

Christ the King Lutheran Church
5th Sunday after Easter, May 2, 2021
Turn to FM Channel 96.1

PRELUDE

Christ Is Living

arr. Karin Larsen

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

(Sung to the tune for "*Love Divine All Loves Excelling*")

- 1 Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.**
- 2 Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.**
- 3 Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna, ev'ryone!**

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936 Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

READING: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

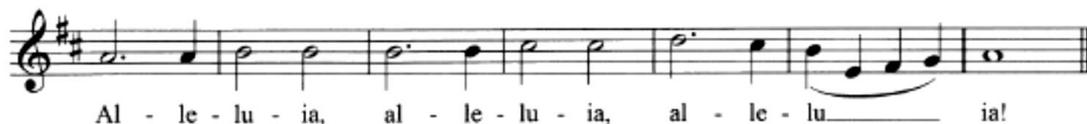
For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Word of God Word of life. **Thanks be to God**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING: John 15:1-8

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can

do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

"A Well-Tended Garden & A Wilderness Road"

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Blessed Spring

(Sung to tune for "*Creator Spirit Heavenly Dove*")

- 1 O blessed spring, where word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine:
here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life-giving Tree.**
- 2 Through summer heat of youthful years, uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
sustained by Christ's infusing rain, the boughs will shout for joy again.**
- 3 When autumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their heavy harvest hold,
then through us, warm, the Christ will move with gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.**
- 4 As winter comes, as winters must, we breathe our last, return to dust;
still held in Christ, our souls take wing and trust the promise of the spring.**
- 5 Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, be praised for this blest mystery:
that word and water thus revive and join us to your Tree of Life.**

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 Text © 1993 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

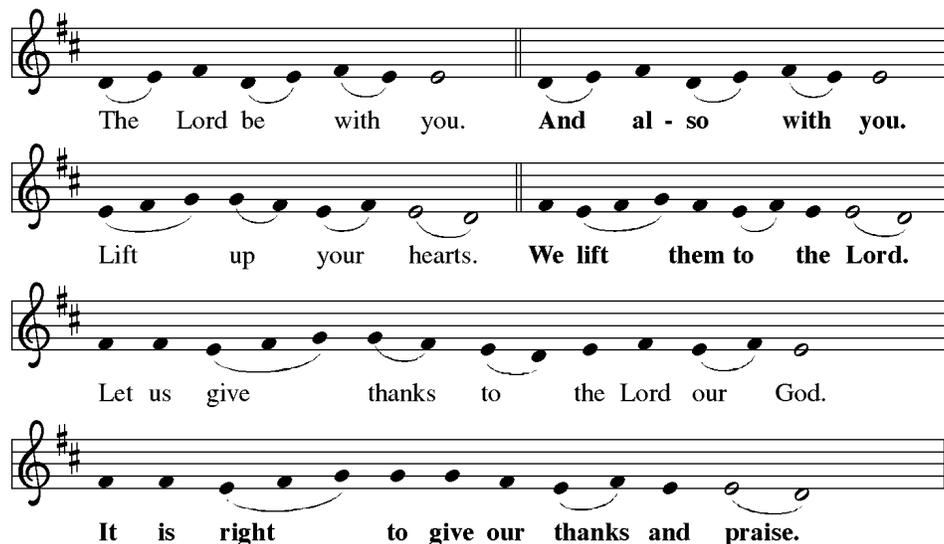
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING *Give by mobile: Text "GIVE" to 320-313-1815, by mail or on our website – www.ctkb.org/generosity/
If you have brought your offering with you – you may hand it to an usher as you drive out – thank you!*

