

THE BROTHERS & SISTERS IN CHRIST OF
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
WELCOME YOU TO THE DIVINE SERVICE!

THE 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 5, 2024 – 8:00 A.M.



Christ the King Lutheran Church

A member of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

Declaring new life in Jesus Christ & encouraging all to take their next step of faith with Jesus!

205-988-5004 -- www.ctkbham.org

611 Riverchase Parkway West
Birmingham, Alabama 35244

***Our vision:** All people will know God personally through Jesus Christ.*

***Our mission:** Inward searching, outward seeking, forward together with Jesus Christ.*

Psalm 139:23--Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

Luke 19:10 – For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Matthew 4:19 – “Come, follow Me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.”

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024 - 8:00 a.m.

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Welcome! We're glad you're here....

OUR INVITATION: Our family of faith invites you to participate in our mission to share the Gospel (which means “good news”) of Jesus Christ, as we gather to hear the word of God and share the presence of Christ in Holy Communion and Christian fellowship. The Gospel is that Almighty God is for us and with us, and we know this with certainty through Jesus Christ. With your participation, our God-given mission to spread this good news to the world and the surrounding community can only be strengthened. Our pastor and members are here for you!

Sunday School Classes and Rooms (all classes meet at 9:20 a.m.):

Jesus's Questions in The Gospel of John, Led by Pastor Chris in the Luther Room

Disciple 2 with Anita Humphries in Fellowship 2.

Oasis with Martha Green & Maizie Nelson, in the Luther Room foyer.

The Life of Christ, Led by Tim Champion, in Fellowship Hall.

Children's Sunday Education - NURSERY IS available for infants & children 3 years of age during each worship service, and education time. Following are where everyone will meet:

Nursery (infant - 3 years old) ~ Main blg Nursery

4th – 5th grade ~ Disciple Room

3K & K ~ John Room

Jr. High ~ Jr High Room

1st – 3rd grade ~ Matthew & Mark Room

Sr. High ~ Youth Room

TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS NOTES: *This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PASTOR: Christ is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed!

PASTOR: Christ is alive!

Congregation: He is alive indeed!

PASTOR: Christ is with us!

Congregation: He is with us indeed!

CALL TO WORSHIP & MAY MEMORY VERSE :

“Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.” -- Ephesians 6:1

♪ THE HYMN OF JOY: "Christ Be Our Light"

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us
your own, your holy people, light for the
world to see.

*Refrain: Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair. Your word
alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your
living voice. *Refrain*

3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us
your bread, broken for others, shared until all
are fed. *Refrain*

4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us
your building, sheltering others, walls made of
living stone. *Refrain*

5. Many the gifts, many the people, many the
hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants
to one another, making your kingdom come.
Refrain

THE APOSTOLIC 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.**

♪ THE HYMN OF PRAISE:

pg.60-61 in Green Book for music

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Women: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of
God.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Men: Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Women: Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor,
glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Men: For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

♪ THE APOSTOLIC RESPONSE: (*sung*) P: The Lord be with you!

C: And also with you!

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY: (*Spoken by all*) O God, you have prepared for those who love you
joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all
things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ,
your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME: Trust and follow Jesus. He gives you power, love, and self-control.

♪ **ANTHEM: “Change My Heart, O God”** **Adult Choir** by Eddie Espinosa

*Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.
You are the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.
Search me, O God, and know my heart today; try me, O Savior, know my thoughts I pray.
Take all my will, my passion, self, and pride; I now surrender, Lord, in me abide
You are the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.*

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 10:44-48

The Introduction: *While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

The Reading:

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. ⁴⁵ All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. ⁴⁶ For they were hearing them speaking

with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, ⁴⁷ “Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?” ⁴⁸ And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.

(Lector: “This is the word of the Lord!” then, **all**, “Thanks be to God!”)

♪ **THE PSALM: Psalm 98** (Congregation has verses in **bold**)

The Introduction: *Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands.*

Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done ‘ marvelous things,*
whose right hand and holy arm have ‘ won the victory.

² **O LORD, you have made ‘ known your victory,***

you have revealed your righteousness in the sight ‘ of the nations.

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the ‘ house of Israel;*
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory ‘ of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, ‘ all you lands;***

lift up your voice, re- ‘ joice, and sing.

⁵ Sing to the LORD ‘ with the harp,*

with the harp and the ‘ voice of song.

⁶ **With trumpets and the sound ‘ of the horn***

shout with joy before the ‘ king, the LORD.

⁷ Let the sea roar, and ‘ all that fills it,*

the world and those who ‘ dwell therein.

⁸ **Let the rivers ‘ clap their hands,***

and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to ‘ judge the earth.

