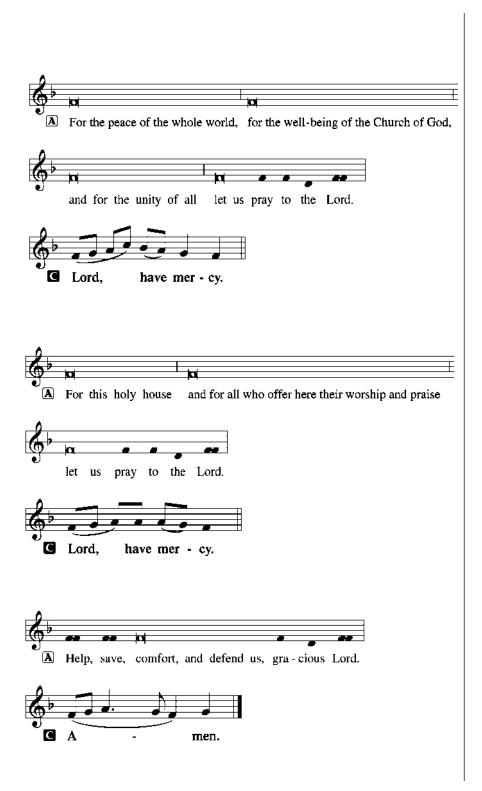
spoken at the beginning of the

Baptism.

P = Pastor

CH = ChoirS = Soloist





Hymn of Praise This Is the Feast Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9 Refrain #_± 0 Our Hymn of Praise 6 is based partially on \overline{a} . Revelation 5. of С This is the feast vic-to-ry for our God. (Revelation 5:12-13: 19:5 -9) 6 O Al-le - lu al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu ia, ia. **7**2 ł 1 - Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose 2 Pow rich - es, wis - dom, and and er, strength, 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God. and glo - ry, and 4 Bless hon - or, to ing, might be 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be o õ blood set free peo - ple of us to be 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 9 a. This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. 6 ł O ċ Al-le - lu ia. al-le-lu-ia, al-le -լո ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day





P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about

shows the special relationship between the congregation and the pastor, God's representative. It is a greeting found often in the Bible. The Collect is the pastor's first prayer in the name of the people, as he speaks for the congregation. It "collects" the theme for the day in a concise way.

The Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

Summary:

A man has his eyes opened up to the truth of Jesus Christ and was baptized. Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Adult Choir

Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor, He has given him dominion over the works of his hands; he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle: 1 John 4:1-21

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides 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 testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and

The Gradual is a response of praise between the Old Testament and Epistle readings.

Summary:

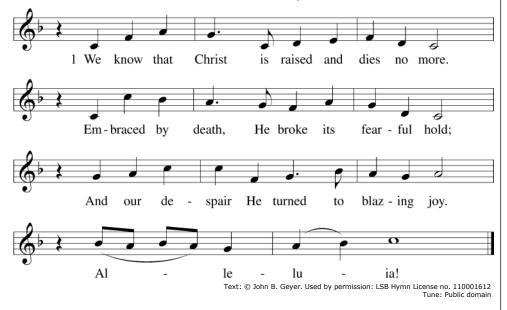
We are God's children and, as such, need to listen to His voice, not that of the world. As His children, we love as He has loved us. he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also 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 been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

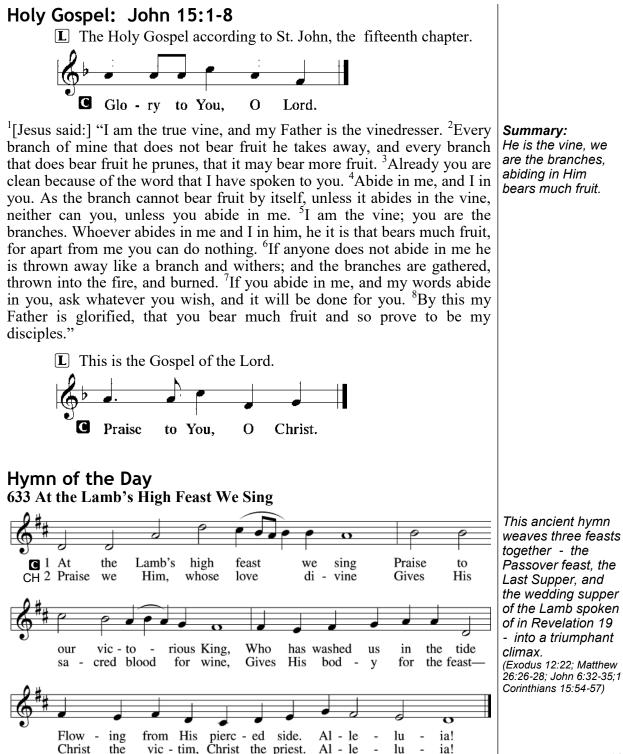
S If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia. [John 14:23]

603 We Know That Christ Is Raised, v. 1



Alleluia is Hebrew for "praise the Lord" and is a word of joy and gladness.

