



# Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



*We Welcome you to Worship!*

**May 4, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.**

The People of Covenant are called to:

**Gather, Grow and Go Serve**

...With God's Love!

# Welcome Thank you for joining us for Worship today!

**WORSHIP ORDER – Sunday, May 4, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.**

*Congregation participation in **bold** in bulletin*

*ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymn Book, Setting 3*

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **Land Acknowledgment**

Covenant Lutheran Church acknowledges and honors the Indigenous Peoples and their ancestral homelands on which we gather. We stand on stolen ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and the many other Indigenous Nations that have been historical occupants here. We respect Native Americans as caretakers of this land and Mother Earth. We strive to emulate the stewardship they first demonstrated. We embrace Indigenous People in love and gratitude. May we always seek a greater understanding of the Native community and their history as a whole as we aspire to work in meaningful partnership.

### **Welcome**

### **Call to Worship**

Living Creator, the world teems with your beauty and abounds with your artistry and grace.

**We sing your praises, Lord, as we celebrate the risen Christ.**

Celebrate the risen Christ who walks with us as we traverse the joys and fears of our lives.

**We sing your praises, Lord, as we celebrate the risen Christ.**

### **Children's Time**

### **Gathering Hymn**

*Morning Has Broken*

ELW 556

### **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**

pg. 138

**Hymn of Praise**

*This is the Feast*

pg. 140-141

## **Prayer of the Day**

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.*

## **First Reading**

**Acts 9:1-6**

*A reading from Acts, the ninth chapter.*

<sup>1</sup> Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup> He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Bell Choir**

*I'll Fly Away*

Brumlet/Webster, arr. Walthrop

## **Second Reading**

**Revelation 5:11-14**

*A reading from Revelation, the fifth chapter.*

<sup>11</sup> Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

<sup>13</sup> Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” <sup>14</sup> And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation**

pg. 142

## **Gospel**

**John 21:1-19**

*The Holy Gospel according to John, the twenty first chapter.*

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup> Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup> Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. <sup>4</sup> Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” <sup>6</sup> He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup> That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup> But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. <sup>9</sup> When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are

you?” because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. <sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” <sup>19</sup> (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.” The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Pastor Wendy Moen

**Hymn of the Day**

*The Church of Christ, In Every Age*

ELW 729

**Affirmation of Baptism**

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *these members* one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of *their* baptism.

*Those making affirmation are presented by Kathy Andrusz:*

I present *Logan Angerhofer, Carson Brekken and Andrew Kettner*, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

**Faith Statements and Presentation of Scripture**

**Faith Statement by Logan:** Growing up, I’ve spent hours fishing on quiet lakes and hunting in the stillness of the woods. I’ve come to

realize that these moments weren't just about catching fish or tracking deer. They were about something deeper: patience, trust, and listening lessons that have helped shape my faith. When you're fishing, there's a lot of waiting. You cast your line and hope. Sometimes you catch something quickly, and sometimes the whole day goes by with nothing. Hunting is similar—you prepare, you walk quietly, you sit for hours watching and waiting. It's in that quiet that I've often felt closest to God. The stillness of nature reminds me that God is always present, even when He feels far away. Just like I can't always see the fish under the water or the deer in the brush, I can't always see God's plan. But I trust that He's there. In the Bible, Jesus called fishermen to be His disciples. He didn't choose scholars or kings—He chose people who knew how to wait, how to work, and how to trust in what they couldn't see. That inspires me. Just like those fishermen, I want to follow Jesus with my whole life, bringing patience, humility, and trust into everything I do. Confirmation is a step forward in my faith—a choice to follow Christ. I may not have all the answers, and like fishing, there will be days of waiting and wondering. But I've learned from the outdoors that some of the best things in life come when you're quiet, patient, and open to what God is doing, even if it's not what you expected. As I'm confirmed, I carry with me the lessons of the wild: to listen more than I speak, to trust even when I don't see, and to remember that God is always near.

