

Fifth Sunday of Easter

28 April, 2024



Faith Lutheran Church

The Rev. Rita Chirala, Pastor

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

1600 Park Street Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 9am-2pm

Phone 632-7246

On the web: <http://www.faithlutheransaultstемarie.org>

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Vision Statement:

***“Faith Lutheran Church: a Christ-centered, welcoming,
faith community.”***

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM - *Please stand as you are able*
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN:
Red Book #377 (all verses)

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”

GREETING

P- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C – And also with you.

KYRIE



1, 3	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3	Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
2	Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.

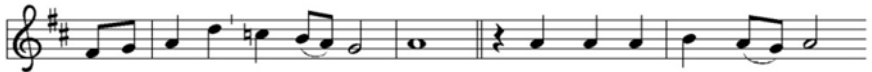


Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,



al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 2 Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and



strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

OPENING PRAYER

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.

WORD

INTRODUCTION OF THE DAY –

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

NT pg. 127

L- The Word of the Lord.

C- Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before
the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21

NT pg. 241

L- The Word of the Lord.

C- Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - *Please stand as you are able.*

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

P – The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter...

C – **Glory to you, O Lord.**

- HOLY GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

NT pg. 109

P – The Gospel of the Lord.

C – **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Please stand as you are able*

Red Book #629 (all verses)

“Abide With Me”

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - *If needed, you may be seated.*

L - God of grace,

C- hear our prayer

L - ... through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C- Amen.

MEAL

GREETING OF PEACE

P - The peace of the lord be with you always.

C- And also with you.

Please share a greeting of peace with those we are with. You may be seated

OFFERTORY: *Choral Anthem* "It is Well With My Soul"

DOXOLOGY – *Please stand as you are able*

Red Book #884 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray:

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.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P- The Lord be with you.

C- And also with you.

P- Lift up your hearts.

C- We lift them to the Lord.

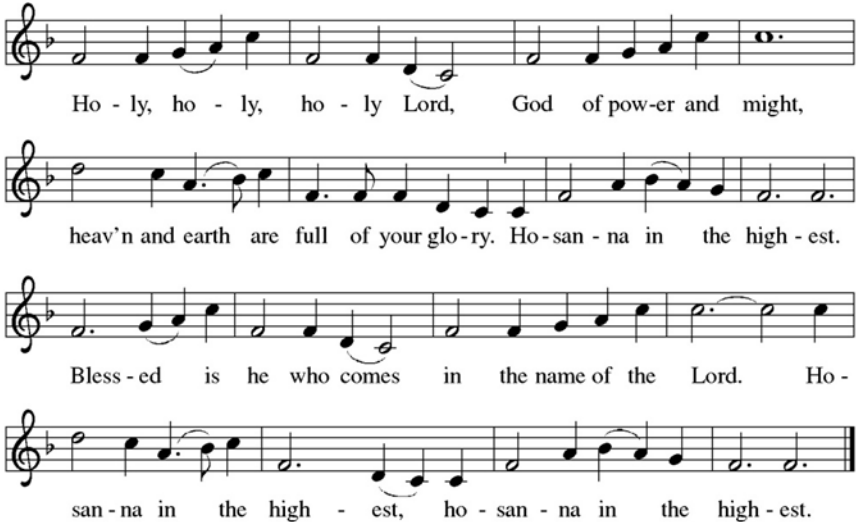
P- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C- It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P- Blessed are you...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C- Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P- O God of resurrection and new life...our table with your presence.

C- Come, Holy Spirit.

P- Reveal yourself to us...burning with justice, peace, and love.

C- Come, Holy Spirit.

P- With the earth...blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C- Amen

OUR 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.

Behold the Lamb of God That Takes Away the Sin of the World

AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION- *Please be seated.*

COMMUNION HYMN:

Red Book #359 (all verses)

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

BLESSING – *Please stand as you are able.*

P- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C- Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray:

**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.
Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN:

Red Book #881 (all verses)

“Let All Things Now Living”

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE



Special welcome to any visitors among us.

