

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

✠ Fifth Sunday in Easter • April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 ✠

**Worship Notes:** • Our Lector for today is Sabra Custer • Our Crucifer for today is Holden Meyer •  
We are in Setting 9 of the ELW • Our Seminarian is Beth Sheedy •

**VOLUNTARY**

Prelude on “Simple Gifts”

Wilbur Held

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*Please stand as able and face the front of the church.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, **holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.**

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. **In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.**

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. **Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.** Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world’s need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: ELW 449**

We Know That Christ Is Raised  
*ENGELBERG*

**GREETING**

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.**

**KYRIE: ELW p.193**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



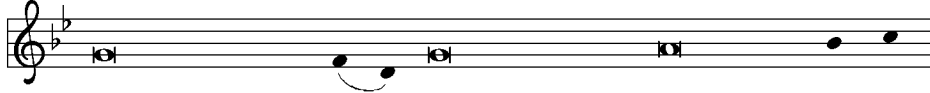
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



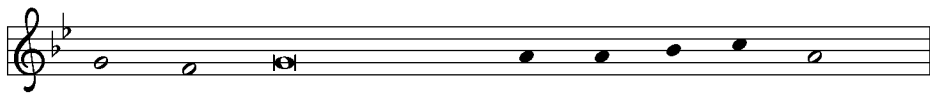
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE: p.196**

*Congregation sings refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be  
 peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis-dom, and strength, and  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of  
 all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,  
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**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.

*Please be seated.*

**WORD**

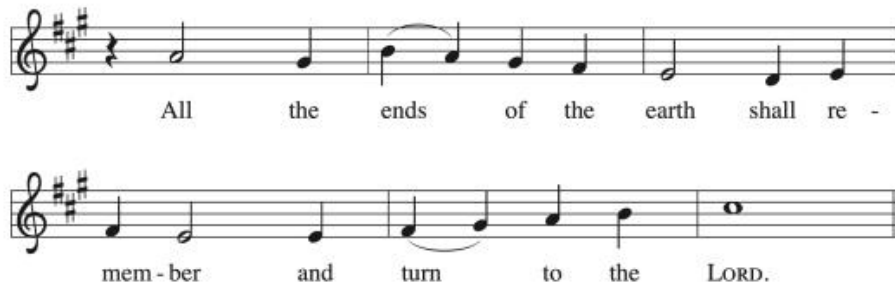
**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**FIRST 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:** Psalm 22:25-31



- <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 o- | ver the nations. R**
- <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 be- | fore the LORD.
- <sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,**  
**whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**
- <sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!" **R**

**SECOND READING:** 1 John 4:7-21

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In 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. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So 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. <sup>17</sup>Love 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. <sup>18</sup>There 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. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those 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. <sup>21</sup>The 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.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** p.198

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

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

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

**GOSPEL:** John 15:1-8

*Please stand as able.*

*Before the Reading:* The Holy Gospel according to John. **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 pruned 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."

*After the Reading:* The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Emily Willhide

**THE 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 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.**

**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 INTERCESSION**

Each petition concludes "God of grace." We respond: "Hear our prayer."

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated*

**MEAL**

*The offering plate will be passed throughout the Congregation for those not using online giving*

**OFFERTORY:**

Tallis Canon

The Incarnation Ringers

**OFFERING PRAYER**

*Please stand as able.*

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.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING: p.199**

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: p.200



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCHARISTIC 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.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

*Please be seated.*

**COMMUNION** - We invite you to join with us in the sacrament of Holy Communion, as Jesus invites us all to the table. Please take an empty communion glass from the trays at the front of the church. The innermost ring of glasses are pre-filled with grape juice for those who prefer juice to wine. There are discard trays by the side aisles. Please follow the directions of the Ushers.

**LAMB OF GOD:** p.201

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 HYMN:** ELW 359

Where Charity and Love Prevail  
*TWENTY-FOURTH*

**COMMUNION HYMN:** ELW 447

O Blessed Spring  
*BERGLUND*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Please stand as able.*

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

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

**SENDING HYMN:** ELW 88<sub>1</sub>

Let All Things Now Living  
*THE ASH GROVE*

**DISMISSAL:**

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

**VOLUNTARY:**

We All Believe in Our True God

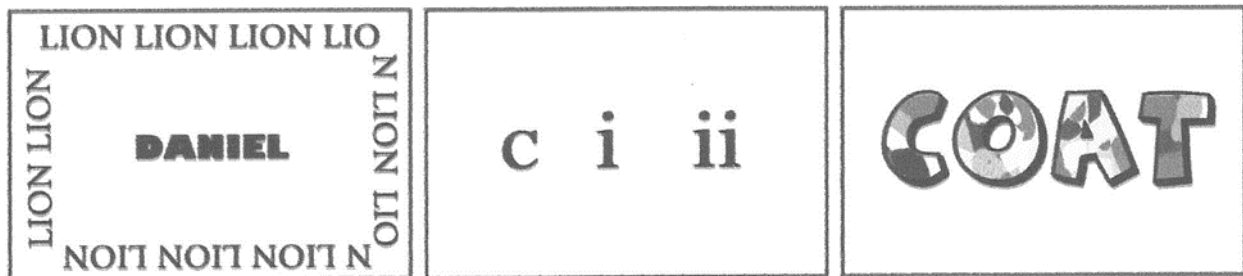
Johann Ernst Rembt



*Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for coffee time.  
Please remember to bring donations for the little food pantry and leave in the gray box in the hall.*

