

# 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  
(319) 231-9761

Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Pastor  
(319) 389-5526

Matthew Baker, Vicar  
(605) 342-0259

Church Office: 266-2509

Email: [orlc@cfu.net](mailto:orlc@cfu.net) Website: [theforgivenessplace.org](http://theforgivenessplace.org)

### THE 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 5, 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:** Matt Kenitzer **Service Assistant:** Logan Baker

**Organist:** Roxann List **Offering Counters:** Chris Fink, James Mishler

**Ushers:** Harold Saathoff, Eber White **Shut-Ins:** Jim Bunkofske

**TODAY IS THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER.** First Jesus said His followers were like sheep. Then He described them as branches. Today, He calls them friends! But who is He talking to in this way and what do they call themselves? Christian – You may take this name for granted since you are so accustomed to using it when referring to yourself or to the Church. But such was not always the case. Luke, in his second book explains, “*The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.*” (Acts 11:26)



The name “Christian” was not really a self chosen name nor was it supplied by Jesus. In fact, it was unbelievers, namely the Greeks, who first called the followers of Jesus, Christians. In only two other places does this term get used in the Bible. In Acts 26:28, the Apostle Paul is on trial before King Agrippa. As Paul so regularly did, he confessed the truth of the Faith to the King. Agrippa responds, “*Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?*” Here Agrippa is using the term Christian to simply mean, “One who follows Christ.”

In I Peter 4, the term is used differently. Here St. Peter writes, “*Rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when His glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.*”

As a Christian, you are a follower of Christ and you bear His name! Literally, you are *in* Christ. You are in Christ by virtue of your Baptism into His death and resurrection. You remain in Christ because you feed on His body and drink of His blood. Because of these things, Jesus calls you sheep, branches, and friends, and you call yourself Christian!”

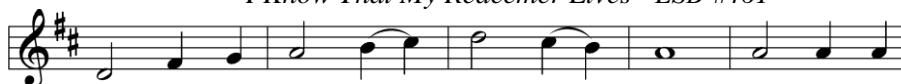
**PASCHAL CANDLE** A prominent symbol in the celebration of Easter is the Paschal Candle. This Candle, which represents the resurrection of Jesus, was lit at the Easter Vigil. The Candle will be lit throughout the Easter Season and sit at the “Gospel Horn” of the Altar, until the day of the Ascension. It is a visible reminder of the 40 days during which our risen savior showed himself to be alive and triumphant over death and the grave. Throughout the rest of the year, it stands by the Baptismal font.



# I. THE PREPARATION

## Hymn of Invocation

“ I Know That My Redeemer Lives” LSB #461



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 bless me with His love; He lives to  
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious  
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry  
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.  
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.  
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.  
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

Men's Chorus: 5. *He lives to silence all my fears;  
He lives to wipe away my tears;  
He lives to calm my troubled heart;  
He lives all blessings to impart.*

Men's Chorus 6. *He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;  
He lives and loves me to the end;  
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;  
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.*

Congregation: 7. He lives and grants me daily breath;  
He lives, and I shall conquer death;  
He lives my mansion to prepare;  
He lives to bring me safely there.

Congregation: 8. He lives, all glory to His name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!

*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:** Come and hear, all you who | fear God,\*  
and I will tell what He has done | for my soul.

**Cong:** Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;\*  
sing the glory of His name; give to Him | glorious praise!

Bless our God, O | peoples;\*  
let the sound of His | praise be heard,  
who has kept our soul among the | living\*  
and has not let our | feet slip.

Blessèd | be God,\*  
because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast | love from me!

**Cantor:** Come and hear, all you who | fear God,\*  
and I will tell what He has done | for my soul.

*Ps. 66:1-2, 8-9, 20; antiphon: Ps. 66:16*

### 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.

*II Timothy 4:22*

**C** And with thy spir - it.

**The Collect of the Day**

P: Let us pray: 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** A - men.

*Be seated*

**The Reading from Acts**

Acts 10:34-48

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

**The Gradual**

*Men's Chorus:* 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 5:1-8

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Stand**

**THE GOSPEL PROCESSION**

*As the music introduces the Verse, please stand and direct your attention to the cross and the Holy Scriptures as they are carried into the midst of the Congregation. Throughout the Easter Season the Gospel will be read from the center of the Nave, a reminder that following Jesus' resurrection He appeared bodily among His disciples.*

**The Verse**

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**Congregation: O sons and daughters of the King,  
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,  
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia!**

*(LSB #470, v. 1)*

**No longer servants, now as friends  
Christ calls to you as He intends  
His love and joy to all extends. Alleluia!**

*(M. Baker, 2024)*

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Public domain

**The Holy Gospel**

John 15:9-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to the Evangelist John, the 15<sup>th</sup> 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

### *Remain Standing*

### The Hymn of The Day

“Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice” LSB #556 (stanzas 1-5)



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, With ex - ul - ta - tion  
2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death brood - ed dark - ly  
3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer - it  
4 But God had seen my wretch - ed state Be - fore the world's foun -  
5 God said to His be - lov - ed Son: "It's time to have com -



spring - ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly  
o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; In sin my  
gain - ing; Free will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, Dead to all  
da - tion, And mind - ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for  
pas - sion. Then go, bright Jew - el of My crown, And bring to



rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How  
moth - er bore me. But dai - ly deep - er still I fell; My  
good re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair Left  
my sal - va - tion. He turned to me a fa - ther's heart; He  
all sal - va - tion. From sin and sor - row set them free; Slay



His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!  
life be - came a liv - ing hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.  
on - ly death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suf - fered.  
did not choose the eas - y part But gave His dear - est trea - sure.  
bit - ter death for them that they May live with You for - ev - er."

