

As We Gather 25th ANNIVERSARY May 7, 2023

"And He who was seated on the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new.' Also He said, 'Write this down for these words are trustworthy and true'" Rev. 21:5. We rejoice to know that through the preaching of the Gospel and the work of the Spirit here in these twenty five years, the new creation has already begun to appear! We continue in this ministry until it is completed on the Day of Christ's Return. Meanwhile, in this Word and faith, we see who Jesus is and who we are because of Him. Jesus is the cornerstone, the foundation upon which God's people are built. We are His newborn, chosen, priestly people. We are called to proclaim His excellencies to the world around us, always firm and secure, knowing that Christ is an unshakable foundation.

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Please meet with an usher for prayer requests.

A Gentle Reminder to turn off cell phones. Thank You.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION



As Lutheran Christians, we believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present (not symbolic) in the Bread and Wine and received by all who attend. Since our Lord reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment, all are encouraged to examine themselves that they may receive it worthily.

(1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Please use the following questions and LSB p. 329 as a personal guide before partaking of this Holy Sacrament:

- *Do I renounce sin, Satan and my own flesh, and seek true forgiveness and reconciliation with God and my neighbor?**
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?**
- *Do I believe that Christ's own words, this is my body and this is my blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:28), mean exactly what they say for us today?**
- *Do I earnestly desire to live a Godly life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in thanksgiving to Christ?**

Because attendance at Communion is also a testimony to this faith in the Triune God confessed and taught here, and to unity in belief as brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we ask that any visitors not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and who desire to receive the Sacrament introduce themselves to the Pastor or Elder beforehand if possible.

Please Note

An invitation for children not confirmed in the Lutheran church to come and receive a blessing at the altar.

We offer a traditional communion wafer, Off-White Color Wafers are Gluten Free.

While communing, please point to the bread meeting your preference.

Clear Color Wine is Alcohol Free

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PRELUDE Trumpet Prelude – Henry Heron

WELCOME

PREPARATION

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #837 “Lift High the Cross”

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Christ is our cornerstone;

C on Him alone we build.

P In Him we are a newborn, chosen, priestly people.

C We are called to proclaim His excellencies to the world.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Though Christ is our cornerstone and has changed our identity to be His chosen people, we often build upon things other than Jesus. Such building crumbles to

the ground, for unless we build on Christ, we labor in vain. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us to draw near to His throne in confidence to ask for forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

- P** Heavenly Father,
C **though we are Your chosen people, we have acted in accordance with the world rather than Your Word. We have lived in the old way of our sin, though You have been at work to make all things, including us, new. Forgive us, renew us, and restore us as Your newborn, chosen, priestly people, on account of Jesus. Amen.**
- P** Though Jesus Christ was rejected and killed, God raised Him from the dead, 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.
- C** **Amen. We are forgiven. We are a newborn, chosen, priestly people.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

- P** O LORD, I love the habitation of your house
C **and the place where your glory dwells.**
- P** Blessèd are you, O LORD, the God of Israel
C **our father, forever and ever.**
- P** Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty,
C **for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.**
- P** Yours is the kingdom, O LORD,
C **and you are exalted as head above all.**
- P** And now we thank you, our God,
C **and praise your glorious name.**
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** O LORD, I love the habitation of your house
C **and the place where your glory dwells.**

KYRIE *LSB 152*

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE “This Is The Feast” *LSB 155*

- C** **This is the feast of victory for our God.**
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You have promised to be with Your Church forever. We praise You for Your presence in this place of worship and ask Your ongoing blessing upon those who gather here. Dwell continually among us with Your holy Word and Sacraments, strengthen our fellowship in the bonds of love and peace, and increase our faithful witness to Your salvation; 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 Revelation 21:1–5

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 84

P How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

C My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

P Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

C Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

P Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

C As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.

P They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion.

C O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!

P Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed!

C For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather
be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of
wickedness.

P For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.

C O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!

