



*Worship Folder for May 21, 2023*

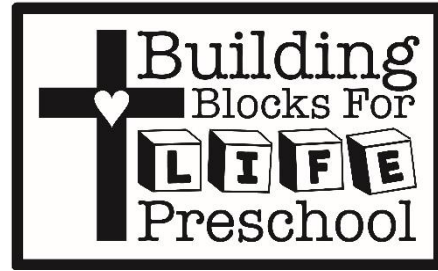
Christ Lutheran Church

32962 Vickers St, NE

Cambridge, MN

[www.christcambridge.com](http://www.christcambridge.com)

Find us on Facebook @ Christ Lutheran Church – Cambridge, MN



## **WELCOME TO CHRIST!**

We are so glad that you joined us to worship our Lord Jesus today, and welcome to our church! Christ is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We have been gathering around Word and sacrament since 1976. Our pastor would be happy to answer your questions about our service, our beliefs, or communicant membership in our congregation. Please join us again soon!

## **INFORMATION**

**Our restrooms** are located by going to the right out of the sanctuary doors and proceeding down the hallway. They are at the end of the hallway on the right. There is also a **family restroom** with a changing station out the sanctuary doors to the left and around the corner.

**We love** hearing little ones in God's house but if you feel like your child needs a moment there are speakers to hear the service as well as books and toys in the entryway

**Our guest register** is located in the entryway. Please leave us a record of your visit and we will be glad to supply you with more information about our church.

**[www.christcambridge.com](http://www.christcambridge.com)**

**Pastor Sam Biebert**

Church: 763.689.5333

Cell: 701.471.0341

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**Sunday Service 9:00AM**

**Preschool Director Cliss Loescher**

School: 763.689.2230

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## SERVICE OF THE WORD

*This liturgy, found on page 38 in the red hymnal, offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word. Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.*

### PASTOR'S WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

### ON CHRIST'S ASCENSION I NOW BUILD | #173

*Please Stand.*

### GATHERING

**L:** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**L:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

### ABSOLUTION

**L:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** **Amen.**

### PRAISE & PRAYER

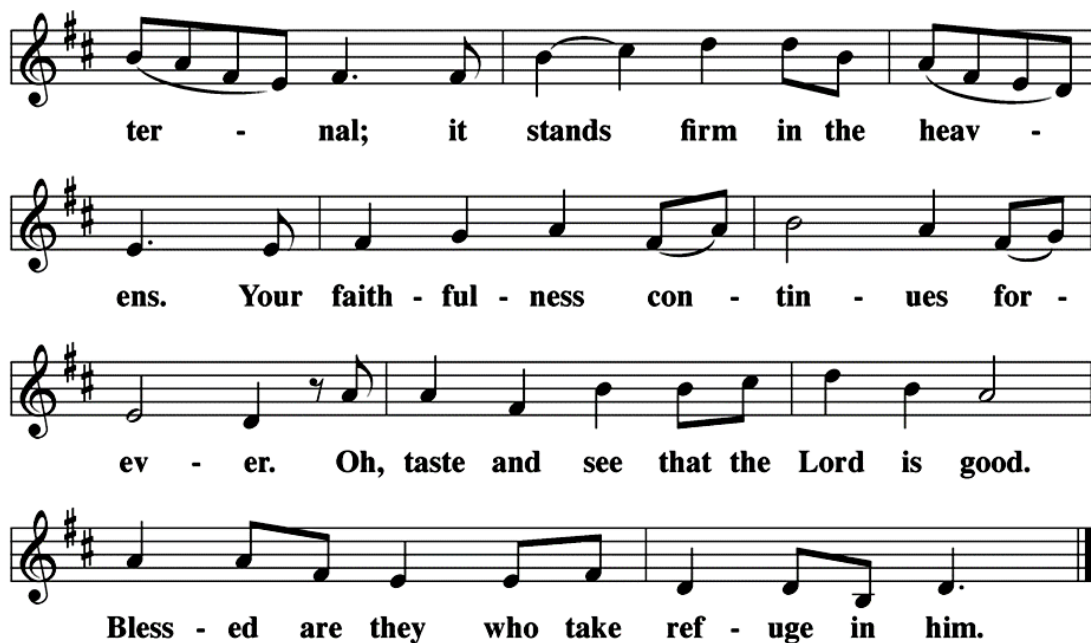
**L:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



**C:** **Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are**



**they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -**



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Let us pray.

**C: Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**



C: A - men.

