

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
Putting Jesus' Way of Life into Practice by...
Encountering God, Loving One Another,
& Reaching the World.

Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 12, 2024

Protect
them in
your name

JOHN 17:11



Six in Bed (2022) by Carol Aust. ©Carol Aust. All rights reserved. Used by permission of the artist.

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

Welcome to Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

(Congregational responses are in bold print.)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. 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

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen

GATHERING SONG

“CHAIN BREAKER”

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

FIRST READING: ACTS 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶“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—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning 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.” ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 1 (read responsively)

¹Happy are they who have not walked
in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment
comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶**For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 5:9-13

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater;
for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son.

¹⁰Those 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. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this
life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does
not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: JOHN 17:6-19

The holy gospel according to John, the 17th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶“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. ⁷Now they know that
everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for 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. ⁹I 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. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine;
and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And 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. ¹²While 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. ¹³But 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. ¹⁴I 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. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“KING OF MY HEART”

APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response: God of grace,
hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OUR OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

“HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD”

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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**

COMMUNION

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

“RUN TO THE FATHER”

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen

COMMUNITY LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

Amen

SENDING SONG

“THE LION AND THE LAMB”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER REQUESTS...

We pray for those in need of healing and mercy: Rainia, family of David Abel, The family of Jim (Carol’s Brother), Leroy, Carol W., Kayla, Roger, Gary (Uncle of Sue), Sarah, Carol L., Salomie (sister-in-law of Peter), Jane (Grace’s friend), Sylvia Malsam, Roberta, Dorothy (Mother of Linda), Patty (sister of Mike), and Anna.

(Please call the church office with any prayer concerns or updates.)

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY! THANK YOU!

Greeter: Katie Wright

Welcome Desk: Radical Hospitality

Ushers: Glen & Dianne

Reader: Peter

Sound Booth: Tim, Tom, Peter

Communion Assistant: Pam

Musicians: Revelation

Coffee Servers: Leila & Loretta



Cross & Cradle News

Community Life

THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE SERVANT

Today: May 12 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM - CSLC Bible Study
- 9:30 AM - CSLC Worship
- 10:30 AM - CSLC Fellowship Time
- 11:15 AM - EFLC Sunday School
- 12:30 PM - EFLC Worship

Monday, May 13

- 9:00 AM - Package bread & deliver
- 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM - Piecemakers (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, May 14

- 7:00 AM - Bread Preparation (Fellowship)
- 8:30 AM - Bread Distribution + Coffee Get-Together (FH)
- 6:30 PM - AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, May 15

- 10:00 AM - Bible Study (FH)
- 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Handwork Group (FH)
- 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM - Youth & Confirmation
- 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM - AA (Class A)

Thursday, May 16

- 9:30 AM - Radical Hospitality Meeting (Library)
- 3:45 PM - 4:45 PM - YogaDevotion (S)
- 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM - Revelation Rehearsal (S)
- 5:45 PM - 6:00 PM - Council Open Forum (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 PM - Church Council Meeting (Class A)
- 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM - Greenhaven Homeowners Meeting (FH)

Friday, May 17

- 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM - Piecemakers (FH)
- 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM - EFLC Choir Practice (Class A)

Saturday, May 18

- 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM - Project Day (K/FH)
- 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM - Women's Bible Study (Class A)

Sunday, May 19 - Pentecost

- 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM - CSLC Bible Study
- 9:30 AM - CSLC Worship
- 10:30 AM - CSLC Fellowship Time
- 11:15 AM - EFLC Sunday School
- 12:30 PM - EFLC Worship

♪ ♪ ♪ *THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO THE LORD!* ♪ ♪ ♪

Thank you for giving to support the ministries at Christ the Servant. You may donate online on our website: www.cslcvh.org/tithe. Offering envelopes are available at the Welcome Desk.



Sunday Bible Study

Sundays 8:30 AM.

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

Women's Saturday Bible Study

Every other Saturday. Next Bible study dates: May 18, June 1, June 15, June 29.

Blood Drive at CSLC

The next blood drive at Christ the Servant is scheduled for Monday, May 20, from 11 AM to 5 PM. Sign up at the church or online at redcrossblood.org.



Care of Creation Team

Come join our new team! Sign up in the Welcome Area or contact Pastor Bob.

There will be a joint worship service with Eternal Flame Lutheran Church on Sunday, May 19 at 10:30 AM, followed by a luncheon.





Celebrate our Graduates!

Worship on Sunday, June 2 at 9 AM.

Our graduates this year are:
Andrew, Belinda, Ben, Haley,
Josh, Kate, Nate, Payton

Lutheran Night at the Twins 2024!

2024 TWINS WIN Game
vs. Philadelphia Phillies
Wednesday, July 24, 12 noon
Cost: \$47
Please sign up, if interested.
Contact: Pastor Bob



JOIN THE PARADE!

2024 Vadnais Heights Day (August 14-18)

CSLC would like to have a float in the parade this year, so we are looking for volunteers! To begin, we're looking for ideas for a theme, a trailer to decorate, a volunteer to pull the float. And then... when that is set, we will be looking for decorators and walkers to represent our church and hand out information and candy! Sign up!

Happy Mother's Day!

“I have been reminded
of your sincere faith,
which first lived in
your grandmother ...
and in your mother ...
and ... now lives in
you also.”



2 Timothy 1:5, NIV

United in Christ

The concept of the Trinity, one God, three in one, one in three, can be a little hard, sometimes, to get ahold of. But perhaps what scripture's witness to the Trinity boils down to is this: Jesus is in constant communication, continual, active relationship with the Father. The Father is in constant communication, continual, active relationship with the Son. And the Spirit is in and with and between both, always its own presence, but always, nonetheless, one in active relationship, one in ceaseless communication, with both the Father and the Son. Jesus prays that we may be "one" in the same fashion.

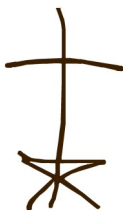


Conflict happens in the body of Christ all the time. Sometimes it is over matters of great significance: how we read scripture, how we are to conduct our lives, how the church is to think and act as it comes head-to-head with the constant pull and tug of the culture within and around it. Sometimes the conflict is personal. We resist the neighbor, and worse, out of hurt, anger, and anxiety. Sometimes the conflict can seem to be over a matter of pure nonsense: which way pickles should be sliced, and why they should be sliced that way.

Where and how, then, is our hope of being "one," as our Lord has so prayed?

It is in this: whatever our conflict, we belong to one another. Whatever our conflict, we are called to work at staying in active relationship, honest communication. We are not one, finally, when the issues between us wane, or cease. We are one because the Lord of life holds us together in the promise of his love even when powerful forces, at one and the same time, pull us apart. We are one because the body and blood of Christ have been given to each of us, and all of us.

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CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

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