

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 18, 2025  
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.

### Central Lutheran Staff

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

**PRELUDE** Gavotte - Elizabeth Claude Jacquet de la Guerre  
Dr. Lindsey Henriksen Rodgers, Organ

## 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 #385 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



1. Good Chris - tian friends, re-joice and sing! Now is the  
 2. The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of  
 3. Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry That love, that  
 4. Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, And sing to -



tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
 song to strew his way; Let all the world re-joice and say:  
 life which can - not die, And sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
 day with one ac - cord, The life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, ——— Al - le - lu - ia, ——— Al - le - lu - ia!

## 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.**

## GREGORIAN KYRIE

The musical score for the Gregorian Kyrie consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff is labeled 'Cantor' and 'Gregorian chant'. The second staff is labeled 'Cantor' and 'Assembly'. The third staff is labeled 'Cantor' and 'Assembly'. The lyrics are: 'Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.'

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

The musical score for the Canticle of Praise consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F-sharp). The first staff is labeled 'Refrain'. The second staff is labeled 'Fine'. The third staff is labeled 'Repeat Refrain'. The lyrics are: 'All things bright and beau - ti - ful, All crea-tures great and small, All things wise and won - der - ful, The Lord God made them all. 1. Each lit - tle flower that o - pens Each lit - tle bird that sings, 2. The pur - ple head - ed mountain, The riv - er run - ning by, 3. The cold wind in the win - ter, The pleas - ant sum - mer sun, 4. God gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell He made their glow - ing col - ors, He made their ti - ny wings. The sun - set, and the morn - ing That bright - ens up the sky. The ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one. How great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.'

Text: Cecil Alexander, 1818-1895, alt.

Music: English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875-1958

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, 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)*

## FIRST READING Acts 11:1-18

*In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.*

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had

said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’  
<sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**

## PSALM 148



Hallelujah! Praise the Lord | from

the heavens; praise God | in the heights.

**Praise the Lord, | all you angels; sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

Praise the Lord, | sun and moon; sing praise, all you | shining stars.

**Praise the Lord, heav- | en of heavens,**

**and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**

Let them praise the name | of the Lord,

who commanded, and they | were created,

**who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,**

**giving them a law that shall not | pass away.**

Praise the Lord | from the earth, you sea monsters | and all deeps;

**fire and hail, | snow and fog, tempestuous wind, do- | ing God’s will;**

mountains | and all hills, fruit trees | and all cedars;

**wild beasts | and all cattle, creeping things and | flying birds;**

sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples, princes and all rulers | of the world;

**young | men and maidens, old and | young together.**

Let them praise the name | of the Lord,

whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

**The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful**

**servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. |**

**Hallelujah!**

Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son, and to the | Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the begin- | ning, is now, and will be fore- | ver. Amen.**

## ANTHEM

Give Me Strength - Bob Chilcott  
Children's Choir with Naomi Castro

## SECOND READING Revelation 21:1-6

*John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.*

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

*During the Gospel Acclamation all of our children are invited to join Crystal in the Chapel for a special message. They will return during the sharing of the peace.*

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



**Cantors:** Everyone will know that you are <sup>1</sup> my disciples\* if you have love for <sup>1</sup> one another. **Repeat Antiphon.**



## GOSPEL John 13:31-35

The Gospel according to John, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

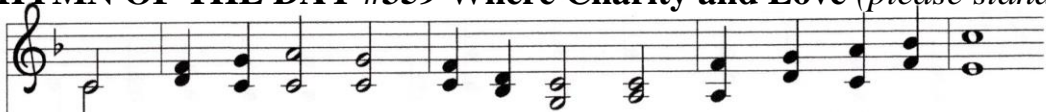
<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

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


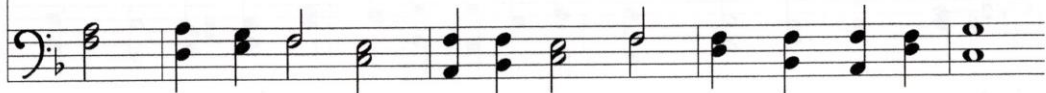
## SERMON

Dr. Joseph D. Womack  
President, Bushnell University


## HYMN OF THE DAY #359 Where Charity and Love (*please stand*)



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.