### **Presentation of Scripture for Logan**

**Psalm 8:3–4**

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

**Faith Statement by Carson:** *My Journey of Faith:* Understanding God, Church, and Living My Beliefs Faith has always played a role in my life, because of my parents and my grandparents. As I prepared for being confirmed, I have taken time to reflect on what God means to me and how God plays a role in my life day to-day as well as the importance of

faith and the important role of the Church in my life, and how I will live out my faith beyond confirmation classes and in church.

*What God Means to Me:* To me, God is a source of unconditional love and guidance. I believe that God is always with me every day and that he wants me to trust in His plan. My relationship with God has grown over the last couple of years because of the encouragement of my parents and grandparents to go to church more often and to take confirmation and get confirmed but my relationship with God has also been strengthened by my family, my church, and my experiences in prayer to me god is a way of guidance and forgiveness something that I can rely on and depend on that is what god is for me.

*The Importance of Faith:* Faith, a word that we all know and are familiar with, has one meaning for us having complete trust in god. But for each individual person the reason for your faith is very different for all of us. For me my faith is structured towards my family, mostly my parents and grandparents. I grew up praying every night with my dad and holidays with my grandparents and going to church almost every Sunday with my family so my main reason for my faith would be how i was raised and how I was taught to take one minute every night to pray and thank god for another day, or to take an hour out of my day to go to church. At Christmas my grandpa would read the whole family the bible for five minutes, for 6-year-old me that was really boring because I wanted to open presents, but now that I'm older I appreciate the fact that just for five minutes we all listened to the bible being read helped build my faith. Looking at it now I've realized you should always take some time for God and I know maybe if you are 6 years old you don't want to do that you want to open presents, but in the end your faith shapes how you view god and how you are going to live by that faith for the rest of your life. I believe in God, and to me it's because of family and all the things we do as a family that help shape my faith.

*Living Out My Faith After Confirmation:* Confirmation is not just a ceremony; it is a commitment to living as a disciple of Christ. After Confirmation, I plan to continue growing in my faith by attending church, praying regularly, and being involved in my church community.

I also want to live out my faith in my daily life—by showing respect, serving others, and standing up for what is right. Faith is not just something I practice in church; it is something that should be reflected in my actions, words, and relationships with other people and with God. Conclusion Confirmation marks an important step in my faith journey, but it is not the end it is the beginning of a deeper relationship with God. As I move forward, I will strive to strengthen my faith, honor the sacraments, and live as a witness to Christ's love in the world.

### **Presentation of Scripture for Carson**

**Ephesians 2:10**

For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

**Faith Statement by Andrew:** Affirmation of Baptism is an important part of my journey of faith, and as I think about what it means to me, I am reminded of the many blessings I have received from God, my family, my church, and my community. Faith is a gift, one that I have learned to cherish throughout my life. Growing up, I have always been surrounded by the love and teachings of the Church, but it was through my personal experiences and prayers that I've come to understand that faith isn't just about knowing the right prayers or following religious rules; it's about trust in God's plan for me, even when life gets hard. Affirming my Baptism, the promises that my parents and Godparents made for me 14 years ago, means that I am going to make a deeper commitment to my faith. It is a reminder that my relationship with God is an ongoing journey. Through this process, I am receiving the Holy Spirit, who will guide me, strengthen me, and help me live out my faith in the world. The gifts of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, and knowledge of the Lord—are all given to me as a way to grow closer to God and serve others. One of the most important lessons I've learned in my faith journey is the importance of love and service. Jesus taught us that the greatest commandment is to love God with all our hearts, minds, and souls, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. This teaching challenges me every day. It reminds me that faith is not just about what I believe,

but also how I live. It is easy to get caught up in the daily problems of life and forget to show love to others, but I know that God wants me to be a reflection of His love. Through acts of kindness, service, and compassion, I can do this. I also realize that having faith does not mean that life will always be easy or that I won't face struggles. In fact, so far in my life, my faith has shined brightest in the tough times. During times of doubt and uncertainty, I have learned to turn to God in prayer and trust that He is with me, even when it doesn't seem like it. The Holy Spirit will help me stay strong, even in difficult times, and remind me that God's love is constant. I am excited for the next chapter in my life of faith. This is not the end of my journey but the beginning of a deeper relationship with God and the Church. I know that I am not alone on this path; I have the support of my family, my friends, and the entire Covenant community. Together, we will all grow in faith. Thank you for being a part of this special moment in my life. I ask for your prayers and support as I continue to deepen my relationship with God and live out my faith with love and joy.

