



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE ATONEMENT

1285 North New Florissant Road, Florissant, Missouri 63031

Church: (314) 837-1224 School/Child Care: (314) 837-1252

www.alcs-web.com

Sunday, April 28, 2024

8:15 a.m.

Welcome to Worship at Atonement

- ***We are delighted to have you worship at Atonement today. Wherever you are on your journey of faith and life, we extend to you a warm welcome. May the Holy Spirit richly bless your worship.***
- We invite you to fill out the attendance form in the bulletin and hand it to the ushers when coming forward for Holy Communion. If you are a guest with us this morning, please leave some contact information so we can get in touch with you about how to connect with what's going on in this faith community.
- Sound enhancement receivers for the hearing-impaired and those with hearing aids are available. Large print worship folders are also available. Please ask an usher prior to the service.
- We welcome to the Lord's Table all Baptized Christians who commune in their home parish and who wish to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. Those with questions about the meaning of Holy Communion or who wish a private confession and absolution should contact a pastor during the week prior to communing.
- Both individual cups and the chalice (common cup) are now offered to communicants. The chalice is available only for intinction (dipping the host into the wine). The darker wine in the center of the tray is non-alcoholic. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the pastor. Those desiring a blessing may fold their arms across their chests.
- The congregation responds with those portions in **bold** print.
- Please turn off all cell phones and pagers and refrain from flash photography.

Sunday Education at Atonement

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Dismissed today after the second reading during the 8:15 a.m. service. For ages 3 through 12 years.

ADULT FORUM: Continues with "*24 Hours That Changed the World*" by Adam Hamilton. Meets at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel.

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSONS:

Acts 10:44-48; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship,
Fifth Sunday of Easter*

PRELUDE: *At the Lamb's High Feast* - Michael Burkardt

+ + + **GATHERING** + + +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The assembly kneels or remains seated.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes us new through the gift of baptism and showers us with a flood of grace.

Amen.

Resting in our baptismal identity as beloved children of God, let us confess the ways we have fallen short of God's hopes for creation.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace,

We confess that we have broken the promises made at baptism.

We are caught in cycles of sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have not lived in solidarity with your people.

We have exploited the beauty of the earth and hoarded your gifts.

We have failed to see your face in those with whom we disagree.

We speak when we ought to listen.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We wait for others to heal the hurts we cause.

We believe the labels we place on each other rather than seeing others as beloved by you.

We have not lived as you intend, and we are sorry.

For all these things, and those things only you know, we humbly repent and seek your forgiveness.

Amen.

Good news, beloved!

God is endlessly merciful, rich in grace, and overflowing with forgiveness.

We have been caught in the current of God's love, and God makes us new,

Forgiving us and renewing the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The assembly stands.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE “This is the Feast”

Refrain
Assisting minister

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

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.

The assembly is seated.

Choir Anthem: King Jesus Is Risen --- Price/Besig

+ + + **WORD** + + +

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

A reading from Acts.

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.

R Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31

The psalm for the day is spoken responsively.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,**

who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,**

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21

A reading from 1 John.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

R Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

Children are dismissed to Sunday School.

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

P The holy gospel according to John.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Delaney Schlake-Kruse

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY # 508

"As Rain from the Clouds"

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes: Hear us, O God, Your mercy is great.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet each other with a sign of peace and may say "Peace be with you" or similar words. Then the assembly is seated.

+++ MEAL +++

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.
The gifts of our tithes and offerings are presented and the altar is prepared
for the Lord's Supper.*

The assembly stands as the gifts are brought forward.

OFFERING SONG ELW 374

“Day of Arising” (verses 1 and 3)

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
C Amen.

