

April 28, 2024
5th Sunday of Easter



St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

5th Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

“St. Philip’s Evangelical Lutheran Church & School”

www.stphilipmilwaukee.com

Pastor: Raymond Kimbrough

Principal: Jason Schapekahn

**Welcome, Friend!
You Have Come To The Right Place!
Jesus Loves YOU!**

WELCOME

**Guests and visitors, we invite you to worship with us again in the future.
For more information regarding St. Philip’s Lutheran Church,
please contact Pastor Kimbrough at 414-263-1373 or 414-254-6093.
For information on our K4 – 8th grade Christian day school please contact
our Principal, Jason Schapekahn at 414-263-7614 or 414-659-4688.**

THEME OF THE DAY

**Resurrection Reality
The Living Lord Produces Active Faith**

EXPLANATION OF THE THEME OF THE DAY

Generally, our actions are shaped by our beliefs. People who eat low-carb diets do so, probably not because they hate pasta, but because they believe it healthiest. If a man buys stock in a company, it probably is because he believes in their business plan. Our beliefs shape our behavior. This is true of Christians’ belief in the resurrection. We believe that Christ’s resurrection means our resurrection to a glorious eternal life is guaranteed. That inevitably shapes how we will act now.

However, it is not simply the facts of the resurrection that shape our behavior. It is the person of the resurrection. Jesus is not some wise, dead sage whose advice is contained in dusty books. Jesus lives! Therefore, through his Word, he is able to work on our minds and hearts, molding them to his perfect will. Here is a resurrection reality. Jesus fills us with his Spirit, not only so that we have faith, but also so that we produce the fruits of faith he seeks.

595 Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing

CW 595



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, may we rip - en
2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing gifts the Giv - er
3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern
4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, may we grow till



and in - crease, fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,
loves to bless; here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,
and our goal, teach us, as the years fly fast - er,
har - vests cease; till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



rich in love and joy and peace.
pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.
good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.
heav - en's love and joy and peace.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, b. 1932

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Stand

Throughout the service, the congregation speaks (or sings) the parts printed in bold.

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.**

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

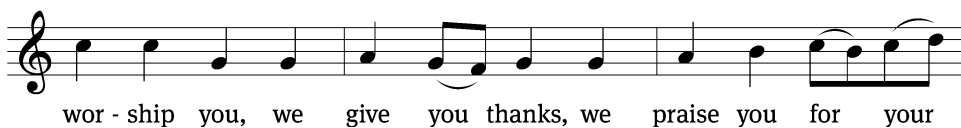
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

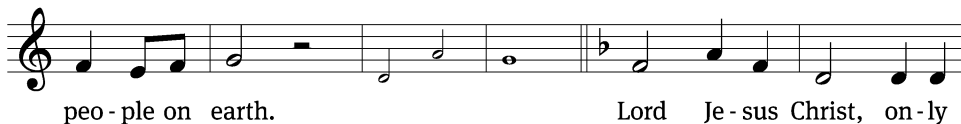




wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on



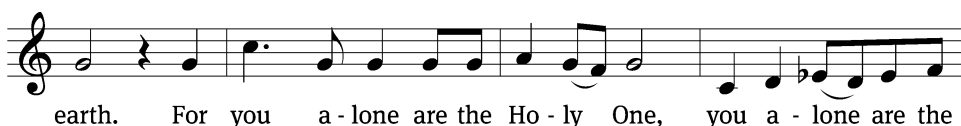
us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on



earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,
 with the Ho - ly Spir-it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God.

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 4:32–37

³²All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

³⁶Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), ³⁷sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

63A In the Morning I Will Sing

Psalm 63A

Cantor will sing the verses – Congregation will join on the refrain.

Refrain



In the morn-ing I will sing, I will
sing glad songs to you, I will sing glad songs of praise to
you. I will sing glad songs of praise to you.

Verse



1 O God, you are my God; for you I long; for
you my soul is thirst-ing. My bod-y pines for you like a
dry, wea-ry land with-out wa-ter. So I gaze on you in the
sanc-tu-ar-y to see your strength and your glo-ry.

