St. Martin's Lutheran Church

203 S. Defiance Street + Archbold, OH 43502
www.the-welcome-place.org

Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER *APRIL 12, 2026*

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

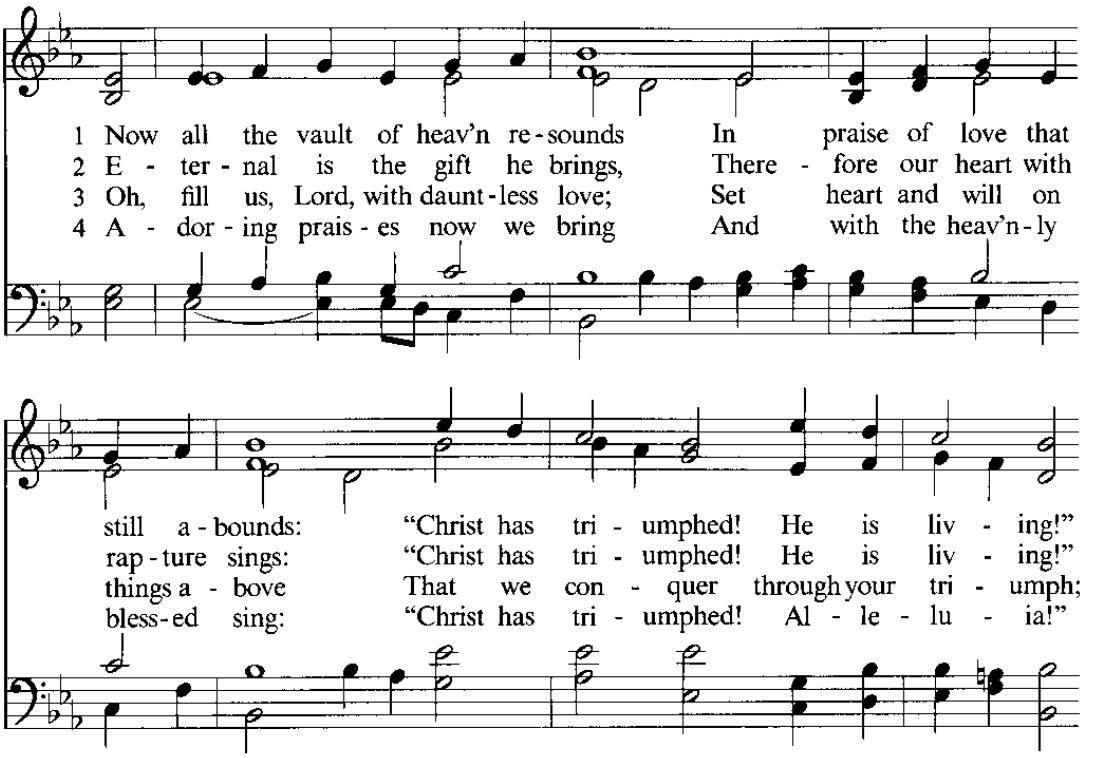
Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader
Bold text is spoken by the congregation

THE CHURCH GATHERS

PRELUDE

BELL & ANNOUNCEMENTS

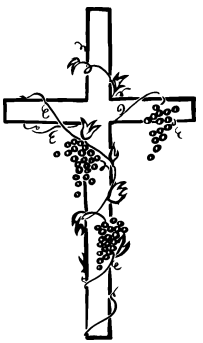
*OPENING HYMN *"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"*



Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song
Now still he comes to give us life And by his pres-
Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day That by our lives
Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, To Spir - it blest,

of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri-umphed!"
ence stills all strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
we tru - ly say: Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
most ho - ly God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!

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



*Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Rejoicing in the resurrection news, let us confess our sins and seek God's forgiveness.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

we confess that we are held captive to doubt and fear, dismissing the resurrection news. We place trust in ourselves and fail to love our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

This is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent Jesus Christ to die for us. In the name of Jesus, our sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others proclaiming the glorious news of Christ's resurrection.

