Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

Welcome to the Family!

Seventh Sunday of Easter — The Ascension of Our Lord

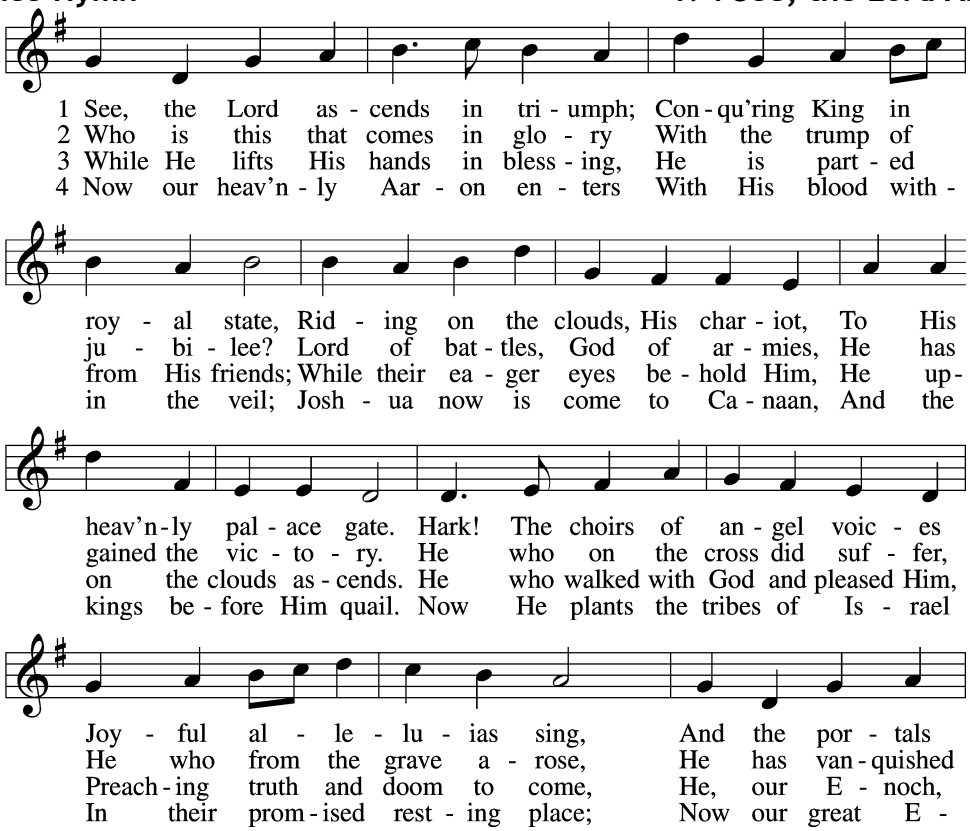
May 16, 2021

Prelude ***"I Can Only Imagine"***

Pastor's Greeting

Stand

Entrance Hymn **494 See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph,** *sts. 1–4*



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Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you 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.**

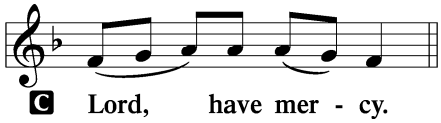
Service of the Word

Kyrie

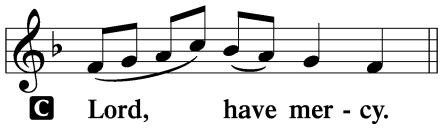
LSB 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

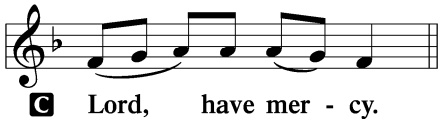
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



A 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.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Acts 1:1–11

[1]In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, [2]until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. [3]To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

[4]And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; [5]for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