**PUZZLES OF THE DAY:**

Cunningly hidden phrases, names, or sayings that are linked to the Bible. The answers can be hidden in many ways. It could be size, position, or direction; you may need to do some counting or look at the shape, but all you really need to do is say what you see!



**Our Ministry Staff contacts are:**

Rev. Emily Willhide.....pastoremily@incarnationlutheran.com  
Dr. Patrick Hawkins; Dir. of Music & Organist.....music@incarnationlutheran.com  
Kimi Dail; Faith Formation Coordinator.....youth@incarnationlutheran.com  
Teresa Boykin; CDC Director.....cdc@incarnationlutheran.com  
Bonnie McDaniel; Parish Administrator.....office@incarnationlutheran.com  
Beth Sheedy; Seminarian.....office@incarnationlutheran.com

**Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m.**

(10 a.m. Worship is also live streamed on Facebook.)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

Office: 803-256-2381

CDC: 803-256-7456

[www.incarnationlutheran.com](http://www.incarnationlutheran.com)

[www.facebook.com/IncarnationLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/IncarnationLutheranChurch)

# Philip and the Ethiopian



One of the horses was tired so the chariot had stopped.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult and Children's Sunday School: 9:00 am

Worship: 10:00 am

Office Hours: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm M-F

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205 • (803) 256-2381

## Prayer List

**Current Concerns:** Bill Lamb, Warren Powell, Mary Rivers; Peace in all places experiencing conflict, and all homebound and caregivers.

**Continuing Concerns:** The Family of Rev. Dr. Philip Whitehead, Adam DeMars, Tara Heegan, Grady Lindler, Luzie Arnold, Sue DeMichael, Joe DeMichael, Harry Evans

**Military:** Ken Custer, Hilary Compton, Kim Yerrick's niece; Tyler Owens, Kim Yerrick's nephew.

## Upcoming Events:

### Tuesday, April 30th:

10:00 am Quilting Group

### Wednesday, May 1st:

11:00 am Bible Study

4:00 pm CPR/AED Training

6:00 pm Handbell Choir

7:00 pm Chancel Choir

### Sunday, May 5th:

Crazy/Derby Hat Day

9:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am W&M Meeting after Worship

11:30 am Confirmation Class after Worship

## Financial Update

	Actual	Plan	Contributions
Last Week	\$11,801	\$5,392	\$6,409+
April	\$27,142	\$16,176	\$10,966+
Year-to-Date	\$91,354	\$86,272	\$5,082+

## Giving to ILC:

Please consider giving to Incarnation Lutheran Church's ministries and projects.



### Midlands Gives will be coming May 7th!

They are the Midlands' leader in collaborative philanthropy, a nonprofit organization that links charitable people and businesses with areas of need in our community. Please consider getting involved and giving to charitable organizations such as Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas, Lutheran Homes of SC Foundation, Gather SC LLC, and many more. Browse their website to find a charity that speaks to you!

### Stewardship Snippet

April 28th, 2024

People occasionally forgive, but nature never does. Take care of the environment.

# Derby/ Crazy Hat Day!

## May 5th, 2024



# AED/CPR Training

May 1st, 4pm-7:30pm  
&  
May 24th 8:30am- 12pm

Sign up sheet will be  
located in office

# New Members

We will be welcoming new members in the coming weeks, if you are interested in joining us in ministry please contact Pastor Emily at [pastoremily@incarnationlutheran.com](mailto:pastoremily@incarnationlutheran.com)



Incarnation Lutheran Church  
VBS 2024

**JUNE 24-27**  
from 9 am to 12 pm

Scan the QR Code to  
register your child or  
to sign up to  
volunteer!



\*those who have completed Kindergarten thru 5th grade  
\*if your child is registered for Incarnation Summer  
Program your child is already on the list for VBS



## PLAYDATE AT THE PARK

Join Incarnation for popsicles and play  
at the Owens Field's Playground  
(1351 Jim Hamilton Blvd.)

Sat. May 11 | 9 am to 11 am

\*Bring your Star Wars theme things!!

## Oktoberfest



**Oktoberfest is looking for people interested  
in running the kitchen and cook tent as  
part of a leadership team!**

Please contact Pastor Emily, Mary Karl Boepple, or  
Sarah Sawicki if interested.