Amen.

*Greeting & Prayer of the Day

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

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.

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

THE CHURCH LISTENS

FIRST READING — Acts 2:14a, 22–32

14a But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, 22 You
that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you
by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you,
as you yourselves know — 23 this man, handed over to you according to the definite
plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside
the law. 24 But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was
impossible for him to be held in its power. 25 For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.
27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.
28 You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

29 Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both
died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Since he was a prophet, he
knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants
on his throne. 31 Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah,
saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'
32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 16:7-11 - *responsively*

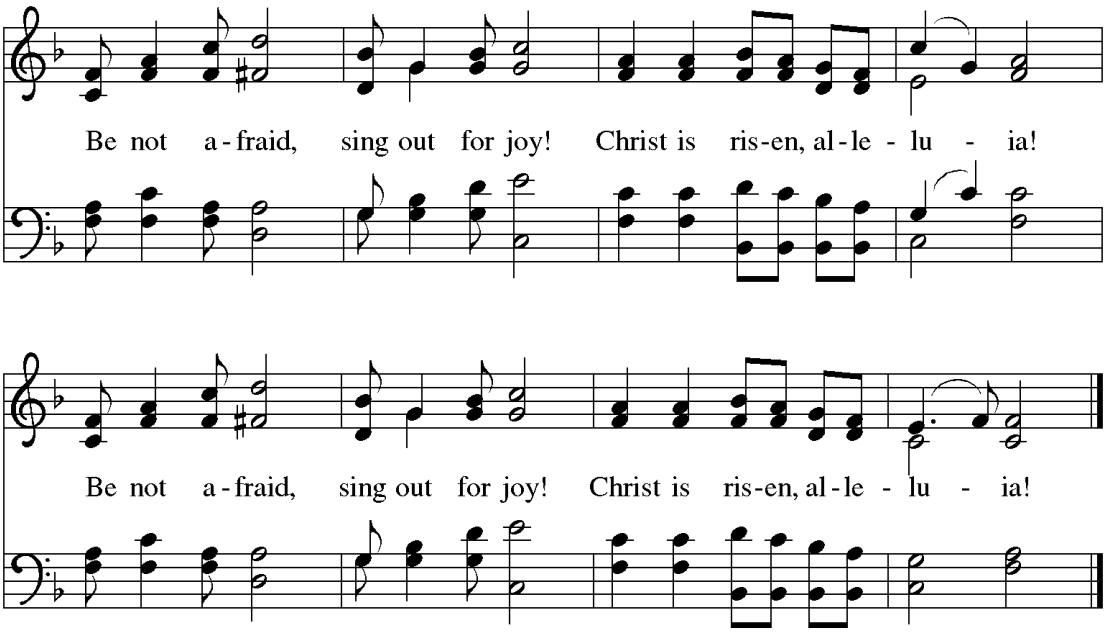
7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
8 I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.
**11 You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

SECOND READING 1 Peter 1:3–9

3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has
given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the
dead, 4and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in
heaven for you, 5who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a
salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6In this you rejoice, even if now for a little
while you have had to suffer various trials, 7so that the genuineness of your faith —
being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire — may be found
to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8Although you
have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe
in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, 9for you are receiving the
outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – *please sing two times*



*HOLY GOSPEL — John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord!

19When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the
house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and
stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20After he said this, he showed them
his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said
to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22When
he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you
forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are
retained.”