## The Sermon

*Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory*

*Stand*

## The Offertory

*Psalm 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 ✠**

<b>Sun. 5/5</b>	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
<b>Tue. 5/7</b>	9:00 a.m.	Brunch Bunch
<b>Wed. 5/8</b>	10:00 a.m.	Our Redeemer Book Club
	11:00 a.m.	Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings)
	5:25 p.m.	Adult Choir
	6:30 p.m.	Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings)
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Bible Study with Vicar
<b>Thu. 5/9</b>	6:30 p.m.	Ascension Day Divine Service at Our Redeemer
<b>Sat. 5/11</b>	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 9, 2024 The Ascension of Our Lord**

Readings:	Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53	
Invocation:	A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing .....	493
Hymn of the Day:	See, The Lord Ascends In Triumph .....	494
Distribution:	Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared .....	622
Final Hymn:	On Christ's Ascension I Now Build.....	492

#### **May 12, 2024 The 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Readings:	Acts 1:12-26, 1 John 5:9-15, John 17:11b-19	
Invocation:	Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain.....	487
Gradual:	Christ Is Risen From The Dead.....	printed
Hymn of the Day:	Christ Is The World's Redeemer.....	539
Distribution:	Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia .....	466
Distribution:	This Joyful Eastertide.....	482
Distribution:	Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing .....	475

### **BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

**THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. The class is studying Revelation. 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. and at 6:30 p.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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ASCENSION DAY DIVINE SERVICE** On Thursday, May 9, at 6:30 p.m., Our Redeemer will be observing one of the Festival Days of the Church Year. On this day, 40 days after Easter, the Church remembers the bodily Ascension of our Lord to His Father's right hand. You are invited to pause from your busy schedules to remember the Holy Day of our Lord's Ascension and be served by our Ascended Lord.



**THE YOUTH OF OUR REDEEMER** will be going Disk Golfing this afternoon. They will meet at 1:30 p.m. and will play at Island Park.

**BRUNCH BUNCH** will meet on Tuesday, May 7. They will meet at the Cedar Falls Family Restaurant in the North Cedar neighborhood starting at 9:00 a.m.



**BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT ALTERNATIVES PREGNANCY CENTER** Next Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day)! Come downstairs to the Parish Hall after the service 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 16<sup>th</sup> (Father's Day).

**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.

**WE REJOICE WITH JOSEPH AND OLIVIA GOODROAD** as they announce the birth of their son Bjorn Philip Goodroad. Bjorn was born at 2:45 p.m. on Friday, May 3. He weighed 7 lb 8 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. The members of Our Redeemer join the Goodroads in giving thanks to God for the life of Bjorn and the safe delivery for both mother and child.

**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.

### HARVEY AND ANNA PETERS



Seminarian Harvey Peters was born in Detroit, MI, but came to the seminary from Brookfield, WI, where his parents, the Rev. M. Douglas and Heather Peters, currently reside. His family is from the metro Detroit area, and moved to Fort Wayne when his father began studying at CTSFW in 2008. From there, Harvey's family spent his father's vicarage year in Springfield, IL, and then moved to Sheboygan, WI when his father received his first call. Harvey's father is currently the pastor of Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, WI. He has one sister, Catherine (21), who will be married at the end of May. She will join her fiancée, Josh, in Fort Wayne, as he begins his studies at CTSFW this summer.

Anna was born in Marshfield, WI and has spent nearly her entire life in Wausau, WI. Her parents are the Rev. Steven and Jane Gjerde, and she has three siblings, Paul (24), Sarah (16), and Leo (9). Rev. Gjerde is the pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Wausau, WI, where he has served for over twenty years.

Harvey and Anna both studied at Hillsdale College, and met as members of the college's Lutheran Society, of which both were president during their respective senior years of college. They both majored in history, while Harvey minored in Greek, and Anna minored in Classical Education. After his graduation in 2022, Harvey began his studies at CTSFW, while Anna began her final year at Hillsdale. They were engaged in December 2022, and married on August 12, 2023 in Fort Wayne. They are eagerly expecting the arrival of their first child at the end of June.

Harvey's interests include local American histories, Detroit Tigers baseball, and the history of American Lutheranism. Anna's interests include poetry, childhood education, and exploring and hiking local parks.

Harvey and Anna are very excited to join the saints at Our Redeemer and Peace this August and are looking forward to meeting all of you. They ask that you keep them in your prayers as they await the delivery of their child and their move out to Cedar Falls."