

APRIL 28, 2024 8 AM WORSHIP

# Nothing Without Christ

LSB DIVINE SERVICE ONE (P 151-166)

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

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**PRELUDE** Alleluia William Faulkes

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HYMN** *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* LSB # 465 (1-4)

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we**

**have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**INTROIT:** (Spoken Responsively)

*Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16*

A little while, and you will see me no longer;

**and again a little while, and you will see me.**

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.** Glory be to the Father and to the Son

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

as it was in the beginning,

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

A little while, and you will see me no longer;

**and again a little while, and you will see me.**

**KYRIE** (sung)

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation

let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS LSB 154**

L Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:**

**We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,**

**You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles. Grant us always to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your compassion, and praise Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**FIRST READING: ACTS 8:26–40(NLT)**

26 As for Philip, an angel of the Lord said to him, “Go south down the desert road that runs from Jerusalem to Gaza.” 27 So he started out, and he met the treasurer of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under the Kandake, the queen of Ethiopia. The eunuch had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28 and he was now returning. Seated in his carriage, he was reading aloud from the book of the prophet Isaiah. 29 The Holy Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and walk along beside the carriage.” 30 Philip ran over and heard the man reading from the prophet Isaiah. Philip asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 The man replied, “How can I, unless someone instructs me?” And he urged Philip to come up into the carriage and sit with him. 32 The passage of Scripture he had been reading was this: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter. And as a lamb is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. 33 He was humiliated and received no justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.” 34 The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, was the prophet talking about himself or someone else?” 35 So beginning with this same Scripture, Philip told him the Good News about Jesus. 36 As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look! There’s some water! Why can’t I be baptized?” 38 He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. 40 Meanwhile, Philip found himself farther north at the town of Azotus. He preached the Good News there and in every town along the way until he came to Caesarea.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING: 1 JOHN 4:1–21 (NLT)**

34 Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world. 2 This is how we know if they have the Spirit of God: If a person claiming to be a prophet[a] acknowledges that Jesus Christ came in a real body, that person has the Spirit of God.

3 But if someone claims to be a prophet and does not acknowledge the truth about Jesus, that person is not from God. Such a person has the spirit of the Antichrist, which you heard is coming into the world and indeed is already here. 4 But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world. 5 Those people belong to this world, so they speak from the world's viewpoint, and the world listens to them. 6 But we belong to God, and those who know God listen to us. If they do not belong to God, they do not listen to us. That is how we know if someone has the Spirit of truth or the spirit of deception. 7 Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. 8 But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. 10 This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

11 Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. 12 No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us. 13 And God has given us his Spirit as proof that we live in him and he in us. 14 Furthermore, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 All who declare that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God. 16 We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. 17 And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. 18 Such love has no fear, because perfect love

expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. 19 We love each other because he loved us first. 20 If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? 21 And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **ANTHEM A Jubilant Song**

Cantate Domino canticum novum.

Sing to the Lord a new jubilant song!

Cantate Domino canticum novum omnis terra. Sing to the Lord all the earth!

Let the sea roar and the floods clap their hands. Let the hills sing together for joy.

Let the heavens and the earth all rejoice

For the Lord is greatly to be praised.

Proclaim God's salvation; declare God's great glory. Lift up a jubilant song and make joyful noise!

### **Mary Lynn Lightfoot**

Traditional Latin and the Psalms

### **ALLELUIA AND VERSE (Sung) p 156 (Stand and Sing)**

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

### **HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8 (NLT)**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15th chapter. **C Glory to You, O Lord.**

15 “I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. 3 You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you.

4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. 5 “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned.

7 But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! 8 When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Matt Fischer, Dir. Of Family Life Ministries

**HYMN** *Christ is Arisen* LSB #488 (1-3)

## **SERMON**

**Nothing Without Christ**

**Pastor Lane Reuter**

John 15:1-8 (NLT)

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH P 159**

## **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.**

## **BENEDICTION**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

**C Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN *Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won* LSB #490 (1-5)**

1 Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!  
Death no longer can appall me;  
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!  
From the grave Christ will recall me.  
Brighter scenes will then commence;  
This shall be my confidence.

2 Jesus lives! To Him the throne  
High above all things is given.  
I shall go where He is gone,  
Live and reign with Him in heaven.  
God is faithful; doubtings, hence!  
This shall be my confidence.

3 Jesus lives! For me He died.  
Hence will I, to Jesus living,  
Pure in heart and act abide,  
Praise to Him and glory giving.



All I need God will dispense;  
This shall be my confidence.

4 Jesus lives! I know full well  
Nothing me from Him shall sever,  
Neither death nor pow'rs of hell  
Part me now from Christ forever.  
God will be my sure defense;  
This shall be my confidence.

5 Jesus lives! And now is death  
But the gate of life immortal;  
This shall calm my trembling breath  
When I pass its gloomy portal.  
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense;  
Jesus is my confidence!

**POSTLUDE** *Jesus, meine Zuversicht (LSB 490, 741)* LSB #490 (1-5)

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