



April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter



This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the

Good Morning and Welcome!

If you are an online worshiper or guest today, please leave a record of your time with us online. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Bread of Life from With One Voice
** Please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE “Shall We Gather at the River” (Dale Wood)

Melanie Payne, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE (8:30)

INVOCATION (11:00) “1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Jesus Christ Is Now Alive”

Cherub Choir
Bonnie Flowers, Director

*THANKSGIVING OF BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden’s verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom’s land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus’ death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

*THE GREETING

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

And also with you.

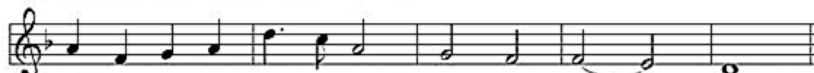
*THE KYRIE



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



Ⓑ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: ⓑ Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



Ⓒ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

*HYMN OF PRAISE



ⓐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



ⓑ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



ⓐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



ⓑ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

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.

[C] Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

[I] 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.

[C] Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's people on earth, and peace to God's people on earth.

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

THE FIRST LESSON

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.

THE PSALM

Psalm 22:25-31

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!”

THE SECOND LESSON

1 John 4:7-21

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Chris Berry

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go"



*THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*THE GOSPEL

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.

THE SERMON

*HYMN: "We Know That Christ is Raised"

ELW 449 /LBW 189



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924
Text © John B. Geyer.

*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, 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

***THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

God of Grace, hear our prayer.

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you. And also with you.

THE OFFERING

Piano Solo (8:30): "Morning Has Broken" (Bunessan/W. Haviland)

Choir Anthem (11:00): "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song" (P. Cutts)

***THE OFFERTORY: "Let the Vineyards be Fruitful, Lord"**

Let the vine-yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, Lord,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

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.

Amen.

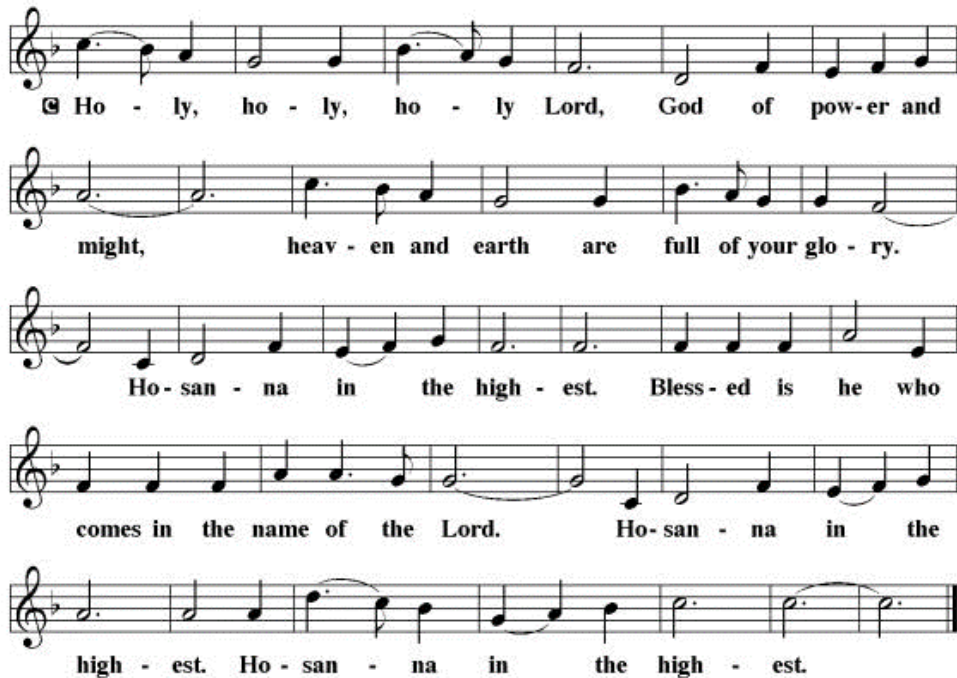
***GREAT THANKSGIVING & PREFACE**

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.

*THE SANCTUS: "Holy, Holy, Holy"




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. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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



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.

THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "Let All Things Now Living"

ELW 881



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



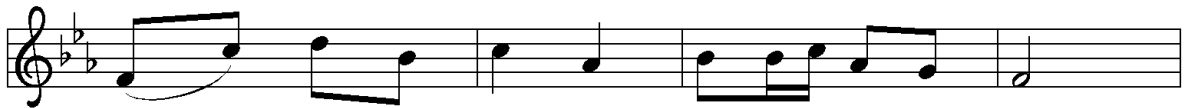
for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

HYMN: "Now the Green Blade Rises"

ELW 379



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958
 Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
 Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

HYMN: "Awake, O Sleeper" (not printed)

WOV (Blue Hymnal) 745

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (8:30): “1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Jesus Christ Is Now Alive” Cherub Choir

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (11:00): “Thankful Hearts”

Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God,
and lead us forth in joy with shouts
of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows a musical score for a canticle. It consists of six staves of music in a single system, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a square box containing the number '1'. The music is written in a simple, accessible style with various note values and rests.