24But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when
Jesus came. 25So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to
them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of
the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

26A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them.
Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be
with you.” 27Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out
your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” 28Thomas answered him, “My
Lord and my God!” 29Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

30Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not
written in this book. 31But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is
the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

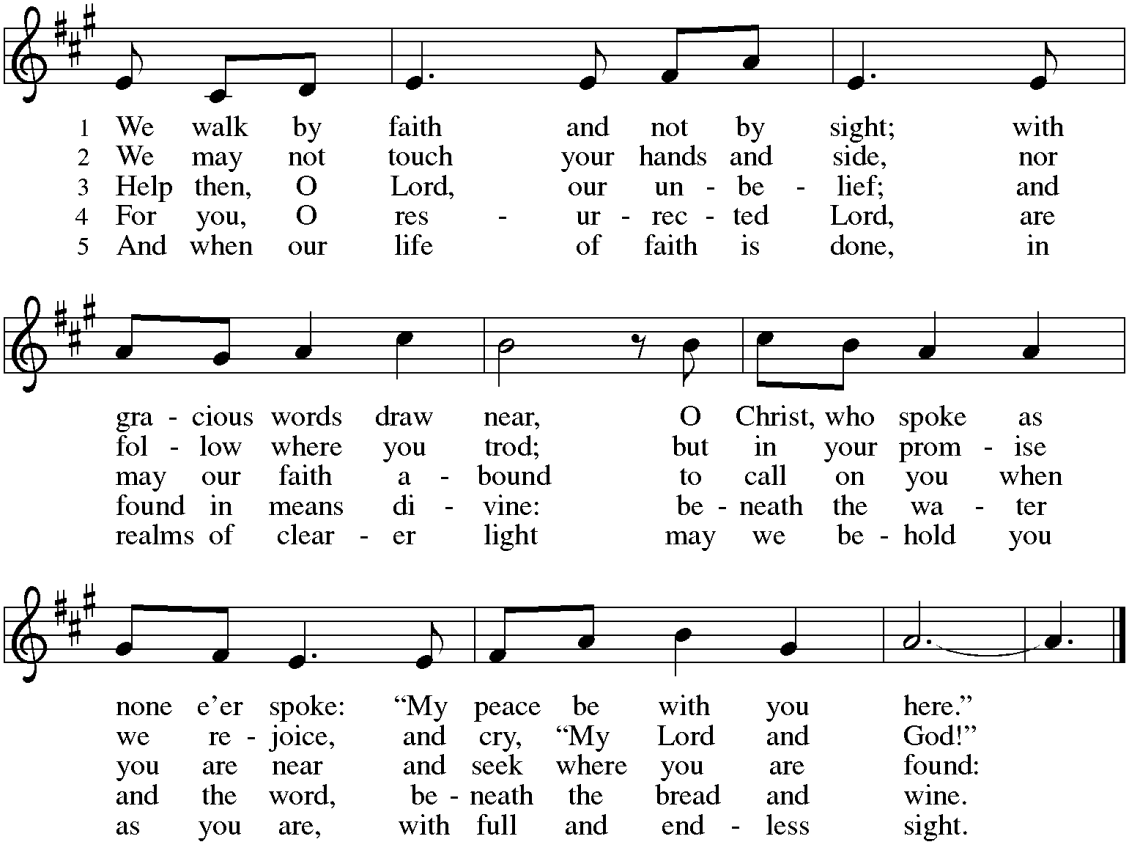
Praise to you, O Christ!

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE — *Susan Short*

MESSAGE — *“Unlocking the Doors”*

THE CHURCH RESPONDS

HYMN OF THE DAY** ***"We Walk By Faith"



***PROFESSION OF FAITH** – *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 into hell.
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

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends… Lord, in your mercy…**hear our prayer.**

