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May 11, 2025

Easter 4 (Good Shepherd Sunday)

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."



Luke 6:23

We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 23 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 711 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

LSB 711

SERVICE OF THE WORD

(Worship Supplement, p. 12)

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P 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.

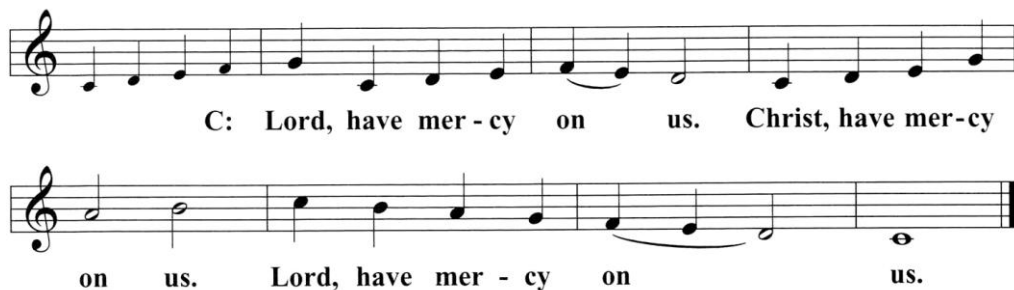
C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful by nature. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy upon me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. Through faith in Him, which was created in you by the Holy Spirit, you are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C Amen.

Kyrie Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.

W.S. p. 13



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Gloria in Excelsis Latin for "Glory to God in the highest."

W.S. p. 13



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,
Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:
We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,
Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads. We pray this in Jesus' name, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

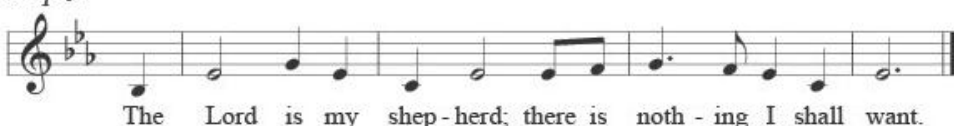
Ezekiel 34:11-16 (ESV)

¹¹ "For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 23 (Worship Supplement – p. 36)

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Antiphon



Psalm Tone



The LORD is my shep-herd;*
I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;*
He leads me beside the still waters.

He re-stores my soul;*
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.

Antiphon

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;*
For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;*
You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;*
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon

Second Reading

Revelation 7:9-17 (ESV)

P The second reading is from Revelation 7:9-17

C **Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!**

⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ "Therefore they are before the throne of God,
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;
the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of living water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!

Alleluia and Verse

When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing "Alleluia!"—meaning, "Praise the Lord!"



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Apostles' Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

W.S. p. 15

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 812 *Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs*

LSB 812

Sermon Text: John 10:22-30 (NKJV)

²² Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. ²³ And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch. ²⁴ Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. ²⁶ "But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. ²⁷ "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. ³⁰ "I and My Father are one."

Sermon Theme: Listen to the Voice of Your Good Shepherd

† Why don't we always listen to or hear Jesus' voice like we should?

1)

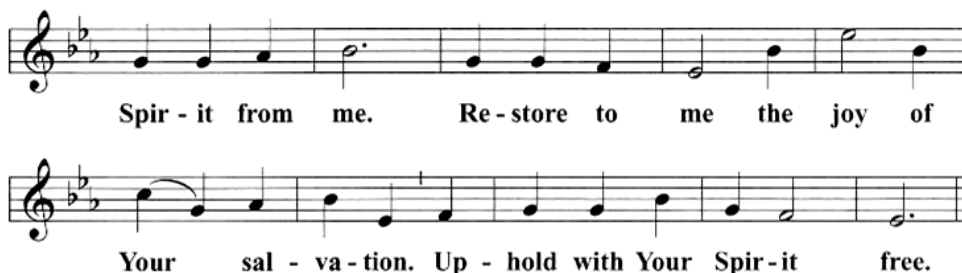
2)

† How can you listen to and hear the voice of your Good Shepherd more often and more clearly?

Offertory

W.S. p. 16

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly



Sermon Hymn: 710 *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*

LSB 710

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Choir Song: "It is Well with My Soul"

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll—
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.

(Refrain) It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate and hath shed his own blood for my soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—my sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more: praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend; even so, it is well with my soul.

