

ABOUT
WHOM ...
DOES THE
PROPHET
SAY THIS?

ACTS 8:34

Fifth Sunday of Easter

**April 28, 2024
10:00AM**



WELCOME, FRIENDS AND GUESTS!

WELCOME! A cordial welcome is extended to all who have come to worship with us today. May God's loving presence fill us with joy and hope as we prepare ourselves to follow Christ. If you are a guest or visitor with us, please be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Binz and sign our guest book. We look forward to having you worship with us again.

SERVING YOU TODAY

<i>Preacher & Celebrant</i>	<i>Rev. Curtis Binz, Senior Pastor</i>
<i>Assisting Elder</i>	<i>Robert Bok</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>Amy Kao</i>
<i>5B Teacher</i>	<i>Christina Bamrud</i>
<i>Lectors</i>	<i>Dick Bass, Renate Otterbach</i>
<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Margaret Finley</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Rich & Terry Hesselroth, Margaret Finley, Beverly Gerard</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Gerda Beisel, Virginia Ferry, Margaret Finley, Jing Li</i>

Divine Service, Setting One
Lutheran Service Book, page 151

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Stand

OPENING HYMN *Come, Thou Almighty King* *LSB 905*

- 1 Come, Thou almighty King,
 Help us Thy name to sing;
 Help us to praise;
 Father all-glorious,
 O'er all victorious,
 Come and reign over us,
 Ancient of Days.
- 2 Come, Thou incarnate Word,
 Gird on Thy mighty sword;
 Our prayer attend.
 Come and Thy people bless,
 And give Thy Word success,
 And let Thy righteousness
 On us descend.
- 3 Come, holy Comforter,
 Thy sacred witness bear
 In this glad hour!
 Thou, who almighty art,
 Now rule in ev'ry heart,
 And ne'er from us depart,
 Spirit of pow'r.
- 4 To Thee, great One in Three,
 Eternal praises be
 Hence evermore!
 Thy sov'reign majesty
 May we in glory see,
 And to eternity
 Love and adore.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

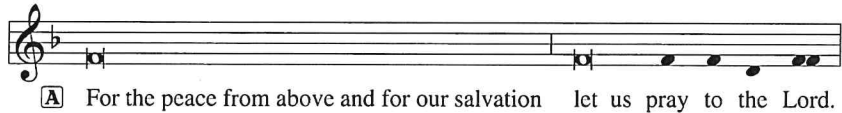
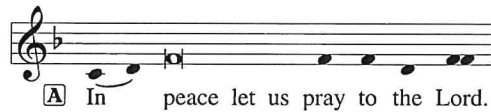
SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

- P** A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.
C **I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.**

- P** Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.
- C** The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- P** All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!
- C** My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.
- All:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- P** A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.

KYRIE





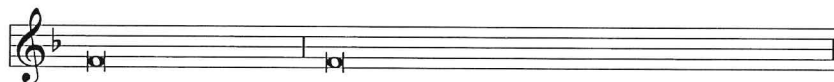
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



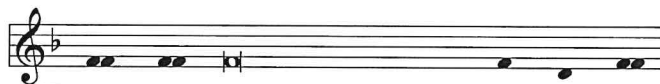
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

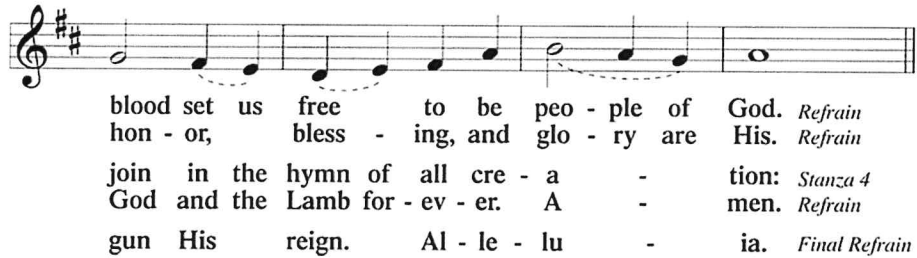
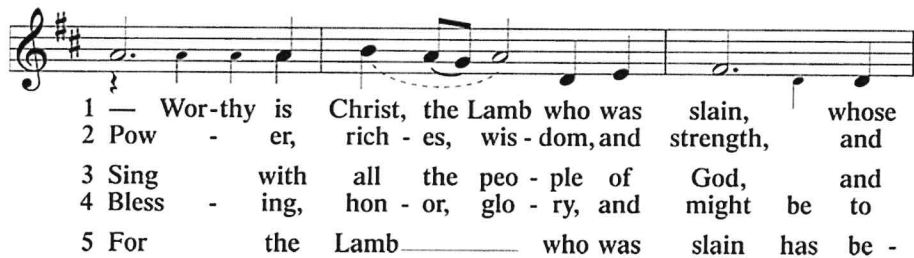


