

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

904 Bluff Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

A traditional, liturgical, Biblical congregation in the heart of Cedar Falls ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Christ.

Rev. Michael R. Knox, Pastor
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(319) 389-5526

Matthew Baker, Vicar
(605) 342-0259

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THE 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 12, 2024

TO OUR VISITORS We rejoice that you have joined us this morning to hear the Word of God, receive His gifts of life and salvation, and to respond to His faithfulness with “Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs” *Ephesians 5:19*

- ✘ *Please take the time to fill out the Communion Registration/Visitors’ Cards which are in the small card holders on the pew.*
- ✘ *Please read the announcement below regarding Communion.*
- ✘ *Guests who will not be communing may place the Visitor’s card in the Offering plate.*
- ✘ *Guests who intend to commune are asked to announce this intention to the Elder and give the card to the Usher as they come forward to receive communion.*

OUR REDEEMER PRACTICES CLOSED COMMUNION



The Sacrament of the Altar is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink, instituted by Christ Himself. As we receive this Sacrament, the oneness of fellowship at the Altar (I Corinthians 10:17) presupposes a oneness in doctrine with the Apostles (Acts 2:42). For this reason the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of Closed Communion. If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Our Redeemer or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning. Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Knox,

Pastor Saunders, or Vicar Baker about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation.

THOSE SERVING GOD’S PEOPLE THIS WEEK

Elder: Alan Czarnetzki **Service Assistant:** Logan Baker

Organist: Roxann List **Offering Counters:** Cheryl Nissen, Sarah Staker

Ushers: Kelly Barber, Tim Koch **Shut-Ins:** Dean and Martha Garms

TODAY IS THE 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER The Church year is in another period of transition. This past Thursday, the Church observed the Festival of the Ascension of Our Lord. In the weeks to come, the Festivals of Pentecost and the Holy Trinity will take place. As today marks the end of the Easter season, and the Church prepares for the long Pentecost Season, perhaps the joy and exhilaration of Easter Sunday has diminished. Undoubtedly, the same could have been said for the Early Church.



While this certainly did not occur in just a few short weeks, nevertheless, their experiences in the real world caused them to reflect on the significance of Easter and of being a child of God.

Yet, in the midst of this “real world” Christianity, we have the promise of Jesus, who has now ascended to the right hand of the throne of God, that He is praying for His Church. He prayed then and continues to pray now, **“Father, protect them by the power of Your name . . . so that they may be one as we are one.”**

Take comfort today that you bear the name of the Holy, Triune God and that you are protected by God in the power of His most Holy Name: The Father, the (✘) Son, and the Holy Spirit. Take further comfort today, for the One who prays for you also comes to you in this “real world” and feeds you with His body and blood that you may be one with Him and with His Father.

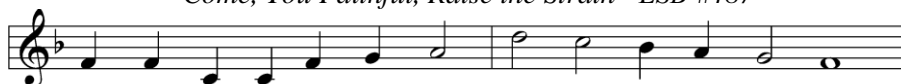
YOU WILL NOTICE THAT THE PASCHAL CANDLE IS NOT LIT During the Easter season this candle’s light and prominent position near the Altar reminded the Church of the Lord’s resurrection and how Christ, who is the Light of the World, has conquered the darkness of sin, death, and the power of the devil. Its visible light also served as a reminder that Christ our Lord showed Himself to His disciples in the 40 days following His resurrection from the dead until the day He ascended to the right hand of the Father. After the Festival of the Ascension this past Thursday the Paschal Candle has been returned to its place by the Baptismal Font where it will be lit at Baptisms and Funerals.



I. THE PREPARATION

Hymn of Invocation

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain” LSB #487



1 Come, you faith-ful, raise the strain Of tri - um-phant glad - ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst His pris - on
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright With the day of splen - dor,
4 For to - day a-mong His own Christ ap - peared, be - stow - ing
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Now we cry To our King im - mor - tal,



God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness,
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en;
With the roy - al feast of feasts Comes its joy to ren - der;
His deep peace, which ev - er-more Pass - es hu - man know - ing.
Who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark por - tal.



Loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing
Comes to glad - den faith-ful hearts Which with true af - fec - tion
Nei - ther could the gates of death Nor the tomb's dark por - tal
Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness!