Prayer of the Church *We bring our prayers to God.*

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.**

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

- ☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



Closing Hymn: 740 / Am Jesus' Little Lamb *(please stand for last verse)*

LSB 740

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today: *Mother's Day*
5/11/25 **Choir Practice – 8am**
Worship – 9am
Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

This Week: Tuesday – **Worship Service at New Perspective** (Franklin) -**11am**
Board of Property – 6pm
Elders Meeting – 6:30pm
Wednesday – **Worship Service at The Villa** (Greenfield) – **10am**
Wednesday Bible Class – 6:30pm (Zoom & In-Person)
Thursday – **Church Council Meeting – 6pm**
Church Cleaning: Team #7 (5/10-5/16); Team #8 (5/17-5/23)

Next Sunday: *Christian Education Sunday*
5/18/25 **Choir Practice – 8am**
Worship – 9am (Guest Preacher: Pastor Mark Bernthal, Messiah, Eau Claire, WI)
Fellowship Hour – 10:15am
Spring Piano Recital at New Perspective (Franklin) -**1pm**

In Your Mailbox - *Daily Rest* Daily Devotions – (June - August)



Blessed Mother's Day! to all the mothers and grandmothers who are with us today. What an irreplaceable blessing Christian mothers and grandmothers (and all Christian women) are! We thank God for the blessings He has given us in you! ***"Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised"*** (Proverbs 31:30).



Private Communion After the Worship Service – For communicant members who would like to receive the Lord's Supper today, please meet with Pastor Luke at the front of church after the worship service this morning.

Christian Education Sunday – NEXT Sunday, May 18th – Next Sunday we will be celebrating Christian Education Sunday. Pastor Mark Bernthal, chaplain at Messiah, Eau Claire, will be our guest preacher. Following our worship service next Sunday there will be a fellowship hour with refreshments provided by the school families.

Messiah Lutheran School Fun Night Carnival! – Tuesday, May 20th @ 6pm – The congregation is invited to Messiah Lutheran School's Fun Night Carnival on **Tues. May 20th @ 6pm**. School families will be hosting carnival style games (church members are also invited to host a game if you'd like!) Please let Mr. Tiefel know which game you plan to host to help us avoid duplicates, or if you'd like to volunteer to help with the evening's festivities, please let Mr. Tiefel know. We're monitoring the weather, but all games are currently planned to be held indoors.

Spring Piano Recital at New Perspective – Next Sunday, 5/18 @ 1pm – Messiah piano students will be having their piano recital at New Perspective Senior Living in Franklin next Sunday at 1pm. The congregation is invited to attend.

VBS – July 7-11 – 9am – 11:30am –

Registration is now open for our Vacation Bible School from July 7-11 for children age 3 through 8th grade. Our theme this year will be "Missionaries of Christ."

The sign-up sheets for student registrations is on the bulletin board in the entryway. Hope to see your child there, and remember to invite your friends and neighbors as well!



VBS Teachers and Volunteers Needed! – We are in need of teachers and volunteers for our VBS. Volunteers are needed for teaching, music, crafts, recess, and general help. Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the church entry if you'd like to help out. Even if you can't help out for the whole week, we'd love to have you join us for even just a day. Thank you for your prayerful consideration! Please speak with Ben Blue or Pastor Luke if you have any questions.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study @ 6:30pm – Please make plans to join us either in-person or online via Zoom for our Wednesday Evening Bible Class. We are studying selected Psalms. To join online please click on Pastor Luke's Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8729663333>

Pastoral "Get to Know Each Other" Visits / Pastor Luke's Contact Info – I am continuing to make "face to face" visits with our members. These include a short devotion and some time to get to know each other. Pastor's Contact Info:

Email: LBernthal@messiahhc.org ☩ Cell: 402-389-2147 ☩ Church Office: 414-427-9337

CLC Call News - Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA, has **returned** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

CLC World Missions Prayer List – May 2025

...pray for us that the Word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified...
2 Thessalonians 3:1



Nepal (South Asia) – Pastor Raju recently reported that fifty-seven adults, children, and infants were baptized into Christ during visits to distant congregations during the Easter season. See pictures [HERE](#). Eight CLC Mission Helpers will be visiting Nepal in late June. Plans are to teach the Gospel to approximately 1500 children in twelve different congregations and preaching stations. Fifteen men will finish their Himalayan

Bible Institute studies in the coming months, and their graduation is planned for October or November. Thank the Lord for the gift of Baptism and for the 57 souls who have received this sacrament in Nepal. Ask God to bless all the Mission Helper Trip preparation over the next several weeks. And ask for the Lord's blessings on the last few months of Bible instruction for the HBI students.

