

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221  
412-271-7173      [www.christlutheranfh.org](http://www.christlutheranfh.org)  
Facebook: [ChristLutheranChurchfh](https://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchfh)

The Reverend Ronald Breight  
Vincent Mroz  
Douglas Skalka  
Cal Eggers  
Annette Bowen

Pastor  
Vicar  
Organist  
Worship Assistant  
Lector

Missionaries: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above. Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page.

+++++

## The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025

### ORDER OF SERVICE

**Prayer on entering church:** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

### PRELUDE

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Daniel Burton

### RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

**OPENING HYMN** (*please rise and sing*)

**The Day of Resurrection**

Hymnal p. 478

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abound,  
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, From sin's dominion free,  
Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.**

**Let hearts be purged of evil That we may see aright  
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light  
And, list'ning to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain  
His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victory strain.**

**Now let the heav'ns be joyful, Let earth its song begin,  
Let all the word keep triumph And all that is there in.  
Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend;  
For Christ the Lord has risen, Our joy that has no end!**

**All praise to God the Father, All praise to God the Son,  
All praise to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One!  
Let all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne  
And honor, pow'r, and glory Ascribe to God alone!**

**INVOCATION**

*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.**

**CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>**

**P:** Let us pray.

Dear Heavenly Father, You have brought us together into Your presence to set forth Your praise, to hear Your Holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. Prepare our hearts and minds to worship You and receive Your gifts by giving us the spirit of repentance. Help us to approach the mercy seat of Christ, and

sincerely confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by Your infinite goodness and mercy.

**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. (1 John 1:8-9)**

*(We take a moment of silence before the Lord as we call to mind how we have not properly loved Him, ourselves, or other people.)*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I 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.**

## KYRIE

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: 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.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymnal p. 155

### **This Is the Feast**

*Refrain:* This is the feast of victory for our God.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
Whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain***

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor,  
blessing, and glory are His. *Refrain***

**Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all Creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and  
the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain***

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.**

**Alleluia. *Refrain***

## COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: O God, the Giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Acts 16:9–15

L: The first reading for the Sixth Sunday of Easter is from chapter sixteen of Acts.

*Paul goes to Macedonia.*

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALMODY

### Psalm 67

L: Let the peoples praise You, O God;  
Let all the peoples praise You!

**C: Let the peoples praise You, O God;  
Let all the peoples praise You!**

L: May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make His face shine upon us.  
That Your way may be known on Earth,  
Your saving power among all nations.

**C: Let the peoples praise You, O God;  
Let all the peoples praise You!**

L: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for You judge the people with equity and guide the nations upon Earth.

**C: Let the peoples praise You, O God;  
Let all the peoples praise You!**

L: The Earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, shall bless us.  
God shall bless us;

let all the ends of the earth fear Him!

**C: Let the peoples praise You, O God;  
Let all the peoples praise You!**

**A: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it  
was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **SECOND READING**

Revelation 21:9–14, 21–27

L: The second reading is from chapter twenty-one of Revelation.

*John sees the heavenly Jerusalem.*

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *(please rise and sing)*

Hymnal p. 156

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

John 16:23–33

P: The Holy Gospel is according to St. John, chapter sixteen.

**C: *(sung)* Glory to You, O Lord.**

*Jesus prepares the disciples for His departure.*

*Following the reading...*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: *(sung)* Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED<sup>2</sup>**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and  
Earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ the Eternal Lord

Hymnal p. 829

Christ the eternal Lord,  
Whose promise here we claim,  
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured  
On all who name Your name;  
With thankfulness and praise  
We stand before Your throne, Intent to serve  
You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the unchanging Word  
To ev'ry passing age,  
Whose timeless teachings still are heard  
Set forth on Scripture's page;  
Transform our thought and mind,  
Enlighten all who read,  
Within Your Word by faith to find  
The bread of life indeed.

Christ the redeeming Son,  
Who shares our human birth,  
And by His death salvation won  
For ev'ry child of earth;  
Inspire our hearts, we pray,  
To tell Your love abroad,  
That all may honor Christ today  
And follow Him as Lord.

Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,

**Our Morning Star in splendor bright,  
The Life, the Truth, the Way;  
That light of truth You give  
To servants as to friends,  
Your way to walk,  
Your life to live,  
Till earth's brief journey ends.**

Text: © 1999 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #10004542. Music: Public domain

## **SERMON<sup>3</sup>**

## **OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS**

### **VOLUNTARY**

Baptismal Waters Cover Me

Lani Smith

OFFERING SONG(*please rise and sing*)

Hymnal p.192

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from Your presence,  
and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation,  
and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P: Let us pray for ourselves, the church, and the world.

*Following each petition:*

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

## **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.**

## **BENEDICTION**

**P:** Let us bless the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**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 His favor and (†) give you His peace.

**C:** (*sung*) **Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

**A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing**

Hymnal p. 493

**A hymn of glory let us sing!**

**New hymns throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Christ by a road before untrod, Ascends unto the throne of God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**The holy apostolic band**

**Upon the Mount of Olives stand. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**And with His faithful foll'wers see Their Lord ascend in majesty.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**To them the shining angels cry,**

**"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?" Alleluia, alleluia!**

**"This is the Savior," thus they say;**

**"This is His glorious triumph day!"**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**"You see Him now, ascending high**

**Up to the portals of the sky," Alleluia, alleluia!**

**"Here after Jesus you shall see Returning in great majesty."**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,**

**And be our future great reward. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Then, throned with You forever, we Shall praise Your name eternally.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*(Please rise)* **O risen Christ, ascended Lord,**

**All praise to You let earth accord: Alleluia, alleluia!**

**You are, while endless ages run, With Father and with Spirit one.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014542. Music: Public domain

**Prayer after worship:** Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

## **POSTLUDE**

The Star-Spangled Banner with America, the Beautiful

Matt Limbaugh

<sup>1</sup>*The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."* John 20:22-23. We take heart that the absolution proclaimed by the pastor is as from the Lord Himself.

<sup>2</sup>*It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.* Romans 10:10. Our response to the Word of God that has just been read is our confession of faith in the one, true, triune God.

<sup>3</sup>Martin Luther teaches us about hearing the Word: "Know, therefore, that you must be concerned not only about hearing, but also about learning and retaining it in memory, and do not think that it is optional with you or of no great importance, but that it is God's commandment, who will require of you how you have heard, learned, and honored His Word." (Large Catechism) *Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!* Luke 11:28

*Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.*