A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE *This Is the Feast*



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.
In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way

rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 4:1-11

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

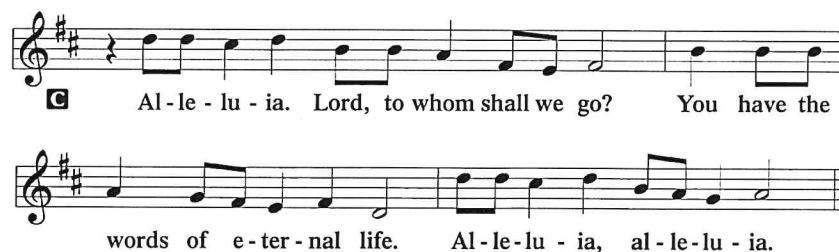
Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON HYMN

Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying

LSB 826

- 1 Hark, the voice of Jesus crying,
“Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting—
Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth;
Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
“Here am I, send me, send me”?

- 2 If you cannot speak like angels,
If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
You can say He died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked
With the judgment's dread alarms,
You can lead the little children
To the Savior's waiting arms.
- 3 If you cannot be a watchman,
Standing high on Zion's wall,
Pointing out the path to heaven,
Offering life and peace to all,
With your prayers and with your bounties
You can do what God commands;
You can be like faithful Aaron,
Holding up the prophet's hands.
- 4 Let none hear you idly saying,
"There is nothing I can do,"
While the multitudes are dying
And the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly,
Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calleth,
"Here am I, send me, send me!"

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SERMON **"Abiding in Christ"**
 Text: John 15:1-8

Stand

NICENE CREED

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the

Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

Sit

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please fill out a **Welcome-Worship Registration Card** (in the pew rack) and place it in the offering plate. Please read and fill out the Communion Registration side of this card if you will be partaking of the Lord's Supper.

MUSICAL OFFERING

FLUTE: Ada Leung and Nathan Chau

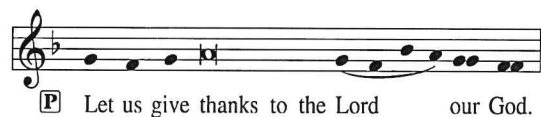
GRADE 5B SINGS *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*

Stand

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE



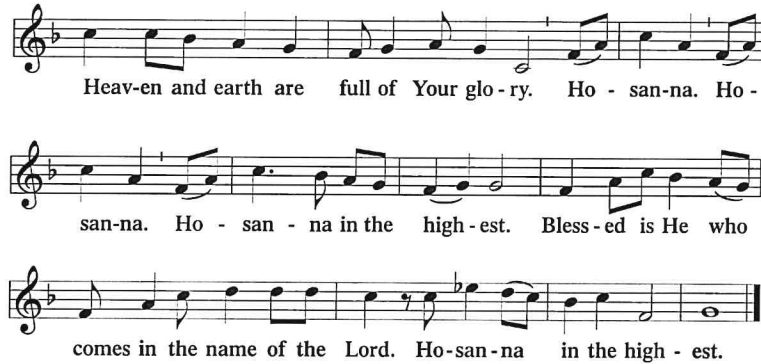


PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS





PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.
- P** Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✙ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✙ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

AGNUS DEI



G Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Regarding our Holy Communion practices this morning:

- We ask that you who are communicant Lutherans prepare to receive the Lord's Supper by reading the Communion Registration side of our Welcome-Worship Registration Card. If communing, please sign both sides of the card and either hand it to an usher when you go up to commune or place it in the collection plate during the Offering.
- The consecrated wine may be received by common cup (the chalice) or individual chalices. **White grape juice is provided in the chalices in the inner circle of the tray for those who are unable to consume wine.**
- If you are unable to come to the altar rail for Communion, please let the usher know, and Pastor will bring communion to you in your pew.