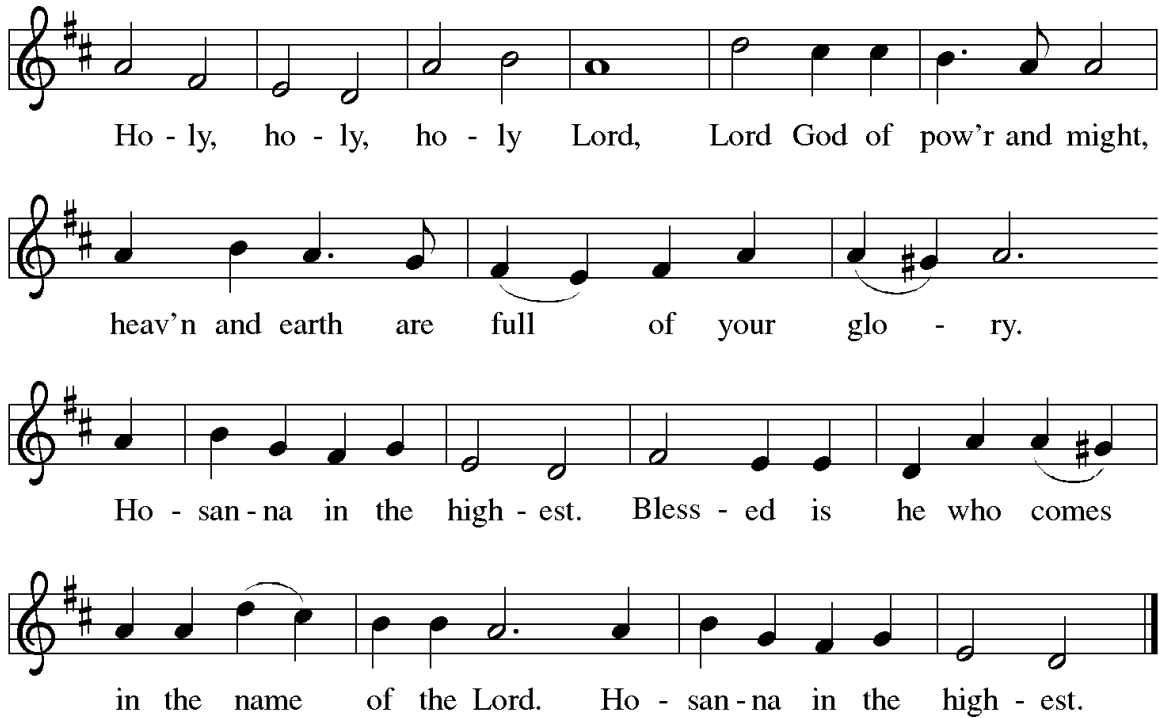
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God...
... and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You came into this world,
lived among us,
feeding the hungry, healing the sick,
and showing all the world how deep God's love can be.

You triumphed over death,
Making it clear that the end is never the end,
Bringing abundant life and joy for all creation.

In the night in which 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, 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We remember Christ's life, death, and resurrection,
As we share this bread of healing and cup of salvation.

**We give thanks to you, almighty God,
not as we ought but as we are able.
and we trust that you receive our praise and thanksgiving.
We ask your Holy Spirit to fall fresh upon your people throughout the earth,
As well as these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people.
Amen! Alleluia!**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.

C Come and eat at God's table.

The assembly is seated.

COMMUNION SONGS

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONGS

ACS 939 *“Touch That Soothes and Heals”* printed on page 15

ELW 461 *“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”*

ELW 478 *“Father We Thank Thee”*

The assembly stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

+++ **SENDING** +++

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG ELW 389

“Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing” vs. 1 & 5

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *O Sons and Daughters* - Lani Smith

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher.....	<i>Pastor Delaney Schlake-Kruse</i>
Presider.....	<i>Pastor Vern Skarstad</i>
Assisting Ministers.....	<i>(8:15)Jennifer Negwer, Brenda Blight;</i> <i>(10:45) Cathy Hohl, David Johnson</i>
Organist.....	<i>Cindy Vantine</i>
Choir Director.....	<i>Dr. Bruce Vantine</i>
Altar Guild.....	<i>Rick & Claire Brown, Verina Ruiz</i>
Greeters	<i>(8:15) Jane & Tim Mark; (10:45) Jane & Bill Meyerkord</i>
Counters	<i>Steve Rosenfeld, David Johnson, Melanie White</i>
Ushers.....	<i>(8:15)Don Meier, Chuck Graham, Don Posey;</i> <i>(10:45)David Johnson, Marge Purgahn, John Yetter</i>
Trustees.....	<i>(8:15)Jim Bunzel; (10:45)David Johnson</i>