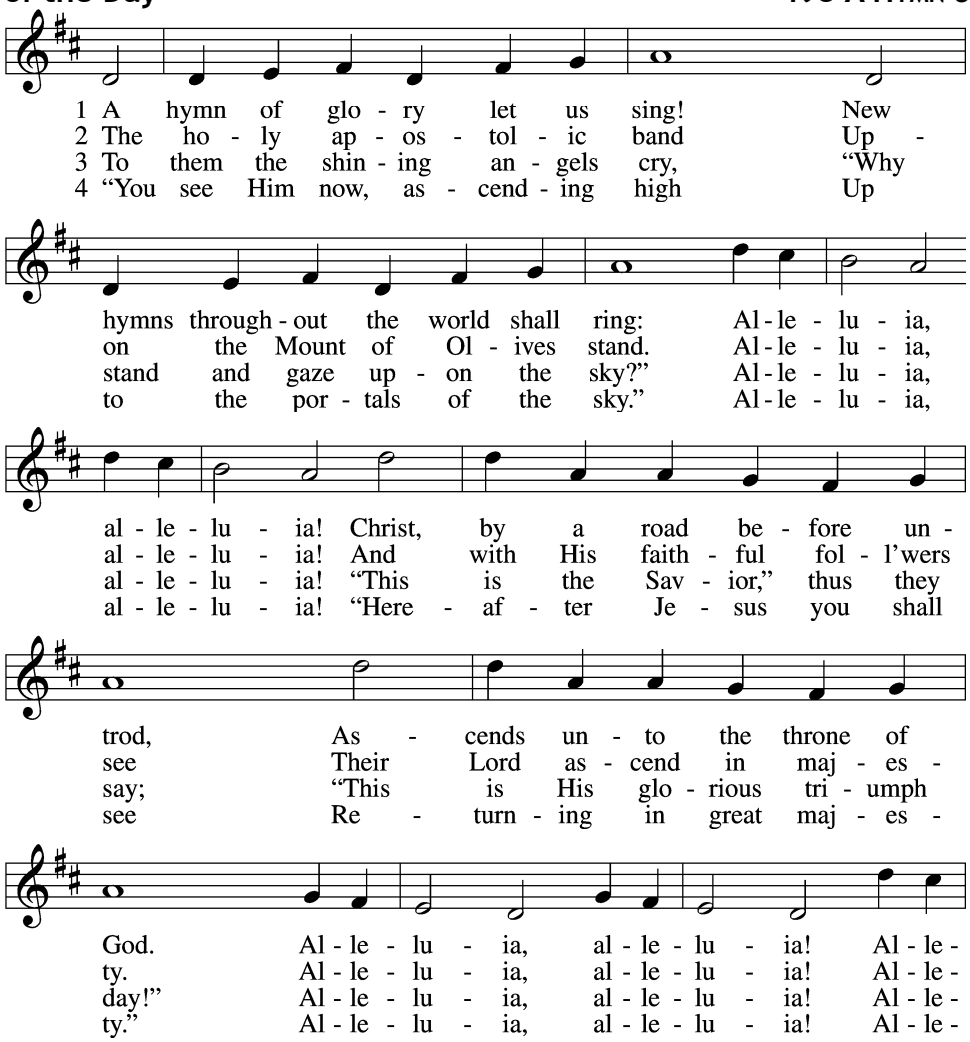
[6]So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" [7]He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. [8]But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." [9]And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. [10]And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, [11]and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

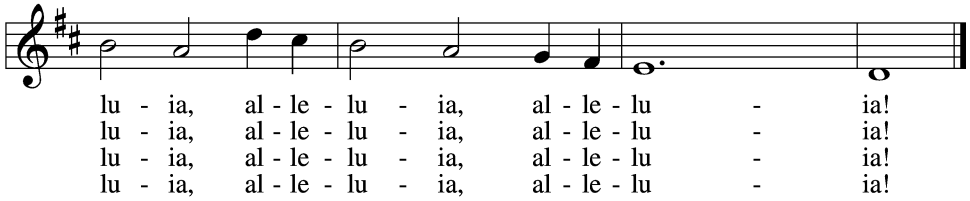
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day

493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing, *sts. 1–4*





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Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

A Christ has risen from the dead.
[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor
C **He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;**
he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle

Ephesians 1:15–23

15For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, 16I do not
cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, 17that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,
may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18having the eyes of your hearts enlightened,
that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the
saints, 19and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his
great might 20that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly
places, 21far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this
age but also in the one to come. 22And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church,
23which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Holy Gospel