The Verse is a response sung between the Epistle and Gospel readings in the Divine Service.



| 3 Where the paschal blood is poured, Death's dread angel sheathes the sword; Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia! 5 Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You | CH 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal bread; With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia! C 6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall; You have opened paradise, | |
|---|---|--|
| lie; You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia! CH 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, | And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia! ▲C 8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: | |
| Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia! | Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia! Text and tune: Public domain | The Sermon: The preacher proclaims God's Law and Gospel for the hearers. |
| Nicene Creed I believe in one God, the and earth and of all thin | e Father Almighty, maker of heaven gs visible and invisible. | The Creed is a solemn confession and response of faith to the Word. |
| And in one Lord Jesu God, begotten of His Fa Light of Light, very Go being of one substance y | The Nicene Creed was composed in A.D. 325. | |

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

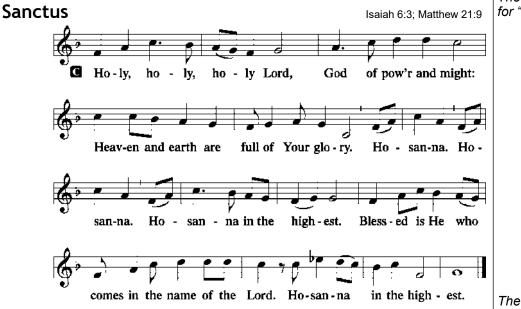
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian

no end.

| and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one remission of sins, and I look for the resurre and the life 누 of the world to come. Amen. | | The Prayer of the Church includes prayers that what has been heard may be taken to |
|--|--|--|
| Prayer of the Church | [1 Timothy 2:1-4] | heart and that God would take care of our needs. |
| Offering The offering will not be collected during the worship serve Please place your offering in one of the collection plate back of the sanctuary. Extra offering envelopes are and hymnal cart. If you would like to contribute electronical at www.emmausfortwane.org and click on "Give Online Mobile, available from the App Store. Thank you for yo ministry at Emmaus! Voluntary I Know That My Redeemer Liveth (G.F. Handel/ I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall latter day upon the earth. And though worms destry yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ r dead, the first fruits of them that sleep. | es located at the vailable on the ly, please sign up e" or use Vanco ur support of the Adult Choir Varr. Schultz) I stand at the roy this body, risen from the e. All rights reserved. | The Offering symbolizes the "spiritual worship" of Christian lives offered in response to God and unites the faithful in an act of fellowship. The voluntary is an offering of musical praise. |
| Reprinted under OneLic + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMEN Preface Preface Preface The Lord be with you. | | The Preface is a proclamation of praise and thanksgiving that begins the Service of the Sacrament. A dialogue between pastor and the people used since the Early Church. |



 It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



The Proper Preface is a special prayer said before the Lord's Supper that emphasizes the key themes of the feast, occasion, or season of the Church Year.

The Sanctus is Latin for "holy."

13

Prayer of Thanksgiving

■ Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

 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.

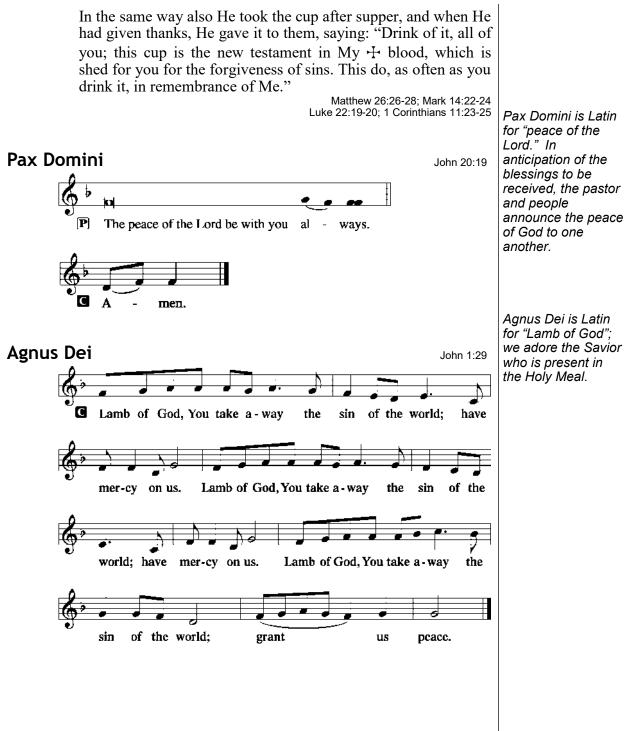
The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

thanksgiving is offered at the altar by the pastor on behalf of the congregation. It thanks God for instituting the Sacrament for our forgiveness.