Verse



2 For your love is bet-ter than life, my lips will speak your



praise. So I will bless you all my life, in your



name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a



ban-quet, my mouth shall praise you with joy.

Verse



3 On my bed I re-mem-ber you. On you I



muse through the night, for you have been my help; in the



shad-ow of your wings I re-joice. My soul clings to



you; your right hand holds me fast.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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Second Reading

1 John 5:1–6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. ²This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 15:5

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
I am the vine; you are the branches.
If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

John 15:1-8

¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

469 Welcome, Happy Morning

CW 469

Please rise for the final stanza.



1 “Wel - come, hap - py morn - ing!” age to age shall say;
 2 Mak - er and Re - deem - er, life and health of all,
 3 Source of all things liv - ing, you came down to die,
 4 Free the souls long pris - oned, bound with Sa - tan’s chain;



“Hell to - day is van - quished; heav’n is won to - day!”
 God from heav’n be - hold - ing hu - man na - ture’s fall,
 plumbed the depths of hell to raise us up on high.
 all that now is fall - en raise to life a - gain.



Lo, the dead is liv - ing, God for - ev - er - more!
 of the Fa - ther’s God - head you, the on - ly Son,
 Come, then, true and faith - ful, come, ful - fill your word;
 Show your face in bright - ness; shine in ev - ’ry land



Him, their true Cre - a - tor, all his works a - dore.
 man - kind to de - liv - er man - hood did put on.
 this is your third morn - ing— rise, O bur - ied Lord.
 as in E - den’s gar - den when the world be - gan.

Refrain



“Wel - come, hap - py morn - ing!” age to age shall say;



“Hell to - day is van - quished; heav’n is won to - day!”

Text: tr. John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.; Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530–609, abr.

Tune: Enchiridion Geistliche Lede und Psalmen, Lübeck, 1545

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon – John 15:1-8 (Gospel)

“Lessons From the Lord’s Vineyard”

A. The symbols: A Lesson About RELATIONSHIPS.

1. The Son is the true vine. Verses 1a, 5a
2. The Father is the gardener. Verse 1b
3. The believer is the branch. Verse 5b

B. The steps: A Lesson About RESPONSIBILITY.

1. We must submit to pruning by the Father. Verses 2,3, Hebrews 12:11
2. We must abide in the Son. Verses 4, 5b, 5c, 6

C. The success: A Lesson About REALITY.

1. It results in bountiful fruit. Verses 5b, 8a
2. It results in successful prayer. Verse 7
3. It results in glorifying the Father. Verse 8

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering

Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.

Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:

<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>.

General Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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 Sacrament

Stand

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

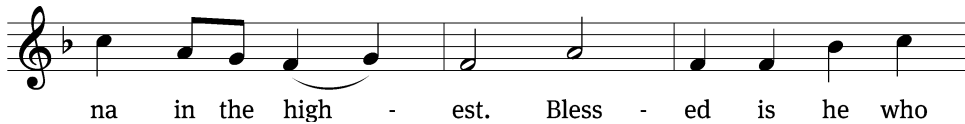
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



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Words of Institution

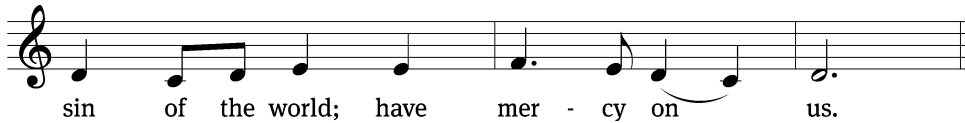
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us your peace.
 A - men. A - men.