HYMN DURING DISTRIBUTION

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633, Sts. 1, 2, 6, 7

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side.
Alleluia!
- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

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Stand

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

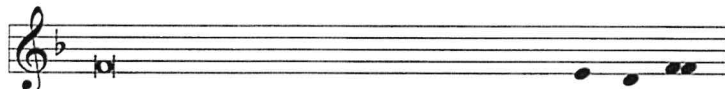
POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

O Blessed Spring

LSB 595

- 1 O blessed spring, where Word and sign
Embrace us into Christ the Vine:
Here Christ enjoins each one to be
A branch of this life-giving Tree.
- 2 Through summer heat of youthful years,
Uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
Sustained by Christ's infusing rain,
The boughs will shout for joy again.
- 3 When autumn cools and youth is cold,
When limbs their heavy harvest hold,
Then through us, warm, the Christ will move
With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.
- 4 As winter comes, as winters must,
We breathe our last, return to dust;
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing
And trust the promise of the spring.
- 5 Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree,
Be praised for this blest mystery:
That Word and water thus revive
And join us to Your Tree of Life.

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Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

PARISH EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**Wednesday Morning Bible Study
In-Person and On-Line**

Pastor Binz is leading an in-person and on-line Bible Study on Wednesday mornings, starting at 11:00AM in the church library. If you would be interested in joining the class on-line, please contact Pastor Binz, pastorcbinz@wplsfc.com so that he can provide you with the link for joining the class. *No midweek Bible Class on May 1st as Pastor Binz will be away.*

Sundays, 9:00AM

Bible Study - Led by Pastor Binz at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Children's Sunday School -All children in grades K-8 are invited to join us each week as we learn more about God through His Word, the Holy Bible. Each Sunday children first gather in the Church Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. and then go to the Church Library. At 9:55 a.m. all children are picked up at the Church Library. If you have questions please contact Edward and Rebecca Chan at outreach@wplsfc.com

ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX:

- *Portals of Prayer* for April –June
- Latest issue of PortaLight
- Current issue of the *Lutheran Witness*
- Bulletin for today—regular size print and large size print

Please help yourself to any or all of the above listed items.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available. If you know of someone who could use one, please ask an usher for a large print bulletin—the order of service, words to the hymns, and the announcements are printed in these bulletins.

ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES are now available for your use during the Worship Service. If you would like to use one of these hearing devices, please see an Usher to check one out! There are two choices for the earpiece: an Ear-Bud or an Ear-Cuff. Following the Service PLEASE return the Hearing Aid to the ushers.

Pastor Binz will be at the District Pastors' Conference from April 30th through May 2nd.

A Christian memorial service to celebrate the life and faith of Jan Lundquist is planned for Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 1:00 pm at Christ For All Nations Lutheran Church, 465 Woolsey Street, San Francisco. A repast will follow immediately after the service. Parking is available via the entrance on Goettingen Street.

John 15:2 – “Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.” God is interested in the fruit that we bear in good works, and He even prunes us so that we may bring forth more fruit. Trusting in our Lord’s work for us, being grafted by grace into His vine, we desire to be more like Him, to grow into His image. That’s growth in fruit bearing — and it always comes with some pruning.

Our Stewardship of Worship Last Week

Saturday, 5:00PM Service	
In Person	16
Sunday, 10:00AM Service	
In Person	87
On-Line	44
Total	147
Communed Saturday	12
Communed Sunday	60
Wednesday Bible Class	11
Sunday Bible Class	18

CALENDAR

THIS WEEK:

SUNDAY (4/28)

9:00AM Bible Class
 10:00AM Worship-Lord's Supper
 11:15AM Altar Guild Meeting
 11:15AM Choir Practice

WEDNESDAY (5/1)

11:00AM No Midweek Bible Class as
 Pastor Binz is away.