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

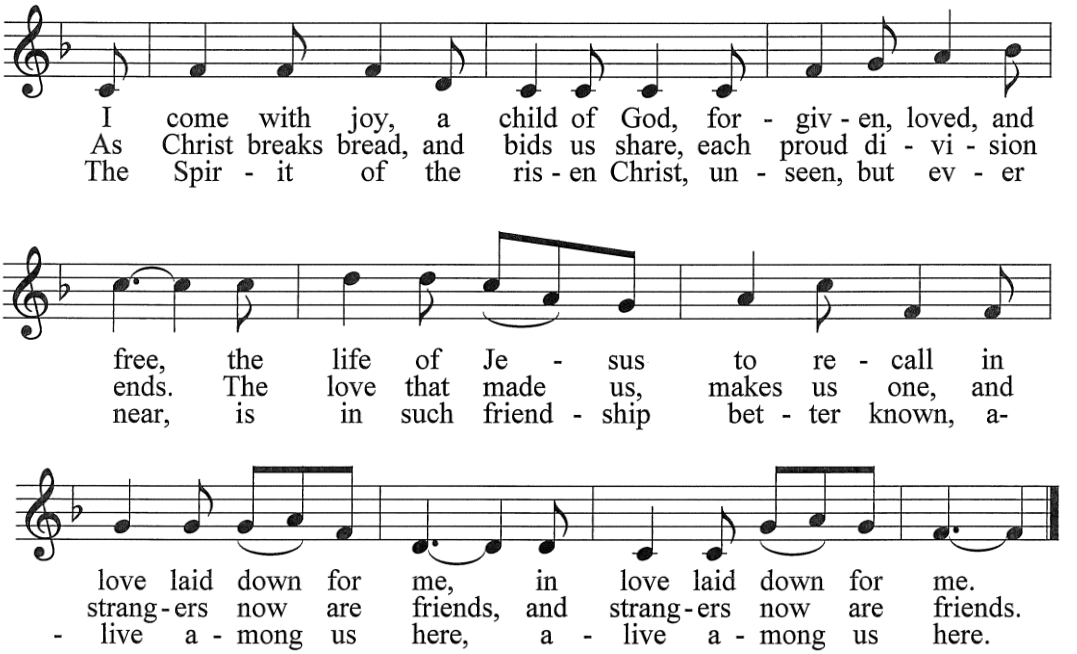
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. *(We greet one another with the words "Peace be with you")*

OFFERING OF GIFTS

"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" **WOV 678** *(Blue hymnal)*

*OFFERTORY



*Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, O God,

You are the ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We Share in the Meal

*The Thanksgiving

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.

*Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to us all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me."

Remembering his love for us, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

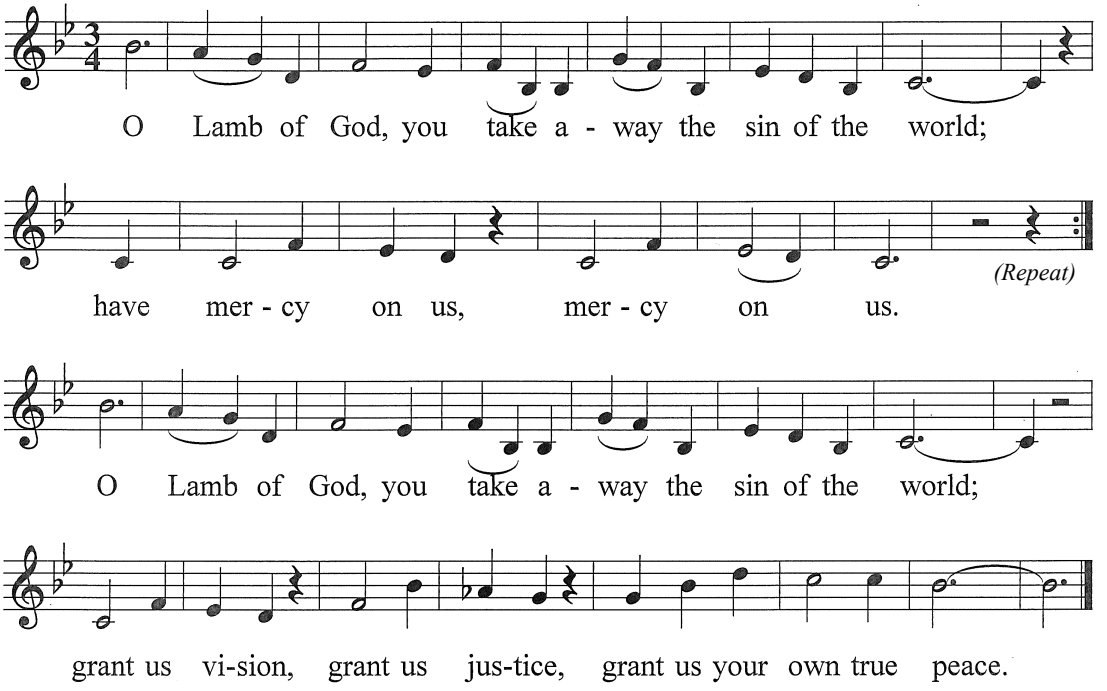
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen

