

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Aaron Dawson
Fifth Sunday of Easter/Confirmation Sunday
May 18, 2025

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/WELCOME

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Congregation: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 56 LBW)

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God, C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake, forgives the sins of all who trust on the merit of Jesus Christ alone. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen

P: However, to all unrepentant sinners and despisers of God, of His Words, and of His Holy Sacraments, I say from God's Word and in the name of Jesus Christ, that God has kept their sins and will certainly punish in time and eternity, so long as they, during this time of grace, refuse to turn from them and to repent. We wish them from the heart that they would repent.

C: Amen

OPENING HYMN

LBW #476 "Have No Fear, Little Flock"

GREETING (pg. 57 LBW)

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 (pgs. 57-58 LBW)

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy. P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy. P: 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 mercy. P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy. P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. C: Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE (pgs. 60-61 LBW)

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. Refrain.**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. Refrain.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. Refrain.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Refrain.

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW)

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you. P: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: Acts 11:1-18

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 150

L: Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; praise him in the firmament of his power.

C: Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him for his excellent greatness.

L: Praise him with the blast of the ram's horn; praise him with lyre and harp.

C: Praise him with timbrel and dance; praise him with strings and pipe.

L: Praise him with resounding cymbals; praise him with loud clanging cymbals.

C: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON: Revelation 21:1-7

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (pg. 62 LBW)

Congregation Sings: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL LESSON: John 16:12-22

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 16th chapter. Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord.

(After Gospel is read) P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“We Were Baptized in Christ Jesus” by John Ylvisaker

SERMON

Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY

WOV #752 “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

(See Insert)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (pg. 66 LBW) (Please rise) Congregation Sings: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (pg. 67 LBW) *P: Merciful Father,* **C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

GREAT THANKSGIVING (pgs. 68-69 LBW)

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 him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth....as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD (pg. 72 LBW) **Congregation Sings: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING, CANTICLE & PRAYER (pgs. 72 LBW) (Please rise as you are able) **Congregation sings: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BENEDICTION (Sung)

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: Amen**

CLOSING HYMN

WOV #721 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Sean O'Donnell: These persons have been instructed in the Christian faith and desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism: Aubrie Albers, Kyndall Cox, Jack Flesner, Liam Kaiser, Carson McClain, Connor Suits and Logan Suits.

P: Dear friends, we rejoice that you now desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission in the world.

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all of creation. You have been nourished at his holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

P: Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith into which we baptize.

P: Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises? **Confirmands: I do.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

Confirmands:

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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

Confirmands:

**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**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

to live among God's faithful people, to hear His Word and share in His supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Confirmands: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: Let us pray (confirmants kneel). Family may come forward and lay hands on confirmants.

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these men and women your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. AMEN

PASTORAL BLESSING:

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in (Aubrie, Kyndall, Jack, Liam, Carson, Connor, Logan) the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his/her faith, guide his/her life, empower him/her in his/her serving, give him/her patience in suffering, and bring him/her to everlasting life. Amen

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Pastor Aaron Dawson

These persons have been instructed in the Christian faith and desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism:

AUBRIE BROOKLYNNE ALBERS Ephesians 6:13

Parents: Brad & Stacey Albers

Therefore put on the armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after all you have done everything, to stand.

KYNDALL NICOLE COX Psalm 34:18

Parents: Devin & Jessie Cox

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

JACK TRAVIS FLESNER Jeremiah 29:11

Parents: Travis & Nikky Flesner

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

LIAM CARL KAISER Jeremiah 29:11-14

Parents: Justin Kaiser, Falonn Maier

“For surely I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord, “plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me,” says the Lord, “and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you,” says the Lord, “and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you to exile.”