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*THE BLESSING



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN; *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
 Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE "Little Prelude in F" (JS Bach)

WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Online worshipers should refer to names given during “Prayers of the Church”

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Andrew King in celebration of his mother Susan’s birthday and Claire Strand in love and appreciation for the beautiful blessing and retirement celebration.

ALL ARE INVITED to enjoy coffee and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall after both services.

A NURSERY, staffed by Sarah Walker, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE starting May 26 and ending July 28, MLC will have a single Sunday morning Service of Worship at 9:30 a.m fellowship following the service. The Adult Sunday School will meet at 8:30 a.m. and Coffee fellowship will follow the service.

A TOWN HALL MEETING will take place next today, in the Fellowship Hall. Council leaders will review the May 5 Congregation Meeting agenda and provide updates on MLC’s current financials, demographics, and possible endowments. Round table discussions on use of parsonage sale proceeds are also planned.

CONGREGATION MEETING MAY 5 with elections immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service. All confirmed members should plan to attend. Notices were sent Thursday.

A “CINCO DE MAYO” CHURCH POTLUCK is planned for May 5 immediately after the Congregation Meeting. Use the QR code on the next page to sign up to volunteer and say what you will bring.

BLESSING BASKETS for MLC’s five high school graduates are ready to be filled in the Narthex with items a young adult needs in the next chapter of their lives. Deadline to bring items is May 19 before the 8:30 a.m. service. There’s also a tag on each one to write a quick blessing for them.

COME, VOLUNTEER FOR MUSIC CAMP 2024 Both adults and older youth are needed. Please see the *MLC E-Messenger* for information and a link to the Music Camp online volunteer form.

Registration continues for Music Camp! we currently have over 21 campers registered for the June 3 - June 9 camp with plenty of room for more happy campers. Camp details and registration links can be found at www.musiccamp.mlutheran.org Questions? Contact the church office.

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - 4 oz. Bars of Soap **FOOD PANTRY** - Cereal

<u>Pastor</u>	Kristine Schroeder	<u>Acolytes</u>	Greyson Pitchko (8:30)
<u>Director of Music</u>	Randall Fields		Jude Williams (11:00)
<u>Organist/Accompanist</u>	Melanie Payne	<u>Greeters</u>	Steve & Linda Peirce (8:30)
<u>Communication & Tech Director</u>	Meredith Kilby	<u>Lector</u>	Joe Huwaldt (8:30)
<u>Office Managers</u>	Bobbey Huwaldt		Mike Mabry (11:00)
	Meredith Kilby	<u>Ushers</u>	Joe Huwaldt, Owen Wasmoen (8:30)
<u>Nursery Attendant</u>	Sarah Walker		Bill Hollbrook, Bruce Machamer(11:00)
		<u>Cantor</u>	Andrew King
		<u>Altar Guild</u>	LeeLinda Baggett (8:30)
			Pat Esteppe (11:00)
		<u>Stream Team</u>	Meredith Kilby, Paul Zutter(11:00)
		<u>Flower Guild</u>	Linda Heideman

Pastor Kris Schroeder

Email: pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

Pastor Cell Phone: 480-338-6519

Pastor’s Office Hours are M-W

MLC staff will never directly solicit you for funds.

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, April 28

- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for All Ages
- 9:45 a.m. - Town Hall in Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 12:00 p.m. - Moe's Strawberry Picking
- 5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth Group
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella

Tuesday, April 30

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters

Wednesday, May 1

- 5:00 p.m. - Confirmation
- 6:00 p.m. - Cherub Choir, Seraph Choir
- 7:30 p.m. - Messiah Choir

Thursday, May 2

- 6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry

Sunday, May 5

- 8:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship: *LBW Setting Two* w/the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for All Ages
- 9:45 a.m. - Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. - *Service of Worship: *LBW Setting Two* w/the Lord's Supper
- 12:00 p.m. - Congregation Meeting with Elections - Sanctuary and Cinco De Mayo Potluck-Parrish Hall
- 5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth Group
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella

**These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

LOOKING AHEAD

May 19 - Sunday School (Pre-K to Gr. 12) last day, Pentecost Sunday, Affirmation of Baptism, and Graduate Blessings / Basket Presentations

May 26 - Summer Sunday Worship Schedule starts

June 3 - 9 - Messiah Music Camp Week with Presentation of "Say What?"

June 11 - 15 - Disaster Relief Mission Trip

June 17 - 20 - Vacation Bible School "Waves of Gratitude" @ St. Matthews Episcopal

Attendance:

April 14 - Online - 52 April 21 - 8:30 a.m. - 89, 11:00 a.m. - 102

Cinco de Mayo Picnic



Online Giving

