



*Community of Christ Lutheran Church*  
*Third Sunday of Easter, April 14, 2024*  
*8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.*  
*Pastor Stephen C. Bond*



**THE GATHERING**

Welcome

Pastor Steve Bond

**P** Christ is Risen! **He is Risen Indeed!**

Musical Prelude

Pam Stover

**WE REMEMBER OUR BAPTISM**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Life, 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!**

## Greeting

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

*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

*Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

*Refrain*



### Prayer of the Day

**P** Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Childrens Sermon

## THE READINGS

### The First Reading: ACTS 3:12-19

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?”<sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

**L** The Word of the Lord **C** Thanks be to God!

### The Second Reading: 1 John: 3:1-7


<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not

know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.


<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

**L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!**


*Congregation:*



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we



go? You have the words of e - ter - nal



life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

## **The Holy Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48**

**P The Holy Gospel according...C Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

<sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?

<sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?”

<sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the

scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord! **C** Praise to you, O Christ!

**Sermon**

*“The Case of the Missing Fish Sticks”* Pastor Steve Bond

**Hymn**

“Touch That Soothes and Heals”

ACS 939



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that  
2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it  
3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's  
4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the  
ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and  
peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of  
wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:  
shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.  
kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.  
tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

*Refrain*



“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



## Nicene Creed

**C** 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 worshipped 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

## WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

**P** Rejoicing that Jesus is risen, and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

**AM** O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, so that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines, and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain; **Tom Jennings, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Brittany Dewitz, Frank O’Konski, Tristian Kimmey, Duncan Laverie, Carol Golembiewski, Holli Blackburn, Iris Rockwell, Pat Campbell, Kim Mockensturm, Larry Geer, Troy Bernhard, Kevin Stiles...** and all others whom we remember in silence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in our beloved community. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died *especially Craig Burdo*. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

### **THE MEAL**

*All Christians are welcome to commune at our Altar. You do not have to be a member of this congregation to receive Communion. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it. A “gluten-free” host option is available upon request as well.*

### **Sharing of the Peace**

**P** The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C** **And also with you!**

*Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.*





## HOLY

*Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'HOLY'. It consists of five staves of music in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff is in 6/8 time, and the second staff changes to 3/8 time. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music concludes with a double bar line.

### The Words of Institution

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.*

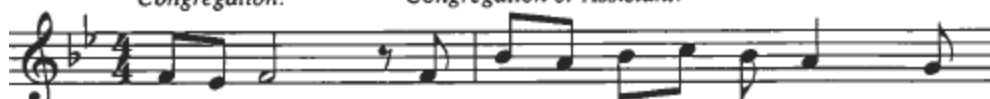
### The Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...**C** **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.**

# Communion Hymns


## “Lamb of God”

*Congregation:*                      *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God,                      you take a - way the sin of                      the  
you break the chains of ha - tred                      and  
you are the way of jus - tice                      and  
you are the way of mer - cy                      and

*Congregation:*



world:                      have mer - cy on us,                      mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

**Final Stanza**

*Congregation or Assistant:*



mer - cy                      on                      us.                      Lamb of God,                      you

*Congregation:*



take a - way the sins of                      the world:                      grant                      us peace,



grant                      us peace,                      grant                      us                      peace.

Hymn

“As We Gather at Your Table”  
“Savior, Again to Your Dear Name”

ELW 522  
ELW 534

### Post Communion Blessing

#### Prayer after Communion

AM 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.**

## THE SENDING

### *Milestones & Announcements:*

#### **The Blessing**

**P** 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.**

#### **Sending Hymn**

“The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”

**ELW 366**

#### **Dismissal**

**AM** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**AM** And next week, **C Bring a friend!**

#### **Postlude**

## Making Jesus Known”

**He Is Risen!** Welcome to the Easter Season! The presence of the Risen Jesus welcomes us every Sunday we gather in the Lord’s house! We are glad you are here! May the good news of life, hope, peace, and joy bless you and yours! Thanks for choosing to worship with Community of Christ!

**Join US!!** Each Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. in person or at 10:00 a.m. on Facebook Live!!! Don’t forget to BRING a FRIEND!!!

**Friends are you interested in Congregational Membership??** *Please complete the visitor form in the friendship pad and place it in the offering plate.* Our Pastor would love to speak with you about Community of Christ! We hope you will consider making C of C your church home!

**Next Sunday we will be receiving new members into our congregation in worship! Join us as we WELCOME new members into our church family!**

**Coming up on Sunday, April 28**, between services, we'll have a representative from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who will be able to share more about ways that Thrivent members can direct resources for use here at Community of Christ. Thrivent members can direct money to a recipient of their choice through a program called "Thrivent Choice Dollars," and that can be a way to support Community of Christ additionally beyond our regular giving. We can also apply for monies in micro-grant style projects through "Thrivent Action Teams" (as we did recently for fleece for the Bed Build tie blankets) to be used in specific one-time events or projects, and our Thrivent presenter will share more about how to make the most of these opportunities. We'll also have light refreshments throughout the presentation in the fellowship hall, starting at 9:00 a.m. Join us there!