## 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 #379 Now the Green Blade Riseth

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,

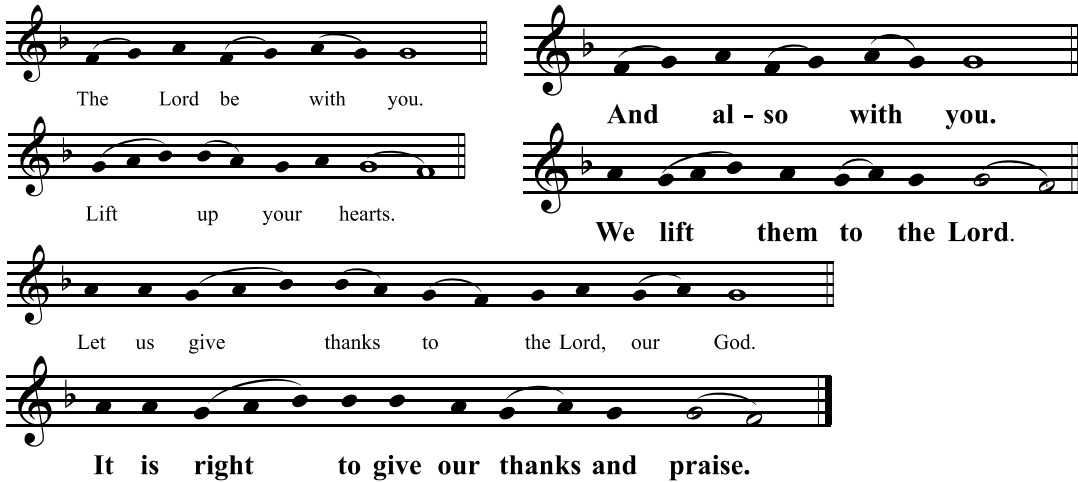
Love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:  
Quick from the dead my ri - sen Lord is seen:  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

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

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

Let us pray. Risen Christ, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you.

And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

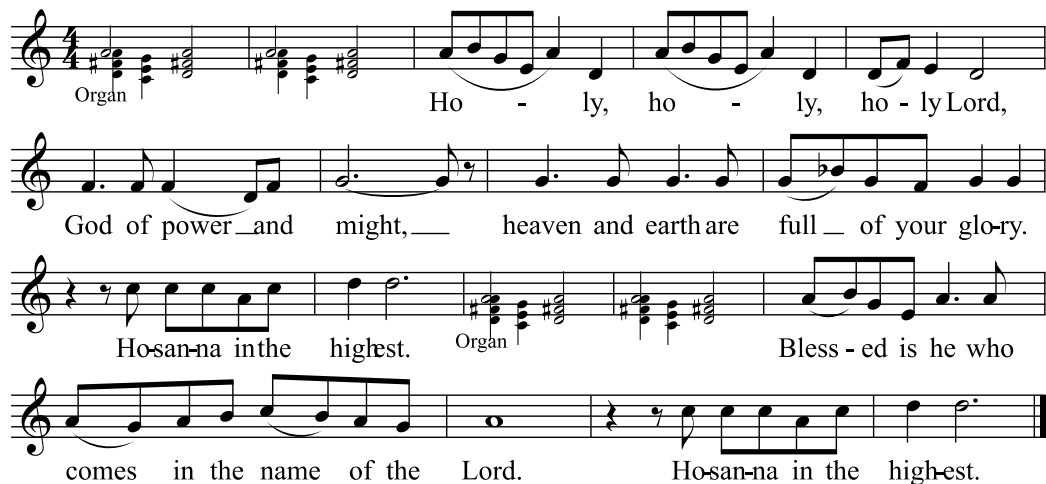
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

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, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. 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.

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

comes in the name of the Lord. Hosan-na in the high-est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