*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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION *"Lamb of God"*



"I Am the Bread of Life" **WOV 702** *(Blue hymnal)*

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE

*BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

*PRAYER

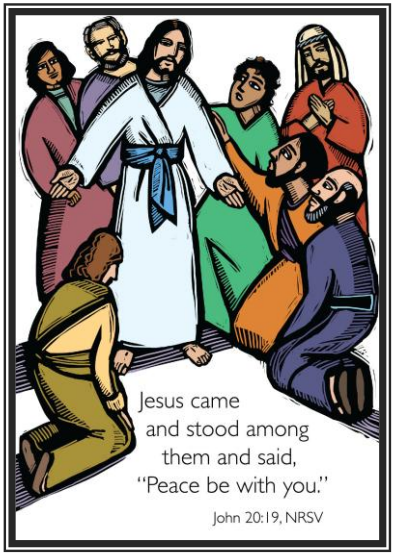
Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

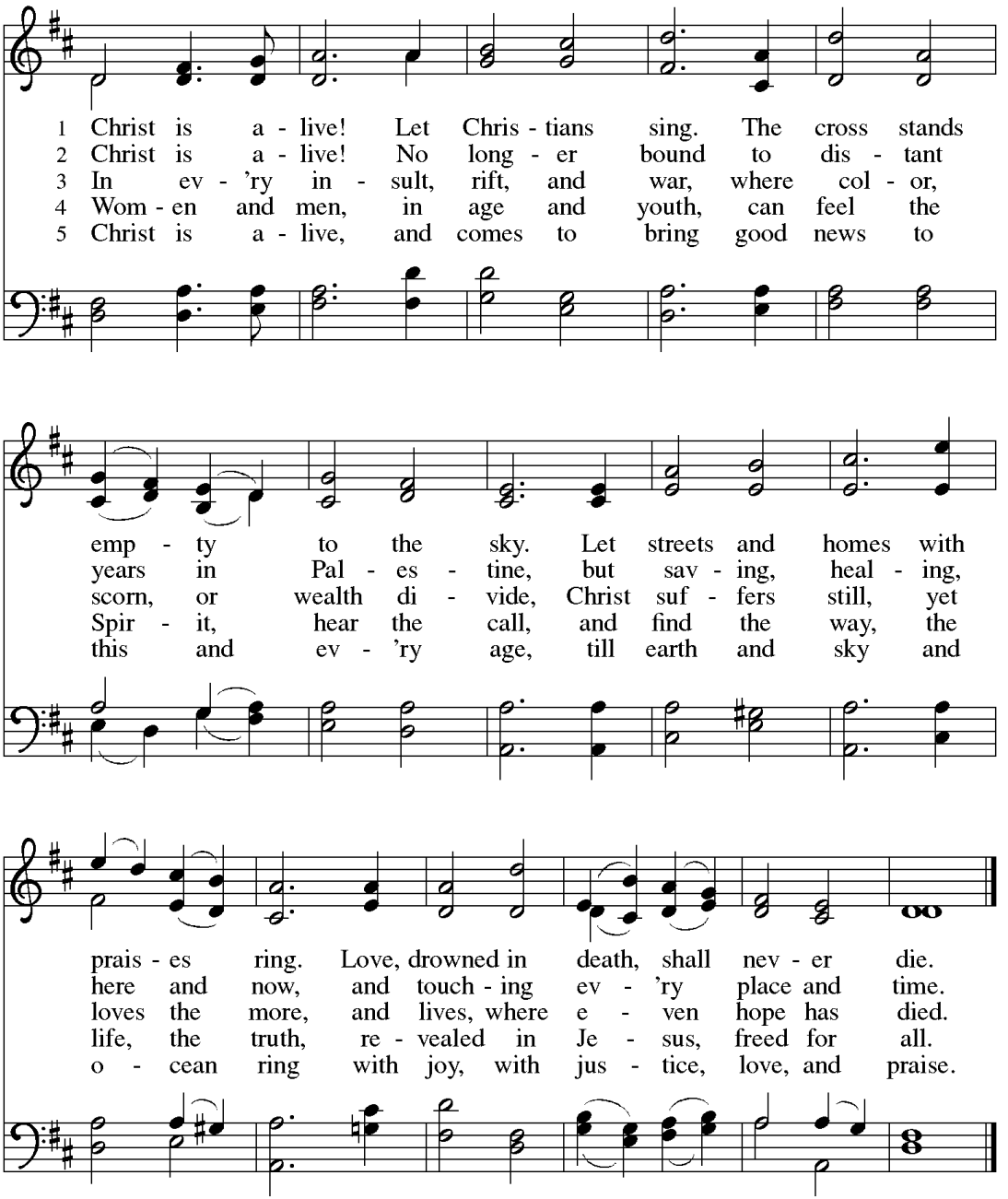
* BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine brightly upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen



