

Calvary Lutheran Church

11:00 am Sunday Worship for May 18, 2025

950 Bradley Street Concord, NC 28025 www.clconcord.org celca@clconcord.org 704-782-6923



Growing in compassionate relationships, faith, service, and generosity through Christ

Welcome to Calvary! All are welcome in this community through the grace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ. We hope that you will find joy and peace as you worship with us.

- Check out our **welcome center** in the lobby (narthex) for information about our congregation.
- Children and parents are invited to use our **children's resource center** located in the lobby.
- To find our **nursery**, exit the worship center (sanctuary), turn right. Go to the end of the hall and turn left. Follow the signs to our nursery.
- **If you are a guest with us today**, please fill out a visitor card found in the pews.



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

GATHERING

(Please enter the sanctuary in quiet reverence and prepare your heart for worship as you listen to the Prelude.)

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY**PRELUDE****Love Divine, All Loves Excelling****Wesley/Pritchard arr. Hopson****WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS****OPENING HYMN*****When Morning Guilds the Skies****ELW 853****THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM*****P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.**C** Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**P** In the name of  the One who was, who is, and who is to come.**C** Amen.**P** Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

C make us one as you are one.**P** We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,**C** make us one as you are one.**P** We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,**C** make us one as you are one.**P** Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.**C** Amen.

*Please stand in body or in spirit at these places in the service.

GREETING*

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo- ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

3 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.

Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

4 For the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY*

P O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS *We wait for God to speak to us in and through His word.*

L Acts 11:1-18

¹ Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

¶ Psalm 148

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
 praise God in the heights.

² **Praise the LORD, all you angels;**
 sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.

³ Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
 sing praise, all you shining stars.

⁴ **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,**
 and you waters above the heavens.

⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
 who commanded, and they were created,

⁶ **who made them stand fast forever and ever,**
 giving them a law that shall not pass away.

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,
 you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸ **fire and hail, snow and fog,**
 tempestuous wind, doing God's will;

⁹ mountains and all hills,
 fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰ **wild beasts and all cattle,**
 creeping things and flying birds;

¹¹ sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
 princes and all rulers of the world;

¹² **young men and maidens,**
 old and young together.

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
 whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all**
 faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are
 near the LORD. Hallelujah!

¶ The Word of the Lord.

¶ Thanks be to God.

L Revelation 21:1-6

¹ I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

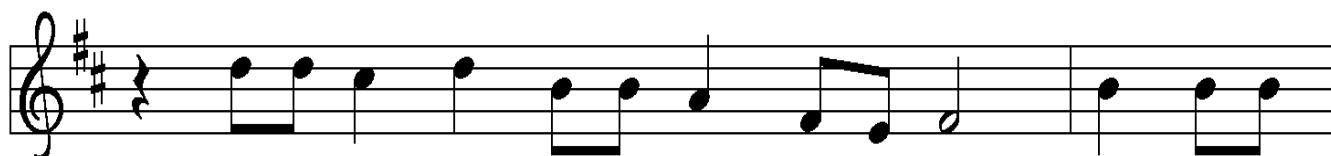
for the first things have passed away.”

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

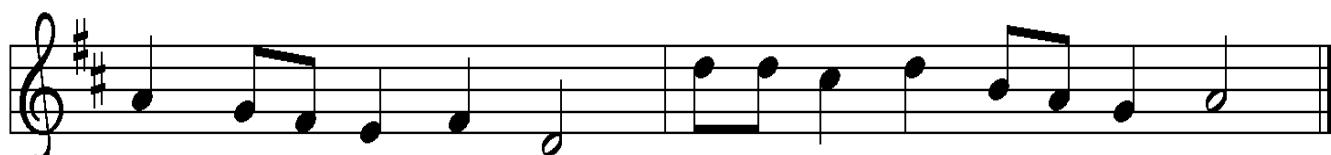
L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Gospel according to John 13:31-35*

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME *All children are invited to come forward to talk about the day's scripture.*

CHILDREN'S CHURCH *All children are invited to go to the parlor for an activity focused on today's Gospel.*

SERMON

Pastor Frantisek

HYMN OF THE DAY*

I Come With Joy

ELW 482

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *

Apostles' Creed

C 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*

A God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Silence for reflection.

After each petition:

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude

A We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

MEAL

We are fed in our life of faith at the Lord's table.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST *We have heard that God has loved us again and again through faith in Christ. This message brings us peace and gives us peace to share. We turn to those around us and offer them peace.*

OFFERING

- *The offering is an act of worship where we respond to God's goodness in our lives by returning to God a portion of what he has first entrusted to us.*
- *Thank you for your worship of God through sharing your time, talents, and finances.*
- *If you would like to share a financial offering by credit card, you may do so by scanning the QR code.*



What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require? With what shall you come to worship your God? What does the Lord require? Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God. Sing to the Lord and take delight, sing with joy in your heart. Trust in the Lord and lean not upon your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and you will be shown the right way. The Lord is gracious and merciful, is slow to anger and abounding in love. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord will show compassion to the faithful. Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God. Sing to the Lord and take delight, sing with joy in your heart. What does the Lord require? Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God. Then sing with joy in your heart.