### **Presentation of Scripture for Andrew**

**Joshua 1:9**

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Logan, Carson and Andrew, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Confirmands respond: I renounce them.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Confirmands respond:* I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these members and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*Confirmands may kneel.*

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

*Blessing repeated for each Confirmand:*

Stir up in (Logan, Carson and Andrew) the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

*Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly.*

Let us rejoice with our siblings in Christ. **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

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

*A brief silence.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience

hopelessness or need your tender care (See Prayer Insert) < full 5 second pause>. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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. **Amen.**

## **Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Let us share a sign of peace safely with one another.*

## **Announcements**

## **Offering Prayer**

Risen One, 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.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **Liturgy of Holy Communion and Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

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.

*Gathered into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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**

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

## **Communion Hymns**

*Lamb of God*

pg. 146

*I Love to Tell the Story*

ELW 661

*What Feast of Love*

ELW 487

## **Post Communion Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **Prayer after Communion**

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. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

## Sending Hymn

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

ELW 392

## Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**



*Care to contribute to our Church and ministries?*  
Scan this QR Code to give digitally with Vanco Online Giving.  
Or visit [www.covluth.org](http://www.covluth.org) and click 'On-line Giving'!  
*(Electronic donations from a debit/credit card now accepted.)*



## Announcements:

- ✝ Thank you for being at Worship! More events and Worship opportunities at [Covluth.org](http://Covluth.org)
- ✝ **Affirmation of Baptism TODAY** during Worship, **let us celebrate and appreciate our youth**
- ✝ **Lunch Bunch meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each month May 7 11:30** *The Green Lantern* McFarland
- ✝ **Book Group** 2nd Thur 1pm **May 8** Gateway Room, discussing *Frank and Red* by Matt Coyne
- ✝ **Feed our Souls-** the 2nd Fri of the month- **May 9 10:30a-1:30p** at St. Marks in Madison
- ✝ **Join Movie Night May 9 at 6:30pm to watch Moana 2** popcorn and lemonade provided
- ✝ **Social Action Team** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, Join **May 19** at 630pm in the Gateway Room
- ✝ **Wisconsin Historical Society** shares 'We will Always be Here' historymakers display in June
- ✝ **June 8** Let us celebrate Graduates and Scholarship recipients during Worship Service
- ✝ **Thank you to our Bell Choir:** Susan Diebold, Lars Forde, Dianne Johnson, Doug Johnson, Angie Kettner, Jacob Kettner, Judy Luschen, Marcie Mahuta, Margaret Raisbeck, Sue Richards, Lisa Stout, Donna Tarpinian, Kelsey Tarpinian, Alex Thiessen, Robin Wendt, Scott Wendt and director Meghan Proper for offering their gifts and sharing their lovely talents with us today and throughout the year!

### WORSHIP NOTES

**Pastor:** *Pastor Wendy Moen*; **Acolyte:** *Sam Pietruszynski*;

**Greeter/s:** *Deb and Dan Oakland*;

**Assistant Minister:** *Laurie Judd*; **Lector:** *George Craig*;

**Communion Assistant:** *Philayne Chose, Laurie and Larry Judd*;

**Ushers:** *Norm and Jean Sime, Tom Christian, Carol Pritchard*;

**Altar Guild:** *Jean Sime*; **Communion Prep:** *Norm and Jean Sime*;

**Organist/Pianist:** *Meghann Proper*;

**Sound/projection:** *Lars Forde, Amanda Burian*;

**Altar Flowers:** *Sign up for Altar Flowers with the sign up sheet in the Narthex!*

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