*CLOSING HYMN *"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"*

Please sing Unison on Verse 5

*DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord!
Thanks be to God!

+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+

Liturgical texts and music for Confession and Forgiveness, Kyrie, Gospel Acclamation, Lamb of God from Sundays and Seasons ©2016 and Evangelical Lutheran Worship ©2006, Augsburg Fortress Publishers.
We Walk By Faith Text: Herman Stuempfle ©1993 GIA Publications, Inc. ELW#635

Worship Matters

*The large white **Paschal Candle** is lit each Sunday during the season of Easter (through May 24). The Paschal Candle is an ancient symbol of the Church, reminding us of the presence of Jesus among His people. The candle is kept near the Baptismal font and is lit for Baptisms (reminding us that we have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection), Funerals (reminding us that in death we have gained the promise of resurrection to eternal life), and the season of Easter.*

St. Martin's Worship Servants . . .

Acolyte	-Violet Schneider
Presiding	-Pastor Dana Bjorlin
Preaching	-Pastor Steve Basselman
Lector	-Janet Wyse
Usher Team Leader	-Jim & Janet Wyse
Sound System	-Darren Sonnenberg
Altar Guild	-Michelle Collins & Jessica Short
Offering Counters	-Janet Wyse & Jo Ann Liechty

The St. Martin's Webstore is open! If you would like to order some apparel you can go to https://stmartinsarchbold.itemorder.com, click the link in your Friday email, or scan the QR code provided.

We are looking for people who would like to **provide the Wednesday Night meals**. Erinn Thompson is organizing this, so you can contact her if you would like to help. You can also scan the QR code provided or click the link in your Friday email to sign up!

Spring Cleaning? Puzzles, fidgets, simple games? If those items happen to be in that cleaning out process, please consider donating them to the new ***After School Tutoring (AST)*** ministry here at St. Martin's. Our next session is March 18th. Simply put those items on a table in the Fellowship Hall and label them ***AST*** and we'll make good use of them. *You are appreciated!*

Senior Citizen Luncheon: Archbold High School is hosting the 14th Annual Senior Citizen Luncheon on Friday, April 24th at 11am in the High School Gymnasium. Please pass on to any senior citizens in your life who live in the Archbold School District. Lunch is free with a State of School Address, along with Band and Choir performances. To make reservations, please call 419-445-5579 or email aoyer@archboldschools.org. Reservations begin Monday, March 30 and need to be received by Monday, April 20.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES will be held at the end of April leading up to a First Communion on May 3. If you have a young person interested in First Communion, please contact Pastor Steve soon.