Led them with un-moist-ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.
From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise un - dy - ing.
Wel - come in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
Nor the watch - ers nor the seal Hold Him as a mor - tal.
God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness!

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand/Remain Standing

Invocation

P/V: In the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

C: Amen.

The Confession of Sin

P/V: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P/V: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

P/V: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalms 32:5

P/V: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

P/V: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to be the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

II. THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit



Cantor: Hear, O Lord, when I | cry aloud;*

be gracious to me and | answer me!

Cong: **The Lord is my light and my sal- | vation;***

whom | shall I fear?

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek | after:*

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His | temple.

For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of | trouble;*

He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high up- | on a rock.

For my father and my mother have for- | saken me,*

but the Lord will | take me in.

Wait | for the Lord;*

be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait | for the Lord!

Cantor: Hear, O Lord, when I | cry aloud;*

be gracious to me and | answer me!

Ps. 27:1a, 4-5, 10, 14; antiphon: Ps. 27:7

Gloria Patri

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

The Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

II Timothy 4:22

The Collect of the Day

P: Let us pray: O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Be seated

The Reading from Acts

Acts 1:12-26

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

The Gradual

Choir: Christ is risen from the dead.
 [God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and honor.
 He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;
 He has put ev'rything under His feet.

Congregation:

Christ is ris - en from the dead. God the
 Fa - ther has crowned Him with glo - ry and hon - or.

He has giv-en Him do - min - ion o - ver the works of His
hands; He has put ev - 'ry - thing un - der His feet.

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

The Epistle

I John 5:9–15

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

The Alleluia/Verse

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never | die again; *
death no longer has dominion | over Him.

I will not leave you as | orphans;

I will come to you. | Alleluia.

(Romans 6:9; John 14:18)

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

John 17:11b–19

P: The Holy Gospel according to the Evangelist John, the 17th chapter.

Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life (✕) of the world to come. Amen

Be Seated

The Hymn of The Day

“Christ Is the World’s Redeemer” LSB #539

1 Christ is the world's Re - deem - er, The lov - er of the pure,
2 Christ has our host sur - round - ed With clouds of mar - tyrs bright,
3 Down through the realm of dark - ness He strode in vic - to - ry,
△ 4 Glo - ry to God the Fa - ther, The un - be - got - ten One,
The font of heav'n-ly wis - dom, Our trust and hope se - cure,
Who wave their palms in tri - umph And fire us for the fight.
And at the hour ap - point - ed He rose tri - um - phant-ly.
All hon - or be to Je - sus, His sole - be - got - ten Son,
The ar - mor of His sol - diers, The Lord of earth and sky,
Then Christ the cross as - cend - ed To save a world un - done
And now, to heav'n as - cend - ed, He sits up - on the throne
And to the Ho - ly Spir - it— The per - fect Trin - i - ty.
Our health while we are liv - ing, Our life when we shall die.
And, suf - f'ring for the sin - ful, Our full re - demp - tion won.
Whence He had ne'er de - part - ed, His Fa - ther's and His own.
Let all the worlds give an - swer: A - men! So let it be.

Text and tune: Public domain

The Sermon

Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory

Stand

The Offertory

Psalms 51:10-12

☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

The Prayers

Various Petitions are prayed. Each petition will conclude with the response:

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

The Congregation, gathered for worship in person, will now be receiving the Sacrament of the Altar. This most significant portion of the Divine Service, when our Lord Jesus Christ draws near to His people with His flesh and blood, will not be streamed. Members desiring to receive the Sacrament who are unable to be present in the Church will be visited by one of our pastors to bring them the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Those who have joined us online for the Service of the Word are now encouraged to pray the 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.**

May the Lord bless and keep you.

Please call Pastor Knox (319/231-9761) if you would like to receive a Pastoral visit.

