

**FAITH LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

*170 Mansfield Ave.
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050
(740) 393-3666*



Pastor
Rev. Cody Blust

Secretary
Pat Hoar

Music Director
Rebecca Keck

Bell Choir Director
Shelley Grubb

Gardens
Steve Conrad

Grounds
Will Melick

Custodian
Randy Peck

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
“TO KNOW AND SHARE GOD’S LOVE”
INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH!!

Second Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026

Worship Times 8:00 and 10:30 am
Sunday School 9:15 am
Fellowship Time 9:15 am

† Indicates: Please Stand if Comfortable

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bell Choir Prelude: “Song of Assurance” *by Arnold B. Sherman*

† **Call To Worship: 364 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia vs. 2**

For three long days the grave did its worst
until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo,
and in its conquest his might did show.
Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death’s fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's
abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate One,

C: **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

C: **Amen.**

† **Hymn 369 Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!**

† 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.



Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.



All Glory Be to God on High

S 159

1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
 3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we

giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
 au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
 name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one

will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
 sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
 liv - ing, God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord

heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
 ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in

praise you for your glo - ry.
 ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
 God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray:

Almighty and eternal God,

**C: the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

Bell Choir Anthem: "Joshua Fit the Battle!"

Spiritual, arr. by Richard McKee

First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²² "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

²⁹ "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'³² "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Psalm: 16 (*congregation reads the verses in bold*)

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all
other.”
- ² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**
- ³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- ⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**
- ⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.
- ⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**
- ⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
- ⁸ **I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
- ⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
- ¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**
- ¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand
are pleasures forevermore.

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.



Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Gospel Text: John 20:19-31

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: **Thanks be to God**

YOUTH MESSAGE

SERMON : "Doubts and Affirmations"

Hymn: 368 With High Delight Let Us Unite

† **APOSTLES' CREED** (*Page 105*)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

† **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

P: Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

† SHARING THE PEACE

The Offertory: Christ in Triumph

by Smith



Create in Me a Clean Heart
Offering Song

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The music begins with a series of chords in the bass staff, followed by the vocal entry.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The notation includes various chord voicings and melodic lines.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system continues the musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The notation includes various chord voicings and melodic lines.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system continues the musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The notation includes various chord voicings and melodic lines.

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fifth system concludes the musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The notation includes various chord voicings and melodic lines.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

C: Amen.

P: Let us join together in praying the Lord's Prayer:

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; 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**

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.

Hymn 389 Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord, Alleluia!

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

Postlude: Psalm 19

by Marcello

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WELCOME to the worship of the people of God who are Faith Lutheran Church. May you feel the presence of the Lord in our midst and hear His Word spoken to your heart. For more information contact us at faithlutheranmtvernon@gmail.com or check out our website at FLCMTV.org. Our mission at Faith Church is **To Know And Share God's Love.**

IF you are a ***GUEST***, you are invited to sign our guest book in the narthex with your name, and contact information, so we may give you a cordial welcome, and an invitation to return to worship with us soon. If you have children, please check out our Children's Activity Center on the wall in the narthex. Changing tables are available in Room 207 and Room 211 (Nursery). There is also a private mothers' space available in Room 214. Contact an usher if you need assistance.

FLOWERS on the altar are given by ***Kelly Hoffman*** to the glory of God and in celebration of my father, John Hoffman's birthday.

THANK YOU

Words do not say enough to express the thanks for all who have helped in any way with the renovation project. The family of Faith came together to do everything that needed to be done to get the sanctuary ready for the work that started Tuesday. Keep the project workers from the McNight Group in your prayers, Mark Hall, Mike, Leo and Jacob who were here Tuesday, and all the crews that will be working here.

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all those who provided soup, salad, bread, and deserts for our Lenten Soup and Study dinners. A special thank you to Tom and Kathy Noblit who helped with setting up tables and the food and drinks. We also want to say thank you to Kevin Mishey and his crew for a delightful Easter breakfast!

