



***Community of Christ Lutheran Church
Third Sunday of Easter,
April 19, 2026 – 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Stephen Bond

Musical Prelude

“Sleepers Wake” by J.S. Bach

Eric Dickey

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, retracing the mark made on us in our baptism.

Blessed be the God who raises the dead, the risen Christ who meets us where we are, and the Spirit of Life who has claimed us forever.

Amen

We give you thanks, O God, for calling creation into being in the beginning, and for calling us into the family of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

We are your Easter people.

We give you thanks, Lord Jesus, for finding us when we are overcome by fear and distraught by the turbulent world around us and giving us the peace of your presence.

We are your Easter people.

We give you thanks, Holy Spirit, for stirring up among us hope and courage to be witnesses in the world, embodying the way of Christ.

We are your Easter people.

As you first made us your own through our baptism into Christ’s death and resurrection, so now remind us who and Whose we are by your grace as we come into your presence.

Amen

Hymn

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”

ELW 377

High Voices VS. 3, Low Voices VS. 4

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.**

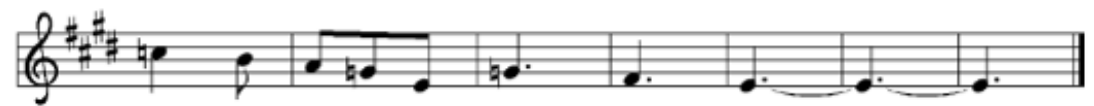
Refrain



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



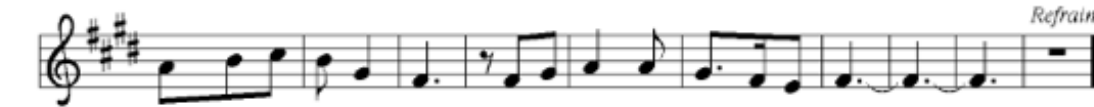
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



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



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



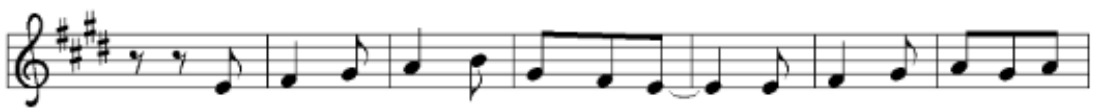
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



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



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Prayer of the Day

P O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Childrens Sermon

THE READINGS

The First Reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:

³⁶ “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

The Second Reading 1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person’s work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust

and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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 24:13-35

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

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹ He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now

the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” ²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So, he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³ That same hour, they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

Sermon

“Jesus All Along”

Pastor Steve Bond

Hymn

“Day of Arising”

ELW 374

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 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

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

AM Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick, *especially* **Tom Jennings, Larry Battles, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O'Konski, Luke Holtz, Ron Hetherwick, Jake Cope, Virginia Dillon, Staci, Greg Urbanski, Matt Jurrus, Tom Druschel, Phyllis Sturgeon, Jeff Bucher, Albert Preston, Pastor Ray Gottschling, Jim Gebhart, Morgan & unborn baby, Baby Elliot, Mya Chapp, David Atkinson, Maurice Atkinson, Mya Chapp, Karen Meyer, Deanna Cedargren, Kori, Rich Rison, Claudia Koperski, Ginny Krueger, Betty, LuAnn Shuman, the family of Betty Ray...** and all others whom we remember in silence. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Eternal Light, we give thanks for all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

THE MEAL

We practice open communion, which means all baptized believers are welcome to receive the Sacrament. However, if you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please indicate by crossing your arms. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it and gluten-free wafers if needed. Ushers will dismiss you by row.

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 in the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

Offertory

Offering Prayer

AM Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

HOLY

Congregation:

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and". The second staff continues the melody with a 3/8 time signature change, then returns to 6/8. Lyrics: "might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your". The third staff has a key signature change to two sharps (F#, C#) and a 6/8 time signature. Lyrics: "glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!". The fourth staff continues in two sharps and 6/8. Lyrics: "Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -". The fifth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line. Lyrics: "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.

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.

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

AM Holy One, through this meal, you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

THE SENDING

Milestones & Announcements:

The Blessing

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“This Joyful Eastertide”

ELW 391

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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

“Making Jesus Known”

Welcome to Community of Christ! We welcome YOU to worship with us at one of our TWO worship services. Join us at **8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m.** in person or on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing you, and as always, BRING A FRIEND!!!!

Adult Forum Explores Luther’s Small Catechism, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

We are continuing our Adult Forum, inviting EVERYBODY to catechism! We’re inviting all who would like to join us to explore the essentials of the faith as summarized in Martin Luther’s Small Catechism. We’ll explore the meaning in our lives of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles’ Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, Holy Baptism, The Lord’s Supper, and the Christian Life, using the insights of Luther’s own “handbook for the faith” called the Small Catechism. Whether you first learned these things long ago in a confirmation class or you have never had a chance to study the catechism, this is a great chance to explore some of the Big Ideas of the Christian faith and get at why it all matters, and what it all means. Join us between services, continuing this spring in the Bible study/council room!

Thursday Bible Study Opens Up the Book of Acts Join us for our current series in our Thursday afternoon Bible Study, as we take a deep dive into the New Testament book of Acts to learn the story of the early church and how the band of rag-tag fishermen and tax collectors from Galilee grew into a movement that reached outward to the very heart of the Roman Empire and became a “found family” of Jewish and Gentile people, rich and poor, enslaved and free, women and men, and lived through the growing pains of that outreach to change the world. Join us weekly on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Bible Study/Council Room as we work through the book of Acts and let it spark our own ways of living out our faith and sharing the good news of Jesus in the world around us. Remember, too, that we’ll continue to share video catch-up sessions on our social media (see the church Facebook page) each week, so that you can know what we’ll be looking at each week in case you miss a week, want to join in, or to share with a friend!

