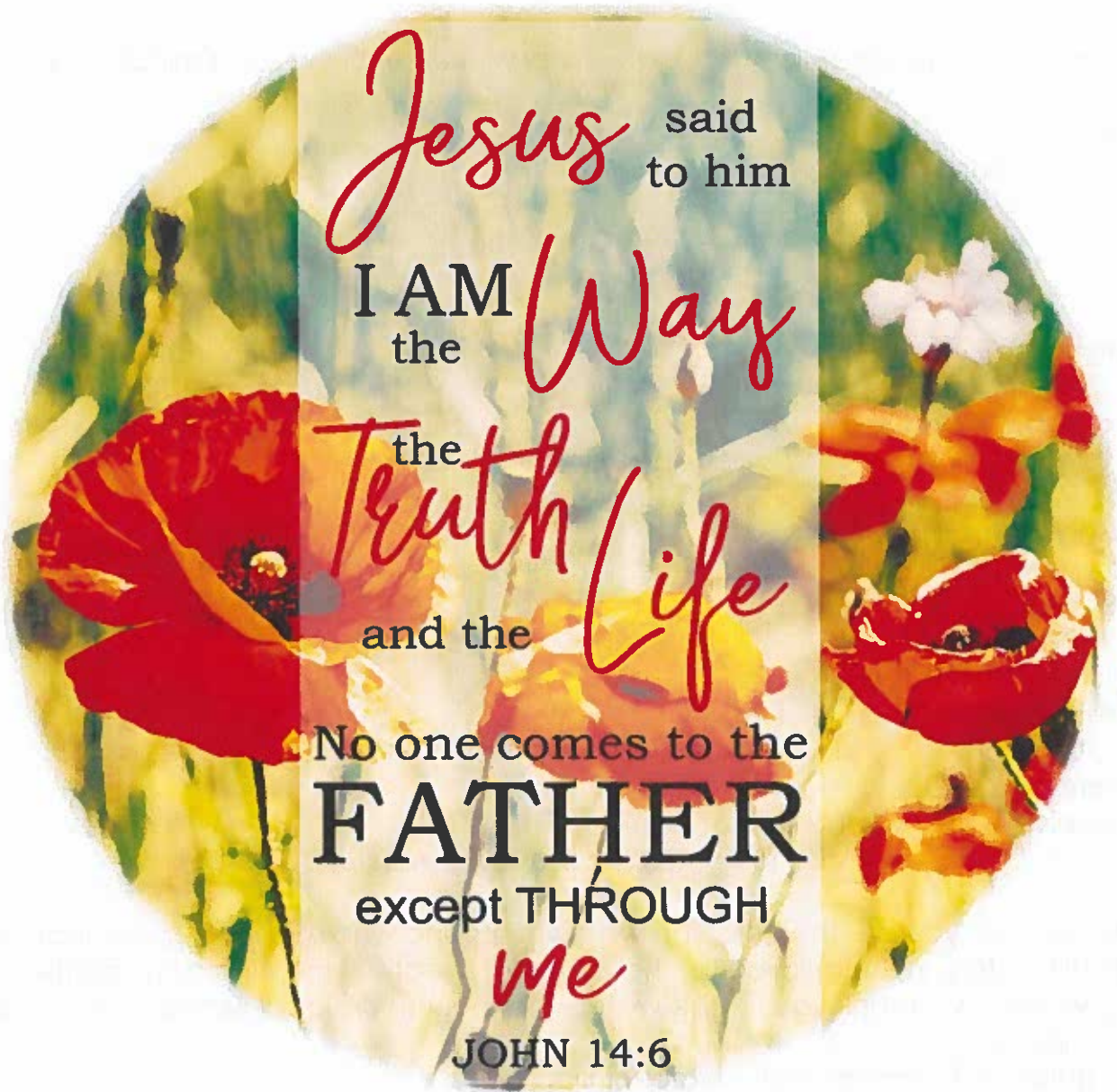


**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

May 3, 2026



**Holy Cross Lutheran Church, ELCA**

**[holycrossmtnhome.com](http://holycrossmtnhome.com)**

48 Carnation Drive

Mountain Home, AR 72653

870-492-6636

[holycrosssecretary.1@gmail.com](mailto:holycrosssecretary.1@gmail.com)

**Dan Schmidt, Music Director**



We're glad you're here!  
Visitors are invited to fill out a visitor card and place it in  
the offering plate. Join us for fellowship after worship!  
Thank you to Phyllis Hamilton for hosting today.

*As we enter the sanctuary, let us quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

Prelude  
Welcome & Announcements

## Gathering

### Sharing of the Peace

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you!**

L: Let us offer this gift of God's peace to one another.

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

L: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*). Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

L: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

L: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

L: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;  
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,  
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing.



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.  
 like the first dew - fall on the first grass.  
 born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing.