The Lord's Prayer is the model prayer Jesus taught to the disciples (Matthew 6:9-13). Sometimes it is called the Our Father, after the first words of the prayer.

The words spoken by Christ when He instituted the Sacrament of the Altar; the pastor speaks these very words of Christ at the consecration of the bread and wine.



In the Distribution we receive the

Distribution

Our Holy Communion Practice

In Holy Communion we are joined in a personal way with Christ and with one another as we receive the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins. Therefore, out of faithfulness toward God, and in sincere love that seeks to guard the spiritual well-being of all who would commune, Emmaus practices Closed Communion.

Holy Scripture clearly teaches that those communing together be unified in their confession of the faith, and also that those who commune unworthily do great harm to themselves. When a person partakes of the sacrament, he/she is also confessing his/her unreserved agreement with the doctrine and practice that is proclaimed from the altar and pulpit of which the Sacrament is administered. Therefore, we ask you to refrain from communing if you are not a member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. All others are still welcome to come forward, crossing your arms to receive a blessing. Please speak with the pastor about receiving instruction to learn what Scripture teaches and our church confesses. We pray fervently for the day when Christ returns and all divisions will cease.

Thank you for respecting our practice.



body and blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

Distribution Hymns 691 Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing 1 Fruit ful trees, the Spir it's sow-ing, May we rip en 2 Lad - en branch-es free - ly bear-ing Gifts the Giv er 3 Root - ed deep in our Mas-ter, Christ Christ our pat tern 4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend-ing, May we grow till and in crease, Fruit to life ter nal grow-ing, e Here by shar - ing, loves bless; fruit that grows to is and Teach the fly fast - er, our goal, us, as years Till life un - end - ing. har - vests cease; we taste, in σ Rich in love and joy and peace. Pa tience. kind tle ness. gen ness. Good - ness, faith. and self trol. con Heav - en's love and joy and peace. Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001612 Tune: © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001612

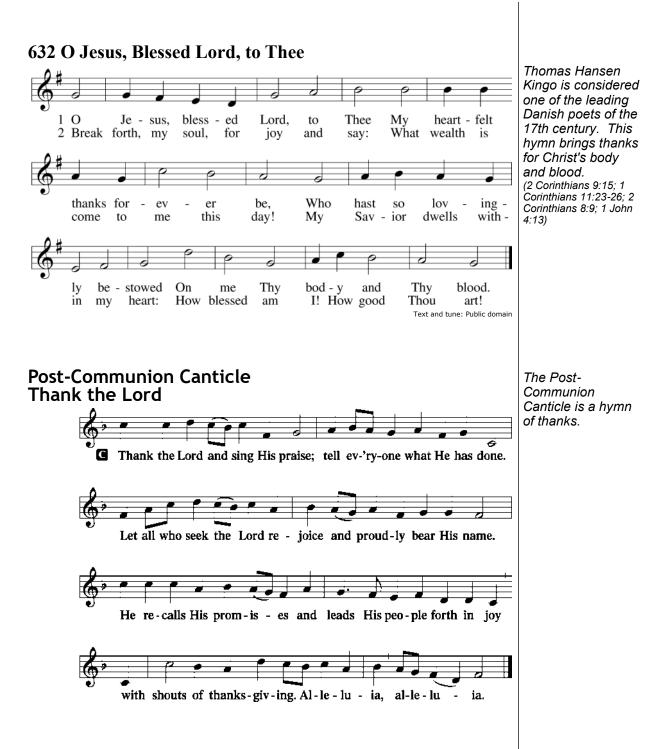
This hymn brings us back to our Gospel reading of Jesus the vine, and we the branches. (John 15:1-9; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 5:8-10; Luke 6:43-45)