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Deaths: Karen Sater (sister of Diane Ritchey)

Hospitalized or Ill: Bob Dempsey, Ginny Groves, Lisa Hackmeister, LaWanda Hackney, Shirl Henke, Jen Johnson, Chuck Luebke, Karen Meyer, Vivian Meyer, Maxine Pabst, Carol Peachee, Laura Ruhnke, Mary Ann Shelvy, Kelly Sullivan, Lyndsie Thurnau, Barb Wishon (*indicates new addition)

Our Loved Ones/Friends: Kathy Amido (sister-in-law of Kris Thompson), Neal Carlson (son of Gus and Thelma Carlson), Becky Cole (sister of Dave Cole), Ian Hawkins (son of Faith Brooks), Roger Limack (friend of Ginny Groves), Sean Madden (friend of Greg and Paula Viehman), Gail Mueller (sister-in-law of Barb Stoneburner), Pamela Rose, Richard Wishon, Carol Xenos, (friend of Jaimy Suydam)

Our chronically-ill and homebound loved ones and friends: Janice Bailey, Jean Beck, Jacki Bickel, Adeline Branahl, Teri Branchof, Gus and Thelma Carlson, Carol Hagger, Janice Martin, Nancy Marxkors, John Meyer, Pat Montabon, Cheryl Tucker

Don and Carol Rupparr, as they prepare to move to Iowa.

Flowers on the altar are from Mary Sue Warren in honor of Isabelle's 7th birthday.

Touch That Soothes and Heals

See My Hands and Feet



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that
 2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it
 3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's
 4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the
 ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and
 peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of
 wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:
 shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.
 kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.
 tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

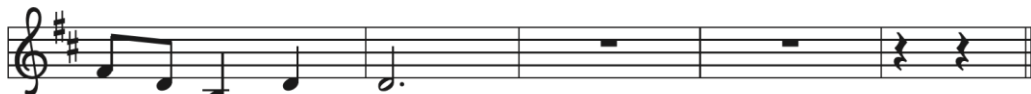
Refrain



“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, “live as



ones I died to save.”

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
 Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972
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OUR CONGREGATION

Atonement is a family of professing Christians who are in ministry to serve the Lord Jesus Christ. We have been in ministry since September 30, 1951. Atonement School has begun its 69th academic year with the mission statement "Teaching children of God the skills needed for a lifetime of learning, worshipping, and caring, so that the world see Jesus in them."

OUR AFFILIATIONS

We are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and support local ministries including Lutheran Family and Children's Services, Humanitri, Lutheran High Schools, LuMin Campus Ministry, PAKT, and The Emergency Assistance Ministry (TEAM).

OUR TEAM

Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse
Senior Pastor (414) 292-6164
SeniorPastor@alcs-web.com

Rev. Vern T. Skarstad
Visitation Pastor, (314) 570-0751

Bruce and Cindy Vantine
Ministers of Music

Jim Baumgartner, Worship, Too!
jimstrat@aol.com, (314) 488-6903

Cathy Mifflin
Parish Administrator, (314) 837-1224
cathy.mifflin@alcs-web.com

Wesley Johnson
Minister of Maintenance

Kimberly Kern
Principal, (314) 837-1252

Angie Kemper
School Secretary, (314) 837-1252
Child Care (314) 837-1252

Parish Nurses: Joyce Pingel, L.P.N., (314) 740-2137
Tafra Perryman, R.N., (618) 581-1387

OUR CALENDAR

This Weekend, Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:15 a.m. Holy Communion Worship

Sunday School

9:25 Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. Adult Forum

9:30 a.m. Confirmation in Small Meeting Room

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Worship, Joyful Noiz

Monday, April 29

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi

7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, April 30

Wednesday, May 1

8:45 a.m. Chapel, All Welcome!

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study

Thursday, May 2

9:30 a.m. Bible & Breakfast

Friday, May 3

Valley of the Flowers Weekend

Saturday, May 4

9:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study

Men's Club BBQ This Weekend!

Saturday, 11 - 7 / Sunday, 12 - 7

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