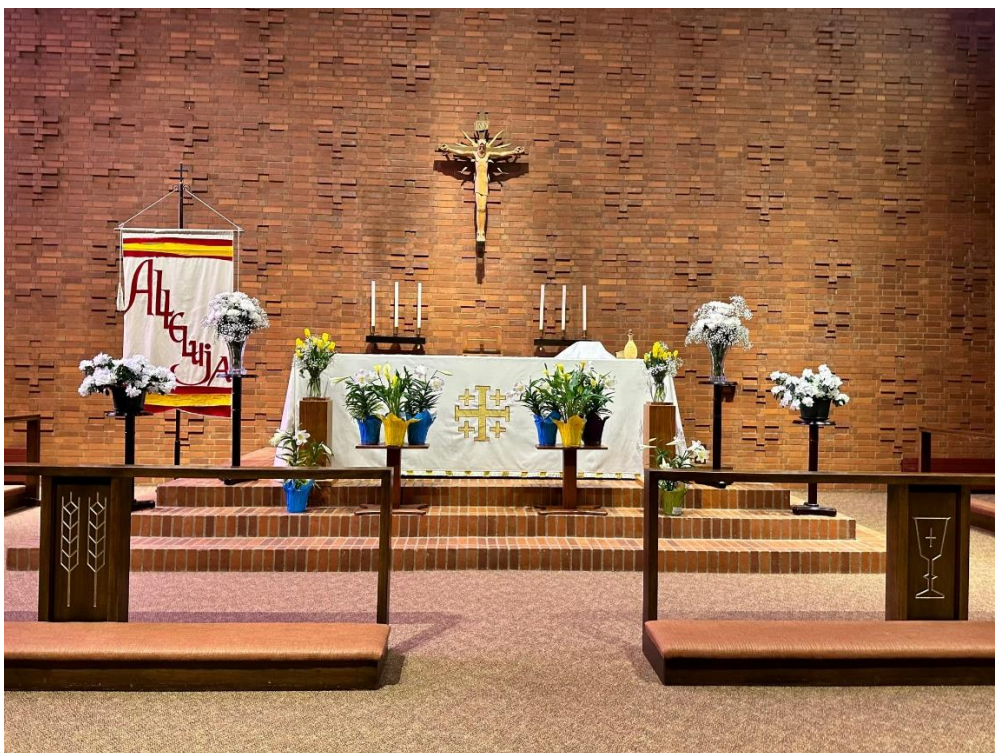


Fifth Sunday of Easter  
April 28, 2024  
8:30am Worship



Central Lutheran Church  
1857 Potter Street  
Eugene Oregon  
541-345-0395  
[www.welcometocentral.org](http://www.welcometocentral.org)

## Welcome to Worship!

**Central Lutheran Church**, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love.

**We celebrate** both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic circumstance. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.

**Our mission** is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel.

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

**PRELUDE** *Vater unser (Our Father: the Lord's Prayer)* Georg Böhm

## WELCOME

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM** *(please stand as you are able)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your beloved children, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## ENTRANCE HYMN #449 We Know That Christ Is Raised



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,  
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,  
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.  
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.  
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.  
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.  
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

## GREETING

The grace of the Risen Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## UKRANIAN KYRIE

1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - - - - i - son.  
Chris - te e - le - - - - i - son.

*Translation: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy*

Ukrainian Orthodox

## GLORIA

Organ

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, — and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. — Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -  
mighty God and Fa - ther, — we worship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for — your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the  
Fa - ther, — Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; You are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer. Organ

For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *(please be seated)*

**ANTHEM**                      *Feed My Lambs*    Natalie Sleeth              Children's Choir

## FIRST READING    Acts 8:26-40

*Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.*

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.)

<sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official



<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow <sup>l</sup> down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- <sup>l</sup> fore  
the Lord.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall <sup>l</sup> serve the Lord,  
whom they shall proclaim to genera- <sup>l</sup> tions to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people <sup>l</sup> yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The <sup>l</sup> Lord has acted!"

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the <sup>l</sup> Holy Spirit.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore- <sup>l</sup> ver. Amen.**

**ANTHEM**

*With a Voice of Singing* Shaw

Chorale

**SECOND READING 1 John 4:7-21**

*We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world.

<sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do



with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*please stand as you are able*)



**Cantor:** I am the vine, you <sup>1</sup> are the branches.\* Those who abide in me and I in them <sup>1</sup> bear much fruit. **Repeat Antiphon**

### **GOSPEL John 15:1-8**

The Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **SERMON**

Pastor Laurie A. Jones

## HYMN OF THE DAY #379 Now the Green Blade Rises *(please stand)*

1. Now the green blade ris - eth from the bur - ied grain,  
 2. In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain,  
 3. Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ri - sen grain,  
 4. When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing or in pain,

Wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
 Think - ing that nev - er he would wake a - gain,  
 He that for three days in the grave had lain,  
 Thy touch can call us back to life a - gain,

Love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:  
 Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:  
 Quick from the dead my ri - sen Lord is seen:  
 Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Love is come a - gain like wheat that spring - eth green.

## NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us profess our Christian faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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. *(please be seated)***

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

### **PEACE**

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

### **OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

### **OFFERING**

*You may bring your offering forward during communion to place in the plate.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN I Cannot Tell

1 I can - not tell why he, whom an - gels wor - ship,  
2 I can - not tell how si - lent - ly He suf - fered,  
3 I can - not tell how all the lands shall wor - ship,

Should set his love up - on all hu - man - kind,  
As with his peace he graced this place of tears,  
When, at his bid - ding, ev - 'ry storm is stilled,

Or why, as Shep - herd, he should seek the wand - er - ers,  
Or how his heart up - on the Cross was brok - en,  
Or who can say how great the jub - i - la - tion

To bring them back, they know not how or when.  
The crown of pain to three and thir - ty years.  
When all the hearts of us with love are filled.

But this I know, that he was born of Ma - ry,  
But this I know, he heals the brok - en - heart - ed,  
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rap - ture,

When Beth - l'hem's man - ger was his on - ly home,  
And stays our sin, and calms our lurk - ing fears,  
And myr - iad, myr - id hu - man voi - ces sing,

And that he lived at Na - za - reth and la - bor - ed,  
And lifts the bur - den from the hea - vy lad - en,  
And earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will an - swer:

And so the Sav - ior, Sav - ior of the world, is come.  
For yet the Sav - ior, Sav - ior of the world, is known.  
At last the Sav - ior, Sav - ior of the world, is King!

## OFFERTORY PRAYER *(please stand as you are able)*

Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord and Savior. **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.**

## PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, O God... And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

Organ

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, — heaven and earth are full — of your glo-ry.

Hos-an-na in the highest. Organ Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Hos-an-na in the high-est.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**✠ Christ has died. ✠ Christ is Risen. ✠ Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

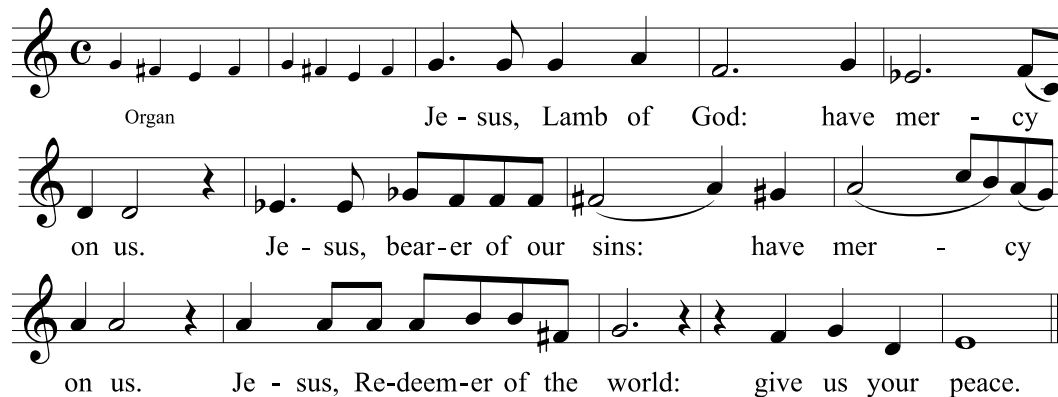
## LORD'S PRAYER

**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. (please be seated)*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

### LAMB OF GOD



Organ Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy  
on us. Je - sus, bear-er of our sins: have mer - cy  
on us. Je - sus, Re-deem-er of the world: give us your peace.

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION *(please stand as you are able)*

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our Risen Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

The blessing of the living God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. **Amen.**

## HYMN #368 With High Delight Let Us Unite



1 With high de - light let us u - nite in  
2 True God, he first from death has burst forth  
3 Let prais - es ring; give thanks, and bring to



songs of great ju - bi - la - tion. You pure in heart, all  
in - to life, all sub - du - ing. His en - e - my now  
Christ our Lord ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed by



bear your part, sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To  
van - quished see; his death has been death's un - do - ing. "And  
word and deed to ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So



set us free for - ev - er, he is ris'n and sends to  
yours shall be like vic - to - ry o'er death and grave," says  
shall his love give us a - bove, from mis - er - y and



all earth's ends good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.  
he, who gave his life for us, life re - new - ing.  
death set free, all joy and full con - so - la - tion.

## DISMISSAL

Christ is risen! Alleluia! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Serve the Risen Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Toccata in Seven*

John Rutter

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