St. James Lutheran Church Second Sunday of Easter April 27, 2025



St. James Lutheran Church

Leader: Bryce Hewlett, SAM Assistant Minister: Tom Sladky

Acolyte: Velvet Collison Music Minister: Steve Abel

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WELCOME!

Guests, we are glad you have joined us today! If you would like to receive contact from St. James following this worship service, please fill out a card from the pew slot and put it in the offering plate. Welcome!

Children's Church for children takes place during our worship service. The children are dismissed after the *Prayer of the Day* and brought back to their families after the *Prayers of Intercession*.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

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.

P: 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,

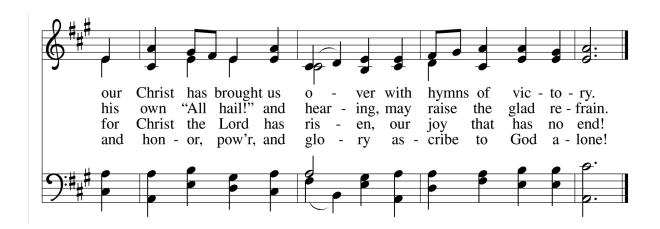
C: make us one as you are one.

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.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 361 The Day of Resurrection





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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

This little light of mine, I'm gonna' let it shine This little light of mine, I'm gonna' let it shine This little light of mine, I'm gonna' let it shine Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

- ²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles], they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority.
- ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him." A: Word of God. Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY: Psalm 118:14-29 (read responsively)

- ¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.
- ¹⁵ Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!
- ¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

 The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"
- ¹⁷ I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.
- ¹⁸ The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.
- Open for me the gates of righteousness;I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.
- ²⁰ "This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."
- ²¹ I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

- 25 Hosanna! O LORD, save us!We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD.
- ²⁷ The LORD is God and has given us light.

 Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.
- ²⁸ You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.
- ²⁹ Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever.

SECOND READING Revelation 1:4-8

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him,

and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him.

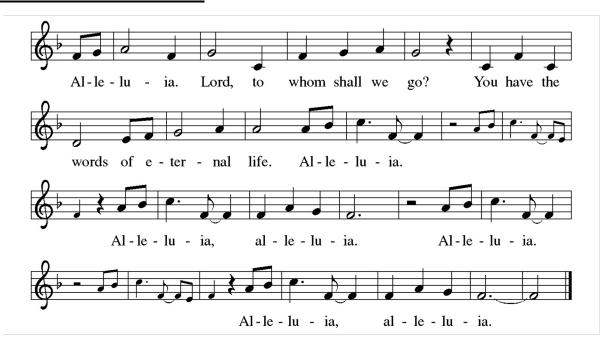
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

A: Word of God. Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly rises in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

P: The holy gospel according to St. John 20:19-31

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

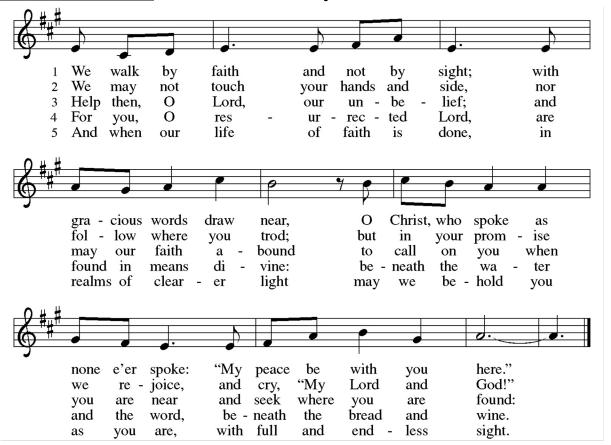
The assembly is seated

SERMON

One Coin: Two Sides

The assembly rises in body or spirit to sing the hymn of the day.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 635 We Walk By Faith



APOSTLES' CREED

A: With the whole church let us confess our faith.

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.

The assembly is seated.

