

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

904 Bluff Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

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 Website: theforgivenessplace.org

THE 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 21, 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: Tom Strub **Service Assistant:** Logan Baker

Organist: Roxann List **Offering Counters:** Jonah Bolin, Tom Strub

Ushers: Greg Gerjerts, Dave Kmoch **Shut-Ins:** Paula Czarnetzki



JESUS CALLS HIMSELF THE VINE. Not just any vine but “the True Vine.” Jesus calls you branches. Not just any branches, but branches abiding in the true Vine. And what do these branches do? They bear fruit bringing glory to God the Father.”

How important is this to you? Consider what happens to the branches which do not abide in the True Vine. They are cut off, thrown away, wither, gathered together, thrown into the fire, and burned. All this is a picture of God’s temporal and eternal judgment.

Yet you do not fear this judgment because you are a branch which has been grafted into, and abides, in the True Vine.

So how did you become a branch which “abides” in the True Vine? Jesus answers it clearly, **“You are already made clean because of the Word which I have spoken to you.”** (John 15:23) The Apostle Paul connects this cleansing to Baptism, **“having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word.”** (Ephesians 5:26) Through Holy Baptism, Christ has washed you clean with His Word. In the hearing of His blessed words, you have been made clean. You are holy, you are forgiven! Not only has God grafted you into the Vine, He will keep you “abiding” in the Vine as you feast at His table where you eat of Christ’s body and drink of His blood. Jesus said, **“For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him”** (John 6:55-56)

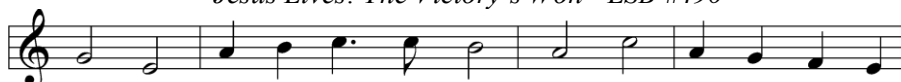
PASCHAL CANDLE A prominent symbol in the celebration of Easter is the Paschal Candle. This Candle, which represents the resurrection of Jesus, was lit at the Easter Vigil. The Candle will be lit throughout the Easter Season and sit at the “Gospel Horn” of the Altar, until the day of the Ascension. It 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

“Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won” LSB #490



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -
2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is
3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus
4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death But the gate of life im -



pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!
giv - en. I shall go where He is gone,
liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,
sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell
mor - tal; This shall calm my trem - bling breath



From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er
Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is
Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I
Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will
When I pass its gloom - y por - tal. Faith shall



scenes will then com-mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
faith - ful; doubt-ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.
need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
cry, as fails each sense: Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!

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: A little while, and you will see Me no | longer;*
and again a little while, and you will | see Me.

Cong: **I will extol You, my | God and King,*
and bless Your name forever and | ever.**

**Every day I will | bless You*
and praise Your name forever and | ever.**

**The Lord is gracious and | merciful,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.**

**All Your works shall give thanks to You, | O Lord,*
and all Your saints shall | bless You!**

**My mouth will speak the praise | of the Lord,*
and let all flesh bless His holy name forever and | ever.**

Cantor: A little while, and you will see Me no | longer;*
and again a little while, and you will | see Me.

Ps. 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16

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

G 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

P Glory be to God on high: **G** 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 God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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 8:26-40

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

The Gradual

“Voices Raised To You”

Combined Choirs

The Epistle

I John 4:1-21

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL PROCESSION

As on Easter Day, so throughout the Easter Season the Holy Gospel will be read from the center of the Nave, a reminder that following Jesus' resurrection He appeared bodily among His disciples. 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. Each week the congregation will sing selected stanzas of the hymn "O Sons and Daughters of the King" during the Procession. Some of these stanzas have been specifically written for that Sunday by Vicar Baker.

The Verse



- Congregation:**
- 1. O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia!**
 - 2. Abide in Me, and I in you,
And prove to be disciples true,
Fruit through My word shall you bear, too. Alleluia!**



Text and tune: Public domain

The Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

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



P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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

“Christ, the Word of God Incarnate” LSB #540



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of
2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,
3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant From the stump of
4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,
Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es
lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You
Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the
To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to
Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our
food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our
You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful
Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.
thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.
branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.
God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

5. Christ, the way that leads unailing to the Father's home on high,
Christ, the truth that frees the captive, Christ, the life that cannot die.
Mediator to the Father, Sacrifice and great High Priest:
Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions, There to share Your wedding feast.
6. Christ, the Alpha and Omega, Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
Christ, the life and resurrection, Christ, the Church's glorious head:
Praise and thanks and adoration and unending worship be
To the Father and the Spirit and to You eternally.

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Tune: Public domain

The Sermon

Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory



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. 4/21	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service at Our Redeemer
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Class and Sunday School
	1:30 p.m.	Voter's Meeting
	3:00 p.m.	"Games and Guesses" -Congregational game night!
Mon. 4/22	9:00 a.m.	Vicar's Bible Study at Our Redeemer
	6:30 p.m.	Board of Elders
Tue. 4/23	6:00 p.m.	Vicar's Bible Study at Our Redeemer
Wed. 4/24	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
Sat. 4/27	6:00 p.m.	Bible Class at Peace – Shell Rock
	7:00 p.m.	Vespers Service at Peace – Shell Rock
Sun. 4/28	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service at Our Redeemer
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Class and Sunday School

HYMNS/READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

April 28, 2024 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 4:1-12; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18*

Invocation: Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won490

Verse: O Sons and Daughters of the King*printed*

Hymn of the Day: How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds524

Distribution: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia463

Distribution: The King of Love My Shepherd Is709

Distribution: I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table618

(Note: *The readings and hymns for the 4th and 5th Sundays of Easter have been switched)

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. The class is studying Revelation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday.

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 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. During April the Youth will meet again on the 24th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER STAFF NEEDED Looking for a summer job? Get that and more with a summer camp experience at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca in Solon, IA is hiring for male and female camp counselors for the upcoming summer. Employment begins May 29 and ends August 3. All summer staff go through training in early June to be fully trained in camp activities and safety, including CPR, AED, and first aid training. Candidates should be at least 18 years old. To get started, head on over to www.nloma.org and complete a summer service profile. Please contact Alec Deppe at 319-848-4187 or email programdirector@iodiseca.org if you have any questions.

A REGULAR VOTER'S MEETING is scheduled for this afternoon at 1:30 p.m. This meeting is an opportunity to receive reports from Boards and Committees, ask questions, and participate with the elected leaders of the congregation in administering the affairs of the congregation. An Agenda is published on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

JOIN US TODAY from 3-6 for games, "Stump the Congregation" and a light sloppy joe supper. Bring your favorite board game, or plan to challenge someone to ping pong, foosball, or air hockey. Will you take up the challenge to "Stump the congregation"? Hope to see you there.



YOU ARE INVITED to the 2024 LWML – Iowa East District Convention, June 21–22, 2024 at the Radisson Hotel, 1200 Collins Rd, Cedar Rapids, IA. The Convention theme is SHOUT IT OUT! PRAISE THE LORD! (*Isaiah 12:5 ESV*) The Westgate and Williamsburg Zones are hosting the convention. Information about the convention can be found in the Narthex and in the Parish Hall. Pick up a copy and make plans to attend.