



Christ United

Seventh Sunday of Easter

05-17-2026

Welcome!

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.

P: *Alleluia.* I will not leave you orphaned, says the Lord.

C: I am coming to you. *Alleluia. (John 14:18)*

P: Our mission statement guides us so that:

C: We welcome all people to experience the unconditional love of Jesus Christ.

A: In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

Opening Song: Red Hymnal #855 (Stand)

Prayer of the Day:

P: Oh God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other, in suffering and in joy, that all your children may be drawn into your bountiful dwelling.

C: Amen.

The Readings:

A: First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

A: Second Bible Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: The Gospel: John 17:1-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 17th Chapter

C: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel lesson is read

C: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Kids Time and the Sermon

Song of the Day: Red Hymnal #789 (Stand)

Apostles' Creed (Stand)

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 Prayers

P: Siblings in Christ, God invites us to bring our doubts and fears, our joys and concerns, our petitions and praise, and offer them for the earth and all its creatures.

A: O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Loving God, be with us and guide us during this time of discernment. Fill our leaders with your wisdom. Keep us mindful of the work you would have us do. Lead us and guide us O Lord to be about the work of your kingdom even as the search for a new pastor continues. Prepare the pastor you are calling to our congregation and prepare us to discern and recognize that calling. Prepare us in this congregation for new leadership and opportunities in this vast world in which we minister. Fill us with patience and understanding during this in between time. Merciful God. **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment, and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Other intercessions may be offered by anyone at this time.

P: Receive these prayers, O God, transform us through them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do so that your realm will come to fruition in glory. **C:**

Amen

The Peace is shared at this time

P: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

C: And also with you.

People may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: Peace be with you.

Offering - May Noisy Offerings: Cystic Fibrosis Awareness (Stand)

P: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life,

C: You have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

A: 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 Him thanks and praise.

P: Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that

we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever

P: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,**C: 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.**

(Sit) The Bread is broken

P: Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

C: Thanks be to God.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion today is open to all. The Episcopal and Lutheran Churches believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine.

Communion is either wafer and individual cup, or celebrated as spiritual communion. You will receive a wafer from the pastor (gluten-free wafers are available upon request). You will then take a cup from the tray the assistant is holding (wine in the outer rings, grape juice in the center). Eat the wafer and drink from the cup. You will not be ushered but ask that you come forward when ready and return to your seat when you have received communion.

(Stand)

P: Let us pray.

C: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen

The Blessing

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

Closing Song: Song Sheet(Stand)

Announcements

Faith Word for the Week: Women of faith.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

A: And This Week

C: Share the unconditional love of Jesus Christ

P: Presiding Minister **A:** Assisting Minister **C:** Congregation

Announcements and Events

Rummage Sale

We will have a second Ox Roast Weekend Rummage Sale this August. Set up will be Aug 13th. Rather than pricing everything, we will ask people for free will donations for our Empowerment Coats. No clothes for the sale please. We will request support from Thrivent as well.

Community Mutual Aid Needs

We continue to collect food items and personal care goods, etc. for the people of Lansing who are “housing-challenged” as well as the St. Paul Lutheran Food Bank.

Lawn Care

Although our area to mow has shrunk considerably, it is still spring, and some areas need cutting. We’ve had one volunteer, but clearly do not want to rely on them alone. CU has the riding mower and will cover gas. Please let any of us know if you’re interested.

Church Cleaning

We are in need of volunteers to clean the church. Our regular “cleaning fairies” have asked for the summer off, there is a list downstairs with separate jobs. If you can help (you need not feel like you must do it all!) please sign the chart of what’s been cleaned so others don’t come after you and re-clean!

Calling of new Pastor

We continue to “patiently” await news on the call process. Now is the time for all of us to continue to pray for God’s hand in this process.

Weekly/Monthly Events:

Bible Study - Wednesday morning 10am

Welcome to Christ United

Here is some information to help you feel welcome:

Relax - We don't expect you to stand up and introduce yourself or do anything which makes you feel uncomfortable. Most everything you need is in the bulletin.

Worship Service:

Children are always welcome in worship - There are some small toys in the entrance of the church for your use. The Pastor will invite children to be part of a "Kid's Time" before the sermon. Please feel free to move about as needed to make your children feel comfortable.

Bulletin and Music: Most everything you need is in the bulletin. We also use a variety of music resources, including hymnals and song sheets. Hymnals are located on the cart when you first come into the church. The sign next to the cart will direct you to which to pick up, the 'red' hymnal and/or the 'burgundy' hymnal. Song sheets are located by the bulletins.

Offering - Don't feel obligated to participate in the offering on your first visit. This service is our gift to you. Offering is a response to what God has given us. We also collect a "noisy offering." This is an offering of loose change for needs in our community and world. Each month the offering goes to a different need. The ideas for each of the offerings come from the participants in this ministry.

All are welcome to receive Communion - Whether you are a Christian or not, anyone can take communion here. Also, if you do not want to participate in the receiving of communion, feel free to come forward with your arms folded to receive a blessing.

Building - Restrooms are located on the lower level, at the far end of the building. Bathrooms are for all genders.

Refreshments after Worship - Please join us downstairs after worship for refreshments.

We're glad you came today and look forward to seeing you again! If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact us.

Christ United

An Interdenominational Church founded by the Episcopal & Lutheran Church.

Welcoming ALL people to experience the unconditional love of Jesus Christ!

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608-3334 **9:00 AM Sunday Worship** with Communion. Also broadcasting live on Facebook. 1000 West Webb Road, DeWitt, Michigan 48820

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