

Alleluia!

The 6th Sunday of Easter

Worship at 9:30 a.m. May 14, 2023

Gathering

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

*Our worship order is contained in this booklet. The people's parts are indicated by **bold** type. The red hardback hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, is our main worship resource for hymns and song. You can find hymns in the second half of the book, and are numbered at the top of each hymn. Occasionally, worship may veer from the printed bulletin – just follow the Spirit!*

A warm welcome whether you are joining us in-house or by social media. Our prayer is that worship today will be a blessing as we sing and pray and hear God's Word together. We welcome you to the Lord's Table this morning. Christ Church is a family of faith deeply rooted in our upper Bucks communities, supporting one another in faith, working together to serve God.

Please take this weekly resource home with you – use it to take notes, jot down reminders, pray, remember dates. You can call (215.766.8730) or email (christpipersville@gmail.com) for prayer needs. In an emergency, please call the parsonage at 267-362-8129.

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS / THE PRELUDE

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

We are gathered in the name of the Father, + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

In baptism, by water and the Word, God liberates us from sin and death,
joining us to the resurrection life of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May God's Easter promise be renewed in us

as we make confession, proclaim our faith and renew our baptismal covenant.

-Silence -

Loving God: **You guide us in right paths, You lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have gone our own ways. Forgive us where we have not listened for Your voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world. Guide us to love You by loving our neighbors. For the sake of Christ our Good Shepherd forgive us and empower us by His resurrection power to enter the narrow gate and walk in Your way, Amen.**

We have confessed our sin.

In Easter hope do you reject the devil and all his empty promises,
renouncing the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I do, by the grace of God, and the power of the resurrection.

Walking with God's people, will you seek His ways,
showing His saving grace by faith-filled word and action?

We will, by the grace of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, hear the good news: God raised Jesus from the dead so that we might have forgiveness of our sins, and live in faith and hope. By the precious blood of Christ, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven! Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and praise our Father in heaven.

Blessed be God, forever! Alleluia! Amen!

WE SING THE GATHERING HYMN: ELW #631, LOVE DIVINE



1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
 3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
 4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
 trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
 life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
 let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
 find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
 more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
 ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
 Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
 its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
 crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

GREETING

The grace of the risen Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE: THIS IS THE FEAST



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *Silence- The Prayer of the Day is offered. We join our hearts in silent prayer. It concludes: ... one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Word

THE FIRST LESSON is from the Acts of the Apostles, the 17th chapter. (Acts 17:22-31)

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world

judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.” The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for Reflection

PSALM 66 is read responsively.

⁸Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹**Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹**You brought us in to the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³**I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷**I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹**but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me. **Amen.**

Silence for Reflection

THE SECOND LESSON is from 1 Peter, the third chapter. (1 Peter 3:13-22)

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON SONG: #364, vs 1 *before the Gospel*

**Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.**

Refrain:

*Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!*

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to John, the 14th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!** (John 14:15-21)

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

RESPONSE:

"Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.

He has arisen this world to save.

Jesus' redeeming labors are done.

Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.

Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia!

Jesus is living, alleluia!

TEACHING THE WORD / SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #613, THY HOLY WINGS



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

We confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
And 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again 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.

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

*We join our hearts in prayer for one another, those in need, and all of God's creation. Each petition concludes: '...in your mercy **Hear our prayer**'*

The prayers conclude:

In your mercy, O God, hear our prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our great and Good Shepherd.

Amen.

Meal

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

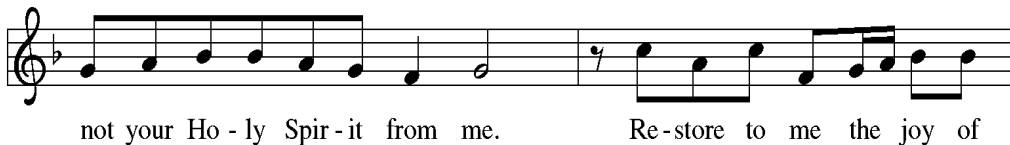
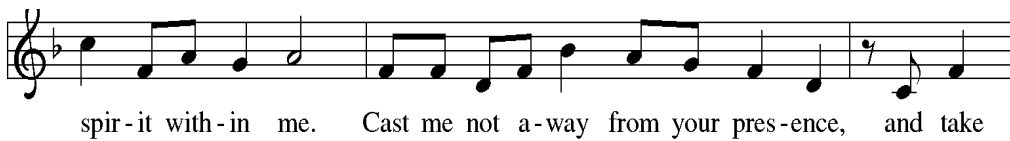
And also with you.

