

Welcome to

WEST CLERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH

Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

May 7, 2023

Bible Presentation Sunday



Worship 9:30am

Vicar Mike Erickson

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Facebook Live @ West Clermont

<https://www.facebook.com/100011482533370>

5th Sunday in Lent

May 7, 2023

INTRODUCTION

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

GREETING

V: He is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed!**

V: 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.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WCLC MISSION STATEMENT: *As children of God, called to love God and one another, we proclaim the Word of God through study, prayer, worship, and discipleship. We serve those in need within our congregation, our community, and our world as an expression of God's love for us. LOVE, PROCLAIM, SERVE!*

GATHERING MUSIC: *Alleluia, Jesus is Risen!* **ELW 377**
verses 1,3,4,& 5

THANKGIVING FOR BAPTISM

V: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

C: **Amen.**

V: 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.

C: 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.

V: 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.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

ELW pg. 120

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *This is the feast....* ELW pg. 122

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BIBLE PRESENTATION

V: Parents, when you brought your child to Holy Baptism, you made promises to your child. One of those promises was that an appropriate time you would “place in their hands the Holy Scriptures.” Today is that appropriate time. Just as the

congregation witnessed your promises on the day of Baptism, so today we will witness the fulfilling of your promise.

Kay: Children, we are excited that today you will receive your own Bible. In this book you will continue to learn the stories of God's journey with God's people through many, many years.

V: Now you will read for yourselves the stories of Jesus, God's greatest gift to us. You already know the story of Christmas, of Jesus being born as a baby. The Bible contains all the great stories about Jesus. You will be able to read for yourselves how Jesus died for us because God loves us so much.

Kay: Parents, your church provides these Bibles so that we can support you in the faithful carrying out of your promises.

The Bibles are now handed to the parents who will hold them for a moment.

Congregation: We will continue to support you as you fulfill the promises to "provide for their instruction in the Christian faith." We will pray that all of us grow in faith, love and service.

The parents now place the Bible in the hands of their children saying together:

Parents: *We did promise to give you the Bible. We are so pleased that now you can read for yourself the stories about Jesus. Receive this Bible. Join us in reading it regularly. Learn and tell its stories. Discover its mysteries. Ask us questions. Honor its commandments. Rejoice in the Good News of God's love for us in Jesus. May God's life-giving Spirit inspire you and make you wise.*

V: Let us pray together.

All: Jesus, we thank you for the Bible. We thank you for these parents and children. We will encourage each other to faithful use of the Bible. Amen.

Key: Treasure the Bible but remember it is to be used and studied well. If you wear it out because you read it so much, we will replace it!

NOISY CAN OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC: Chosen by "Sidewalk Prophets" CCLI
Song#7119177 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0RfdmRJTWc>

Jesus sees you today and whatever you're walking through. He sees you, and says, "I love you." He chooses you. Believe it. We can remember that "Chosen" is proclaiming that we belong to God and that we are not alone. We are a work in progress. God wants the best for us and wants us to know we belong to Him. Know that you are chosen by God. The Lord wants us to tell the world about Him. So, let others know God by letting your souls shine for Christ.

1 Peter 2:9 lays it all out there, "You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light." The imagery of being "God's special possession" and how God holds onto us like Linus held his safety blanket in Charlie Brown.

Lyrics:

What do you see when You look in the mirror

A loser, a failure

Does every scar determine, Who you are

Maybe don't look, Just turn away

If every day is like yesterday

Winds are gonna change

What do you hear when, You're all alone

In your head a dead end

Stranded at sea

On a stepping stone

There's a cloud inside you, It's welling up

Your eyes are holding back a flood

It's safe to come undone

You're not worthless, You're precious

You're not left out, You're wanted

You're not invisible

*With your shining soul
Love has spoken, You are chosen*

*You sat on the side and You tried to hide it
In silence and quiet
But deep in your heart, There's a burning fire
Whoever told you that
You're not strong
Today's the day you're
Gonna prove them wrong
It's in your victory song*

*You're not worthless, You're precious
You're not left out, You're wanted
You're not invisible
With your shining soul
Love has spoken, You are chosen*

*Your fear is courageous and Your weakness is strong
Hold onto faith and You'll more than overcome
This is your identity
Your call to be
You're royalty
You're chosen, You are chosen*

*Your fear is courageous and Your weakness is strong
Hold onto faith and You'll more than overcome
This is who you're made to be
Come and see your destiny
You're chosen, You are chosen*

*You're not worthless, You're precious
You're not left out, You're wanted
You're not invisible
With your shining soul
Love has spoken, You are chosen*

WORD

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son

of Man standing at the right hand of God!”⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him.⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm: 31:1-5,15-16 (Responsively)

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

²**Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵**My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,”⁸and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia.....*

ELW pg. 124

Gospel: John 14:1-14

V: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the

Father"? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

V: *The gospel of the Lord.*

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Vicar Mike Erickson

SERMON

Vicar Mike Erickson

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life*

ELW 816

***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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

***INTERCESSIONS**

V: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

***WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE**

V: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

V: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

OFFERING: *Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring* ELW 691

OFFERING PRAYER:

V: Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

MEAL

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

V: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

V: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

V: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

V: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy ...