*Please be seated.*



# THE WORD

**FIRST READING**

**Acts 1:1-11**

I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching <sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which you heard from me. <sup>5</sup> For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” <sup>6</sup> So when they were together with him, they asked, “Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the

kingdom to Israel?”<sup>7</sup> He said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority.<sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”<sup>9</sup> After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight.<sup>10</sup> They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them.<sup>11</sup> They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

## PSALM OF THE DAY

*Psalm 47 | pg. 85*

*“God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.”*



## SECOND READING

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

<sup>15</sup> This is why, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,<sup>16</sup> I never stop giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.<sup>17</sup> I keep praying that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, will give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Christ fully.<sup>18</sup> I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, just how rich his glorious inheritance among the saints is,<sup>19</sup> and just how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe.<sup>20</sup> It is as great as the working of his mighty strength, which God worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,<sup>21</sup> far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion, and above every name that is given, not only in this age but also in the one to come.<sup>22</sup> God also placed all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the church.<sup>23</sup> The church is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

**Matthew 28:20b**

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age. Alleluia.

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL

**Luke 24:44-53**

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.”<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.<sup>46</sup> He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,<sup>47</sup> and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.<sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.<sup>49</sup> Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”<sup>50</sup> He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them.<sup>51</sup> And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven.<sup>52</sup> So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.<sup>53</sup> They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.



**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Please be seated.*

## Hymn

[Across the Lands](#)

You're the Word of God the Father  
From before the world began  
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet  
Has been fashioned by Your hand.  
All creation holds together  
By the power of Your voice  
Let the skies declare Your glory  
Let the land and seas rejoice!

You're the Author of creation  
You're the Lord of ev'ry man  
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Yet You left the gaze of angels  
Came to seek and save the lost  
And exchanged the joy of heaven  
For the anguish of the cross.  
With a prayer You fed the hungry  
With a word You stilled the sea  
Yet how silently You suffered  
That the guilty may go free!

You're the Author of creation  
You're the Lord of ev'ry man  
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

With a shout You rose victorious  
Wresting vict'ry from the grave  
And ascended into heaven  
Leading captives in Your way  
Now You stand before the Father  
Interceding for Your own  
From each tribe and tongue and nation  
You are leading sinners home!

You're the Author of creation  
You're the Lord of ev'ry man  
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

You're the Author of creation  
You're the Lord of ev'ry man  
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

SERMON    **Luke 24:44-53**  
**“He Lives to Rule All Things for The Church”**

APOSTLES' CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

THANK OFFERING

1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

*The members of Christ Lutheran join together to do the Lord's work in Cambridge and throughout the world in our church body, the WELS. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry. ( You can also make use of online giving through the VancoMobile app or by going to the church's website ([www.christcambridge.com](http://www.christcambridge.com)) and selecting the “Donate” tab under “About” in the site menu.)*



**Offering:**

**Luke 24:44-53**

**Like a stone dropped in a lake, repentance and forgiveness have rippled out from Jerusalem to all nations, including to you today as you read this. God's witnesses continue to share the news of our ascended Savior. God uses us—our mouths, our prayers, our offerings given in thankful love—to spread that message.**

**PRAYER:**

**L: We begin today, O Lord, another day and another week of our lives. We reflect on the days now passed and marvel at your mercy. You have not treated us as our sins deserved, but have instead shown your love to us: forgiving our guilt, providing all that we need for body and life, protecting us from harm, disciplining us as your wisdom dictates, causing all things to serve our good.**

**C: We haven't always seen it that way or spoken with you or about you in ways that express that reality, but you have pardoned that also. Help us to seek your face so that we may daily experience your joy in our lives.**

L: Dear Savior, you experienced the opposition of wicked men during your ministry. You didn't deserve such treatment; that's just how unbelievers will sometimes react to your truth and holiness. It has always been that way, and you have told us that it will continue until you return in glory.

**C: Do not let us be surprised or overwhelmed by such difficulties that we face in our lives. Rather, give us the strength to live as you have called us to do in both the easy and difficult times of life so that you may be praised and your name may be proclaimed.**

L: Lord of the church, this week the leaders of our synod will meet to assign the graduates from our seminary to their first field of labor. Bless them with your Spirit so that they have the necessary wisdom and insight for this responsibility, the confidence that you will guide them as only you are able.

**C: As the graduates hear where they will be serving, bless them with the peace that comes from knowing you will be with them to bless them and the people they serve.**

L: Good Shepherd, another year of training your lambs in our school and Sunday School is rapidly drawing to a close. It has been a year with challenges, but also with great blessings. We thank you for all that you have done.

**C: Be with students and staff as they look forward to their summer break. May the next three months refresh them so that they are ready to resume their studies in the fall.**

L: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

L: Dear Savior, you live forever to make intercession for the saints. As you have promised, hear us when we call to you and cause the prayer you have taught us to be acceptable at the throne of grace:

#### LORD'S PRAYER

*Luke 11:1-4; Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.**

#### HYMN

**A HYMN OF GLORY LET US SING | #171**



## PRAYER

L: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### THE LORD'S BLESSING

*Numbers 6:24-26*

L: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



### CLOSING HYMN:

**DRAW US TO THEE | #170**

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