HONKING THE PEACE

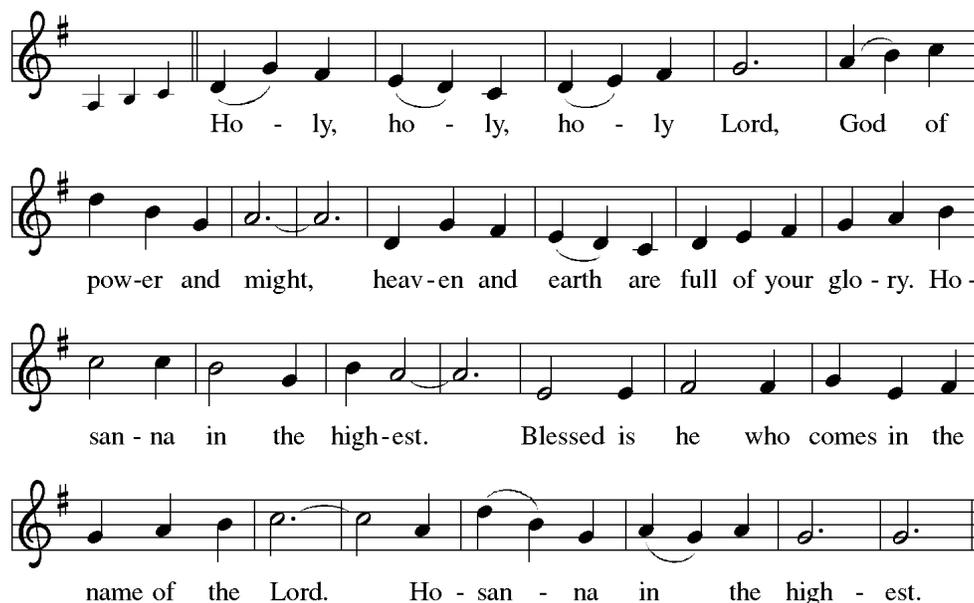
PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE Response: **Make us one in you.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

It is right. . . . as we praise your name and join their unending hymn



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN

Now the Green Blade Rises

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; love lives again, that with the dead has been; love is come again like wheat arising green.**

- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain, thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen; love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been; love is come again like wheat arising green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958 Text from *Oxford Book of Carols* © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

BLESSING AND SENDING

POSTLUDE

On Our Way Rejoicing

arr. Mark Sedio

Worship Leaders

Preaching	Pastor Rory Philstrom
Presiding	Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert
Children's Message	Brittany McDonald
Lector/Prayers	Florence Smallfield
Organist/Music Director	Bjorn Gustafson
Special Music	Members of the Trinity Choir

In your prayers this week, please remember:

- **Continuing Prayers:** Laurie Youmans (sister-in-law of Pam Jaye & Karen Youmans), Lois Torvik, Steve Casperson, Pastor Jim Knutson, Jaden Hanson (relative of Lorie Aljoe), Pastor Dave Valen, Char Weidenbach, Miriam Hecht, John Peterson (brother of Jim Stoll), Laura Grondin (Shirley Smith's daughter), Tom Turrso (friend of Jim Stoll's), Carol Trewartha, Dick Jackson, Eugene Jaster (brother of Sharon Wood), Cal & Barb Vraa, Bev Johnson, Barb Rhodes, Pat Andersen and Nancy Meecham
- Jill Hollenback and all who are homebound
- Rev. Philip and Lou-Marie Knutson, South Africa; Rev. Dorcas Wang, China and Peace Center for the Blind in Jerusalem
- Diakonia AIDS Ministry, Soweto, Johannesburg, South Africa