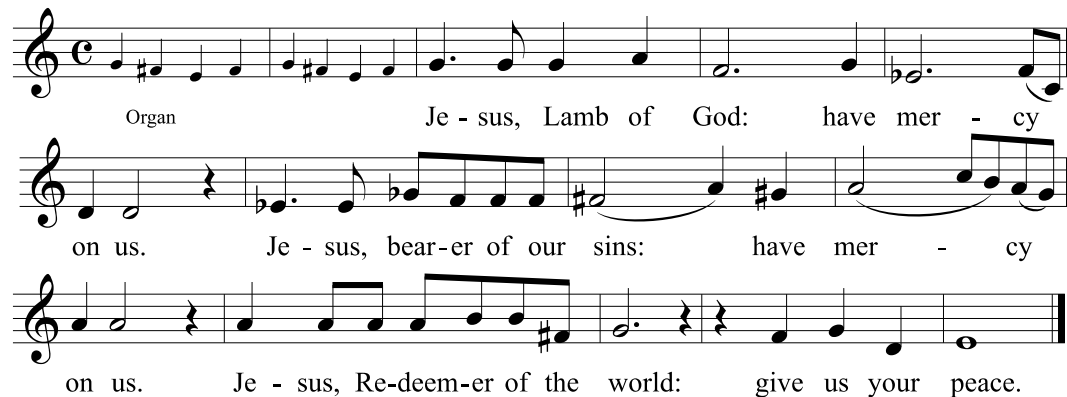
## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 INSTRUCTIONS & 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.

**ANTHEM** Walking in a Garden - Margaret Irwin-Brandon  
Naomi Castro & Dylan Buntun

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION *(please stand as you are able)*

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.**

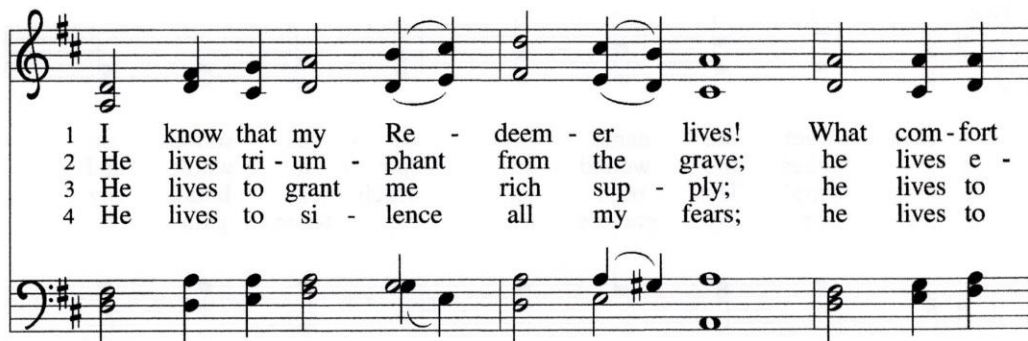
## HYMN #619 I Know That My Redeemer Lives! *(see next page)*

## DISMISSAL

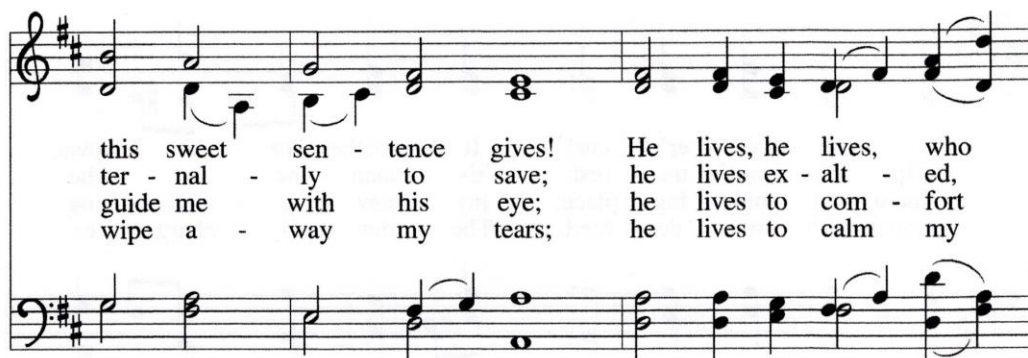
Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY** Trumpet Voluntary John Bennett

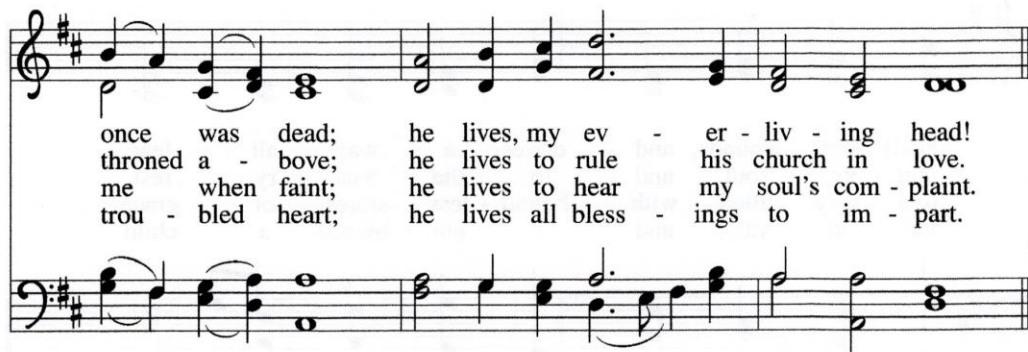
# HYMN #619 I Know That My Redeemer Lives!