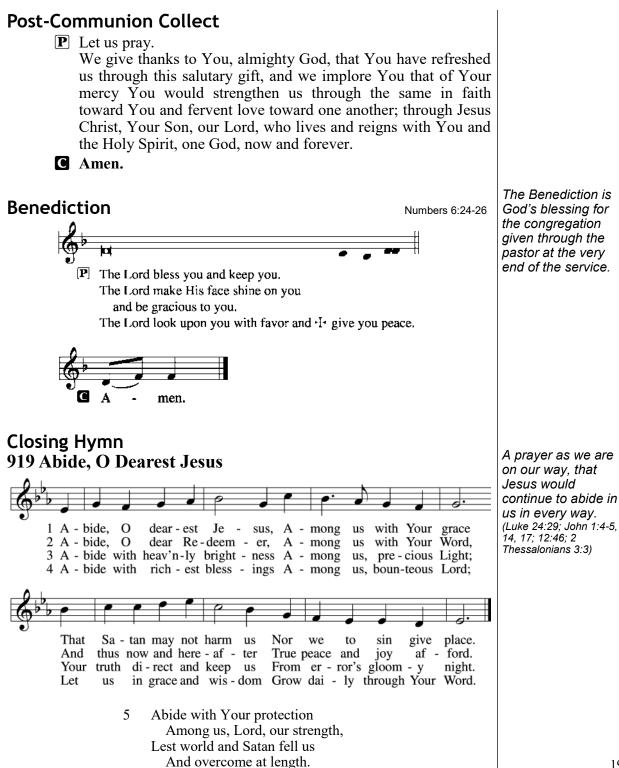
Choral Selection

Adult Choir

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise and See (setting by Kevin Hildebrand) Awake, O sleeper, rise and see this great and glorious mystery, this shining promise, ever new; the hope of glory Christ in you! Although life's heart-aches, trials, and sin combine to grieve your hope within, Rejoice! Your Savior's grace is great, made perfect in your weakened state. Come, share that life formed by His cross and for Christ's sake, come suffer loss; His Spirit works your life to fill with all good things to do His will. For you no longer live, but He who washed you clean and set you free; Baptized in Christ, you now are saved, forever on His palms engraved. Christ offers you, with nail-scarred hand, true manna for this desert land: His body and His blood divine beneath the sacred bread and wine!

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 Abide, O faithful Savior, Among us with Your love;
 Grant steadfastness and help us To reach our home above.

Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements

Dismissal

P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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🚇 Sunday School & Bible Classes 🚇

We invite you to join us as we study and learn God's Word. Please ask for help, if you need directions to these classes:

Nursery (for Infants through 2 year olds) will be open during Sunday School/Bible Class time in the Pre-School Room (east hallway).

Preschool-Grade 1 Students will meet in Ms. O'Brien's/Kindergarten Room (front hallway).

Grades 2—5 will meet in Mrs. Dahnke's/Grade 5 Classroom (west hallway).

Grades 6-8, High School & Adults are encouraged to join us this morning as we gather together to hear information on the Higher Things Conference from Pastor, our youth, and adults who attended the 2022 conference and hear about this year's event, prior to the luncheon.

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Participating in Today's Service

Preacher: Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III Lector: Seminarian Brian Frank Communion Assistant: Rev. Dr. Jon Bruss Acolyte: Niko Spanos Elder: Mr. Jacob Bushur Organist: Mr. Timothy LaCroix Choir: Emmaus Adult Choir

MISSION OF EMMAUS LUTHERAN:

Empowered by God's gift of never-ending love in Word and Sacrament and responding to the forgiveness won for us by Jesus Christ on the cross, the mission of the family of Emmaus Lutheran is to COURAGEOUSLY CONFESS CHRIST through worship, life together, teaching and service.

UNITY & FAMILY & FAITHFUL & EDUCATION & CONFESSIONAL

Sunday, April 28

5th Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Divine Service - Holy Communion Light refreshments will be serviced after the worship service. Please feel free to join us! 10:30 a.m. Sunday School &

Higher Things Presentation Sunday School Nursery: Peggy Kreigh, Judi Mabee

11:30 a.m. Higher Things Fundraiser Luncheon

Monday, April 29 8:20 a.m. School Chapel

Wednesday, May 1

7:00 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study

Thursday, May 2

6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir

Sunday, May 5

6th Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. Divine Service - Holy Communion & Youth Confirmation Acolyte: Trapper Durlacher Elder: Stan Veit Everyone is invited to join us for a reception following the worship service.



COURAGEOUSLY CONFESSING CHRIST

8626 Covington Road Fort Wayne, IN 46804 Phone: 260-459-7722 FAX: 260-459-7766 Church: www.emmausfortwayne.org School: www.emmauslutheranfw.org Check out our YouTube Channel: Emmaus Lutheran Fort Wayne



The Ministry of Emmaus is eager to serve you!

Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III, *Pastor* Home: 260-267-5180 revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org

Darlene Heeren, *Church Secretary* Timothy LaCroix, *Music Director* Karen Detwiler, *Family Care Coordinator*

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

EMMAUS MONTHLY STEWARDSHIP FOCUS



APRIL: STEWARDSHIP OF THE EARTH PART IV

Stewardship Goal:

Courageously Confess Christ through the vocational aspects of Whole Life Stewardship now and into the next generations.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. (Col 1:19-20 ESV)

<u>Family Stewardship Discussion</u> Read the Bible verse above aloud first.

- 1. Did you know that even creation is awaiting Jesus return when He will restore all creation? Jesus' work of reconciliation and redemption reaches out to all creation. We are reminded of this in Romans 8 as we hear about how creation is struggling under the weight of sin. "For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies." (Rom 8:19-23 ESV)
- 2. Like all of us under the bondage of sin until Christ redeems us, even creation is eagerly awaiting the return of Christ. Where do you see the earth groaning and the corruption? It is important to remember that not only can't we save ourselves, but we cannot save or heal the earth. This is the work of Jesus Christ on the last day. We are not the earth's Savior! Jesus is the One. However, we can care for it as we await the return of Jesus and that the next generations might enjoy the gifts of creation God has given us. Jesus will reconcile all things to Himself. Come Lord Jesus, quickly come. AMEN.

pril 28, 2024

"LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR"

Easter V – It is anxiety and fright that drive folks to pursue abortion, physician-assisted suicide, and other measures that view death as a solution. Fear likewise bullies the sanctity of life into silence. But the Lord's perfect love puts all fear to flight (1 John 4:18). In surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis, we and our neighbors need not independence and empowerment but the presence, promises, and compassion of the Father Almighty

Life Thoughts in the Church Year are designed to help pastors and congregations see the church year through the lens of the sanctity of human life. Life Thoughts are based on the appointed readings from Lutheran Service Book. www.lutheransforlife.org

Remember in Prayer this Week

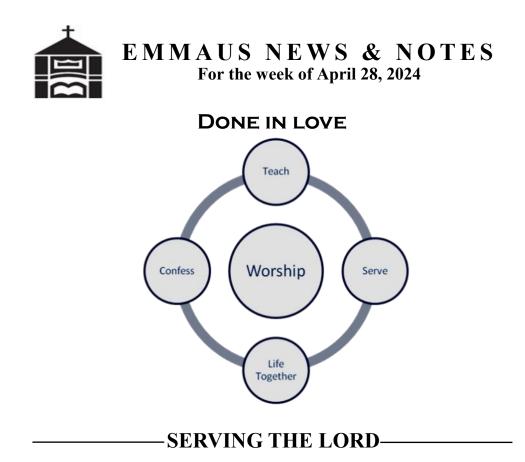
| FCG | Hospitalized/Sick/Recuperating | | |
|---------|--|--|--|
| Ruth | LLV Inverness Lakes: Beverly Baals | | |
| Luke | Riley Children's Hospital, Indianapolis: Layla Stockinger, received bone marrow | | |
| | transplant on January 9th | | |
| Moses | Ashton Creek: Doris Snyder, for rehab | | |
| Deborah | h Ashton Creek: Carol Rose, for rehab | | |
| Matthew | v Sue Behny, recovering from pneumonia | | |
| Ruth | Marti Evans, as she continues to experience health issues | | |
| John | Beverly Lee, scheduled to have surgery on Tuesday, April 30th | | |
| Moses | Pamela Richter, experiencing health issues | | |
| | Adam Connelly, friend of Karen Detwiler, continued trouble with cancer | | |
| | Faith Ells, (26 years old), friend of Barbara Cox, undergoing cancer treatment | | |
| | Mercury, grandson of Steve & Bev Lee, pray for courage and strength | | |
| | Crystal Wilson, friend of Amanda Heeren, undergoing treatment for a brain tumor. | | |
| м | | | |
| Moses | Brudi Family, Amanda Heeren; Eric Hoffman, Dave & Joan Kendall, Victor Lunz, | | |
| FCG | McGehee Family; Pamela Richter, Eric Schmidt Family, and Doris Snyder | | |
| | Pray for | | |

Pray for

For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.

<u>Serving in the Armed Forces:</u> James Rockrohr, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving in the U.S. Marines; **Paul Rockrohr**, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving as Chaplain in the U.S. Navy; and **Travis McGehee**, who has returned from training.

<u>Please Note:</u> As prayer requests come in we will keep them on the prayer list for one month, unless specifically requested otherwise.



THANKS! - Thank you to all those involved with changing the decorations around our building. It's wonderful to see the different displays for the changing times of the church year and the seasons. It's always beautiful!