✠ OUR WEEK TOGETHER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST ✠

- Sun. 5/12** 9:00 a.m. Divine Service at Our Redeemer
- 10:30 a.m. Bible Class and Sunday School
- 1:30 p.m. Youth Group Disk Golf Outing
- Mon. 5/13** 9:00 a.m. Vicar's Bible Study at Our Redeemer
- 6:30 p.m. Church Council
- Tue. 5/14** 6:00 p.m. Vicar's Bible Study at Peace
- Wed. 5/15** 10:00 a.m. Our Redeemer Book Club
- 11:00 a.m. Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings)
- 5:25 p.m. Adult Choir
- Sat. 5/18** 6:00 p.m. Bible Class at Peace – Shell Rock
- 7:00 p.m. Divine Service at Peace – Shell Rock

HYMNS/READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

May 19, 2024 The The Festival of Pentecost

- Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15
- Processional: Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling650
- Gradual: To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray.....768
- Hymn of the Day: Hail Thee, Festival Day.....489
- Distribution: Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord497
- Distribution: O Day Full of Grace.....503
- Distribution: Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest498

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. Today is our final day of studying Revelation. Beginning on Sunday, May 19, Vicar Baker will begin a study of The Song of Solomon.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. Plans are being made to hold Sunday School throughout the summer. Lessons and activities will be “family style” with parents and children working together to learn about our church building, worship, and the art we see throughout the church.

WEEKLY READINGS/HYMNS STUDY This class meets each Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. The class studies the weekly readings, hymns, and propers for the upcoming Sunday. It is a way to prepare for the coming week’s Divine Service.

THE VICAR’S BIBLE STUDY meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 9:00 a.m. The class also meets at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings of the same week at Peace in Shell Rock. The class is studying “Agricultural Themes” throughout the Bible.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY **YOUTH BIBLE STUDY** The Jr. High/Sr. High Youth meet with our Vicar on Sunday mornings from 10:30-11:15 and on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Jim and Cathy Niebergall with thanksgiving to God for their daughter, Molly, who is graduating from Iowa State University. Congratulations, Molly!

SONG OF SOLOMON Perhaps you've never ventured far into the Song of Solomon, or if you have, perhaps you ended up more confused than edified. With its multiple narrators, extensive use of metaphors, and content that might make a person blush, one can reasonably ask, "What's this all about?" Over the span of nine weeks (give or take) beginning May 19, Vicar Baker will lead us in tackling that question and many more in the Song of Solomon during Sunday morning Bible study. Please join us.

THE LATEST EDITION OF THE REPORTER AND LUTHERAN WITNESS are available in the Narthex following the Service.



BAKE SALE

BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT ALTERNATIVES PREGNANCY CENTER Come downstairs this morning to the Parish Hall to buy some tasty treats and support Alternatives Pregnancy Center. The Christian Care Committee will also be kicking off the baby bottle coin drive which will run through June 16th. (Father’s Day).

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN The Christian Care Committee is again sponsoring the “Baby Bottle Drive” to support Alternatives Pregnancy Center. Feel free to take a bottle home, fill it with change, (or bills, or checks!) and return it to church by Father’s Day. (June 16) Alternatives Pregnancy Centers’ mission statement: “Alternatives Pregnancy Center exists to be a first stop for people facing an unplanned pregnancy, a place to address at risk sexual behavior, and to help build healthy families.” Thank you for supporting Alternatives Pregnancy Center! Donations can be made with cash or checks made out to Alternatives Pregnancy Center.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Vacation Bible School will be held Monday-Thursday, June 10-13 from 9:00 -11:30 a.m. here at Our Redeemer. We are happy to be again partnering with Faith Lutheran in Waterloo and College Hill Lutheran in Cedar Falls. The theme is, “*Teach Them to Pray.*” Registration materials are in the Parish Hall and in the Narthex. Please complete the registration by Sunday, May 19 to ensure the availability of T-Shirts for all participants.

IOWA THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM “*Church and Ministry: Then and Now*” A theological conference for Pastors and Laity will be held at Camp IoDisECa May 23-24. Cost, including meals, is \$35. (Housing is available for an additional cost.) Pastor and Vicar Baker will be driving each day so rides are available. There are posters about the conference on the bulletin boards in the Church building and there is online information at the Camp’s Website and Facebook pages. Presenters include: Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, Rev. Michael Holmen, Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Rev. Dr. John Stephenson, Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford.

MEET YOUR NEXT VICAR Our Redeemer and Peace have been assigned our next Vicar – Harvey Peters. Harvey is married to Anna and they are expecting their first child in June. There is a brief biographical sketch of Seminarian Peters and Anna posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