COLLECTION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God's gifts and mercies. In-House the offering plate is set by the baptismal font. In house or joining us online, tithes and offerings may be gathered and given by mail, given online at christpipersville.org or using the QR code.



THE OFFERTORY



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. *silence* Living God,

You gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together

in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table.

**Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and risen Lord. Amen.**

We join our hearts in silent prayer as the Table is prepared.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 our right, our duty, and our great joy to thank and praise You, O God
for the glorious resurrection of our Lord.

By his death he has destroyed death,
and by his rising has brought us to new and eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter,
with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending song:

**Holy are you, Lord! Holy are you, God of power and might!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory!**

Blessed is He who comes in the Name of our God!
Hosanna in the highest!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, O God, the wellspring of all holiness.

We praise you for the gift of creation, the work of your hands,
so wondrously formed in holiness and beauty.

When humanity turned away in sin you restored us
by the cross and resurrection of Jesus.

That in forgiveness and joy we might thrive, giving thanks and remembering:

That on the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup and gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In obedience and thanksgiving, we remember the great and mighty acts of God, and proclaim the mystery and
promise of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Proclaiming all glory and honor is yours through the Holy Spirit, O God,
we offer our prayer in the name of Christ,
who taught us 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.

THE AGNUS DEI: JUST AS I AM, #592

Just as I am, without one plea / but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee / O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown / hath broken every barrier down;
now, to be thine, yea thine alone / O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

THE COMMUNION

We share in the Lord's Body and Blood. All who believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, and that He is truly present in the forms of bread and wine are invited to commune. You are welcome-this is the Lord's Table and He invites you! If you have taken an elements cup and prefer to commune where you are seated, please commune at any time after the invitation. The elements are offered with the words: "The Body of Christ given for you" and "The Blood of Christ shed for you". The recipient may respond "Amen".

The hymn during communion is #481, Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Following communion there is time for prayer and reflection as the altar is cleared and the chalice vested.
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Eternal God, living Savior, **All of creation sings for joy at the risen life of Jesus. Fill our hearts with your power and peace, and send us forth renewed and rejoicing to be a blessing to the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, we pray. Amen!**

Sending

THE BENEDICTION

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 peace. **Amen.**

THE SENDING HYMN ELW #392, ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS

- 1 **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by his blood."**
- 2 **Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us;
faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise:
"I am with you evermore"?**
- 3 **Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.**
- 4 **Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.
As within the veil you entered,
robed in flesh, our great high priest,
here on earth both priest and victim
in the eucharistic feast.**
- 5 **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by his blood."**

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace, and tell the news that Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THE POSTLUDE

WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS:

The ordo is the traditional liturgy of Holy Communion.

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Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Marie L. Caron, pastor
the people of Christ Church, ministers
Mrs. Cindy Carper, Secretary
Mrs. Kim Campbell, Council President

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP can be seen on Facebook Live and Zoom. Watch your email for links to the live-streamed service and the recorded service to be posted to our website (www.christpipersville.org).

FELLOWSHIP HOST: Debra Moench

THE MAY WEB SITE is sponsored by Susan Bechtold in memory of Henry and Randy Bechtold.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored by Susan Bechtold in honor of her daughter, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS –The prayer list is printed in the newsletter and is posted on the bulletin board. Please contact the church office, 215-766-8730 or e-mail, with any prayer needs. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month unless a new request is made.

JUNE/JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is TODAY. Please place any news items in Cindy's mailbox or email the church office. If you have a graduating high school or college senior in your household, please let us know their name, school, degree, future plans, etc. for inclusion in the newsletter. Thank you.

BLESSINGS BY THE BOX: This program helps local Tinicum Elementary families facing food insecurity during the summer months. We have 6 families (28 people total) in need of assistance this year and have collected \$585.00 so far. You may place your donations in the basket by the sanctuary doors or place cash or check in a marked envelope and drop it in the offering plate or church office. Deadline is May 31st.

FELLOWSHIP PERIOD hosts are needed. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

The Week of May 14th at a Glance

Sun. 5/14 The 6th Sunday of Easter
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Sunday School
10:30AM Fellowship Period
Newsletter Deadline
Happy Mother's Day!

Wed. 5/17 7:00PM Ensemble

Thur. 5/18 8:30AM Morning Prayer, 9:00AM Bible Study
Happy Birthday, TJ Ziegler!

Fri. 5/19 Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
Happy Birthday, Rebecca Harmon!

Sun. 5/21 The 7th Sunday of Easter
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Sunday School
10:30AM Fellowship Period
3-5PM Girl Scouts