THANK YOU OUTREACH TEAM! We would like to thank the Outreach Team for taking the time to decorate the bulletin boards for us and for all to see the wonderful news of the Gospel as they come into the building each day.

THANK YOU - God has richly blessed us with many gifts in our congregation! Among the most blessed is one another. Thank you for working together, side by side as the Body of Christ, to serve the Lord and our neighbor.

NURTURING THE FAITH-

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

We invite you to join us as we study and learn God's word. Please ask for help, if you need directions to these classes:

Sunday School Classes

Nursery (for infants through 2 year olds) will be open during Sunday School/Bible class time in the Pre-School Room (east hallway).

Preschool (3 yr. olds) - Gr, 1Students will meet in Ms. O'Brien's/ Kindergarten Room (front hallway).

Grades 2-5 meet in Mrs. Dahnke's/Grade 5 Classroom (west hallway). Grades 6-8 meet in the Library (west hallway).

Adult Bible Class

Join us for Bible class this morning, as we read and study God's Word.

DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS

<u>Higher Things Reflections</u> - Easter Sunday—the Seventh Week of Easter (3/31 to 5/18/2024) booklets are available as you leave from the table in the front hallway. Please feel free to pick up a copy and take one for a friend. Daily Reflections are provided by Higher Things. www.higherthings.org.

<u>Portals of Prayer</u> - We have the devotion booklets for April to June 2024. Please feel free to pick one up from the table in the front hall.

LIFE TOGETHER-

Worship Attendance

Sunday, April 21 Worship: Bible Class:

PRESCHOOL AIDE NEEDED - Emmaus Lutheran Preschool, 8626 Covington Road, is in need of an afternoon aide for the remainder of this school year. Hours are Monday thru Friday, 12:30-4:30 p.m. If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, please contact Joann Olsen, Preschool Director, at <u>jolsen@emmauslutheranfw.org</u> or 260-459-7722, ext. 1012.

SUBSTITUTES FOR TEACHERS & AIDES NEEDED - If you or someone you know would be interested in substituting for a teacher or a classroom aide, please contact Mrs. Spanos for more information, 260-459-7722, ext. 1002.

CHAPERONES NEEDED - Want to spend time deepening your faith and connecting with our





| Emmaus FY 2023-2024 Offerings & Tithes N | VEEDED |
|--|-------------|
| Please note that the information below shows the budgeted | amount for |
| offering income only and <u>does not</u> reflect our overall bud | get status, |

| 3333333333333 | 0 / |
|--|----------------|
| Offerings Needed Weekly Beginning July 1, 2023 | \$6,894.00 |
| Offerings Rec'd Last Sunday | \$9,116.15 |
| Electronic Offerings Rec'd Last Week | \$1,548.80 |
| Budgeted Overage (Shortfall) | 3,815.95 |
| | |
| Budgeted Offerings Needed YTD | \$296,442.00 |
| Envelope Offerings Received YTD (includes Electronic Offerings) ** | \$316,021.54 |
| Budgeted Overage (Shortfall) YTD | \$19,579.54 |
| Long-Term Commitments/Obligations & In | ITIATIVES |
| Mortgage Balance | \$1,007,998.09 |
| Concordia Lutheran High School Congregation Assessment Balance | \$41,279.16 |
| Sanctuary Fund/Foundation | \$304,082.95 |

congregational youth? Consider attending Higher Things, 2024! We are looking for interested chaperones for the June 25-28 conference in Mequon, WI. You can find out more by texting or calling Laura Bruns at: 219.670.6454 or scanning the QR code!



WHERE ARE THEY GOING? - The Vicarage & Deaconess Assignment Service was held at Concordia Seminary—fort Wayne on Tuesday, April 23rd. Field Worker Noah Dunsmore will be going to Zion Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH for his vicarage. Our Deaconess Field Worker Haley Randolph will be going to Concordia Lutheran Ministries, in Cabot, PA for her Internship. Please keep them in your prayers as they finish their academic year and make preparations to move to continue their training.

EMMAUS FACEBOOK PAGE! - Emmaus has a new Facebook page. Follow us at <u>https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089549997428&mibextid=LQQJ4d</u> or scan the QR code to view the page! If you have any event photos please send them to either Kirsten Bohnke at kirsten.bohnke@gmail.com or Paul Stockinger at paul stockinger@yahoo.com.