Altar  
Flowers  
Ministry Opportunity

**Altar Flowers are given by Bob and Bonnie Smigelski in  
Loving Memory of our parents**



### **Adult Forum in April and May 2024: Scenes from a Movement**

Throughout the weeks of Eastertide, our first lessons in worship each Sunday will be stories from the Book of Acts, which chronicles the early church and the spread of the first followers of Jesus into the world. And yet, many of us are not very familiar with this part of the Bible or the meaning it holds for our lives today as the church. So, join us in the Adult Forum for the spring to take a closer look at these stories and the way the Christian community developed from a fearful band of former fishermen and tax collectors to a budding movement across the Roman Empire, and now to the whole world. Join us for "Scenes from a Movement: Stories from Acts" this April and May at 9:00 a.m. in the library for our Sunday morning Adult Forum class! Everybody is welcome!

### **April Ladies Lunch**

**Where:** Sunset Bistro, Bowling Green OH

**When:** April 26, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.

Becky will be at a wedding, so I am your contact person for the first Ladies' Lunch in 2024. Please sign up for the luncheon at the kiosk. If you have questions or want to share a ride, let me know. Kathryn Whitacre 567-395-9444. **Save these dates** for the rest of the Ladies' Lunches: May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, and October 25.

## **Piano Concert here at Community of Christ!**

Bryce Jennings will be performing here at Community of Christ on Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 p.m. Bryce is an alumnus of Maumee HS and knows our very own Eric Dickey! Bryce shared with me; "I was in good company during my high school days! Eric was one of my initial influences and exposures to the jazz music world! When he would come accompany us for our classes, I couldn't fathom the sounds he was producing from the keys! I'm beyond excited to be back!" Please join us and invite a friend! To learn more about Bryce, please see his bio on the kiosk! Program Order: 1. Amazing Grace 2. Tis so Sweet 3. My Jesus, I Love Thee 4. Great is Thy Faithfulness 5. Hold to God's Unchanging Hand 6. Medley, It is Well/How Great Thou Art 7. Holy Holy Holy 8. Jesus Paid it All 9. I Surrender All 10. Turn your Eyes Upon Jesus 11. The Benediction

## **50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY NEWS from the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

The culmination of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is rapidly approaching, the weekend of May 4 and 5. Invitations were recently sent out to our mailing list, but we may have inadvertently missed people, so we are also sending this information via email. **PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL BE TAKING IN-PERSON RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT THE NEXT TWO WEEKENDS AFTER WORSHIP SERVICES. ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**WEEKEND FESTIVITIES:** Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 4 at 6:00 pm at the Anthony Wayne High School Cafeteria (the location of our first worship service). Tickets are \$25.00 per person, \$15.00 for children 6-12 and free for 5 and under. **Please RSVP with payment to the church office by Monday, April 15.** The dinner will include a program where memories are shared. We would also invite you to send your memories to the church office at [secretary@commofchrist.org](mailto:secretary@commofchrist.org). We will also gather as ONE church for a single service on Sunday, May 5 at 9:00 am with a special guest, NW Ohio Synod Bishop Daniel Beaudoin, preaching.

**Join us on Facebook Live at  
10:00 a.m.**

**or**

**in person!**

Worship & Sacrament

Sunday 8 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday Morning Bible Study**

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**AA Meeting**

Wednesdays 8 p.m.

**Midweek Bible Study**

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

**Caregivers Support Meeting**

First Monday of every month

6:30 p.m.

**Clean & Feed Weekend**

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Every Month

<b>Ladies Bible Study</b>
Tuesday, April 2 - May 14
<b>Thursday Bible Study</b>
April 18, 1:00 p.m.
<b>LWR Quilt Ministry</b>
Tuesday, April 16
<b>Book Club</b>
Tuesday, April 16
<b>Choir Practice</b>
April 17, 24 & May 1
<b>Thursday Bible Study</b>
April 18, 1:00 p.m.
<b>All Creation Sings</b>
Saturday, April 20 - 9-12

**Worship Services**

Available on the net

at

[www.commofchrist.org](http://www.commofchrist.org)



To order your commemorative recording, please use one of the special envelopes available in the Gathering Space. We would appreciate your donations in the form of cash or check, made out to the Community of Christ. You may submit your orders either at the office or in the offering plate. Thank you!

Here are the available options:



- DVD that includes both music and video: A donation of \$25.



- CD that includes music only: A donation of \$20.



- Flash Drive with both music & video: A donation of \$25.

Please note that you must provide the flash drive.



- Flash Drive with music only: A donation of \$20.
- Please note that you must provide the flash drive.



Did one of our Bible readings capture your attention today? Was there a story you could picture in your mind? Did a phrase from a hymn or a thought from the sermon start some new ideas or inspire some reflection? Did a Scripture passage spark a question for you to think about? Use this space here as an open canvas for your faithful imagination: you can draw a picture of something you pictured, write a question,

take notes from the message or scriptures, or doodle your faith into a visible form here. Then, either take it with you or leave your thoughts and images here to be shared in an ongoing collection here at Community of Christ!