

**Welcome to West Prairie Lutheran Church!**  
**Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)**  
40041 150th Ave., P.O. Box 9, Leland, IA 50453  
Steve Bang, pastor

Please sign the attendance sheets located at the end of each pew.  
If you are a visitor, please include your mailing address.  
We invite you to join us again!

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**11 a.m. — May 7, 2017**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Worship Service with Holy Communion**

All who are baptized in the Christian faith and have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are invited to celebrate the Lord's Supper.

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**Prelude**

**Pastoral Greeting**

*Please stand if you are able.*

**Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness** ..... page 77

**Opening Hymn, Praise to the Lord, the Almighty** ..... LBW #543

**Kyrie** ..... page 78

**Hymn of Praise** *This is the Feast* ..... page 81

**Prayer of the Day**

**(All) Almighty God, You show the light of Your truth to those in darkness, to lead them into the way of righteousness. Give strength to all who are joined in the family of the Church so that they will resolutely reject what erodes their faith and firmly follow what faith requires; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

*You may be seated.*

**FIRST LESSON:** Acts 2:42-47

**The Fellowship of the Believers**

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their

swering system @641-567-3733.

**SERMON NOTES...**

**"Confirmation Day—Just a Beginning!" Ephesians 2:8-10a**

1. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this not from yourselves; it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's \_\_\_\_\_...."
2. God continues to mold us and shape us throughout life. Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ is a process.
3. At your baptism, your parents promised God they would 'faithfully bring you to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's house, teach you the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the 10 commandments, place into your hand the Holy Scriptures and provide for your instruction in the Christian faith...'
4. Today you are saying "Yes" to Jesus and "No" to the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. It's so important to have a good beginning, a good \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Our young people need good \_\_\_\_\_ of what it means to live for Christ everyday. Parents are to fulfill that role as well as others.
7. We need \_\_\_\_\_ and we need one another in the church to continue to grow strong in our faith.
8. You cannot know what God wants for you (His will) apart from His Word, the \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Living a Christian life is not easy but we have someone who can provide supernatural \_\_\_\_\_ for us.
10. How easy is it to forgive someone who has wronged us? \_\_\_\_\_, without God's help.
11. Being a Christian is not about obeying a set of rules. It's about having a \_\_\_\_\_ with a living person, Jesus Christ.
12. As God comes to us in our baptism, somewhere along the way we must personally say "\_\_\_\_\_ " to the God of our baptism.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Today...

7 p.m. Youth Group

### Tuesday, May 9

7 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Bang. Book of Acts.

### Wednesday, May 10...

9 a.m. WOW quilting; noon lunch at Mitchell's

7 p.m. Church Council

### Sunday, May 14

10:15-10:45 a.m. Fellowship

11 a.m. Worship Service

**Confirmed Today** — After completing two years of classes, the following will reaffirm their baptism vows today:

Annika Juveland, daughter of Todd and Misty Juveland; sponsors are Tami Alphs and Jean Pederson. Her bible verse is Revelation 21:4;

Austin Kirschbaum, son of Bill and Sarah Kirschbaum; sponsors are Shane and Stacia Hoff, and Laurie Kirschbaum. His Bible verse is Philippians 4:13.

**Open House** — The congregation is invited to a Graduation reception for Caitlin Fjeld, daughter of Gene and Jodi Fjeld, on Sunday, May 14, from 4 to 7 p.m., 35609 155th Ave., Forest City.

**Prayer List** — Health concerns for Jonie Bang, Denise Holst, Robert Olsen, Elaine Ritz, Carver Moffat, Marlys Haugen, Mike Haack, Dale Zingg, Dorothy Kall, Ben Charlson, Monte Branstad, Blanche Durby, Eldora Reil; Angela Haugen serving in the military. All prayer requests can be submitted to Pastor Steve @641-590-7894; or leave a message on the church an-

homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Here ends the reading.

**Psalm 23** (responsively)

L: The Lord is my shepherd,

**C: I shall not want.**

L: He makes me lie down in green pastures;

**C: He leads me beside quiet waters.**

L: He guides me in the paths of righteousness

**C: for His name's sake.**

L: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil;

**C: for Thou are with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.**

L: Thou dost prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

**C: Thou hast anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

L: Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life,

**C: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

**SECOND LESSON:** I Peter 2:19-25

For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps.

“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When they hurled their insults at Him, He did not retaliate; when He suffered, He made no threats. Instead, He entrusted Himself to Him who judges justly. “He Himself bore our sins” in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by His wounds you have been healed.” For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have re-

turned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Here ends the reading.

**THE GOSPEL:** John 10:1-10

**Response:** *Glory to You, O Lord*.....page 83

“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what He was telling them.

Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through Me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Response:** *Praise to You, O Christ*..... page 83

**Confirmands will share Bible verses and testimony**

**Responsive Lord’s Prayer by Confirmands**

**The Sermon:** Pastor Steve Bang

“Confirmation Day — Just the Beginning” Ephesians 2:8-10

**Hymn,** *Children of the Heavenly Father* ..... LBW #474

**Offering**

Please stand.

**Offertory,** *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*.....page 86

**Prayer:** .....page 87

**The Great Thanksgiving** .....page 88

**The Words of Institution**.....page 89

**The Lord’s Prayer**..... page 91

**Affirmation of Baptism by Confirmands**

**Prayer**

*Sharing of the Peace*

**Distribution of Holy Communion**

*(First table — Confirmands, parents and sponsors)*

**Communion Hymns**..... Grey Hymn Book #466, 338, 621

**Post-Communion Canticle** *Thank the Lord*.....page 92 & 93

**Prayer** ..... page 94

**Benediction** ..... page 97

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

**Closing Hymn,** *On Our Way Rejoicing* .....LBW #260

**Postlude**

**Pastor:** Steve Bang

**Pianist:** Sandy Damm

**Lectionary:** Janet Haugen

**Ushers:** Roger Peterson and Mark Peterson

**Acolyte:** Jack Holland