SATURDAY (5/4)

5:00PM Worship-Lord's Supper

NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY (5/5)

9:00AM Bible Class
 10:00AM Worship-Lord's Supper
 11:15AM Choir Practice

MONDAY (5/6)

6:30PM Girl Scout

WEDNESDAY (5/8)

11:00AM Midweek Bible Class

SATURDAY (5/11)

5:00PM Worship-Lord's Supper



LET US PRAY TO THE LORD GOD for those who are ill, home-bound, or recovering from recent hospitalization: Vincent Ammann, Beatrice Priest's father; Elfriede Bonfert; Paul Brase; Charlene Bruggemann-Wong; William Chen; Angie Cheung, Helen Bok's sister-in-law; Bill Eves, Virginia Ferry's cousin; Jimmy Fong, Evelyn Fong's father; Karen Goeglien, Bob Bok's cousin; Ted Jones; Annessa Ma, Julia Tom's dear friend; Susie Marzolf; George Mogyorossy, Gilbert Mogyorossy's father; Sigrid Rogge; Art Spleiss, Ruth Stresow; Lisa Westermann; Cheryl Wong; Marilyn Wong; Franklin Yee.

Your tithes and offerings support the mission and ministries of West Portal Lutheran Church. If you wish to make an online donation, please use the QR code below. PayPal deducts a small fee from these donations, or you may add a nominal amount to your donation by checking the box to help cover the fees.





West Portal Lutheran
Church & School

SPRING SOCIAL

Celebrating our community!

Sunday, May 5, 12-3 p.m.

\$50 adult / \$35 child

Games & Prizes

Parklab Gardens:
1379 4th St., SF (at Mission Blvd N.)

Register:



SCAN ME

West Portal Lutheran's School Board has organized an afternoon of fun, games, and prizes for the extended WPL community. Our Spring Social will be held on Sunday, May 5 from 12pm to 3pm at The Lawn in the Parklab Gardens, at 1379 4th Street, in San Francisco's Mission Bay neighborhood. This event is for current students and their families, alumni, faculty, and Church members. It will serve both as a fundraiser for improving our teachers' access to professional development programs, and also as a means of strengthening relationships throughout our extended community!

Delicious food from dozens of food trucks and games of mini-golf can be purchased at SPARK Social SF & Stagecoach Greens, adjacent to Parklab Gardens. Enjoy entertainment, water, juice boxes, and cookies/cupcakes at our reserved Lawn space!

REGISTER today!!! Please visit this Google Form link:

<https://forms.gle/yCbJbHNCWR2nYPZa9>

Please note: If you wish to attend but are unable to register via the above Google Form link, please fill out a registration form located in the back of the church. To pay your registration (\$50 per adult, \$35 per child), please write a check payable to "West Portal Lutheran Church," write "Spring Social" on the memo line, put your registration form and payment in an envelope marked "WPL Spring Social," and place it in Beatrice's church mailbox. Payment in cash is also accepted.

For more info, please contact: Kyle Johnson, WPL Church member and School Board Fundraising Chair, at kyle@kyle-p-johnson.com or Beatrice Priest, WPL Church member and WPLS Alumni Outreach Coordinator, at beatrice.priest@wpls.com or (415) 661-0242 extension 227.

Kyle and Beatrice will be available at the church each weekend in April to coordinate carpools to the event. Please contact them if you would like to drive or if you need a ride.

If you are unable to attend, but would like to donate to the WPLS Professional Development Fund, you can do so in one of three ways:

1. Make a check payable to "West Portal Lutheran Church." Write "Donation to WPLS Professional Development Fund" on the memo line. Put your donation in an envelope and place it in the offering plate or in Beatrice's church mailbox.
2. Visit <https://www.wpls.com/ways-to-give>. Click on the yellow "Donate" button to view WPL's PayPal donation page. Enter the amount you wish to donate. In the "Use this donation for" box, click the down arrow, and select "Professional Development Fund" from the drop down menu. Choose whether you want to add an amount to help cover the fees.
3. Scan the QR Code here. Follow the instructions as in #2 above to donate via PayPal on your mobile device.



West Portal Lutheran
Church & School

Worship Services

Saturday, 5:00PM

Sunday, 10:00AM

Bible Classes

Wednesday, 11:00AM

Sunday, 9:00AM

Sunday School

Sunday, 9:00AM

CHURCH

200 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco CA 94132

415-661-0242

www.

westportallutheran.org

SCHOOL

Sloat Campus

200 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco CA 94132
415-665-6330

Sunset Campus

3101 Moraga Street
San Francisco CA 94122
415-731-3000

www.wplsfc.com

Rev. Curtis Binz,
Senior Pastor

Ms. Sherise Lee,
Principal

Mrs. Sherilyn Jew,
*Assistant to the Principal-
Teaching, Learning, Curriculum*

Ms. Amy Kao
Music Director

4/28/24
10:00AM