



THE STORY

New Beginnings

5th Sunday Of Easter - April 28, 2024 – 11:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

Jesus is the crowning point of the STORY of God's love for us. Salvation comes to you and me by the work of God the Holy Spirit. The Spirit creates faith in the hearts of all who believe in the Savior Jesus for the forgiveness of sins. If anyone is in Christ, he/she is a new creation! The old has gone! The new has come! (2 Cor. 5:17)

After Jesus returned to the Father, the presence of the Holy Spirit came powerfully to Jesus' followers. They were empowered and emboldened to share the Good News of salvation in Jesus. This Good News is for each person to trust and believe!

WELCOME AND GREETING

WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS

PLEDGE BY NEW MEMBERS

THE AFFIRMATION OF THE COMMUNITY

P: We, the people of Memorial Lutheran Church affirm and pledge:

C: We will serve our God – with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength. In every way possible we will share with one another and anybody we meet the Good News of our Savior Jesus. We will love one another, forgive one another, support one another, and encourage one another in Christ.

P: Rejoice and be glad! We are together in Christ. Amen? **C: Amen.**

WE SING

"Rise Up (Lazarus)" E. Hulse/L. Cain/M. Cain/N. Schwarz/T. Cain

"The Commission"

Blake Neesmith, Carter Frodge, Logan Cain, Madison Cain, Nick Schwarz, and Taylor Cain

WE PRAY

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-8

Jesus promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would empower them as His witnesses.

⁶When they [the disciples] met together, they asked Him, "Lord, are You at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

EPISTLE READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

We are alive as God's children with the living hope that comes through Jesus alone!

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for you, ⁵who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

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⁶In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷These have come so that your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus commissions His followers to carry forward a ministry of making disciples.

¹⁶Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. ¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

KIDS' TIME

MESSAGE

"As We Live and Breathe"

(Today's readings)

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Lord God, Heavenly Father,

C: **We are so blessed to be called Your own children through our Savior Jesus. You've breathed new life into us by Your Holy Spirit. You've given us the blessing of now longer living for ourselves but for Him who died for us and was raised again. Yet, we sometimes lose sight of that gift and struggle with the sinfulness that still clings to us. Wash us and renew us continually with Your forgiveness. Give us joy in carrying the blessings of Your new life to all people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

GOD FORGIVES OUR SINS

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Work Of The Holy Spirit

Third Article of the Apostles' Creed & Martin Luther's Explanation

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

P: What does this mean?

C: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

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In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

We Celebrate The Lord's Supper

WORDS OF PREPARATION & INSTITUTION

WE SING

"Breathe"

Marie Barnett

"Behold Our God"

Baird/ Baird/ Baird/Altrogge

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

WE SING

"Build Your Kingdom Here"

Rend Collective

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Note – Our offerings are received in the offering boxes located near our entrances

*The gifts we give come from the hand of God our King.
He blesses us with talents and treasures and time
to extend a ministry of His Kingdom,
sharing His love and His Word of life with all people.*