PRAYER REQUESTS - Did you know...You can share your prayer requests or praises by clicking "Prayer" on the Emmaus homepage at emmausfortwayne.org.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6

WAYS TO HELP EMMAUS:

Kroger Community Rewards This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. It's easy! Here's how:

- 1. Go to Kroger.com and set up an account (if you don't have one) or log into your account.
- 2. Under your account options select "My Account."
- **3.** Scroll down the page and select Community Rewards" (left side of screen
- **4.** Under "organization Name" enter "Emmaus Lutheran School and Church" or use "organization Number" BF171.

Thank you to all who are participating in the Kroger Community Rewards. The amount we are receiving has increased four times the amount that we received in September 2023! We appreciate your support!

Box Top\$ for Education

Join me in earning cash for our school by using the Box Tops app. It's an easy way to make a difference. All you have to do is buy Box Tops participating products (like Cheerios!) and scan your grocery receipt. Box Tops are worth \$.10 each and



they add up fast! Twice a year, our school receives a check to help pay for whatever we need - equipment, supplies or experiences the kids love! Use this referral code AHOE8SA7 when you sign up and you'll get 40 Bonus Box Tops when you scan your first receipt now through 04/30/2024, while supplies last! Download the Box Tops for Education app here: <u>https://btfe.smart.link/c2jjdifkw?referral_code=AHOE8SA7</u>

Advantage Recycling

We are accepting empty printer ink cartridges, old cell phones, and laptops. This helps keep those items out of the landfill and helps us as we will receive payment from the recycling company, Items can be placed in the box located inside the west entrance to the gym/sanctuary from the front hall. Monies from this program will be used for school supplies.

PROJECT CONNECT BOOOKLETS

Lutheran Hour Ministries 'Project Connect' booklets combine a subject matter expert's practical guidance on a variety of topics that pose

Connect' LUTHERAN expert's HOUR that pose

real-life challenges to us, within a Christ-centered, Law and Gospel context ... What a powerful combination! You can find a variety of these booklets in the circular rack just inside the entrance to the sanctuary. This week's featured brochure: "*Great Deceiver*" - The battle we wage in this life is not one "Against flesh and blood but against ... the powers of this dark world," as Paul tells us in Ephesians 6. In this booklet Pastor Michael Newman gets to the heart of the matter: "If you believe in Jesus or are even contemplating walk of faith, Satan has you as his target. He has declared war on your life." Using Scripture, Newman shows us

Satan's - the great deceiver's - true colors. His best intention is our worst nightmare. Jesus sums it up: "He was a murderer from the beginning" (John8:44). But still we can rejoice. In Christ we have victory over the devil.

GREETING CARDS - **\$1.00 EACH** - Our Women's Guild has a nice variety of Dayspring cards on the carousel at the back table. Stop by before or after service and browse all the <u>many</u> choices. Pick up a beautiful "thinking of you" and "praying for you" cards which are perfect for our Care Groups, family and friends. ALSO, If you want unique, blank notecards, how about our Emmaus cards at \$6.00 for a 12 pack? They were designed by Bill Schmidt and are perfect for ANY occasion. We all love to receive cards and notes. Take the time to do it, and share your love and prayers.

ELECTRONIC GIVING - **Please be sure to set up your electronic giving on the Vanco Mobile app.** You can download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app. Just select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation. If you have questions or need assistance with our new mobile app, please stop by the church office or call us at 260-459-7722. We also have an info sheet that shows how to make gifts with the app available from the table in the front hall.

WEEKLY SHUT-IN VISITS - If you are physically unable to attend the Sunday morning worship service, including short-term recoveries, we would be happy to drop off a bulletin, the News & Notes, as well as a copy of the sermon. (We deliver on Mondays). <u>Please contact the</u> <u>church office, 459-7722 and press "3"</u>. Dave & Joan Kendall

MEMBER CALLER - We have set up our account for the new service to call all our members. Please add the phone number of **855.248.7295** to your caller id or your phone address book and entitle that contact as the Church Call so that it will be identified properly on your caller id. If your phone number has changed or you need to add an additional number for your household, please see Darlene so that she can update the call list.

GENERAL -

DEADLINE FOR EMMAUS NEWS & NOTES: Please submit information to the Church Office by Noon on Wednesday to be included in Sunday's publication.

ROYAL MESSENGER NEWSLETTER - The April/May 2024 issue of The Royal Messenger is available to pick up in the front hall for those who requested a printed copy. **Deadline for the June/July issue is Friday, May**

24th. Please send any info on upcoming events to the church office by e-mail to: dheeren@emmausfortwayne.org. Thanks!

