



# Community In Christ Lutheran Church

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*5th Sunday of Easter*

**April 28, 2024**

**11 AM**

*Welcome to worship at CIC! We are glad you are here today!  
Please fill out the black Friendship Pad and pass it down the row.  
If you are visiting with us, please let us know if there is anything you would like to  
learn about our family of faith.*

# 5th Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024

*\*You are invited to stand as able*

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>“Rejoice Greatly”</i>	Agape Bell Choir
<b>Welcome &amp; Announcements</b>		
<b>*Thanksgiving for Baptism</b>		
<b>*Opening Song</b>	<i>“Take Me to the Water”</i>	ACS 957
<b>*Greeting</b>		
<b>*Kyrie</b>		ELW p. 147
<b>*Canticle of Praise</b>		ELW p. 149
<b>*Prayer of the Day</b>		

## **Reading: Acts 8:26-40**

<sup>26</sup>An 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.) <sup>27</sup>So 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 <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now 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. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” <sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As 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?” <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When 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. <sup>40</sup>But 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 Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 22 (read responsively)**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, 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.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, “The Lord has acted!”

## **Reading: 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. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Children's Message**

### **\*Gospel Acclamation**

ELW p. 151

### **\*Gospel: John 15:1-8**

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

[[Jesus said:]] <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide 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. <sup>5</sup>I 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. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **Hymn of the Day**

*"We Know that Christ is Raised"*

ELW 449

### **\*Nicene Creed**

### **\*Prayers of Intercession**

### **\*Peace**

## **Offering**

### **\*Offertory Hymn**

*"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"*

ELW 184

### **\*Offertory Prayer**

## **Communion Distribution Instructions:**

- *All the baptized are welcome to receive this gift of grace.*
- *Communion is distributed at the head of the aisle. The two center sections will come forward by the center aisle. The two side sections will come forward by the far side aisles. Ushers will direct you.*
- *Gluten-free wafers are available.*
- *You will take your own cup from the communion tray while hearing God's words for you from the communion assistant. The grape juice cups are located in the center circle of the tray.*
- *Non-communicating children will be given a sticker in the shape of the cross hearing the promises of God's love while an accompanying adult marks the sign of the cross on their forehead.*

### **\*Great Thanksgiving**

### **\*Words of Institution**

### **\*Lord's Prayer (Spoken)**

### **\*Invitation to Communion**

## **Lamb of God**

ELW p. 154

## **Communion Hymns**

*"Because He Lives"*

*"Where Charity and Love are Shown"*

ACS 931

# Where Charity and Love Are Shown

## *Donde hay caridad*

*Refrain / Estribillo*

Don-de hay ca - ri - dad y\_a - mor, a - llí es -  
Where char-i - ty and love are shown, our God is

tá,el Se - ñor, a - llí es - tá,el Se - ñor.  
there made known, our God is there made known.

1 U - na sa - la y\_u - na me - sa, u - na co - pa,  
1 One as - sem - bly at one ta - ble; one the cup, the  
2 At the ta - ble we are wel - comed to the ban - quet  
3 This, the bread of life e - ter - nal; this, the sav - ing

vi - no\_y pan, los her - ma - nos com - par -  
bread, the wine; in one love we are com -  
from a - bove. We re - call the Lord's com -  
cup we claim, draw us close with - in one

tien - do en a - mor y\_en u - ni - dad.  
pan - ions, and in u - ni - ty we dine.  
mand - ment that we live and grow in love.  
fam - 'ly, make us one in Je - sus' name.

Nos re - ú - ne la pre - sen - cia y\_el re - cuer - do  
Brought to - geth - er by the pres - ence and the prom - ise  
As the gifts of God are giv - en, Je - sus' bod - y  
Let us tell the liv - ing sto - ry of his suf - f'ring

del Se - ñor; ce - le - bra - mos su me -  
of God's Word, here in joy and in re -  
and his blood, so we give our - selves to  
and his pain, and pro - claim the ho - ly

*Refrain / Estribillo*

mo - ria y la\_en - tre - ga de su\_a - mor.  
mem - brance we re - ceive our lov - ing Lord.  
oth - ers and we seek our neigh - bor's good.  
mys - t'ry: Christ has died, yet lives to reign.

2 *Invitados a la mesa  
del banquete del Señor,  
recordamos su mandato  
de vivir en el amor.  
Comulgamos en el cuerpo  
y en la sangre que él nos da,  
y también en el hermano  
si lo amamos de verdad. Estribillo*

3 *Este pan que da la vida  
y este cáliz de salud  
nos reúnen a los hermanos  
en el nombre de Jesús.  
Anunciamos su memoria,  
celebramos su pasión,  
el misterio de su muerte  
y de su resurrección. Estribillo*

**\*Post Communion Blessing & Prayer**

**\*Post Communion Prayer**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Hymn**

*“Let All Things Now Living”*

ELW 881

**\*Dismissal**

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## Announcements

**Have you joined CIC's new online photo directory yet?** The directory is through a program called Church Center, which is also an app. Follow the QR code to get started.



**New Banners:** Our worship space has a slightly new look with the addition of banners on the front and side walls. These banners, based on the stained glass windows from the Spirit Center, are from the generosity of memorial gifts and will be dedicated in the near future.