John 17:11b–19

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

[Jesus said:] "Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are
one. 12While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of
them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. 13But now I am coming to you, and
these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14I have given them your word, and
the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15I do not ask that you take
them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. 16They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.
17Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19And
for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Sit

Sermon Hymn — 491 Up through Endless Ranks of Angels

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Sermon — *"On Christ's Ascension I Now Build"*

Stand

Nicene Creed

℣ **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, heavenly King, once again You have gathered us before Your presence. Grant that we may dwell in Your house all the days of our lives and gaze upon Your beauty manifested here in Your Word and Sacrament. Graciously hear our prayers as we now inquire in Your temple. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of the Church, You led Your apostles to choose Matthias to replace Judas. Guide Your Church on earth as she calls and chooses men to serve in the apostolic office, that Your Word would continue to grow and bear fruit. Keep these men faithful and bless their ministry. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, our Protector and Savior, look in mercy upon those suffering persecution for the sake of Your name. Many have been forsaken even by father, mother and friend. Take them into Your keeping, hear their cries and do not let them be afraid. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of all nations, since it is Your will that we would pray for all in authority, we believe with confidence that You hear our prayers on behalf of our president, governor, Congress, legislature and judges. Teach them the testimony of truth, that they may be wise and effective in their offices. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Eternal Father, You have testified that eternal life is given in Your Son and that whoever has Him has life. You also promised that You will hear whatever we ask according to Your will. Hear now our prayers for all who are sick and in distress *[especially _____]*. Heal them and give life to all those who hold Your Son in faithful hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious God, as we eat and drink our Savior's body and blood, give us Your light and salvation, strong and courageous hearts, and never-failing hope, that we may wait steadfastly for You and Your final deliverance. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Holy Father, accept the prayers we offer through Your Son, our Savior, and keep us forever in Your name and Word, that we may be one, just as You are one. Sanctify us in the truth; Your Word is truth, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

Offertory ***"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" by Rick Founds***

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 160*

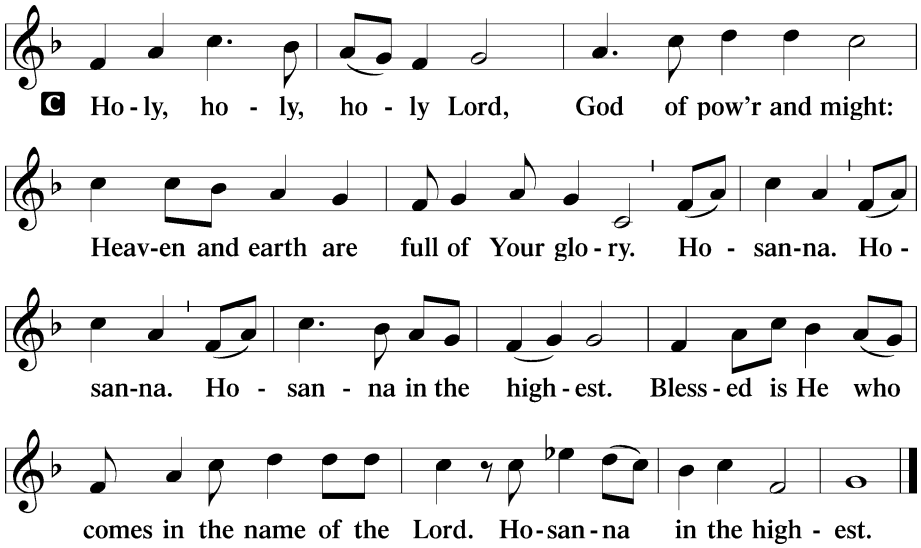
P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

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 after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine 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*



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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

