



*Community of Christ Lutheran Church*  
*Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 12, 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

“For All the Faithful Women”

Eric Dickey

**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!**

## Gathering Hymn

COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

R211

## Sing of the Lord's Goodness



1 Sing of the Lord's good - ness, Fa - ther of all wis - dom,  
2 Pow - er he has wield - ed, hon - or is his gar - ment,  
3 Cour - age in our dark - ness, com - fort in our sor - row,  
4 Praise him with your sing - ing, praise him with the trum - pet,



come to him and bless his name. Mer - cy he has shown us,  
ris - en from the snares of death. His word he has spo - ken,  
Spir - it of our God most high; so - lace for the wea - ry,  
praise him with the lute and harp; praise him with the cym - bals,



his love is for - ev - er, faith - ful to the end of days.  
one bread he has bro - ken, new life he now gives to all.  
par - don for the sin - ner, splen - dor of the liv - ing God.  
praise him with your danc - ing, praise God till the end of days.



Come then, all you na - tions, sing of the Lord's good - ness,



mel - o - dies of praise and thanks to God.



Ring out the Lord's glo - ry, praise him with your mu - sic,



wor - ship him and bless his name.

Text: Ernest Sands, b. 1949

Music: THE LORD'S GOODNESS 6 6 7 6 6 7 and refrain, Ernest Sands

Text and music © 1981 Ernest Sands

Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

## 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*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of  
 God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

### Prayer of the Day

**P** Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in 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 1:15-17, 21-26

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—<sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

## The Second Reading: 1 John: 5:9-13

<sup>9</sup>If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. <sup>10</sup>Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son.

<sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

<sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

**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: John 17:6-19

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

Jesus prayed:] <sup>6</sup>“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in

your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

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

**Sermon**

*“The Girl in the Purple Dress”*

*Pastor Steve Bond*

**Hymn**

*“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”  
VS 3 High Voices, VS 4 Low Voices*

**ELW 392**

*Nicene Creed (8:00 a.m. service);*

*Rite of Affirmation of Baptism--Reception of New Member, see. p.234, front of ELW (10:00 a.m. service).*

**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 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**

### **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** You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction; **Tom Jennings, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O’Konski, Kim Mockensturm, Larry Geer, Troy Bernhard, Kevin Stiles, Susie Donnal, Harold Shoup Jr, Bernie Mank, Cory Kaczor, Sue Brown, Iris Rockwell...** and all others whom we remember in silence. Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith. Inspire us by their witness. 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.*

**Our Tithes and Offerings** *Bring your gifts to the Altar or you may offer gifts in the tray located at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

### **Offering Prayer**

**AM** 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.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for the Presider and Congregation, with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with". The second staff is for the Presider and Congregation, with lyrics: "you. Lift up your hearts. We". The third staff is for the Presider, with lyrics: "lift them to the Lord. Let us give".



*Congregation:*

thanks to the Lord our God. It is  
right to give God thanks and praise.

**\*\*The Eucharistic Prayer Continues.....**

**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 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**

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”  
“Jesus, the Very Thought of You”

**ELW 752**  
**ELW 754**

**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**

“Thine the Amen”  
*VS 3 High Voices, VS 4 Low Voices*

**ELW 826**

**Dismissal**

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

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

**Altar Flowers are given by Michael & Cammie Abraham  
in honor of Thomas' graduation from Heidelberg University  
with a Masters in Business Administration and  
honor of all moms on Mother's Day!**



**Altar  
Flowers**  
Ministry Opportunity

# Making Jesus Known”

**Morning & Welcome!** We are glad you have chosen to worship with us on this Mother’s Day weekend! May God’s inspired Word bless you! If you are seeking a church home, we hope you will consider Community of Christ! Welcome to worship! Please fill out the friendship pad found in your row and share it with a neighbor.

**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!!!

**Mother’s Day!** May the Lord bless the memory and presence of your mother today! May God bless the families in our congregation and community! We invite the ladies of our congregation to enjoy a complementary carnation! Blessings on your day!