Liberia (West Africa) – Due to serious health concerns, Pastor John Hein has resigned his call as the part-time visiting missionary to Liberia. The Board of Missions has assigned visiting, correspondence, and oversight duties to Missionary Ohlmann. Thank the Lord for Pastor Hein's faithful service to his call and for the many blessings experienced by both Pastor Hein and the members of the Liberia-CLC. Ask the Lord to grant patience and wisdom to Missionary Ohlmann and those he will begin working with in Liberia as they make plans to continue the Gospel outreach work.

Kenya (East Africa) – Missionaries Naumann and Ohlmann are planning a visit in May to offer assistance and guidance regarding organizational and leadership issues. While in Kenya, they will be on hand to teach pastoral training lessons and attend the KCLC annual convention. Pray that the Lord grants the necessary wisdom, love, patience, diligence, and clear direction as we seek His blessings for the upcoming meetings, correspondence, and decisions that the leaders of the KCLC, the CLC Kinship Committee, and the CLC Board of Missions need to make.

Nigeria (West Africa) – With an MDF grant and local offerings, the Nigeria-CLC has made good progress in constructing a new multipurpose building for the seminary. When finished, the building will include new classrooms, a library/computer room, and an office for faculty. [Recent pictures](#) show the progress. Missionary Ohlmann plans to visit the NCLC in the Fall for the dedication of the building. Ask the Lord to continue to bless this project and thank Him for providing the funding through the NCLC and MDF offerings of CLC members. Thank the Lord for the privilege of working together in this effort to train faithful workers in His Nigerian harvest of souls!

Bangladesh (South Asia) – The BLCM building project began with groundbreaking and foundation work in the week following Easter. [Pictures](#) show significant progress. They hope to complete all the foundation work and ground floor slab before the monsoon season begins in the coming weeks. The Board of Missions has sent the first two installments of an MDF grant to help support this project. Plans are to send the remaining funds in three more installments over the next six months to help complete phase one of this project. Additional offerings to the MDF will be needed to complete funding on schedule. This multipurpose building will serve God's Kingdom as a Bible Institute for training faithful church workers, a place for worship, and housing for teachers and students. Fourteen men are ready to begin pastoral training once the building is finished! Continue to pray for the success of this building project and that the Lord would move the hearts of His people to give generously for this important work so that the project can stay on schedule.

DR Congo (Central Africa) – Pastor Lumiangu, who serves the members of the Confessional Lutheran Church of the Family of Saints in Kinshasa, recently lost his rented home to flooding. He is looking for a new home to rent that will not be so susceptible to flooding. Pastor Yumba, who serves the [CCLC](#), reports that the seminary students of Holy Trinity Lutheran Seminary are completing their vicarages. The plans are for graduation and ordination later this year when Missionaries Evensen and Ohlmann visit. Pray that the Lord will provide a suitable home and the resources to pay the additional rent for Pastor Lumiangu and his family. Thank the Lord for the diligent study and faithful teaching of God's Word over the past several years of the Holy Trinity Seminary. Ask for the Lord's continued blessings on the students as they finish their vicarage assignments.

Myanmar (South Asia) – The [civil war in Myanmar continues](#) with no end in sight, causing much suffering for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Thankfully, we have been able to provide minimal humanitarian assistance through Kinship. With so much damage done to the infrastructure, consistent electricity is scarce. The orphanage has been relying on a generator for a couple of hours each evening for light and to pump water. The generator is now beyond repair. Kinship has provided a grant to help them purchase a new generator for the orphanage. Please keep our brothers and sisters in your prayers, asking for peace, justice, and relief for all affected by this conflict. Thank the Lord for Providing a new generator through the offerings to Kinship.

Mexico (Latin America) – Pastor Olvera's mother-in-law passed away on April 7th. Pastor Olvera's wife, Claudia, was by her side, providing love and care when the Lord called her to the eternal home He has prepared for her. Thank the Lord for the victory over death our Savior won for us on the cross and through the empty tomb that comforts this family.

Togo (West Africa) – Missionary Evensen reports that three students are in their final year at Mount Horeb Lutheran Seminary, with graduation tentatively scheduled for November. One of the students has started a preaching station in his home and is actively inviting people to attend. Pastor Kossi Blewu has been conducting a Gospel outreach radio program in a town located about 30 minutes away from the seminary. If the Lord blesses this effort to establish a preaching station, one of the graduates from the seminary will be called to serve there. Please pray for these students as they complete their studies and ask the Lord to bless their efforts in establishing preaching stations and congregations so that the truth of His saving word may be proclaimed for the salvation of Togolese souls.

