

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

Putting Jesus' Way of Life into Practice by...

**Encountering God, Loving One Another,
& Reaching the World.**

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026



Welcome to Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

PRELUDE

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

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. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

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.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

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.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

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.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN - I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

READING - Acts 17:16-31

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this pretentious babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities." (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) ¹⁹So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, "May we know what this new

teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰ It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means.” ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new.

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way.

²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL - JOHN 1:16-18

The Gospel according to John, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON - Pastor Jon

HYMN OF THE DAY - Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - RESPONSE: Receive our prayer.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN - Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

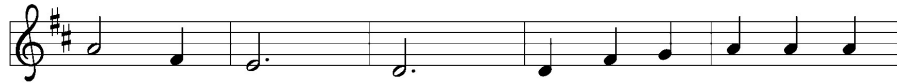
COMMUNITY LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN - I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Statistics

The attendance on Sunday, April 26 was 51. 13 attended online. This week's offerings to General Fund: \$865 Received online: \$250

Did You Know?

CSLC participates in a program called Simply Giving® that allows members to set up recurring contributions directly from a savings or checking account with zero fees to the church. Forms are available at the Welcome Desk. If you have questions about the program, contact Mark at office@csclcvh.org.

First Monday Book Club

The First Monday Book Club will meet on Monday, May 4 at 10:30 AM to discuss the current read - *Theo of Golden*. All are welcome to join! Contact Mary Barlau for details.

Coordinator Needed for 2026 Pumpkin Patch

Want to help your church family in a big way? We are searching for a new coordinator (or share the responsibility?) for this year's Pumpkin Patch fundraiser in October. See Sue Woehrle with questions about this opportunity.

Communion Assistants Needed

Just as Jesus served his disciples at the last supper on Maundy Thursday, you too have the opportunity to serve. Consider serving as a communion assistant one Sunday a month. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

YOUR Help Needed for Coffee Hour

Share your gift of hospitality by volunteering to serve for coffee hour after worship! Sign up in the Narthex to host a week. Having a birthday, anniversary, or family celebration? What better way to celebrate than by being of service while sharing the celebration with your church family? Consider hosting coffee hour in celebration of your special day.

From the Archives

Shortly after CSLC had its beginning 60 years ago the fledgling congregation quickly saw the need for a building that would help them grow. Pastor Garry B. Anderson wrote of the need for another tool - our own building - to:

Reach more people for God's Kingdom

Teach more efficiently for greater Christian understanding

Witness more effectively in this community.

IN THE BEGINNING

GOD CREATED HEAVEN AND EARTH ...

In August of 1965 we had our beginning. Now we are at a crucial juncture in continuing our mission as servants of Jesus Christ and His Church in Vadnais Heights.

To better fulfill our responsibilities we must have another tool—our own building—to:

REACH more people for God's Kingdom

TEACH more efficiently for greater Christian understanding

WITNESS more effectively in this community.

To serve better will be costly. We will be asked to give freely of our time, talents and money. When we respond in all of these ways, we are responding to Jesus Christ and our neighbor.

A challenge has been thrust into our laps - by God. With prayer, sacrifice and hard work we will meet this challenge. I am confident you will respond now as you did in the beginning.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Garry B. Anderson

Pastor Garry B. Anderson

UPCOMING DATES:

- May 4 Book Club - 10:30 AM
- June 14 Joint Worship at Lakeview Lutheran
- June 24 CSLC Night at the Twins
- July 5 Outdoor Worship & Family Fun Day

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE SERVANT

Today: Sunday, May 3 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM - Bible Study
9:00 AM - Worship
10:00 AM - Fellowship
11:15 AM - EFLC Sunday School
12:30 PM - EFLC Worship
1:45 PM - EF Board Meeting (SS Room)

Monday, May 4

9:00 AM - Package Bread and Delivery
10:30 AM - Book Club
12:00 PM - Piecemakers (FH)

Tuesday, May 5

7:00 AM - Bread Preparation (FH)
8:30 AM - Bread Distribution (FH)
6:30 PM - AA (FH)

Wednesday, May 6

10:00 AM - Bible Study (FH)
6:00 PM - Youth
7:00 PM - AA Meeting (Class A)

Friday, May 8

5:30 PM - EF Choir Rehearsal (Class A)
6:00 PM - EF Board Meeting (SS Room)

Saturday, May 9

11:00 AM - Revelation Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
12:00 PM - UCG Church (S/K/FH)

Sunday, May 10 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM - Bible Study
9:00 AM - Worship
10:00 AM - Fellowship
11:15 AM - EFLC Sunday School
12:30 PM - EFLC Worship
1:45 PM - EF Board Meeting (SS Room)

THIS WEEK AT LAKEVIEW

Today: Sunday, May 3 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM - Fellowship
10:45 AM - Worship
12:00 - 5:00 PM - Eternity Karen Baptist Church

Monday, May 4

7:00 AM - AA

Thursday, May 7

7:00 - 8:30 PM - Girl Scouts

Sunday, May 10 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM - Fellowship
10:45 AM - Worship
12:00 - 5:00 PM - Eternity Karen Baptist Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY! THANK YOU!

Greeter: Katie Wright
Ushers: Tigges Family
Reader: Linda Wigdahl
Sound Booth: Tim, Tom, Peter, Kim, Jayson, Tony
Communion Assistants: Peter & Sarah Songster
Musicians: Nick Soler
Coffee Servers: OPEN
Bread Pickup: Jan Jarvinen
Counters: Ron Hawkinson, Glen Johnson

PRAYER REQUESTS...


We pray for those in need of healing and mercy:
Peter S. and family as they mourn the loss of his brother, Sarah K., Michelle & Ken K., Bill H., Carol W., Tony L., Mark (brother of Sarah K.) Michelle, (Sister of Linda W.), Eileen S., Emily B., Mary-Kay L., Laiden S., Karen R., Sharon G., Brian I, Katie W., Steve, Paul S., Brian, Roger K., Carol L., Salomie (sister-in-law of Peter), Patty W. (sister of Mike W.)

(Please call the church office with prayer concerns or updates.)

Thank you for giving to support the ministries at Christ the Servant. You may give on our website: www.cslcvh.org/giving. Offering envelopes are available at the Welcome Desk.

Scan the QR code below to make a secure online donation.



	CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH
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