**Today we WELCOME a new member to our Church Family!** *Cindi Myerholtz!*  
We are excited to have you as a part of our church family!

**The Visitation Ministry Team invites** you to join us as we Sing Hymns with the residents at Blue Creek Healthcare. We will meet there at 10:00 a.m. Please join us if you can!!! 😊

**Summer Worship Schedule** Our summer worship schedule begins the weekend of May 26. We offer one worship service on Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Please make a note of our summertime services!

Mark Your Calendars for **Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>**! Calling all walkers! Everyone LOVES a parade and our community is no exception. The Outreach Committee is organizing a group of spirited members to participate in the annual Whitehouse Cherry Fest parade this year on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Line up begins around noon and the parade kicks off at 1 pm – candy for tossing to the crowd will be provided. Come help support our community and extend the celebration of Community of Christ’s 50 year anniversary. Sign up sheet is on the kiosk.

**Join us on Sunday, May 19** for cookies/refreshments between worship services as we celebrate "the birthday of the church" for Pentecost Sunday!

## 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!

## The May Ladies Lunch

**When:** Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 am

**Where:** LaBanda Mexican Restaurant 1101 Pray Blvd, Waterville, Oh.

Please sign up at the kiosk so reservations can be made.

All ladies of the church are welcome and Bring a Friend!

Questions or concerns? Call Becky King at 419-349-7319

**Future Lunch Dates:** June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, and October 25



The video shown at dinner Saturday was only a “work in progress” not the finished version. There is editing and adding the celebration weekend. Some years had few -or no- pictures. If you have pictures, we would appreciate your sharing them. Just drop them off in the office or email them to [rilling1945@gmail.com](mailto:rilling1945@gmail.com) and Michelle Gebhart at [secretary@commofchrist.org](mailto:secretary@commofchrist.org). \*\*We will continue to take orders through May.\*\*

**If you want a copy on a flash drive, it must be at least 16 Gigs.**

Thank you, Chris



## Commemorative 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tokens!

Hey friends! If you were unable to pick up one of our commemorative tokens last weekend, we have some available on the table in the gathering space!



### **May 17—Kids' Movie Night**

We had a great youth and family game night back in April, but we're not going to leave out our younger children in the fun this spring! So, we're inviting kids and families with children from preschool through primary grades to a kids' activity and movie night on Friday, May 17, from 6:00-8:00 p.m., here at Community of Christ! We'll have a few games for all, snacks, and a feature movie geared especially for kids! Hope you can join us!

<b>Christian Education</b>
Monday, May 13
<b>Ladies Bible Study</b>
<b>Hymn Sing @ Blue Creek Healthcare</b>
Tuesday, May 14
<b>Church Council</b>
Tuesday, May 14
<b>Thursday Bible Study</b>
May 9, 1:00 p.m.
<b>Kids Movie Night</b>
Friday, May 17

**Worship Services**  
Available on the net  
at  
[www.commofchrist.org](http://www.commofchrist.org)

**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



**Church Office Hours**  
8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
(Monday through Friday)  
Please note.....

Hours may vary with vacations,  
please call ahead ☺

**Summer Worship  
Hours begin on  
Sunday, May 26 @  
9:00 a.m.**



COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

# NEEDS YOUR HELP

IDENTIFYING THOSE WHO CAN  
ASSIST IN ONE TIME OR  
MULTIPLE TIME NEEDS!

- LAWN MOWING
- LAWN MAINTENANCE
- ELECTRICAL
- PLUMBING
- PAINTING
- CLEARING BRUSH
- OTHER SIMILIAR NEEDS

From time to time, we have members who inquire to see if we know anyone in the congregation who can assist with one-time or multiple-time needs around the house. If you, your teen, teen grandchildren, or any others you know can help, please email Michelle at the church office. Details to include: the task/s you can help with, the name/s of those who can assist, and contact information that can be used to share with members. Thank you!

[secretary@commofchrist.org](mailto:secretary@commofchrist.org)



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!