Tanzania (East Africa)—Following the Spring Easter break, all the Wittenberg Lutheran Theological Seminary students have returned to classes. The semester will end in mid-May, and the students will return to their homes until the next semester begins. Ask the Lord to bless these students and the instructors, Missionary Naumann, Pastor Loskira, and Pastor Issangya, in their labors.

The Philippines (Southeast Asia) – Pastor Palangyos has begun remodeling a new worship and Bible training facility that his sister donated to the LAMP. Please pray for the LAMP members' faith and success in their outreach efforts so that more people may repent of their sins and rejoice in the forgiveness of Jesus Christ. Ask the Lord to provide everything necessary to complete the new worship and training facility.

India (South Asia) – Pastor Jyothi and another CLC-India pastor were recently attacked by Hindu Extremists. The other pastor suffered broken facial bones that required hospitalization and surgery. Pastor Jyothi was treated and released. Police reports were filed, but there was no follow-up. Missionary Ohlmann recently applied for a visa to visit India again. His visa was revoked five years ago, and he has not been allowed to visit India since. Pray that the Lord will protect, support, and strengthen the faith of His children in India amid increased persecution against Christians. Ask the Lord to provide a visa for Missionary Ohlmann if it is His will to visit India again.

Missionary Peter Evensen (Togo, West Africa) – Missionary Evensen continues his teaching duties at Mt. Horeb Lutheran Seminary and also teaches at the local congregation in Lomé. Thank the Lord for the work Missionary Evensen is doing, and pray for his improved health. He will be returning to the U.S. for furlough in June.

Missionary Bruce Naumann (Tanzania-East Africa) – Missionary Naumann will meet Missionary Ohlmann in Nairobi on May 17th. They will spend about a week meeting with the pastors and leaders of the KCLC and the two kinship-supported schools in Etogo and Moi's Bridge. Paula will be returning to the U.S. for furlough on May 14th. Missionary Naumann will join her a few weeks later. You can follow Missionary Naumann's blog at <https://clc-tz.blogspot.com/>. Praise the Lord for all that Missionary Naumann is accomplishing, thank the Lord for the faithful support and encouragement of his wife Paula, and ask our Savior to grant wisdom, patience, love, and all that is necessary to continue our Savior's work in East Africa.

Missionary Todd Ohlmann – Missionary Ohlmann was forced to postpone his visit to Nigeria due to issues in obtaining a visa. Those issues have been resolved; he received his visa a few weeks ago. He will meet Missionary Naumann in Kenya in the second week of May. He will lead the Mission Helper Trip to Nepal in June. He has also been assisting with the pastoral vacancy at Faith Lutheran Church in the St. Louis area. Please pray that the Lord blesses and provides for all the necessary preparations for these trips to occur. Please continue to pray for his wife, Beth, as she cares for her elderly father, who longs for his heavenly home. You can read reports and see pictures here: missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com

Ongoing Opportunities – Please continue to pray for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world, who, by God's grace, are dedicated to proclaiming the truths of God's saving Word for the salvation of souls as they trust the promise of our Savior that His Word will not return to Him void but will accomplish that for which He sends it.

Bible Readings:	
5/11	Lev. 5:14-6:13 Psalm 119:33-40 Mark 13:24-14:2
5/12	Lev. 6:14-7:10 Psalm 119:41-48 Mark 14:3-21
5/13	Lev. 7:11-38 Psalm 119:49-56 Mark 14:22-42
5/14	Lev. 8:1-21 Psalm 119:57-64 Mark 14:43-72
5/15	Lev. 8:22-36 Psalm 119:65-80 Mark 15:1-20
5/16	Lev. 9 Psalm 119:81-88 Mark 15:21-47
5/17	Lev. 10 Psalm 119:89-96 Mark 16

May Ushers	Cleaning Team 5/17-5/23
Jason Bailey Josh Serba Mark Mueller May Slideshow Sam Lisak	<u>Team 8</u> K/B Ackerman C. Reim A. Albrecht J/A Bailey

Fruits of Faith	Last Week:	To Date:
Budgetary Offerings:	\$7,850.57	\$357,949.97
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,571.29	\$368,565.47
Over (Under) Budget:	(\$720.72)	(\$10,615.50)
Missions:	\$100.00	\$2,605.00
Attendance Last Sun. (5/4): 126		



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