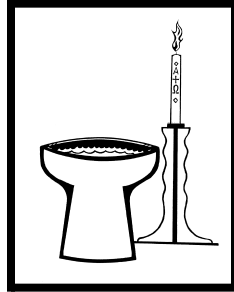


ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
April 28, 2024—9:45AM
Fifth Sunday of Easter—Church at Corinth
We Proclaim and Practice Christ's Love



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome to this place:

**All: where young and old sit side by side,
where heaven and earth embrace in peace,
where God has been, is, and always will be.**

L: Welcome to this place, where we gather together as God's children:

**All: where we find God's love,
where we hear the tender voice of Jesus,
where the Spirit teaches us new songs.**

L: Welcome to this place, where all is made ready by our God:

**All: where we bring our hunger, and find food;
where we bring our brokenness, and find healing;
where we bring our very selves, and find acceptance.**

L: In this place, O God, may we feel your loving presence. In this place, O God, may we be united in your grace and love. In this place, O God, may we hear your word of welcome as we gather at the table and listen to your Word. **Amen.**

OPENING SONG *Your Grace is Enough*

Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

(So) remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Yeah Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray: **God of community, you call us into loving and supportive relationships with one another in our church family. Through the Holy Spirit, unify our hearts and minds, that together we might strive to bring your healing grace into the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM

Ayla Lorraine Losee

Born on October 13, 2023

Parents: Allison Pommrehn and Drake Losee

Godparents: Adam and Jennifer Pommrehn and LuAnn Pommrehn

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ? I do.

As you bring Ayla to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that she may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Ayla grow in the Christian faith and life? I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Ayla in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Ayla and pray for her in his new life in Christ?

We do.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church:

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil and all his empty promises?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that she who is washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Ayla Lorraine, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Ayla with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Ayla Lorraine child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked

with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Presentation of Candle: Ayla, let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission that we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

SONG *Reckless Love*

Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me. You have been so, so good to
me

Before I took a breath, You breathed Your life in me. You have been so, so kind to
me.

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it, still, You give Yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God, yeah

When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me
You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth, You paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
And I couldn't earn it, and I don't deserve it, still, You give Yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God, yeah

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down Coming after me *Repeat several times*

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
And I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it, still, You give Yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God, yeah

FIRST READING**Acts 18:1-4**

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ²There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. ⁴Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING**1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5**

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SONG *Remind Me Who I Am*

When I lose my way and I forget my name
Remind me who I am
In the mirror all I see is who I don't want to be
Remind me who I am
In the loneliest places
When I can't remember what grace is

Chorus

Tell me once again who I am to You who I am to You
Tell me lest I forget who I am to You that I belong to You to You

When my heart is like a stone and I'm running far from home
Remind me who I am
When I can't receive Your love afraid I'll never be enough
Remind me who I am
If I'm Your beloved
Can You help me believe it

Tell me once again who I am to You who I am to You
Tell me lest I forget who I am to You that I belong to You
Tell me once again who I am to You who I am to You
Tell me lest I forget who I am to You that I belong to You
To You...To You

SERMON

SONG *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore*

You have come down to the lakeshore
seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy,
but only asking for me to follow.

Refrain: Sweet Lord, you have looked into my eyes;
kindly smiling, you've called out my name.
On the sand I have abandoned my small boat;
now with you, I will seek other seas.

You know full well what I have, Lord:
neither treasure nor weapons for conquest,

just these my fish nets and will for working. *Refrain*

You need my hands, my exhaustion,
working love for the rest of the weary--
a love that's willing to go on loving. *Refrain*

You who have fished other waters;
you, the longing of souls that are yearning:
O loving Friend, you have come to call me. *Refrain*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**
Let us share words of peace with one another.

OFFERING

SONG *All Are Welcome*

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;

let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Generous God, you provide each of us and our church family with abundant resources. Accept these gifts out of what you have first given us, that we might work for the good of all that you have made. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

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.

BLESSING

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.**

CLOSING SONG *Build Your Kingdom Here*

Come set Your rule and reign In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your church. We need Your pow'r in us.

We seek Your kingdom first. We hunger and we thirst.
Refuse to waste our lives For You're our joy and prize
To see the captives' hearts released. The hurt the sick the poor at peace

We lay down our lives for heaven's cause
We are Your church. We pray revive this earth

Build Your kingdom here. Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand. Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire. Let your Grace Inspire
Change the atmosphere. Build Your kingdom here we pray

Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this. Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are Your church. We are the hope on earth

Build Your kingdom here. Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand. Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire. Let your Grace Inspire
Change the atmosphere. Build Your kingdom here we pray

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Containers from donations to the Easter Breakfast and Spring Luncheon can be found in the kitchen. Please claim yours!

Thrivent T-Shirts: We have a large supply of t-shirts. Please stop in the gym and grab one (or more). They are sorted by size.

May clean up will be Wednesday May 8th. Rain date will be Wednesday May 15th. There will be pizza, sandwiches, chips to fuel you up. We will be cleaning up outside and getting our property looking good!

FREE TV: 25 inch Sanyo. The TV does work. If you or someone you know needs a TV, please grab this one!

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS

We are now in need of only 3 wide tooth combs and 13 nail clippers to complete our 45 personal care kits which will be sent to Lutheran World Relief in May. Thanks for your donations! WELCA Mission Action

Graduate Recognition, Sunday, May 5th

We will recognize our graduating seniors on Sunday, May 5th at second service. We will have a small reception to follow. All are welcome.

Next Week

Tuesday, April 30th: Do-Days 9 am

**Wednesday, May 1st: Men's Breakfast 7 am, Confirmation at 6:30, Choir 7
pm**

*****Save the Date! May 8th Church Clean-up Day!*****