Please stay afterwards for some conversation and coffee.

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❖ PRAYER LIST ❖

If there is someone you wish to have added to the prayer list, please leave a note in the office. Thank you. We are praying for: Beverly Tankersly, Pastor Matthew Lamb, Connie Mattson, Eric Marken, Linda Doran, Bill Markstrom, Pastor George Kaiser, Tom Kelly, Mark Sheppard, Kemp Whitaker, Al Picotte, Dixie Picotte, Jack Armstrong, Louise Armstrong, Bernie Vail, Wanda Cowan, Bob Mattson, Angela Cole, Paula Locker, Catherine and Gerry Wilson, Dominic Bertucci, Mark Anderson, and Mike Swiney.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

❖ *Silence should be observed as you enter the Sanctuary.* ❖
Our live stream begins at the start of the Prelude (10:20AM), and conversations held in the sanctuary can be heard by all who are viewing. To respect those who are viewing/meditating, we encourage you to hold conversations/greet others in the lobby.
Thank you for understanding.

ATTENTION

Pastor Rita is available by phone for any pastoral needs you may have. She can be reached at 1-312-478-6212.

SERVING TODAY

April 28th

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Presiding Minister	Rev. Rita Chirala	Organist/Pianist	Dave Erfourth
Crucifer	---	Music Director	Ruth Ann Brindley
Lector	Joy Lake	Usher	Keith Nortch
Communion Assistant	Nancy Gillote		Ken Lake
		Altar Workers	Jeanie Richards Nancy Bolio

Activities & Meetings-- April 28th –May 5th

SUNDAY	10:30am	Worship Coffee Hour
MONDAY	1:00pm	Quilting
TUESDAY	9:30am	Yoga
WEDNESDAY		
THURSDAY	9:30am	Yoga
FRIDAY		
SATURDAY		

Stewardship...Resources...Blessings and Gifts

Monthly Giving Level required to meet 2024 budget	\$ 14,850.00
Gifts: month of March 2024 : General Giving	\$16,873.77

**Thank YOU for continuing to support the mission and ministry at Faith Lutheran!
Contributions may be mailed to the church at: 1600 Park Street, SSM, MI, 49783.**

❖ **2024 Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly**- This year the Synod Assembly will be a hybrid assembly. The business meeting of the assembly will be on May 18th 10am Eastern time. More details will be forthcoming.

❖ **Wilderness Walk - May 11th, 2024 @ Noon Meet at the Upper Falls Parking Lot.** The hike will be walking to the Upper Falls and then along the trail to the Lower Falls. We will join back together to have a short prayer service followed by snacks... Please bring whatever you'd like. Bring a water bottle too. Please contact Pastor Rita if you are interested.

❖ **Today we raise up our friend, Mary Oja**— Our homebound and nursing home members are often so isolated that your phone call, visit, even a card can mean the difference between lonely existence and continued life in our faith community. What can you do? Please reach out to those who have been such a vital part of our congregation.

❖ **Quarters for Hunger**- Please return your Quarters for Hunger Boxes by this Sunday **April 28th**. If you still would like to donate, you can write a check to Faith Lutheran with a memo of “World Hunger.”

❖ **Flower Arrangement**- If you would like to have special flowers on the altar in honor of a birthday, memory, or anniversary, please contact Lily Randall to make arrangements.

Altar flowers displayed in generosity of: Lily Randall

Thank You!

The nursery is not available at this time -- Changing tables are in each rest room.

Hearing assist devices are available. Please ask an usher.

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL:

CATHY TIBBETT, DENNIS BRINDLEY, KATHY FLICKINGER, SANDY LAWSON, KEN RANDALL, BEN DEATRICK, AL PICOTTE, AND CYNTHIA WRIGHT.

CHURCH STAFF:

OFFICE SECRETARY – REBECCA BOOTH (PART-TIME)
CUSTODIANS – ERIC AND ANNIE DELOACH (PART-TIME)