PRAYER

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.

A: Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the good news of the resurrection. Inspire deacons and pastors, lay leaders and bishops to boldly proclaim your love for all people.

Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

A: Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily lives on the well-being of creation. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to complex challenges in our local and global communities. We pray for peace and safety for all people in **Ukraine**, and the Holy Land who are in harm's way. We pray for the people of **Sudan** who are facing a hunger crisis due to famine. Keep safe first responders, especially those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others, especially **Anthony**, **Brandon**, **Eli**, **Nathan**, and **Samantha**. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great**.

A: Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way, especially Barry, Bev, Carol, Cathy, Connie, Donna, Dotty, Drew, Ed, Emmett, Frieda, Hattie, Jason, John, Konnor, LaVonne, Lynn, Mark, Maggie, Michelle, Michelle, Minhon, Phil, Russ, Sandy, Sherry, Stan, and Wally.

Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

A: Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across the many differences that divide us. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination, and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: We remember the faithful departed from all times and places. We give thanks for **Catherine of Siena**, **Philip and James**, **and Athanasius**, whom we will commemorate* in the upcoming week. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great**.

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.**

*See announcement for commemorations

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Greet one another by shaking hands or with a word or sign of Christ's peace.

MEAL

OFFERING your offering may be placed in the plate as it is passed. We thank all who support God's ministry here and in the world.

Stand as the offering is presented at the rail.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS: Create in Me a Clean Heart



OFFERING PRAYER

A: 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. **C: Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

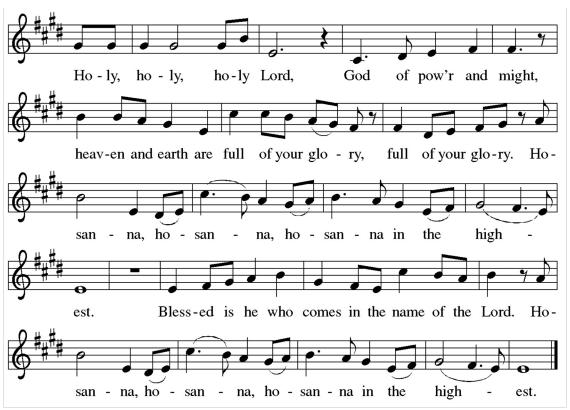
P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

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.

P: 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:



P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

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.

P: Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **C: Amen.**

P: Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **C: Amen.**

P: Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **C: Amen.**

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.

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. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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

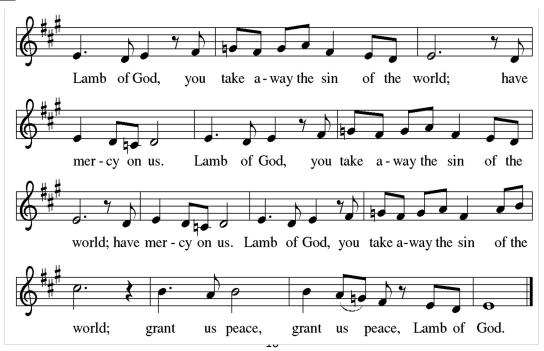
P: Taste and see that the Lord is good. All are welcome here.

C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly is seated.

Come, for Christ invites you. Communion today will be distributed at the altar rail (please stand or kneel, as you are comfortable), the ushers will direct you forward to receive the bread (which is gluten-free) and cup either wine (red) or grape juice (white).

HYMN Lamb of God

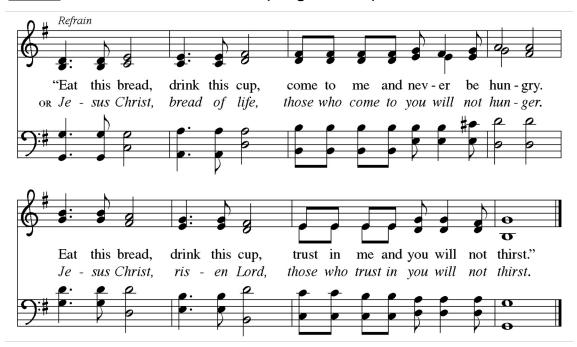


COMMUNION HYMNS

HYMN ELW 646 The Peace of the Lord



HYMN ELW 472 Eat this Bread (sing 3 times)



The assembly rises in body or spirit.