OTHER —

ISSUES, ETC. LUTHERAN RADIO IN EXILE...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can tune into interviews on subjects like "Answering Tough Questions About the Christian Faith: Common Objections", "Bad Uses of the Law of God", "Signs and Symbols in the Church" and more. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

WORSHIP ANEW is broadcast weekly on <u>Sundays</u> at 7:00 a.m. on NBC's Channel 21.2, 8:00a.m. on MyTV - Frontier 9, Digital 21.3 and Comcast 2 52; 11:30 a.m. on WINM-TV 12/38 - TCT; and 4:00 p.m. Sunday and 10:00 a.m. Monday on Comcast 55 and Frontier 25 [PA]. Today's program: **Vine, Branches, and Fruit** - Jesus is the Vine, you are the branches, and the Father is the vinedresser. That is today's picture of your union with Christ through faith from the Gospel according to St. John. Joined to Jesus in faith you are alive and fruitful, as living branches joined to a living vine. Apart from Jesus, you are dead and fruitless. Sermon Text: John 15:5. Speaker: Rev. Shayne Jonker.

CAMP LUTHERHAVEN - Archery, hikes, boating, crafts, games, swimming, and man more activities are alla part of the summer experience at Camp. Come for one of our weekend camps, register for a week of youth or high school camp, or help Lutherhaven celebrate it's 75th anniversary! For 75 years, Lutherhaven has been providing the setting and resources for people to grow in their relationship with others and—more importantly—in their relationship with God. Come see what camp is all about! Register online today at www.luterhaven.org, or call 260-636-7101 for more information.

CROSS CONNECTIONS - S.O.S. at Cross Connections: The Biblical counseling ministry at Cross Connections has a Serve our Servants fund (S.O.S) that provides free counseling for all active duty military, police, fire, and EMT personnel and their families. If you or somebody you know would benefit from these services please speak with pastor or call Cross Connections at <u>260-373-0213</u> to learn more.

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST STILL NEEDED - Cross Connections Counseling Ministries is currently hiring a Part Time Receptionist. Responsibilities will include maintaining confidentiality, answering phones, scheduling, greeting clients, supporting counselors, minor bookkeeping, general hospitality and miscellaneous clerical duties. 20-28 hours a week, weekday hours. Positive, ministry work environment. Pay varies based on experience. Knowledge of QuickBooks, accounts payable & receivable a plus. Send resume to: <u>kirkreber@crossconnectionscounseling.com</u> or call 260-373-0213, ext. 105.

NIPSCO ENERGY ASSISTANCE - Beginning December 1, incomeeligible customers, seniors, active military and veterans experiencing financial difficulty paying their gas utility bill may apply for additional NIPSCO energy assistance programs. Available programs include NIPSCO Hardship, SERV (Supply Energy Resources to Veterans) and SILVER (Seniors in Indiana Low-Income and Vulnerable Energy Resource) that will allow customers to receive a one-time benefit of up to \$400 per year if they qualify. To see the full list of requirements for SERV and SILVER, customers should visit NIPSCO.com/ IncomeEligible. There, customers may also apply for the appropriate program by completing and submitting an online self-attestation form and uploading documentation, if required. Applicants should allow 30 business days for the form to be received and processed. If program requirements are met, a one-time credit will be applied to the applicant's NIPSCO gas residential utility account.

FORT WAYNE LUTHERAN We have copies of the current issue of The Fort Wayne Lutheran available at the table in the front hallway as you leave today. The issue is also available online at www.myfwl.org for those who have computer/internet access.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY MAGAZINES - We have copies of the magazines from both Ft. Wayne Campus and St. Louis campus available from the Information Rack. These publications provide information on what's happening at our seminary campuses. Please feel free to pick up a copy.

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

CLHS Summer Programs Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for summer camps and classes at Concordia! CLHS hosts a number of Summer Camps and Summer Academic programs for students of all ages (K-12 during the 2023-24 school year). Camps range from sports to computers to band and drama. There's something for everyone! And if you're looking to get ahead on your classes, sign up for one of our Academic programs. Classes are available onsite or online. Students from all schools in grades 8-12 are welcome! We are offering an online registration and payment system for all Summer Camps and Classes through CampBrain. To learn more about our summer programs or to register, go to:

clhscadets.com/apps/pages/summer-at-CLHS

Payment is due at the time of Registration. Many camps offer a t-shirt to campers, included in their registration fees. The registration deadline to be guaranteed a t-shirt is May 10, 2024. After that date, a t-shirt is not guaranteed. For any questions, please contact our athletics office at (260) 969-6868 or <u>athletics@clhscadets.com</u>. For questions regarding the summer classes, please call Nancy Koehler, summer classes coordinator, at (260) 483-1102, ext. 313 or email <u>nkoehler@clhscadets.com</u>.