

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28th, 2024



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Virginia, MN

Pastor Liz Cheney



PRELUDE

Kristen Weikum

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

There in God's Garden

ELW 342

THANKSGIVING FOR 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!





Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

FIRST READING: 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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

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!"

SECOND 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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Celtic Alleluia

ELW 174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8 The Holy gospel according to John. **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.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

Pastor Liz Cheney

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW 367

BAPTISM *JT Klatt - Parents, Tom & Morgan Klatt*

SHARING THE PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC! Whether you join us in person or online, the ministry and missions of Our Savior's depend on faithful giving.

+ online links can be found by accessing our website at www.oslcmn.com.

+ Using the QR code found here:

+ Contacting the church office to set up regular automatic giving

+ Dropping off or mailing in your offering



OFFERING 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

pg. 191

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

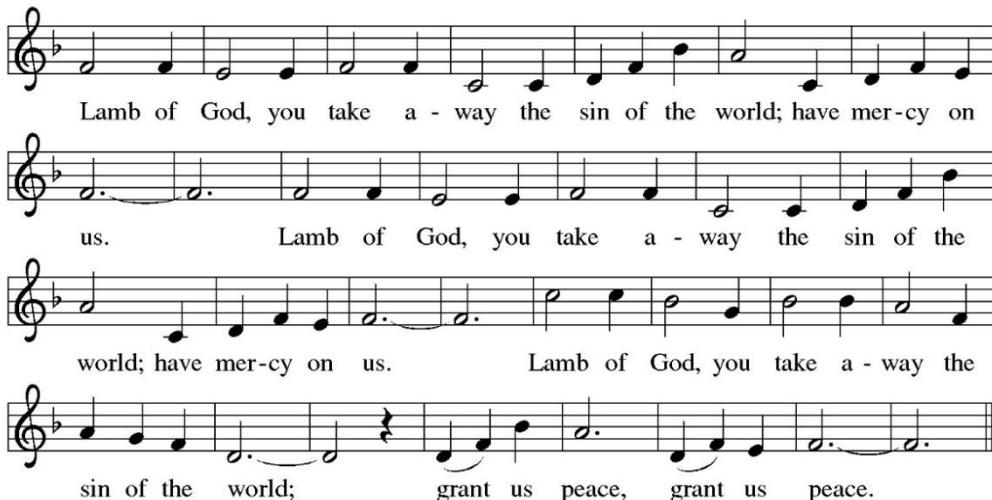
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Come and eat at God's table. All are welcome!

LAMB OF GOD

ELW 195



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 HYMNS

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

ELW 451

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

ELW 452

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Kristen Weikum

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Kathy M., Marlene K., Pastor Erika, Phyllis S., Archer, Roya, Ross-(needs transplant of kidneys & pancreas). Laurie, Amy, Colton, Wally C., Deb L., Bob, Tom, Carol, Steve, Gary, Jeannie, Cliff, Dale, Larry, Mickey, Mark, Jess, Kate, Joe, Matthew, Russ, Dan, Adeline, Jesse, Tedd, Ed & Karen, Ralph, Diane, Chuck, Sue, Mike, Matt, Ken, Hermine.

If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.

CONTACT US

OSLC, 1111 8th St. South, Virginia, MN Church Office: 218-741-6207

Email: office@oslcmn.com

Online: www.oslcmn.com

www.facebook.com/oslcmn

YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

OFFICE HOURS

Office Admin hours are Tuesday - Friday 9am - 5pm

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Liz will be here Tues. - Thurs. & off Fridays.

Call @ 218-780-8907

or email at lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, and Ginny Ahrlin



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28th, 2024

CHORALAIRES SPRING CONCERTS The Choralaires will perform **TODAY at Our Savior's at 2pm**. It will be a packed house, so arrive early! If you are able to pick up cookies to serve with coffee after the concert, you are invited to grab some after worship for us. Just bring them back and place on one of the kitchen counters. We appreciate it.

FREE COMMUNITY-WIDE BREAKFAST Join us Saturday, **May 11th 9-12pm** for a hot meal. This meal is open to everyone, so invite a friend or a neighbor!

FUN-DUH-MENTALS BIBLE STUDY We are re-scheduled for **this Tuesday at 5:30pm**. Join us in the Fireside Room if you want to enjoy a study with fun, lively discussion and...color crayons!