⁹ The LORD will judge the ‘ world with righteousness*

and the peo- ‘ ples with equity.

♪ THE ALLELUIA VERSE:

C: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

The Introduction: *On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.*

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

(sung) **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel:

⁹Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. ¹⁰If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

¹²"This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that

one lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are My friends if you do what I command you.

¹⁵No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you. ¹⁷This I command you, that you love one another.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

(sung) **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE PASTORAL PRAYER and SERMON:

"The Love of Fruit and The Fruit of Love"

♪ HYMN of the DAY: "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"
(LBW #367, green book)

1. Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ,
our head and cornerstone, Chosen of the Lord
and precious, Binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever And our confidence
alone.

2. To this temple where we call you, Come, O
Lord of hosts, and stay; Come, with all your
loving-kindness, Hear your people as they
pray; And your fullest benediction Shed
within its walls today.

3. Grant, we pray, to all your faithful All the
gifts they ask to gain; What they gain from you
forever With the blessed to retain; And
hereafter in your glory Evermore with you to
reign.

4. Praise and honor to the Father, Praise and
honor to the Son, Praise and honor to the
Spirit, Ever three and ever one: One in might
and one in glory While unending ages run!

THE 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

After each petition, the leader says, "Lord, in your mercy" and all respond, "Hear our prayer."

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE:

Greetings celebrate God bringing us peace together with Himself through Christ.

MINUTE for MISSION:

& GIVING THANKS to God with His tithes (*first 10% income*) & our offerings (*beyond 10%*).

Our Mercy Ministry basket today supports Oak Mountain Missions

Prayer requests can be written on prayer cards and turned in here and/or sent to office@ctkbham.org.

*Offerings are appreciated: plates are at the back of the sanctuary or give at www.ctkbham.org, or mail a check to:
Christ the King Lutheran Church, 611 Riverchase Parkway West, Birmingham, AL 35244.*

♪ **THE OFFERTORY VERSE:** Walking the way, Christ in the center telling the story to open our eyes; breaking our bread, giving us glory; Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!

THE OFFERING OF PRAYER: P: Let us pray. Merciful Father,
C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us — our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CELEBRATING & SHARING CHRIST'S PROMISED PRESENCE IN HOLY COMMUNION

♪ **THE LORD'S PRAYER:** (*sung*) 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

♪ **COMMUNION HYMN:**
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT: *All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present as he promised are invited to Commune. Pastor will speak a blessing in Christ for children who have not received First Communion instruction and all others who ARE NOT baptized.*

♪ **At Distribution:** Congregation sings both 1) #390 in LBW, green book &
2) #235 in LBW, green book

THE BLESSING, PRAYER, AND BENEDICTION

♪ **HYMN to the WORLD: "Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing"** (LBW # 259, green book)

1. Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, Fill our hearts with joy and peace; Let us each, your love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace. Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, Trav'ling through this wilderness.	faithful, ever faithful To your truth may we be found.
2. Thanks we give and adoration For your Gospel's joyful sound. May the fruits of your salvation In our hearts and lives abound. Ever	3. Savior, when your love shall call us From our struggling pilgrim way, Let not fear of death appall us, Glad your summons to obey. May we ever, may we ever Reign with you in endless day.

THE DISMISSAL:**Pastor:** Go in peace and serve the Lord.**All: Thanks be to God!****EASTER POSTLUDE CHORUS: “Because He Lives” William J. Gaither**

Because He lives I can face tomorrow; Because He lives, all fear is gone.

Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living just because He lives.

*The altar flowers are available for sponsors & the eternal candle is sponsored by Eric & Amy Hoaglund in memory of Aileen Hyde.**If you'd like to sponsor altar flowers or candle, please sign up outside the library door or contact the church office.***THE SCRIPTURE TO CONSIDER FOR NEXT SUNDAY'S (5/12) WORSHIP:****Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; John 17:6-19****THE SCRIPTURE TO CONSIDER FOR THIS WEDNESDAY'S WORSHIP:****1 John 5:9-13**

9 If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. 10 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he

has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. 11 And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

Disciplemaker's Prayer*from Deut. 6:1-9; Mark 3:13-14; 12:30-31; Matt. 28:18-20; John 17:20; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 4:16-17*

Heavenly Father, Thank you for giving me a discipling way of life in Christ Jesus. **As I go through every part of this day, help me to love you and love the people who cross my path -- starting with my family.** Don't let me miss the adventures you are sending my way to live or the exciting opportunities to speak the Good News about Jesus today. Draw my heart to you and to specific people you want me to pull close for Jesus-like discipling friendships. By your Word and Spirit, transform me into a follower of Jesus who loves you, loves people, and makes disciples who make more disciples, ad infinitum. In Jesus' name, Amen.