**New Members:** If you are interested in joining CIC or you just want to learn more about our family of faith, please e-mail Pastor Michael at [pastormichael@communityinchrist.net](mailto:pastormichael@communityinchrist.net)

**Annual Meeting: Mark your calendars!** CIC's annual meeting will be held on June 2nd. The meeting will be held immediately after the 10am service.

**Save the Date!** June 21 CIC at Kannapolis Cannon Ballers!

**May Grocery Cart:** During the month of May we will be collecting items for the kitchen at Angels and Sparrows Community Table. Did you know that Angels and Sparrows serves over 1,000,000 meals a year? Angels and Sparrows is a non-profit whose mission is to "empower families to reach their potential by providing access to food security and educational opportunities that lead to a fresh start." This month we will be collecting: **bread crumbs (plain or Italian), penne pasta, crushed tomatoes and tomato sauce.** When you're doing your grocery shopping this month consider picking up a few of these items and adding them to the grocery cart at CIC. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our grocery cart collections each month. Your generosity is making a difference!

**Vacation Bible School Camp Firelight Registration Opens Online Today!** [www.myvbs.org/CICLC](http://www.myvbs.org/CICLC)

Camp Firelight VBS "A Summer Camp Adventure with God" **July 28-August 1, 2024, 6:00-8:00 P.M.** Children 4 years old through 5th grade. Registration cost is \$15.00/child with a maximum cost for a family of \$35.00. Please check out the May Newsletter for more details. Adult and Student Volunteers are still needed. Please contact: Suzi Hinrichs at 630-841-7124 or [suzihinrichs@gmail.com](mailto:suzihinrichs@gmail.com) for more information.

**Preschool Openings:** The CIC Preschool currently has openings for 3 students in the PK class and 2 students in the TK class (age 5). Contact Sharon Fuller at 704-892-1020 ext 104 or [sfuller9564@gmail.com](mailto:sfuller9564@gmail.com) for more details.

**Preschool Registration for 2024/2025** Is now open. Please call or email Sharon Fuller for more details, refer to our website for an online registration form or follow the QR code



**Preschool Registration for Summer Camp is now open:** Sessions are June 3-6, June 24-27, July 15-18, August 5-8. All camps run from 9:05 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please call or email Sharon Fuller for more details, refer to our website for an online registration form or follow the QR code.

**Sunday School:** April 28 – 10 a.m – Youth begin in the sanctuary with music before transitioning to classrooms.

**Happy Times Seniors:** Will meet Wednesday, May 15th, in the Spirit Center at 11:30 a.m. For lunch and Bingo! Please bring your own bag lunch. RSVP Ron Major (704) 622-0517 [HunterRon35@hotmail.com](mailto:HunterRon35@hotmail.com)

**All women of CIC are welcome to The 5:11s.** 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:11, we are a women's group that "encourages one another and builds one another up, just as you are doing." We meet on the third Sunday of the month between services to discuss ways we can continue to encourage and build each other up and support our church. Contact Jill Brooks ([jlkbrosks@gmail.com](mailto:jlkbrosks@gmail.com)) with any questions. Our next meeting will be May 19th between services in the Fellowship Hall.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** We meet in the CIC Parlor Room on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Join us for some fellowship, idea-sharing, and fun! Questions? Contact Kathy Dutton at [mamabissy@gmail.com](mailto:mamabissy@gmail.com). Of course, you can also participate in this important ministry at home by crafting items, and bringing them to CIC.

**Card Ministry:** We will meet Tuesday, April 30th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Spirit Center. Participants are asked to enter through the doors nearest the Spirit Center. Need more information? Contact: Kathy Shugarman at [shugs02@gmail.com](mailto:shugs02@gmail.com) or 940-300-2290.

**Quilting Ministry:** We will meet on Thursday, May 9th & 23rd, at 10 a.m. in Classroom #1. Questions? Contact Barbara Eaker at 704-483-2060.

**Synod Gathering 2024 is scheduled for Thursday May 30 - Saturday, June 1** at Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory. Lay people, pastors, and deacons from across the synod will gather to develop community, grow in faith, and grow skills for building God's church. All are invited! You are invited! See more here: <https://nclutheran.org/event/synod-gathering-2024/>

**Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary News:** LTSS will be moving from its campus in Columbia, SC to Lenoir Rhyne University in Hickory, NC. More details on the move can be found here: <https://www.lr.edu/ltss-future>

### Weekly Calendar:

**Sunday, April 28**—9 a.m. Worship (Contemporary & Livestreamed); 10 a.m. Coffee Cart (Narthex), S.S. (begins in Sanctuary), N.Y.G meeting (Parlor); 11 a.m. Worship (Traditional); 2 p.m. Softball (North Meck Park); 6 p.m. Confirmation Class

**Monday, April 29**—9:30 a.m. 5:11's Women's Book Study

**Tuesday, April 30**—10:30 a.m. Bible Study (Narthex); 6:30 p.m. Card Ministry (Spirit Center)

**Wednesday May 1**—1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry (Spirit Center)

**Thursday, May 2**—6 p.m. Carillon Bell Choir (Spirit Center), 7 p.m. Everyone (Packing Party for bell servicing)

**Sunday, May 5**—9 a.m. Worship (Contemporary & Livestreamed); 10 a.m. Coffee Cart (Narthex), Sunday School (begins in Sanctuary); 11 a.m. Worship (Traditional)



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