C OFFERING SONG ***Create in Me a Clean Heart****Hymn 186**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERTORY PRAYER***A** Risen One,**C** you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING*****P** The Lord be with you.**C** And also with you.**P** Lift up your hearts.**C** We lift them to the Lord.**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE FOR THE SEASON—LED BY THE PASTOR*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san - na. 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION *

THE LORD'S PRAYER*

C 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION*

P Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION *Please be seated.*

- *We invite those worshipping online to join us in Holy Communion as we share in the one body of Christ this morning.*
- *For those worshipping in person, you may receive communion by coming to the altar or by standing at your seat.*
- *When communing, you may choose either the prepackaged bread and grape juice or the wafer and wine in individual cups.*

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.

COMMUNION BLESSING*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

P Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C Amen.

SENDING

We are sent into the world to share the love and welcome of God.

BENEDICTION*

P The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, \pm Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG**Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

ELW 656

DISMISSAL*

A Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
A Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE**Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones**

Geistliche Kirchengesange arr. Hughes

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Text & Visuals: Calvary's Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number is: SAS006707

Serving in Worship

Worship Volunteer	May 18th	May 25th
Worship Assistant	Ken Glace	David Black
Lector	Vivian Howard	Frank Lubich
Communion Assistants	Raina Meyer	
Ushers	Polly and Bo Saatzer	Polly and Bo Saatzer
Altar Guild	Raina and Susan Meyer	Raina and Susan Meyer
Children's Church	Lisa Hunkle	Amy VanDewark
Nursery	Kelley Poulos	Shelia Camp
CPOM	Raina Meyer	Raina Meyer
Tellers	Terry Ramseur Glen Rediehs Nancy Haney	Susan Meyer Gary Norris Nancy Haney

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE GOD DURING 11:00 WORSHIP IN JUNE:

June 1st: communion assistant (1); ushers (2)

June 8th: worship assistant, communion assistants (2); ushers (2)

June 15th: communion assistants (2); ushers (2)

June 22nd: communion assistants (2); ushers (2)

June 29th: worship assistant; communion assistant (1); ushers (2)

If you are available to serve, please call or email the office administrator or use this QR code to sign up online:



THE ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY are given by Marc and Laurel Gregory to the glory of God and in honor of their 12th wedding anniversary.

(If you would like to contribute altar flowers for Sunday worship, please see the bulletin board outside the choir room the calendar of available dates and an order form or call our office administrator.)



Prayer requests will remain on the current list for four weeks. Please call the church office if you would like to add a name or resubmit a name for another four weeks.

- **Week of May 18th**

- Kyle Pearce (healing following surgery)
- Jean Smith (healing following knee replacement surgery)
- Kirsten Filippelli (healing) – co-worker of Rosie Schieber)

Week of 2:

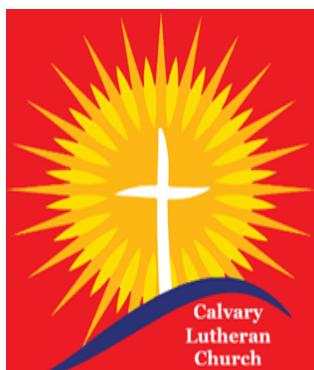
- Nancy Haney (healing following a hospital visit)
- Rylan Massey (healing) – grandson of Sheldon Parks

Week 3:

- Mike Remkus (healing)
- Dennis Moretz (healing) - brother of Phyllis Remkus
- Debbie Stopko-Korhut and Jodi Korhut—friends of Kathi Hissong

Week 4:

- Our condolences to the family of Dorothy **Elaine** Blackwelder at her death on April 17th.
- Pam Varnadore (healing) - sister of Cathy Steere

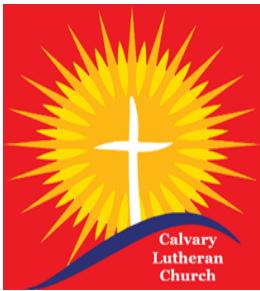


SAVE THE DATE! Pastor Frantisek's Installation Service

Sunday, June 1, 2025

Starting at 4:00 pm

In the sanctuary and online at [youtube.com/
@calvarylutheran4762](https://youtube.com/@calvarylutheran4762)



Use this QR code to access this week's E news.

Pastor Frantisek's usual weekly schedule:

- Mon-Thu: mostly present during general office hours, advance request for a meeting recommended
- Friday: home office, meetings by request only
 - Saturday: emergencies only

You can request a meeting by email or here <https://bit.ly/pf-meeting> or by using this QR code:



Church Office: 9am—1pm Monday-Thursday *Deadline for bulletin and e-news information : Wednesday by 9 am.*

Susan Norris, Office Administrator

officeadmin@clconcord.org

Gaylene Butch, Finance Administrator

financeadmin@clconcord.org

Finance Administrator's Hours: Mondays 9:00am-3:00 pm; Wednesdays 9:00am-1:00pm

Please remember your church in your will. See Pastor Frantisek or any council member to assist you in this process.