SPECIAL THANKS

A heartfelt thanks to the All Star breakfast crew this Easter: Tom Noblit, Greg Maxwell, Larry Hamon, Will "The Egg Man" Melick, Rick "Pancake Man" Keaton, Joe Curran, Jason Ballengee, and Tom "Sausage Man" Updike. I hope I didn't miss anyone! Thanks again for your hard work at the Fellowship.....Kevin Mishey

I AM, WHO IS I AM?

I AM is "God's Holy Name and Promise" The Mary Martha Bible study delves into the I AM with the session, Gate and Shepherd: Guiding and protecting us. (John 10) **Note this change:** we will be meeting at Eastern Star, Iris, with Vickie Blubaugh on Tuesday, April 14th, at 1pm. The Bible study leader will be Marilyn Wilford and refreshments provided by Cheryl Johnson. If you need directions please contact Jenny Grinstead. Copies of the Bible study are available on the table by the kitchen.

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

In December, the Faith Women decided to fund 2 gifts: a Community Garden for \$200, and a Computer for a Community Center for \$800. \$400 has been collected so far. The donation can will be on the table by the kitchen. Your good gift will be a blessing for people who need them.

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:15

Since stewardship is an ongoing theme for this year, the first presentation will be today, April 12th to hear our own Steve Conrad who will talk about the community gardens and the impact of these gardens. On April 19th, Matt Baugher who is in charge of Knox County Recycling and Litter Prevention will tell us about the resources in our county and answer any questions you may have. Matt was a student at our preschool. God gave us the responsibility to care for our environment, and that is our call to stewardship.

CENTRAL OHIO CONFERENCE SPRING GATHERING

Sunday, April 26th is the date for the Spring Gathering for the women of the Central Ohio Conference. The speaker for this day is Staci Stought the founder of Unnamed No More, A Safe Church Initiative, promoting open dialogue, prevention, healing, and accountability in Christian communities to address child abuse, elder abuse, sexual violence, and domestic violence.

In Kind donations for Choices, the women's shelter of Lutheran Social Services (LSS) for anything women may need will be collected. The Spring Gathering is always an inspirational, informational time. Plan to go with us and we will be leaving after the 10:30 service. Registration begins at 1:30, the program starts at 2:00. Sign up on the sheet on the table by the kitchen or contact Cheryl Johnson or Marilyn Wilford.

SPRING DRUG TAKE BACK DATE

Saturday, April 25, 2026 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, the following locations will be collecting unused, unwanted or expired medications and syringes. ***NO LIQUIDS***: Foster's Pharmacy in Centerburg, Danville Police Department, 512 South Market Street, Fredericktown Police Department at 182 South Main Street, Mount Vernon Health Center, 202 West Vine Street, and Knox Public Health, 11660 Upper Gilchrist Road.

SERVING OUR LORD TODAY

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
Ushers	Joe & Jen Curran	Ken Fischer Tim Williams
Reader s	Linda Gehrisch	Holly Fischer
Acolyte	Will Melick	Connor Driscoll
Altar Guild - Jenny Grinstead		
Tellers - Cheryl Johnson & Tom Updike		

SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
Ushers	Greg Maxwell Will Melick	Cheryl Johnson Jenny Grinstead
Readers	Mike Eesley	Dave Keck
Comm. Assist.	Rick Keaton	Karen Greever
Acolyte	Bette Mishey	Stephen Volz
Altar Guild - Jenny Grinstead		
Communion Committee - Kathy Noblit		
Tellers - Cheryl Johnson & Tom Updike		

FAITH EVENTS

740-393-3666 email: faithlutheranmtvernon@gmail.com

Website: FLCMTV.org

YouTube Address

<https://www.youtube.com/@FaithLutheranChurchMTVernon>

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF APRIL 12 - 18, 2026

Today:	8 & 10:30 am	Worship
	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	4:00 pm	Bell Choir
		Mission Endowment Form Deadline
Mon	11:00 am	Jesus Calling
	7:30 pm	AA
Tues	1:00 pm	Mary Martha Bible Study at Eastern Star, Iris Section
Wed	10:00 am	Quilters
Thurs	9:00 am	SPOT (formerly TOPS)
	7:30 pm	Choir
Fri	6:00 pm	Euchre at Easter Star, Iris Section

PLEASE PRAY FOR: MEMBERS: Bob & Kathy Atwell, Jordan & Nico Barnard, Phyllis Bigler, Vicki Blubaugh, Joe Curran, Larry Everhard, Ken Fischer, Jan Frye, Eileen Hartman, Jon, Ann Jurkowitz, Kathy Lamb, Betty McDonald, Judy Mustaine, Dan Myers, Kathy Noblit, Steve Norberg, Stan Park, Fran Smyser, Bob Van Horn.


FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Linda, Marie, Rose Allen, Linda Beach, Devin Boyer, Nora Burke & family, Purell Butts, Mike C., Kathy & Larry Daubensteck, Jenifer Edwards, Aaron Everhard, Kayla Gadd, Linda Galyon, Chester Gingerich, Grant, Lon Hamby, John Harris, Jr, Kellie Hoar, Susan Jeffery, John Jones, Eddie and Miranda Jones, Beth Kost, Danny Jurkowitz, Barb, Marv & Rob Keck, Dean & Marilyn Kempton, Debra Kempton, Jerry Kies, Dr. William McFarren, Jim Major (friend of Pastor Mark Wildermuth) Greg & Grace Maxwell, Scott Mickley, Tina Miller, Donald Morehour, Sue Moreland, Anderson O'Briskie, Clarence, Quinton (friend of Alex Jones), Shirley Ramsay, Julie & Brian Ramsey, Bruce Renne, Jan Rice, Sam Robert, Mona Russell and Heather & Danielle, Karen Scott, Wayne Snyder, Gabe & Micah Stauffer, Willow Steiner, an 8 month old with "Spitz" cancer, Martha Stuller, Becky Thomas, Josie Watts, Adam Wilford, Pam Wolfe, Karen Zedeker, Ziva, and all others on our hearts and minds.

PRAYER SHAWL RECIPIENTS (in the last three months): Mike Cordrey, Toni Cordrey Allen, Michelle Lee, Titus Strausbaugh, Miranda Jones, Dylan, Beth Stahr, Katie, Danielle, Kyle Steele, Stephen DeFoe, Hannah., Julia Shepherd



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY: Gavin Thomas, Master Sargent Christopher Dominick.

Bold indicates new.


369 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!



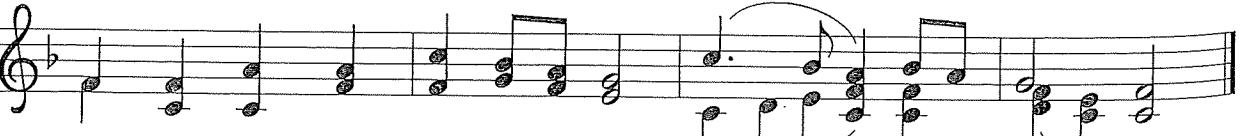
1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!


Chris - tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!




of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
 when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!

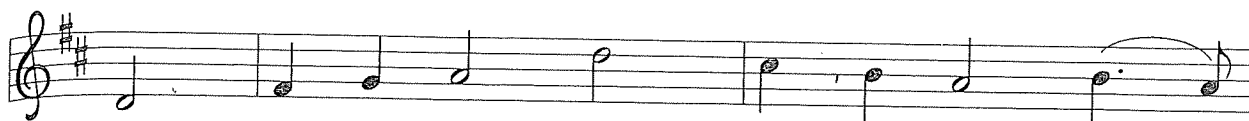



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!



With High Delight Let Us Unite

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1 With high de - light let us u - nite in
 2 True God, he first from death has burst forth
 3 Let prais - es ring; give thanks, and bring to



songs of great ju - bi - la - tion. You pure in heart, all
 in - to life, all sub - du - ing. His en - e - my now
 Christ our Lord ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed by



bear your part, sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To
 van-quished see; his death has been death's un - do - ing. "And
 word and deed to - ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So




set us free for - ev - er, he is ris'n and sends to
 yours shall be like vic - to - ry o'er death and grave," says
 shall his love give us a - bove, from mis - er - y and




all earth's ends good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
 he, who gave his life for us, life re - new - ing.
 death set free, all joy and full con - so - la - tion.

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Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.