WE HAVE A NEED A young mom is starting out with 3 little ones (4yr, 2yr, 3 month) all girls, leaving an emerg. shelter. Do you have the ability to help by purchasing a twin sheet set, a new pillow & pillowcase, bathroom towel set, kitchen towels, children's plastic plates, bowls & cups, cereal, fruit cups, & basic snacks? We have a bin in the entryway on the pew for your donations. Every little bit helps!

TECH TEAM We have gained momentum and have a small team assembled, but could use a few people willing to do small tasks on a Sunday morning now and then. If you are comfortable recording your grandchildren with your phone, using a computer, or even the options on a smart tv, it may be in your skillset to join us! Let Pastor or the church office know if you think you could serve every once in a while.

LIVE STREAMING SERVICES We are livestreaming worship on YouTube, and the link can also be found on our facebook page (Our Savior's Lutheran Church Virginia MN). Look at your monthly newsletter for instructions on how to find the "**Live**" video, specifically, on our YouTube page! ***If you encounter any problems, please call or stop in at the church office and we will be happy to assist you!***

OLD KEYS If you have an old key for the main doors of the church, please bring it by the office. See Pastor Liz about a new key if you are involved in ministry and will require one. There will be a new key policy for being a key holder.

RADIO SPONSORSHIP ***Sharon & Butch Panula are sponsoring today in honor of their Granddaughter, Anastacia Ballard graduating, and for all graduates.*** If you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday Worship in honor of someone or a special event (wedding anniversary, birth of children, baptism date) or in memory of a loved one who has passed, and/or the tech equipment, you may do so in full for \$90 or shared/partial at \$45. **Sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board by the fountain.**

Worship Volunteers Consider helping on Sundays **servicing communion, being a lector, ushering or greeting**, etc...We need Worship Assistants for Sunday morning Worship to run smoothly. The sign-up

sheets are located on the kiosk in the narthex. *This work belongs to **all of us**, as ministers of the congregation ~ prayerfully consider how you might be able to sign up to help.*

EVENTS & MEETINGS:

- 4/28 CHORALAIRES SPRING CONCERT HERE, TODAY AT 2PM
- 4/30 FUN-DUH-MENTALS BIBLE STUDY, 5:30PM FIRESIDE ROOM
- 5/1 QUILTING 9AM – 2/3PM
- 5/1 FINANCE MEETING 3:30 PM
- 5/1 CHOIR PRACTICE AT 5:00PM
- 5/2 PEO WILL BE IN OUR FIRESIDE RM 12:30-2:30
- 5/2 CUB SCOUTS FELLOWSHIP HALL 5:30 PM
- 5/4 OVERNIGHT @ CAMP HIWATHA & 5/4 WORK DAY



**COMMUNITY-WIDE
BREAKFAST**
9AM –12PM
SATURDAY
MAY 11TH

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, 1111 8TH ST S. VIRGINIA, 218-741-6207

*FOOD, FUN, AND
FELLOWSHIP FOR THE
FURNACE*

Wednesday, May 22
6-8 pm
Lasagna Dinner

FREE WILL
OFFERING



Join in the fun with your friends, over some food while we fellowship and raise funds for the furnace! Bring a friend!

Entertainment and fun included!



MAY 12TH
Honoring
Our
Church's
Graduates



Camp Hiawatha FAMILY
OVERNIGHT, MAY 3RD
WORK-DAY IS MAY 4TH

Camp Vermilion FAMILY
OVERNIGHT, MAY 10TH

CALL TO REGISTER FOR
THESE EVENTS AND
SUMMER CAMP AT
(800) 331-5148

**Sunday
Worship**

May 26th
Outdoors @ the
Kline Cuppoletti Building
100 N 9th Ave, Virginia

10 AM

Join Gethsemane, Messiah, and Our Savior's for worship together on Holy Trinity Sunday, May 26th @ 10am Rain or shine!

Picnic Lunch to follow.
Bring your own beverage.



Bring a friend!
All are welcome!

**CONGREGATIONS
CARING
FOR THE EARTH**

EXAMINING OUR USE OF
PLASTICS

The Presentation Is
Open To The Public &
All Churches! May 23.
6pm OSLC In The
Fellowship Hall



*Mother's Day
Brunch*

with live Music

Sunday, May 12
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Ticket purchasing closes
on May 5th at 11:59 pm.

Meal begins at 11:30
and is seated

36944 Camp Hiawatha Rd
Deer River, MN 56636



www.vlmcamps.org