Toledo School for the Arts Vocal Music Concert and Silent Auction—April 26 at 3:00 p.m. The Concert Committee is excited to announce that later this month, we’ll be hosting a concert featuring some of Toledo’s top jazz vocalists, including Ramona Collins, Kim Buehler, and Lori Lefevre, and vocal students from Toledo School for the Arts, coming up on April 26 at 3:00 p.m. You can now see and bid on items in a

silent auction of prizes and items, from which proceeds will be split between Community of Christ's ministries beyond our doors and TSA's "Songs for our Sister" Vocal Jazz Scholarship Fund to help other students develop their talent. The concert will be free with the invitation to give a free will offering. PLUS, you can now bid on items up to the date of the concert on April 26!!

Church Breakfast 4/26/26 Pancakes, egg bakes, and donuts, oh my! Bring your friends and your appetites as the Outreach Committee, with help from our friends on Church Council, will be hosting a breakfast between services on Sunday, April 26th. Funds raised in the free-will offering will be used to support the AW teachers and staff breakfast program as a thank you for all they do for our kids and community.

April Ladies Lunch Join us at Firepit Grill, 7723 Airport Hwy, Holland, OH 43528, on April 24th. We will meet @ 11:30. Please sign up at the kiosk so we can make reservations! If you have any questions, contact **Becky King at 419-349-7319**. All ladies welcome & bring a friend! 🌸 🍷

New "Go Team Jesus" Stickers to Help Support Salem! Check out our new foam-finger inspired stickers that say, "Go Team Jesus!" in several different colors, on the table in the Gathering Space! We'd invite you to get one or more, which are perfect for putting on your laptop, travel mug, phone case, notebook, or car bumper, and we'd invite your donations of \$3.00 each or two for \$5.00, which we'll use to help support our mission partnerships with Salem Lutheran Church in the north end of Toledo. Get yours today!

Adult Progressive Dinner April 25th, 5:30 p.m. Come join us when we travel to three different homes. Everyone will bring a dish to share and their beverage of choice. We will start out with heavy hors d'oeuvres (ex: finger food, sliders) then head to another home for salads, then end the night at the last house, dessert. Sign up at the kiosk and find out where we are starting and let us know what you would like to bring. For questions, call Susan Nofzinger at 419 654-9227.

Bridge of Hope collections for migrant workers have begun!

Items that are needed are:

- *empty egg cartons
- *plastic laundry baskets
- *deodorant
- *detergent
- *small cooler/lunch box
- *new pillows
- *can openers
- *thinner long sleeve shirts
- *reusable water bottles
- *new or gently used pillowcases
- *new or gently used towels & washcloths
- *new or gently used drink jugs
- *hats/neck covers, socks, work gloves & sunglasses
- *dry beans
- *dry rice
- *sunscreen
- *toilet paper
- *paper towels
- *toothbrushes
- *toothpaste
- *bath soap

Please place any donations in the basket in the hall off the Gathering space throughout spring, summer, and fall.

It's a Baby Shower!!! Our friends at Salem in the North End of Toledo are throwing a baby shower, and we are invited to help! The Norf-End Neighbors organization, in collaboration with Salem Lutheran and several other mission partners, including Community of Christ, are hoping to provide some important baby needs for a few chosen mothers who can use these items for their little ones. They are hoping to present these gifts to the moms by Mother's Day in May, so this April, we are invited to help by donating needed items. Here's how YOU can be a part of it: in the Gathering Space starting THIS SUNDAY, you can take a tag from the hanging mobile display with an item or two that you are willing to purchase and bring here to the "baby bed" collection point beneath the mobile. Bring items by April 26, so that we can get them to Salem in time. Some items are inexpensive and simple to get, and others are more costly--but if you would rather help by making a partial monetary donation that can cover a portion of one of the more expensive needed items (like a car seat), you can also take one of the tags for a monetary donation. Take a tag, bring it back with the item, and we'll transport it all to Salem in time for the big event. Thanks so much for your generosity, care, and support for mothers and babies in the North End of Toledo! This is a great way to *make Jesus known!*

Risk Management Task Force – Volunteers Needed! We are forming a Risk Management Task Force and are seeking members of the congregation who would be interested in serving. This team will help review and strengthen practices across all areas of church life to minimize risk and promote a safe, secure, and welcoming environment for all. We are looking for individuals who are thoughtful, attentive, and willing to share their time and insight in this important work. If you have experience in areas such as safety, facilities, health care, or simply have a heart for helping our church operate responsibly, we would love to have you join us. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Kevin Steinman at 419-707-1943 or the church office. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve!



Altar Flowers given by The Swagler Family
In honor of Alex's 25th Birthday! 🎉 🎂



<i>Event</i>	<i>Day and Time</i>
Confirmation @ Zion	Today, Sunday, April 19, 12:30 p.m.
Youth Group @ CoC	Today, Sunday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.
Ladies Bible Study	Tuesday, April 21, 8:30 a.m.
Quilt Ministry	Tuesday, April 21, 10:00 a.m.
Book Club	Tuesday, April 21, 1:00 p.m.
Choir	Wednesday, April 22, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study	Thursday, April 23, 1:00 p.m.



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!