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

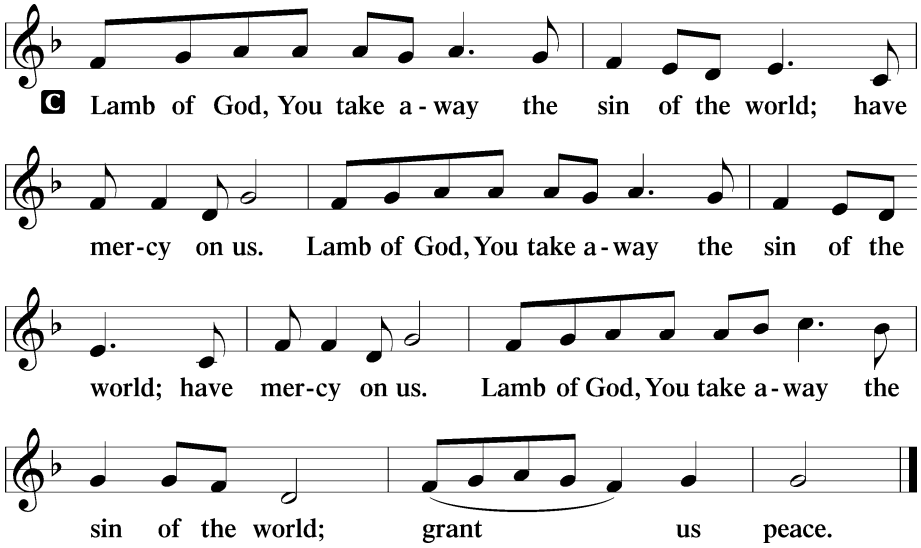
LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

LSB 163



Sit

Distribution

Please see our Communion Policy on the back page

Distribution Hymn — 635 O Gracious Lord, I Firmly Am Believing

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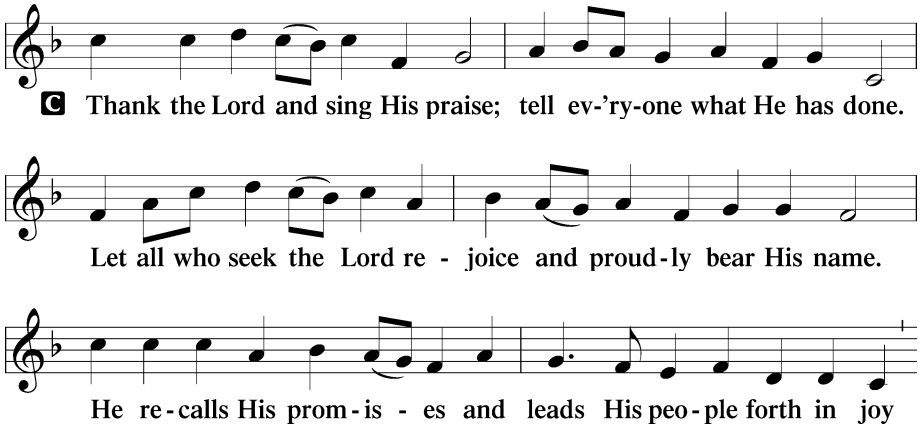
Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 164



Post-Communion Collect

A 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

LSB 166

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 — 492 On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

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Postlude — *"I Will Follow"*

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Prayer Requests

Prayer@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Offerings can be mailed to the church or sent via Zelle® directly from your bank to:

familyofchristaz@gmail.com

Pastor is available upon request for:

- ✝ Individual Confession and Absolution
- ✝ Home, hospital or nursing home visits
- ✝ Communion
- ✝ Prayer

This Week at Family of Christ

5/16 – 5/23

Sunday

9:30AM	Sunday Divine Worship
11:00AM	Bible Study on Large Catechism

Thursday

5:30PM	Confirmation Class at the Church

Friday

6:30AM	Men's Bible Study in 1 Corinthians

Next Sunday

9:30AM	Sunday Divine Worship with CONFIRMATION
11:00AM	Bible Study on Large Catechism

PLEASE NOTE: *Church Services and Bible Studies are currently offered in person and via Zoom. In-person meetings follow all CDC-recommended protocols and procedures.*

(call the Church office or Pastor's cell to schedule)

Our Communion Policy

As a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Family of Christ celebrates the Lord's Supper in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord Jesus gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words and approach the altar with repentant hearts. Those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith, which is confessed at this altar. For those who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we request that you refrain from receiving the sacrament. If you desire to receive the Sacrament, please speak first with the Pastor.

For further study, please see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.