Northwestern Ohio Synod Assembly is Saturday, May 30 at St. Mark's, Bowling Green. St. Martin's is allowed at least 2 voting members. A third voting member is allowed as a youth or young adult member. Please see Pastor Steve if you'd be willing to consider serving.

It's time for the annual community-wide Burger Bash, set for Sunday, May 3rd in the Ruihley Park Pavilion from 11am to 1pm. A free-will donation covers a picnic-type lunch to share beside your neighbors and friends. With those Burger Bash donations over the last two decades, our community has been able to send almost $785,000 to our mentors and teachers in Third World countries who stand ready to help the agricultural communities there.

Confirmation will be NEXT SUNDAY, April 19 . . . Ellison Benecke, Kayla Benecke, Andilyn Pinter, Emerlyn Pinter and Jalen Thompson will affirm the promises made by their parents, sponsors, and us at their baptisms. You are invited to be part of this next step in the faith journey for these five young people. As a faith community we are connected to them because of the promises we make as a congregation at each baptism to encourage and support them. We have all been involved in their growth as young Christians. Please remember them in prayer as they prepare to affirm their baptism through the Rite of Confirmation, and please plan on being present in worship that day.

April Concert Series- Harpsichord Hors d'oeuvres

Most of us have probably never heard a harpsichord live—and it's a completely different experience than you might expect. On our St. Martin's Concert Series, Dylan Sanzenbacher invites you into the sound world of the 16th–18th centuries, where composers wrote music full of humor, dance, and surprising drama.
Instead of long, heavy pieces, this program is made up of short, engaging works—variations on popular tunes, elegant court dances, and showy toccatas that would have impressed listeners just as much then as they do now.

Dylan, a peer of Matthew's at Baldwin Wallace, and specialist in early keyboard music, has a gift for making this repertoire approachable and alive. If you've ever been curious about early music—or just want to hear something genuinely different—this is an easy and enjoyable place to start.

Where in the World is Matthew Wachtman? Over the next week, Matthew will be making use of the professional engagement time built into his role as Director of Music—a part of his position that allows him to continue growing as a professional musician all while representing St. Martin's outside of NW Ohio. This past Friday and Saturday, he was preparing for a recital at Fairlawn Lutheran Church near Akron, with a performance taking place this afternoon.

Then next week, Matthew will spend time at Baldwin Wallace University for its historic Bach Festival, the longest-running collegiate Bach festival in the country. There, he will be playing with the BWV Choir, a professional group from Cleveland, sharing challenging music by composers like Brahms, Pärt, and, of course, Bach. That concert will be on Saturday, April 18. **T**hese opportunities not only keep his playing sharp (pun intended) but also shine a light on the music ministry here at St. Martin's. He will be back at our organ bench on April 19, just in time for Confirmation Sunday!

This Week at St. Martin's

TODAY-Sunday April 12-Second Sunday of Easter
Worship, 9am
Sunday School, 10:15am
Adult Sunday School, 10:30am
High School Youth, 10:30am
Middle School Youth, 6:30pm

Monday- April 13
Friendship Circle, 7pm
Adult Zoom Group, 7pm

Tuesday – April 14
Men's Breakfast, 7am @ McDonald's
Sewing, 9am
Community Meal, 5pm @ St. John's Christian

Wednesday- April 15
After School Program, 3:15pm
Welcome Place Meal, 5:15pm
Worship, 6pm
Kids Club, 6pm
Adult Circle, 6:30pm
Confirmation Rehearsal, 6:30pm

Thursday- April 16
Women's Breakfast, 7am @ The Home Restaurant
Bulletin Deadline, 8am

Friday-April 17
Dick Nagel Visitation, 3-7pm

Saturday-April 18
Dick Nagel Funeral, 11am

Next Sunday – April 19-Confirmation Sunday
Worship, 9am
Sunday School, 10:15am
Adult Sunday School, 10:30am
High School Youth, 10:30am
Middle School Youth, 6:30pm

