



**CROWN OF LIFE** | LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

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*A Service of Worship and Praise*

**-We Gather as God's People to Worship Him-**

**Opening Hymn: R365** *Love Divine, All Love Excelling*

*PLEASE STAND*

**Minister says:** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation says:** And also with you.

**-Introduction to Worship-**

**M:** God, our Father, each day is a gift of your grace.

**C:** Your mercies are new every morning.

**M:** Guide our steps by the light of your word.

**C:** Shield us from harm and keep us from evil.

**M:** Better than life is your love.

**C:** Put joy in our hearts and praise on our lips. Alleluia!

**-We Prepare Our Hearts-**

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**C:** Merciful Father in heaven, I know that I have been sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Forgive my sins and change my life.

**We sing:** *Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!  
Thou art the Potter; I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me after Thy will,  
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being absolute sway!  
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see  
Christ only, always living in me!

**M:** Jesus says to His people: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

**C:** Yes, I believe.

**M:** Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, it is my privilege to declare to you that your sins are forgiven. You are a dear child of God. Let's praise His name.

**We sing:** *No Other Name But the Name of Jesus*

*Chorus:* No other name, but the name of Jesus  
No other name, but the name of the Lord  
No other name but the name of Jesus  
Is worthy of glory, And worthy of honor  
And worthy of power and all praise!

His name is exalted far above the earth;  
His name is high above the heavens.  
His name is exalted far above the earth;  
Give glory and honor and praise unto His name.

*Chorus*

## **-We Pray Together-**

**M:** I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?

**C:** My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

**M:** He will not let your foot slip – He who watches over you will not slumber.

**C:** My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

**M:** The LORD will keep you from all harm – He will watch over your life.

**C:** The LORD will watch over my coming and going, both now and forevermore. AMEN.

*BE SEATED*

## **-We Listen to God's Word-**

**FIRST LESSON:** Acts 4:32-37

<sup>32</sup> All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all <sup>34</sup> that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales <sup>35</sup> and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

<sup>36</sup> Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), <sup>37</sup> sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

**We Sing:** *Thy Word*

*Refrain:* Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid and I think I've lost my way,  
Still, You're there right beside me.  
Nothing will I fear as long as You are near,  
Please be with me to the end.

*Refrain*

I will not forget Your love for me and yet,  
My heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus be my guide and hold me to Your side,  
I will love You to the end.

*Refrain*

**SECOND LESSON:** *1 John 3:18-24*

<sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

<sup>19</sup> This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: <sup>20</sup> If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup> Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God <sup>22</sup> and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup> And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. <sup>24</sup> The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

PLEASE STAND

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

**15** "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

<sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

<sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

BE SEATED

## Children's Message

**Hymn of the Day:** **B455** *Just A Closer Walk With Thee*

**Sermon:** ***Remain in Jesus to be Fruitful*** *John 15:1-8*

PLEASE STAND

**Confession of Faith:** *Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him, all things were made. For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake, He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried. On the third day, He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

AMEN

*BE SEATED*

**Offering:** **B396** *I Surrender All*

**Prayers:** *The Lord's Prayer*

### **Benediction**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: AMEN

**Closing Hymn: R588** *Abide With Me*

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<b>Serving at CofL:</b>	<b>Today</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
Music	Katherine, Elijah	Karis, Elijah
Ushers		<i>This Could Be You</i>
Reader		<i>This Could Be You</i>
Altar		<i>This Could Be You</i>
Refreshments	Birthdays	<i>This Could Be You</i>
Cleaning		<i>This Could Be You</i>
Mowing		<i>This Could Be You</i>

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Wednesday 7 PM Bible Class <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89831357274>
- Thursday 10:30 AM Bible Class at Summerhouse, Slidell
- Sunday 10 AM Bible Class, Sunday School; 11 AM Worship
- May 5 Crawfish Boil
- Jun 2 Confirmation
- Jun 8 Garage Sale
- Jun 25-28 [International Youth Rally](#), Fort Collins, CO
- Jul 22-26 [Camp South](#), Covington, GA



*"...give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."  
II Corinthians 9:7*