CARSON MATTHEW MCCLAIN James 1:2-3

Parents: Matt McClain, Julie Hammack

Consider it a gift when you experience challenges, because you know the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

CONNOR DALE SUITS Galatians 6:9

Parents: Greg & Tanna Suits

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

LOGAN DALE SUITS Philippians 4:13

Parents: Greg & Tanna Suits

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL 61866
(217) 893-4550 (217) 892-8024 (fax)
amluthoffice@gmail.com www.alc-rantoul.org

*“Jesus, you are the stable rock on which I stand, the warm water
in which I float peacefully, the fragrant air that energizes my being.
In you I rest and am strengthened for faithful living.”*

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Annette Carlson Janet Kreaweki (sister/Peggy Schmidt)
McCallister Family Brian Dietz
Family of Gene Elliott Family of Robert Hayn Family of Joane Wilson

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Susan Millsap	Karen Flessner	Roberta Arthur	Steve Schluter
Eugene Schmidt	Tracie Sisneros	Glenn Behnke	John Keith
Pen Pendleton	Denny Doyle	Pr. Barb Busboom	Rodney Larkin
Rich Friemel	Geraldine Gorecki	Lee Briggs	Carla Adkins
Kim Wyre	Jessica Hawn	Earl Smith	Gabbi Reynolds
Ben Moser	William Benton	Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen
Mary Mallicoat	Nick Shepherd	Michael Markarian	Joyce Keith
Merrill Wattjes	Joan Percival	Joyce Williamson	Bob & Jenny Hobby

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Keith Dohleman	Rita Buenting	Ruth Lutz	Joan Mathis
Genet Dixo	Dave Overholt	Loretta Overholt	Luella Loschen

MILITARY (Bolded names are known to be in an area of higher danger):

Jon Stiebner	Alex Short	Brandon Elrod	Kasey Fenimore
Levi Loschen	Ryan Falletti	Riley Falletti	Eli Baker

TABLE GUILD

ACOLYTES

BULLETIN GREETERS

GREETERS

LECTOR

PRAYER LEADER

WORSHIP STEWARD

USHERS

Sondra Sipes, Sally Bauer

Daphnie Albers, Owen Schluter

Karen Flessner, Wendy Watkins

Lois Madden, DeAnn McMorris

Chrissie Hall

Deanne Rosenbeck

Ron Howe

Marvin Ideus, Sue Coffin, Lloyd Schluter

WELCOME Psalm 148 calls all creation to praise the Lord. We join with springtime blooms and buds, more hours of sunlight, newborn animals, singing birds and greening landscapes. Welcome to worship!

FLOWERS TODAY are provided by *Joan Cleary* in memory of her and her husband, Jack's, 68th Wedding Anniversary on May 20th.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY Today we celebrate our confirmands: Aubrie Albers, Kyndall Cox, Jack Flesner, Liam Kaiser, Carson McClain, Connor Suits & Logan Suits.

GRADUATES We will be celebrating our 2025 graduates in the June Newsletter. If you have a child/grandchild graduating from 8th Grade, High School or College, please provide the church office with the graduate's name, the school they will be graduating from, and any degree they will be receiving (if college) by this Wednesday, May 21st. Only names given to the church office will be included in the newsletter.

EDEN PARK MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE will be held immediately following the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service next Sunday, May 25th.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE will be held next Thursday, May 29th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Please plan to attend this celebration reminding us that Jesus does live, in His human but resurrected body. He has gone to prepare a place for us to join Him. He lives! Hallelujah!

VBS VOLUNTEERS Thank you to everyone who was able to help organize VBS for this year! We still need several volunteers to help be group leaders, and to help with supervision during the week. If you are interested, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Email or text/call Heather Lehmann with any questions. She can be reached at mhlehmann87@gmail.com or 574-286-3506. The next meeting will be Sunday, June 1st, for anyone volunteering for VBS.

VBS DONATIONS NEEDED There are notecards in the foyer labeled with supplies needed for this year's VBS! Please take what you are willing and able to donate. There is a box in the narthex to put the supplies. Please have them here by Sunday, June 1st. We appreciate any help you are able to provide.

SOUND BOOTH HELP NEEDED We are needing additional people to help in the Sound Booth. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Neal White (217-840-4471) or the church office (217-893-4550).

SHEETS NEEDED The Quilting group is still in need of flat cotton sheets. These are used for liners in the quilts. Donations may be brought to the church office. Thank you!

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION If you are a baptized believer, trusting that the life giving and sustaining power and presence of Christ is truly present in bread and wine, we welcome you to the Lord's table. Children who commune in their home congregations are welcome to commune; those who are not currently communing at the Lord's table are invited to come forward for a blessing keeping their hands to their sides. The center of each tray holds light colored, non-alcoholic juice for those with special circumstances. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request for those with allergies.

ATTENDANCE FROM LAST WEEK:

9:00 a.m. Worship Service – 129

BROADCAST/FLOWER CHART The cost to sponsor the broadcast on WPXN is \$50. The cost to provide flowers for Sunday is \$25. Please sign up on the chart outside the Narthex and call the office with the details to print in the bulletin.