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

### Greeting

L: 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 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

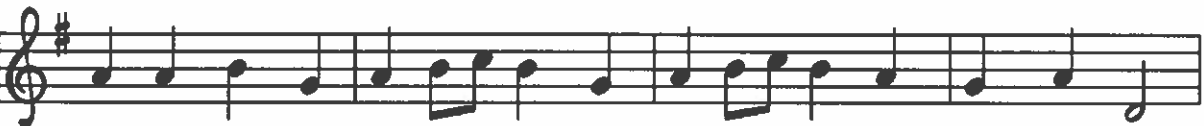
## Hymn of Praise



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray the prayer of the day together;

**C: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## The Word

### First Readings

Acts 7:55-60

<sup>55</sup>Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalmody

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

<sup>1</sup>In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>**Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me.**

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.**

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

<sup>15</sup>**My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love."

### Second Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>7</sup>This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," <sup>8</sup>and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous

light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

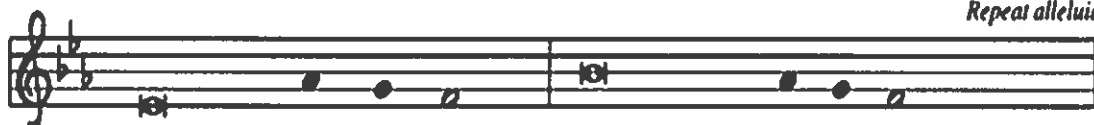
L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.



Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

### Gospel Reading

John 14:1-14

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." <sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Message



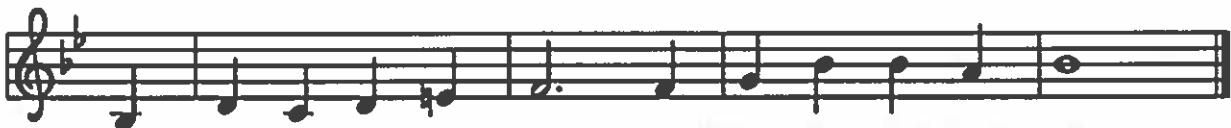
1 Mak-ing their way down through the a - ges, sin - ners and saints have  
 2 Mak-ing their way all the world o - ver, Chris - tians as - sem - ble  
 3 Mak-ing our way sea - son by sea-son, pil - grims, we jour - ney



heard God's call: wealth - y and poor, pow - er - ful, low - ly,  
 on this day, hear - ing the Word, shar - ing the Ban - quet,  
 till life's end, trav - el - ing light, shar - ing the rich - es,



Je - sus' dis - ci - ples, one and all. Gath - ered for wor - ship, of - fer - ing thanks,  
 learn - ing to walk in Je - sus' way. Mem - bers of Christ, u - nit - ed in love,  
 car - ing for strang - er as for friend, till in the joy of long - ing ful - filled,



the great - est with the least have come to share this feast.  
 they seek our God to know, and so to - geth - er grow.  
 to - geth - er we will come to our e - ter - nal home.

### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

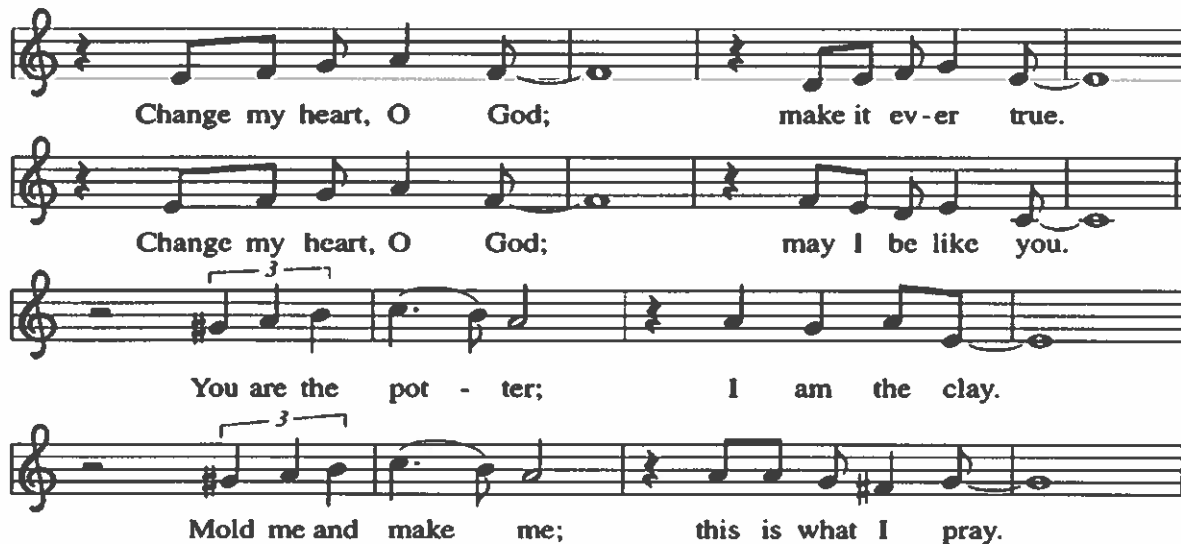
### Prayers of the People

After each petition of the prayers:

L: Merciful God; C: **Receive our prayer.**

Call Committee, Gloria Fenter (Friend of Judy Hoover), Pam Guth, Pat Hacker (Former Member), Wayne Heinz (Close Friend of the Hamilton's), Chris Holm (Cleo Holm's Daughter), Troy Koch (Friend of Dan Jones), Dorothy Meyer, Dan & Donna Schmidt, Dion Stanford (Marita's Husband), Matt Zipperer (Former member), and for all our homebound members and friends. Those serving in uniform, for our enemies and those we find hard to love, and for all who travel.