ELW pg. 130

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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

***LORD'S PRAYER**

V: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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**

V: Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

COMMUNION: *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* ELW 484

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

V: The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C: Amen.

SENDING MUSIC: *Be Not Afraid* (Sing it 3 times) ELW 388

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Prayer List

Requested: Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Bob Kress, Don Erickson, Ken Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Lynzee Henrikson-Makowski, Karen Kohls, Ardell Fortune, Inez Oakland, Jerry Erickson, Julie Albertson, Danice Cummings, LaVerne & Grace Swenson, Karen Kerner.

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins: Millard Nelson, Betty Erickson, Gail Herman, John Yauslin, Marilyn Knutsen, Marilyn Shipton, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Rodney Guyer.

In the Military: Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Major Stephanie Wilkins, Kennedy White.



Mon. 5/8	6pm	Women's Auxiliary Mtg.
Sat. 5/13	8:30am	Men's Group
Sun. 5/14	9:30am	Worship Service <i>Senior Service</i>

Happy Mother's Day!

10:30am	Fellowship
6:00pm	Sunday Mtg.

Sunday, April 30, 2023

Loose: \$0.75

Regular: \$555.00

Total General Fund: \$611.06

Roof / Building: \$90.00

Attendance: 55

Copies: \$7.50

Noisy Can: \$47.81



Congratulations to those who are receiving Bibles;

Jared Dean

Joshua Dirksen

Anthony Kerner

Celia Klemp

Avery Lerch

Kylah Massman

Klay Monteith

Lainee Steffens.

CHURCH NEWS



Pancake Brunch TODAY following worship!



WCLC T-shirts have been ordered.



The **In-Kind Offering** for the Synod Assembly is kits for Lutheran Services in Iowa for those in need. Enclosed in this bulletin is a list of each kit and the items needed. A container is set up to collect items and monetary donations can be dropped off in the church office. Items will be collected until the end of May.



The **Decorah Chorale** will present a spring concert **TODAY** at 3 p.m. in the Decorah High School Auditorium. The concert program, titled *“Love: A Wild Force,”* includes sacred music, thematic music that celebrates new love and setting love free after death, and honors those who have stood tall in the face of adversity. A free-will offering will be taken to support the mission of the Decorah Chorale. The Decorah Chorale is an adult mixed choral ensemble with members from Decorah and surrounding communities.



Victor Mike to present Martin Luther to WELCA Circles: Vicar Mike would like to share his writing of Martin Luther to circles for their Bible study in May. Circles will meet on May 17th @ 1pm.



Senior Service is next Sunday, May 14th. Fellowship to follow service.



Noisy Can Offering for 2nd Quarter (April-June) will go to the family of Wyattte Herriage, the 12-year old NFV student who suffered a heart episode and had surgery for an implantable cardioverter defibrillator. Funds collected will help with extra expenses the family is experiencing.



“To Paint” or “Not to Paint” the Altar Statue. Council is looking for your input into this very question. Council is asking that congregation members write down their response to this question and place your “yes” or “no” response in the box in the Fellowship area. Congregation members have until next Sunday, May 14th, to submit a response. Only one response per person please.

CAMPERSHIPS **Congratulations** to *Cece Cummings* (daughter of Stacy & Chris Cummings) and *Gavin Wilkins* (grandson of Rodney & Diane Wagner), who received camperships to attend Village Creek & EWALU this summer.



Paint Project is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 22nd.



Thank you to Linda & Dean Hyde for transporting our quilts and kits to the LWR truck in Decorah. WELCA ladies sent 73 quilts, 9 school kits, 25 personal care kits, and 18 baby care kits on behalf of West Clermont.



Thank you to Karen Miller for the wall hanging she made for West Clermont in the Fellowship area by the coffee pot.

Korbin Swenson (grandson of LaVerne & Grace Swenson) has a graduation party on Sunday, May 21st from 4-8pm in New London. Details are available on the bulletin board downstairs.

SHEPHERD OF THE HILL NEWS



We would like to introduce a **new fundraiser** that we are going to do this year. **“Show you care with underwear”** is designed to provide the families we serve with new socks and under ware for each child going to school in the fall. Starting now thru May, you can donate a pair of socks and /or underwear to Shepherd of the Hill. All of these will be going to the children when we do our backpack project that will be held on August 9, 2023. There is a drop off container outside of the office.

