

4th Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday, June 16, 2024

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ

2725 Concord Drive

Florissant, MO 63033

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Details on announcements are at the end of this bulletin.*)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✙ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

GATHERING HYMN

"Almighty God, Your Word is Cast"

ELW #516

GREETING

P: Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

L: Word of God, Word of Life **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 92:1-4, 12-15

L: It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

C: to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;

L: on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

C: For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

L: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

C: Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God;

L: they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

C: that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 ,14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING - Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the gospel.

P: The holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4th chapter (verses 26-34)

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

Following the reading the assembly is seated.

SERMON

PROFESSION OF FAITH – *The 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.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

Nourish your faithful people through gifts of word and worship. Guide the church in listening to and interpreting your message of grace for this time and place in history. In your wisdom, lead us in expanding the reach of your love. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Nature sings your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. Sustain the holy rhythms of creation: days and seasons, hibernation and activity, phases of the moon and tides of the sea. Let these patterns assure us of your constancy. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You raise the lowly and humble those in high regard. Raise up all who are victims of marginalization, discrimination, and hate. As we anticipate Juneteenth, banish white supremacy and bigotry from the hearts of your people and remove the inclination toward anger and violence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Tend to all who journey by faith and who wait with patience for the fulfillment of your healing promises (*especially*). Grant perseverance to people doing physical and occupational therapy, people living with mobility concerns, and people facing chronic pain. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

As you have loved us, so let us love one another. Empower fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, adoptive fathers, and chosen fathers to embody this gift of love for their children. Where these relationships are strained or broken, bring your comfort and peace. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With gratitude, we remember (*the Emanuel Nine martyrs and all*) the saints who are now at home with you. Plant seeds of their wisdom and witness in our hearts, that we grow in faith until we join them in your heavenly dwelling. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Please stand as you are able

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*Share God's peace in whatever way you and/or neighbors are comfortable.
Following the sharing of the peace the assembly is seated.*

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

OFFERING PRAYER

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

COMMUNION LITURGY

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 our thanks and praise. Hosanna in the highest!

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. 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. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

LORD'S PRAYER

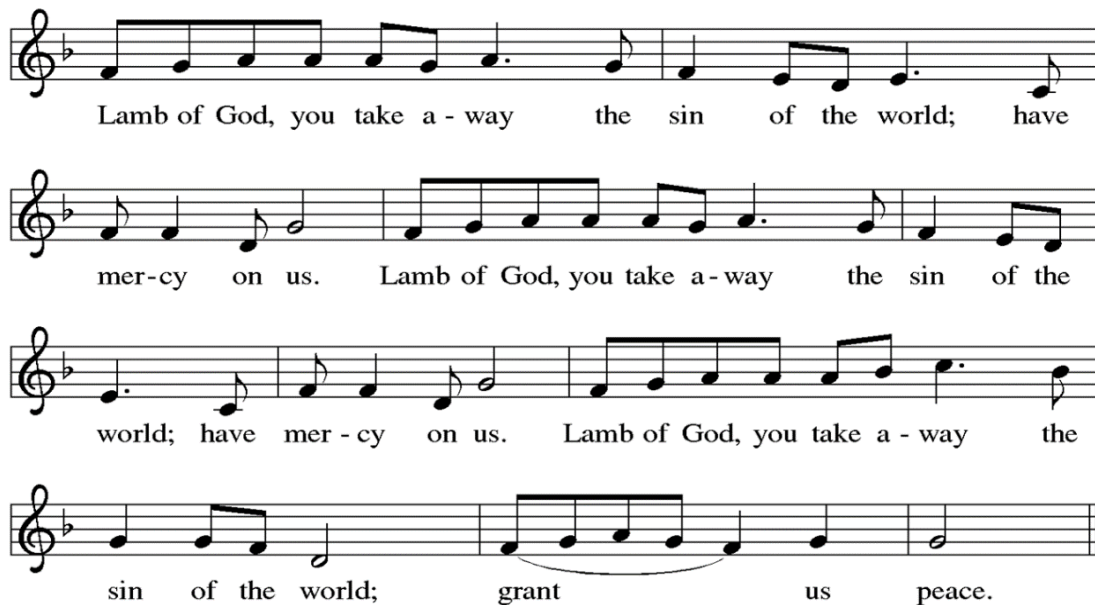
P: Remember us and teach us to pray,

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table. **C: Amen.**

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION *Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine. Additional verbal directions will be given.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"We Know that Christ is Raised"

ELW#449

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in God's grace unto eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER

L: 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. **C: Amen.**

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - Thank you to Bill, Randy and Angela for serving as our Assisting Ministers. Your commitment is greatly appreciated.

BENEDICTION

P: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD's face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.** *(Num. 6:24)*

SENDING HYMN

“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”

ELW#547

DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“One Thing’s Needful”

Henry Gerike

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **NO Bible Study or NO Adult Ed for the Summer. We will resume August 18.**
2. **FIFTY PLUS JUNE PICNIC** Fifty Plus will meet on June 19 at 11:30 am in the lower level at LCLC. Brats, hot dogs, hamburgers, sides, desserts and drinks all for the price of \$5.00 will be on the menu. The Black Jack Fire Department will be coming to talk about home safety. A sign up sheet will be posted in June.
3. **Yard Sale on Saturday, June 22.** In conjunction with Wedgewood Subdivision, Living Christ will host our own yard sale along with a book sale and grilled hot dogs. Please price your items and know that the proceeds will go towards paying bills at LCLC. Saturday, June 15 from 3:00 – 6:00 pm the church will be open for drop off of items and help with pricing, if needed. We also ask for help in setting up and taking down on June 22.
4. **Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)** pack is on July 13 at Atonement --shifts are 8:00am, 11:15am and 2:30pm--. Registration begins on June 1 at fmsc.org. Invite friends, neighbors, co-workers, **and everyone you can possibly imagine!**
5. Choirs are in recess for the summer. We can really use some more members for both the bell (critical) and vocal choir. YOU can ring and sing! Contact Bill Kaepfel and David Eggers.

June 16, 2024

Preaching/Presiding: Ethan Feistner - Executive Director - Camp Tomah Shinga

Assisting Minister: Randy Henning

Lector: Dave Endorf

Live Streaming: Erle Craig

Musician: David Eggers

Ushers: Jann & Glenn Mueller

Greeter: Joyce Meyer

Altar Guild: Cathie Lehr & Joyce Meyer

June 23, 2024

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Bill Kaepfel

Lector: Angela Bennett

Live Streaming: Rod Wallace

Musician: Greg Ott

Ushers: Glenn Albers & Ann Schultz

Greeter: Jeanne Calderwood

Altar Guild: Karen Haynes & Sheila Smart