<p style="text-align: center;">May Worship at CTK</p> <p>5/9 – Drive-In Worship 5/16 – Drive-In Worship - Confirmation 5/23 – Drive-In Worship – Pentecost 5/30 – Memorial Day Weekend - Online</p> <p>Drive-In worship will start at 9:30am and will take place in the CTK parking lot. Come rain or shine!! There will continue to be an online worship component for those who cannot safely attend.</p> <p>There will be a designated lawn chair area in the parking lot (so bring your favorite chair) if you would like to sit outside. Stay after worship for fellowship in the parking lot or in our courtyard. Bring your own coffee and catch up with your friends and community!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bryant Park Community Garden</p> <p>If you want to rent a garden box this summer: Cost is \$20.00 a season for the new larger boxes and \$10.00 for the old smaller boxes. Click on the link, stop by the office for a form or go to our website https://www.ctkb.org/news/bryant-park-community-garden.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Help Is Needed! May 2nd</p> <p>If you can stay after worship help is still needed putting the new garden boxes in place and moving dirt. Dress appropriately and bring your work gloves. Any questions call the office and thank you!!</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Plant Sale Pickup</p> <p>Gerten's giftcards and plants will be available for pick up from the courtyard on Tuesday, May 11th in the evening. Watch for times to get your plants and cards. Thank you for your support!!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Confirmation Sunday</p> <p>This year our 8th graders will be confirmed on Ascension Sunday – May 16th. Join us for a drive-in service at 9:30a to celebrate and welcome our new confirmands!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CTK Foundation Reminder:</p> <p>The scholar-ship deadline is coming up on May 15th to apply to any ELCA college or university. Visit the website to apply. We will need both the application and recommendation forms.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative - Tuesday, May 11th, 5-6:00pm Save the Date!</p> <p>Christ the King and St Stephen Lutheran Church are teaming up to host a special virtual presentation by Craig Freeman, of Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative. As Community Connections Manager, Craig shares Beacon’s vision that all people have a home, no exceptions, with both future and current Beacon leaders and supporters.</p> <p>Beacon is an interfaith collaborative of congregations (including CTK) that joins efforts together to achieve more than we could separately. Each congregation brings unique strengths, perspectives, resources and passion to our common vision, that all people have a home. As a collaborative of congregations united in action, we create homes and advance equitable housing. Beacon staff helps to strengthen the capacity of congregations to act on their faith and values to shelter families, develop home and address policy issues related to affordable housing and homelessness. To learn more about Beacon, please join us on Zoom! If you have questions or need help using Zoom, don’t let that stop you! Peggy Indahl, pindahl@msn.com or Chris Gabel, sheltievetmn@gmail.com are happy to help!</p> <p>Please watch this short video about Beacon before attending: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3c8XZZKTmJ8&t=87s</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting a little early at 4:55: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89056188223?pwd=WStTV0k2WU5LUVJBcks0eSswM2I0Zz09 Meeting ID: 890 5618 8223 Passcode: 286219</p>		

May Family Fun Event

Due to weather, the April Family Fun Event is being moved to **Sunday, May 9th from 3-4:30 pm**. Come and make a plant gift for your favorite Mom, Grandma, or woman in your life as we celebrate Mother's Day. Maybe even leave Mom at home (for some much-needed alone time) and come back with a plant for her! Here is the new link to sign-up:

<https://forms.gle/vwgYuvGoprN4YYgX6>

May Gift of Love - Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Greetings! I am honored to be a candidate in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) 2021 Man & Woman of the Year fundraising campaign. This is a unique opportunity to unite family, friends, and philanthropic companies to find cures for blood cancers and assist patients and families as they battle these diseases. Like many of you, I have witnessed first-hand the effects of cancer on its victims and their families.

From March 11- May 21, my team, "Delores's Dynamos" aims to raise \$50,000. If we reach this goal, a research grant in memory of my mother, Delores Sommers, will be established! We are half-way into the campaign and on track to meet our goal. I invite you to be part of our success!

Please consider making a difference by:

- A simple tax-deductible donation to LLS in any amount will be greatly appreciated. Every dollar counts!

Find info & donate: <https://pages.lls.org/mwoy/mn/MN21/ctillotson>.

You can also mail a check to the address below. Please make checks out to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and list my name in the memo line.

- On this page you will find additional opportunities to be involved: see if your workplace will match your donation, get a handmade, decorative sign as a gift with your donation, sign up for our cornhole tournament, round-up your order at the A&W in Faribault, and/or become a sponsor of my campaign!

Gratefully,

Carolyn Sommers Tillotson

2021 Woman of the Year Candidate

11101 Goodrich Circle, Bloomington, MN 55437, carolynsommers@gmail.com

This Memorial Day weekend – May 30th - we will return to online worship together with our whole synod one more time. It will be an opportunity to lean into our commitment to hear more from preachers of color as the Good News will come from one of our partners in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Digital Schedule!

Sundays

9:30am – Sunday online Worship Posted on YouTube, Facebook, and www.ctkb.org/services/

There will be no coffee hour when we have Drive-In Worship

Daily

10am - Digital Devotional on Facebook Live (Monday-Thursday)

Written Devotionals via email or at <https://www.ctkb.org/blog>

Tuesdays

2pm - Community Announcements via Constant Contact

Wednesdays

10:30am Bible Study on Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/894811971?pwd=aG9lNmpTRTJyeGtzQWtNaDZibEZxZz09>