## Offering & Offertory



Change my heart, O God; make it ev-er true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef, 3/4 time. The first two staves are vocal lines with lyrics. The third and fourth staves are instrumental accompaniment, featuring a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure of each staff.

## Offering Prayer

### The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

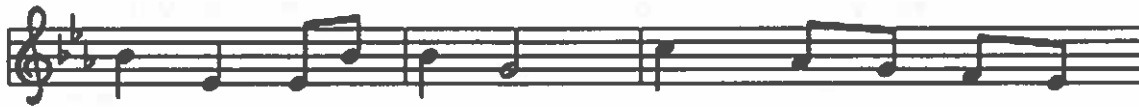
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L: 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy Holy Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Words of Institution

**L:** 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**L:** Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

**C: Amen.**

**L:** Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

**C: Amen.**

**L:** Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C: 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.

## Holy Communion

All who are repentant of their sins and believe in the Real Presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Sacrament are welcome to receive the elements. As usual, the wine is the dark liquid and the grape juice is the light liquid. Please be cautious and only touch the cup you choose to commune with. Those who are not communing may come forward, with arms crossed upon the chest, to receive a blessing.

### Communion Hymn ELW#638

"Blessed Assurance"



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest.



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

#### Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

## Prayer After Communion

## Sending

### Benediction

Sending Hymn ELW#389

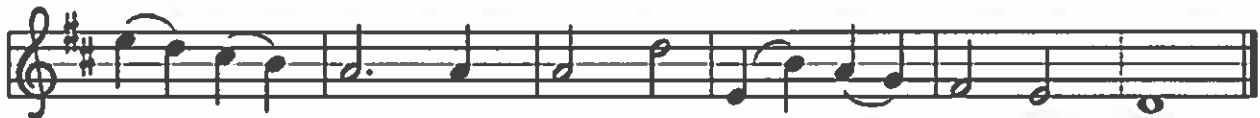
"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing!"



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

### Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

### Postlude

~FAITH & FELLOWSHIP~

**WELCA's Monday Morning Workshop:** The ladies gather every Monday morning at 9:00am to sew and share in fellowship.

**Senior Exercise Class:** A gentle exercise class that accommodates senior aches and pains. Join us Tuesdays at 1:00pm for some good stretching, moving and fellowship.

**Hope Circle** is on the **Fourth** Tuesday of each month at 10:00am. Study lessons from *Gather* magazine, a publication of WELCA.

**Bible Study on Wednesdays** at 10:00am. We study the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday along with good fellowship. Join us for some interesting discussions.

**\*Bible Study Attendance on 4/29: 10\***



**Timeline for 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
(May 16<sup>th</sup>, 10am-2pm)**

10:00am – Gather  
10:30am- Tree Dedication w/Bishop Becca;  
Quilts given to honor our VETS  
11:00am-1:00pm- Lunch  
10:30am-2:00pm- Petting Zoo



We would like those who are able to bring a dish to make our 40th anniversary picnic complete. The meat, chips, and beverages will be provided, but we would love to have side dishes and desserts to complete the picnic. Please bring your favorite picnic dish for all to enjoy! There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Thank you.

**Those Serving This Week:**

**Worship Leader & ALM:** Sue Hahn & Carol Wheeler

**Music:** Dan Schmidt

**Ushers:** Charles Polacek & David Hahn

**Altar Guild:** Lisa Streu

**Counters:**

**Ministers:** All the members of HCLC

**Church Attendance 4/26: 37**

**This Week at Holy Cross**

Mon. 5/4	8:30am-12:30pm 9:00am	Church Office Open WELCA Workshop
Tue. 5/5	8:30am-12:30pm 1:00pm	Church Office Open Senior Exercise Class
Wed. 5/6	8:30am-12:30pm 10:00am	Church Office Open Bible Study
Thur. 5/7	8:30am-12:30pm	Church Office Open
Fri. 5/8	8:30am-12:30pm	Church Office Open
Sat. 5/9		
Sun. 5/10	9:00am 10:00am	Worship Fellowship

**Those Serving Next Week:**

**Worship Leader & ALM:** Pastor Mike Clark & Jan Clark

**Music:** Dan Schmidt

**Ushers:** Kathy Owen & David Deterding

**Altar Guild:** Kathy Scott

**Counters:** Lisa Streu & Judy Hoover

**Ministers:** All the members of HCLC