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
 3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
 4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
 guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
 me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

He lives, all glory to his name!  
 He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
 What joy this blest assurance gives:  
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

*A special word of thanks to Joe Womack for bringing the message today.*

Dr. Joseph D. Womack is the 10th president of Bushnell University in its 130-year history, where he has served since June of 2010. During the 15 years of his tenure, Dr. Womack has initiated a strategic shift to reinforce Bushnell's identity as a Christian liberal arts institution to better reflect the University's mission to equip students to discover and answer God's call in their lives through academic excellence and faithful stewardship in a Christ-centered community. His emphasis on holistic education that seeks to shape the whole person has ensured Bushnell's identity and values are integrated with both academic and professional training to ensure graduates are equipped to be successful citizens, employees, parents, friends, spouses, and community members.

Since 2010, Bushnell University has experienced an enrollment increase of 45%, adding 14 undergraduate and 6 graduate programs in areas related to the Arts & Sciences, Biblical/Theological studies, Business, Education, Computer Technology, and the health professions. During this time the University has significantly expanded its co-curricular offerings in campus ministries & student missions, the founding of the Song Nai Rhee Honors program, community engagement, student internships (related to academic majors and professional aspirations), and intercollegiate athletics.

During Dr. Womack's tenure he has led efforts to garner financial support for the University's mission and capital improvements that have totaled over \$42 million. The fall of 2024 marked the completion of the Venture Forward capital campaign that raised over \$22 Million (on an \$18M goal).

Before coming to Bushnell, Womack earned his undergraduate degrees from Texas Christian University and Bushnell as well as a master's and doctorate from Azusa Pacific University. He served in number of administrative capacities at William Jessup University in Rocklin, CA, and California Baptist University in Riverside. While at William Jessup, he led the college's relocation and design of the campus in Rocklin. He is the son of Sharron Kay '64 and James '63 (Bushnell's 8<sup>th</sup> president serving from 1986-2004) and husband to wife, Ruby Kristine '89. Joe and Kristy have four sons Jamie, Ben '21 (Anika '20), Daniel, and Andrew and one granddaughter, Amber.

## OUR LIFE TOGETHER

**Special Congregational Meeting:** Today after the 8:30 service in the Parish Hall to decide upon directions for the future of Christus House. Please join us!

**Spring Vespers:** An afternoon of Organ Music and Poetry featuring Dr. Lindsey Henrikson Rodgers on the Organ and Deacon Clare Josef-Maier as lector. Join us at 4pm tonight for a time of contemplation, rich music, and joy in the new life of Spring.

**CUE High School Summer Service Trip:** This year our High School teens from Central, United, & Emmaus (8 teens and 2 adults) are heading to Del Norte County with Sierra Service Project. They are currently fundraising for the journey. You are invited to support this important ministry by making a donation of \$10 or more. For every \$10 donation you make you will receive a picture postcard from one of the trip participants. If you have any questions please contact Crystal Miller.

**Fellowship Afternoon of Community and Fun:** We will have a “Spintopia” Tournament (a Wheel of Fortune type game) in the Parish Hall this Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm. We will have snacks, a lot of laughs, and a wonderful time of being community together. Come in teams of 2-3 people or come by yourself and join a team. This is going to be a blast!

**Mark your calendars for the Retirement Party for Kristi Hoiland after 50 years of Service:** Join us between services, Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall to celebrate and thank Kristi for her dedication and service to Central.

**Children's Choir End of Program Year Party & Potluck Picnic Supper for Central Friends & Families:** Join us Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> (the last Together Tuesday of the program year) at 5:15pm at University Park (24<sup>th</sup> & University). Please bring a dish to share (beverages and utensils provided). All are welcome!

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