St. Martin's Lutheran Church

203 S. Defiance Street Archbold OH 43502
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Web Site: www.the-welcome-place.org
Email: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org

Office Hours:

Pastor Steve Basselman
steveb@the-welcome-place.org
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. morning
Tues, Wed, Thurs, afternoon
Cell Phone: 419-572-6091

Matthew Wachtman, Music & Worship
matthew@the-welcome-place.org
Mon, Tues, Thurs. All Day
Wed. PM

Jake Keil, **Youth**
jakek@the-welcome-place.org
Sun, Tues, Thurs. morning
Mon, Tues, Wed. afternoon & Sunday PM

Whitney Wyse, Office Manager
stmartin@the-welcome-place.org
Tues. 8:30-12:00 & Fri. 8:30-12

Worship Services: 9:00 am each Sunday, live broadcast on Facebook
6:00 pm each Wednesday, Informal Service

We welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. – Romans 15:7

Online Giving - Mobile Access

Mobile users can now access the giving page to set up recurring donations or make one-time donations directly from phones using this QR code.
To change or delete recurring donations you will still need to go to: **https://givingtools.com** and sign in to your account.

Last Week at St. Martin's. . .
Week of 3/29/2026 & 4/5/2026, Budget and Year to Date

Operating Contributions	$21,670.13	Budgeted Weekly Operating Need	$7,381.00
Other Designated Income	$2,249.65	Budgeted Weekly Benevolence Need	$760.00
Total Income	$23,919.78	**AS OF 3/31/2026**	
(Includes) Good Friday (FISH)	$645.00	YTD Operating Received	$88,276.89
Easter Breakfast Youth	$702.00	YTD Operating Expenses	($105,944.69)
Worship: Sun/Wed/Total	264/20/284	Net Income/(Deficit)	$(17,667.80)

St. Martin's Prayer Line

For our prayers in worship this morning and our daily devotions in the coming week, we remember:

- The Bethel Parish of Dodoma, Tanzania, and Mission Partner Congregation of Redeemer, Toledo, may they continue to carry out God's ministry in their areas of mission.
- Those caught in the fighting between Israel and Palestine, the Ukraine, Iran; those recovering from natural disasters and the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief and other relief agencies.
- The family of Dick Nagel who passed away Easter Sunday, April 5th.

For those who need healing, may they know the healing hand of God:

Bob Alley, Louise Beldon's brother-in-law, health concerns
Tim Anderson, Bjorlin cousin, cancer
Bonnie Badenhop, pancreatic cancer
Beverly Bettison, friend of Angie Avers, health concerns
Jeff Cook, Ann Ott's son
Jim Hayes, brother of June Hayes, health concerns
Jeanise Hoeffel, Jane Sonnenberg's sister
Jayne Jewell, Diana Ziegler's cousin
Shelly Kammeyer, daughter in law of Sharon Blair, Leukemia
Colleen Kelly
Sue Keil, Jake's mom
Bonnie R. Lauber
Ann Ott
Dorothy Gifford, Diane Parsons' sister, cancer
Conrad and Karen Perry, Andi Erbskorn's brother and sister-in-law
Bruce Pearson, Trudel family friend, cancer
Bill Phelps
Peg Roth
Eric and Susan Rupp, Greg Rupp's brother and sister-in-law, health concerns
Deb Schnitkey, friend of Deb & Stan Schmidt
Mary Schwartz, Dianne Parsons' sister
Al & Lois Siewert
Joan Smith
Brad Welsh, brother-in-law of John & Chris Shafer, cancer
Joyce Winzeler
Paul Wyse, health concerns
Joe Wyse
Homebound – Milla Kohv, Jerry & Alice Geiger

For those who need God's protection and the assurance of God's presence:

All members, family & friends who serve in our military: Patrick Cirenza (June Hayes), Bradly & Victoria Nilsson, Kennedy Hartung, Brendon Johns

Any prayer requests to add or remove can be sent to the Church Office by Thursday of each week: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org **We include a person's name and details only with their permission.**