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life. **C: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: 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

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

BLESSING

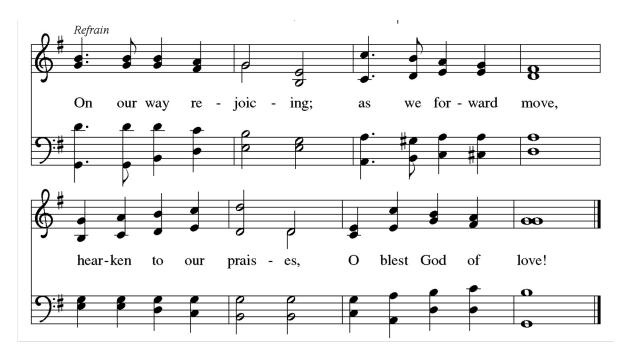
P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign,

→ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **C: Amen.**

Copyright Acknowledgements

SENDING HYMN ELW 537 On Our Way to Rejoicing





P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>May 4th</u>—10:15 a.m. Assistant Minister Training. This is a training session for current Assisting Ministers and all interested in becoming an Assistant Minister! In addition to Assisting Ministers, we would like to add the role of a Reader each week. Anyone interested in becoming a Reader but not an Assisting Minister, please contact Janet Brakel at <u>ibrakel@ameritech.net</u>. Please fill out the sign up sheet to let us know if you plan to attend! QR Code to online form is below; paper sign up sheet located in the Narthex. **RSVP: Training for Assisting Ministers and Readers QR Code:**



<u>May 5th</u>—2:30 p.m.— 5:30 p.m. Blood drive. If you would like to sign up to volunteer or give blood, please contact **Janene Anderson at 563-370-8710.**

<u>May 7th</u>—6:00 p.m. Vocal recital fundraiser for Noa Hewlett & Kaylee Pessein. Come enjoy Noa's and Kaylee's performances and stay for an ice cream social immediately following! This event will also be livestreamed, so if you can't make it in person make sure to jump on their livestream: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzjnqGF4g QWtn_I2SqpL5Q

May 22nd-23rd—Rummage Sale. If you would like to volunteer to set up for the

rummage sale or if you have donations, contact Judy Larson at 563-340-7902.

<u>June 7th & 8th</u>—Feast of Pentecost: Baptism & New Member Weekend. Please contact the office if you are interested in baptism or church membership.

Attendance last week:

Sunday Morning: 9 a.m. 132 YouTube 3 Sunday Morning: 11 a.m. 53

This week's birthdays:

4/27 Doug Larson4/30 Noa Hewlett4/30 Mel Oswald5/1 Lynn Chamberlain

5/2 John Leder

There are no anniversaries this week.

The Easter Lilies may be taken home at the end of service today!

We livestream our services on YouTube each week to help us worship together and stay connected even when we are not at full health or out of town! Youtube link for livestream:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzjngGF4g QWtn I2SqpL5Q

COMMEMORATIONS

Catherine of Siena, theologian, died 1380. Tuesday, April 29, 2025

This theologian was the first woman among Roman Catholics to receive the title "Doctor [teacher] of the Church." Catherine was a Dominican sister known for her mystical visions as well as her work on behalf of people who were poor and imprisoned.

Philip and James, Apostles. Thursday, May 1, 2025

Philip was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and called Nathanael to "come and see." Little is known of James, the son of Alphaeus, called "the Less" to distinguish him from another apostle named James.

Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, died 373. Friday, May 2, 2025

Best remembered for defending the teaching that Christ was fully God against those who taught otherwise, Athanasius was an influential church leader around the time of the Council of Nicea. He was banished from Alexandria five times for his forthright views.

Worship Assistants

April 27 9:00 AM Worship

Presider Bryce Hewlett, SAM

Assisting Minister Tom Sladky

Acolyte Velvet Collison

Ushers Fritz Voss & Judy Larson

YouTube Assistant Deb Crooks

Altar Guild Mary Meumann & Dee Worley

Counters Janet Brakel & Paul Brakel

May 4 9:00 AM Worship

Presider Bryce Hewlett, SAM

Assisting Minister Judie Brooks
Acolyte Edi Southwell

Ushers Jerry & Yvonne Nichols

YouTube Assistant Deb Crooks

Altar Guild Mary Meumann & Audry Lovell

Counters Ellen Hogbin

May 11 9:00 AM Worship

Presider Bryce Hewlett, SAM

Assisting Minister Pat Larson

Acolyte Jude Hewlett

Ushers Ryan Martin & Ann Larson

YouTube Assistant Deb Crooks

Altar Guild Ellen Hogbin & Terry Martens

Counters Ellen Hogbin

Prayers for Healing and Support

Congregational Members

Eric Anderson, Ed Arp, Maggie Bayliss, Lynn Chamberlain, Bev Chappen, Sherry Germanio, Sandy Henry, Frieda Houldsworth, John Leder, LaVonne Mienke, Mary Meumann, Minhon Ridenour

Family and Friends

Annette & Rick (friends of Sue and Steve Miller), Barry (cousin of Ellen Hogbin), Carol (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken), Connie (friend of Maggie Bayliss), Dotty (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken), Donna (Ed Arp's sister), Donnie (friend of Deb Crooks), Drew (Pat Larson's friend),

Emmett (friend of Diana Worley), **Hattie** (Frieda's sister) **Jason** (Lynn Chamberlain & Sherry Germanio's son),

Konnor (Bert Leder's grandson), Mark (friend of Jason Forari), Michelle (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken),

Michelle (friend of Jason & Melissa Forari), Myles (friend of Anna Forari), Phil (Steve Miller and Pat Sorensen's brother), Stan (relative of Frtiz Voss), Wally (Frieda's nephew),

Military Personnel

Anthony Karasek (Judy Larson's great nephew)
Lt. Col. Brandon Sandoval USAF (Pat Larson's grandson)
CPT Eli Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson)
Nathan Pearson USAF (Jenna & Kane Schmidt's friend)
Samantha Richard (friend of Larson family)

If you have anyone who needs to be taken off or added, please notify the church office.

NOTES

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4/27 9AM Worship 10AM Council Mtg.	4/28 9:30AM Monday Morning Fellowship	4/29 1PM Sarah Circle (Date change in honor of Holy Week)	4/30 6-8PM Food Pantry	1 9-11AM Food Pantry 6PM Christian Ed. Zoom Mtg.	2	3 5:00PM Saturday Service
4 9AM Worship 10:15AM Assistant Minister Training	5 2:30-5:30 Blood Drive	6	7 6PM Kaylee and Noa Recital 6-8PM Food Pantry	8 9-11AM Food Pantry	9	10 5:00PM Saturday Service
11 9AM Worship 10:00 AM Muffins with Moms Mother's Day	12 9:30AM Monday Morning Fellowship	13	14 1:30PM Finance Mtg. 6-8PM Food Pantry	15 9-11AM Food Pantry 11:30 AM GANG 2:30 PM BINGO at Bett Health Care	16	17 5:00PM Saturday Service
18 9AM Worship	19 	20 1PM Sarah Circle	21 6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry Week	23	24 5:00PM Saturday Service
25 9AM Worship	26 9:30AM Monday Morning Fellowship Church office closed Memorial Day	27 12-4PM Quilting	28	29 9-11AM Food Pantry	30	31 5:00PM Saturday Service