PRAYER CONCERN UPDATES Please continue to call the church office periodically with updates on those currently listed in our prayer concerns.

PORTALS OF PRAYER are still available to pick-up in the Narthex and in the entryway outside the church office.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27; John 16:23-33

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 18

9:00 a.m. Worship Service/Confirmation
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School & Women's Bible Study

Monday, May 19

12:30 p.m. Quilting

Tuesday, May 20

6:00 p.m. Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Elders Meet
7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 21

11:30 a.m. Community Blood Drive
5:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, May 22

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, May 25

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Eden Park Memorial Day Observance
10:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School
 Women's Bible Study
 Young Adult Bible Study

**Radio Broadcast Sunday Mornings
at 9:45 a.m. on WPXN 104.9FM**

**Daily Prayers & Lessons –Week of the Fifth Sunday after the
Resurrection of Our Lord
May 18, 2025 – May 24, 2025**

Prayer: Lord God, Heavenly Father, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, so that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever. Amen

Daily Lessons:

Sunday	Jeremiah 30:1-31:40	Psalms 20	2 Thessalonians 2:13-17
Monday	Jeremiah 32:1-44	Psalms 21	2 Thessalonians 3:1-18
Tuesday	Jeremiah 33:1-26	Psalms 22	1 Timothy 1:1-11
Wednesday	Jeremiah 34:1-22	Psalms 23	1 Timothy 1:12-20
Thursday	Jeremiah 35:1-19	Psalms 24	1 Timothy 2:1-15
Friday	Jeremiah 36:1-32	Psalms 25	1 Timothy 3:1-16
Saturday	Jeremiah 37:1-38:28	Psalms 26	1 Timothy 4:1-16

Morning Prayer We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all danger and harm. We ask you to preserve and keep us, this day also, from all sin and evil, that in all our thoughts, words, and deeds we may serve and please you. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen

Mid-Day Prayer Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, at this hour you bore our sins in your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and, through your grace, eternal glory in the life to come; where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever. Amen

Evening Prayer We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have this day so graciously protected us. We beg you to forgive us all our sins and the wrong which we have done. By your great mercy defend us from all the perils and dangers of this night. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen



Join us for VBS 2025:

SUPER SQUAD: POWERED BY GOD!

When: June 9th- June 13th

Where: American Lutheran
Church (500 Church Dr.
Rantoul, IL 61866)

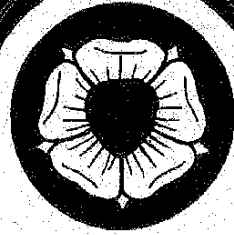
Time: 8:30 AM-11:30 AM

Who: 3 yrs-incoming 6th graders

Scan the QR code to sign-up

or visit: vbspro.events/p/5aa94e

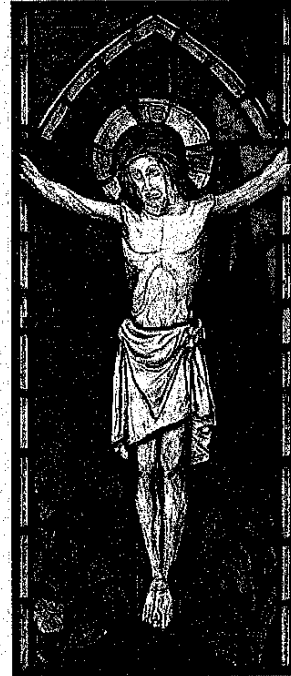




ROOTED

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS & YOUNG
ADULTS



Taught by Pastor Aaron
Starting May 25, 2025

Sundays, Following Divine Service
American Lutheran Church • Rantoul, IL
During the Sunday School Hour

COME AND BE ROOTED IN THE WORD.

In an ever-shifting world, Christ remains our sure foundation. Join fellow young adults and college students as we explore Scripture, strengthen our faith, and build Christian community grounded in the Gospel and the historic Lutheran confession

- Casual, engaging discussion
- Coffee provided ☕
- Real-life application of Biblical truth

**YOUR WORD IS A LAMP TO MY FEET
AND A LIGHT TO MY PATH!**

— Psalm 119:105



American Lutheran Church

500 Church Dr. Rantoul, IL