EPISTLE READING 1 Peter 2:4–10

“As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHOIR “Jesus Is the Living Stone” - Mary McDonald

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *LSB 156*

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL John 14:1–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

“Jesus said: “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY #912 “Christ Is Our Cornerstone”

SERMON Rev. Steve Cluver Revelation 21:1-5

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Christ is our cornerstone,
- C** **on Him alone we build.**
- P** [*Petitions...*] Christ is our cornerstone,
- C** **on Him alone we build.**
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, we commend all these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers and intercede for us and You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

OFFERING **Built on the Rock**

OFFERTORY *LSB 159*

- C** **What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?**
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE *LSB 160*

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** 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:

SANCTUS *LSB 161*

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *LSB 161*

- P** 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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD “Remember Me” G. Gustafson & M. Nystrom

- P** (*sung*) “On the night ... This is My blood poured out for you and as you drink it remember Me.”

- C** (*sung*) “So we thank You for the wine and for the bread;
For we see the life You gave And the blood you shed.
And we remember Your wondrous love
You gave your body You shed Your blood
And we remember Your wondrous love
You gave your body You shed your blood.”

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PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.
- C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

AGNUS DEI *LSB 163*

- C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

- #644 The Church's One Foundation #761 Rock of Ages
#660 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus #739 Precious Lord, Take My Hand
#733 O God Our Help #829 Christ the Eternal Lord #744 Amazing Grace

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING “Thank The Lord” *LSB 164*

- C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward

one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Shine On Us” Michael & Deborah Smith

Pastor:(sung) “Lord, let Your light, light of Your face, shine on us....

Let Your grace, grace from Your hand, fall on us.”

Cong:(sung) “Lord, let Your love, love without end come over us.

Lord, let Your love, love without end come over us.

That we may be saved, that we may have life to find our way

In the darkest night. Let Your love come over us.”

Pastor only: Let Your light shine on us.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

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**Altar flowers today are given by David & Jan Hinrichsen
in memory of Jan’s sister Kelly Winegar**

Preacher: Rev. Steve Cluver, first mission Pastor

Liturgist: Rev. David Constien, MLC Pastor

Crucifer: Jim Bean, MLC President

Organist/Choir Dir.: Claudia Havens

Readers Today: Kathy Hammar & Jim Hinson

Charter Members (Joined in Oct.-Dec. 1997 by declaration, affirmed by MLC Council 2006): Wayne Anderson†, Annamae Anderson-, Lowell Antell-, Arthur DeBerard*, Janette DeBerard†, Vera Hardung-, Nila Katsaros*, Virginia Loman-, Marvin Permman-, Gertrude Permman-, Warren Schwecke-, Lois Schwecke-, Tom Stettler*, Jeannie Stettler†, Merlin Ziemer-, Ruby Ziemer-, Bruce Moody†, Earline Moody-. (*Current Member; †Deceased; -No longer member)

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon. May 8	10:30 a.m.	God Connects Class (Catechism; New Member)
Wed. May 10	10:00 a.m.	Women’s Bible Study
Wed. May 10	1:30 p.m.	Childcare Board Meeting
Thur. May 11	10:30 a.m.	Grief Support Group
Thur. May 11	10:30 a.m.	Jesus Time (Childcare Ctr)
Thur. May 11	1:00 p.m.	Men’s Bible Study

THANKYOU! To Rev. Steve Cluver for the inspiring message today and celebrating with us! Also to Gordon Shepherd, Kay McPhail, and the 25th Anniversary Planning Team and volunteers who made this celebration great!

THANKYOU! Childcare Staff and children and MLC wish to express their sincere thanks to Dave Hinrichsen, Dan Samuelson, Dan Reineking, Steve Raddatz, and Rudy Hammond for their excellent work in constructing the enormous indoor wooden playscape. The children love it! It’s great for when it’s too hot to play outside!

MEMORIAL PRAYER GARDEN DEDICATION will be next Sunday at the beginning of service in the Garden.

BIRTHDAYS

May 7 Polly Struhar	May 9 Judy Duncker
May 12 Brooke Helsten	May 14 Mike Ethington
May 16 Mary Liss	May 16 Taralee Helsten
May 19 Caleb Seamann	May 18 Nancy Martin
May 25 Scott VanLente	May 19 Steve Raddatz
	May 22 Jim Bean
	May 23 Karron Knight
	May 27 Mary Bollenbecker
	May 28 Jean Anderson

ANNIVERSARIES

May 15 Lonnie & Gayle Malwitz

May 17 George & Beverly Brack

May 18 Jim & Patti Jones

May 26 David & Christine Constien

May 28 Jim & Kathy Hammar

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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