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Be seated

Distribution

During Distribution – Soloist – “How Great Thou Art”

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.
 We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our
 love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who
 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

927 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

CW 927



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for the gos - pel's
3 So when - e'er the sig - nal's giv - en us from earth to



joy and peace. Let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion
call a - way, borne on an - gels' wings to heav - en,



tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound! Ev - er faith - ful,
glad the sum - mons to o - bey, may we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er reign with Christ in end - less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship

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St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

www.stphilipmilwaukee.com

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Milwaukee, WI 53212

414 263-7614

splsoffice@stphilipmilwaukee.com

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

www.wels.net

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough

Lay Reader

Mr. Thomas McNeal

Organ/Piano

Mrs. Claire Vogel

Soloist

Ms. Willie Mae Reynolds

Cantor

Ms. Sarah Enstad

In Our Prayers

Joyce Vernon
Kitty Henderson
Natasha McCants
Susan Berg
Gabriel Jasper
Glen Thompson
Sheila Kimbrough

Next Week: May 5 2024

Musicians: Praise Band

Lay Reader: Mr. Thomas McNeal

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S

Wednesday, May 1

Chapel 8:15AM

Friday, May 3

NO SCHOOL – WLHS Track Meet

Sunday, May 5

Bible Class 9:30AM

Worship 10:30AM – Praise Band leads worship

MAY 2024 Calendar and Text Sheet included with today's bulletin.

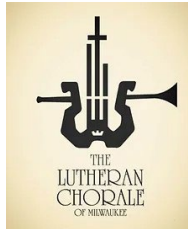
OFFERING UPDATE

	<u>Week</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>July to Date</u>
	<u>4/15 – 4/21</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
Budget	\$ 3,490.57	\$ 10,471.70	\$ 152,547.17
Actual	\$ 2,782.70	\$ 8,615.70	\$ 144,096.61
Over (Under)	(\$ 707.87)	(\$ 1,856.00)	(\$ 8,450.56)

Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.
Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:
<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>.

CALLS RETURNED

The calls issued to Joel & Kelli Plocher to serve as teachers at St. Philip's Lutheran School have been returned. We will be requesting candidates from Martin Luther College assignment committee to assist with our staffing needs for the 2024-2025 school year.



“Sola Scriptura”

This year's spring concert will be presented twice under the theme “Sola Scriptura.” It will highlight sacred texts that are direct quotes from God's Word. Hear classics like “How Lovely Are the Messengers” and “See What Love” by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, “Os Justi” by Anton Bruckner, and “O Clap Your Hands” by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Additionally, the Chorale will debut several pieces new to us such as “Esto Les Digo” by Kinley Lange, “O Word of God” by Craig Courtney, “Stay with Us” by WELS composer Jon Hermanson, and “Serve One Another” by former Chorale member Jeremy Bakken.

This unique concert will feature piano, organ, brass, strings, and the 48-voice Lutheran Chorale. We hope you will join us for this monumental concert as we sing the Word of God.

Freewill offering

Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Christ the Lord Lutheran Church
1650 North Brookfield Road
Brookfield, WI 53045

2665 North Street
East Troy, WI 53120

Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church 175 Year Anniversary

Everyone is invited to the 175 year anniversary celebration of Grace Ev. Lutheran Church (1209 North Broadway), in Milwaukee. On Sunday, May 19, identical anniversary worship services will be held at the church at 7:45, 9:00, and 10:30 a.m. A catered meal and program will follow the 10:30 a.m. service at the Marcus Performing Arts Center. RSVP by Wednesday, May 1 to <https://bit.ly/Grace175>



Taste of Missions

Register today for Taste of Missions, a hybrid event that will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2024, at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, Wis. Attend in person OR online to get a “taste of missions.” Registration is \$15 per person, with children 13 and under attending for free. Those attending in person will receive food tickets to sample ethnic food and will have the ability to purchase additional food from the food trucks. Or attend virtually for free and watch all events via livestream, view additional video updates from missionaries, and try your hand at making one of the many ethnic recipes shared on the website. Learn more and register at tasteofmissions.com.

Are You a Growing Branch? – Family Devotion

I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

John 15:5,6

Spring is here! It's a season where plants poke through the soil, and tree branches sprout leaves... at least, most tree branches. Sometimes tree branches snap off and end up on the ground. The rest of the tree is growing new green leaves, but that dead branch isn't connected to the tree anymore. It isn't growing like rest of the tree.

Throughout the book of John, Jesus uses lots of word pictures to describe himself and his relationship with those who believe in him. In today's reading, Jesus calls himself the vine and his followers the branches. Just like a tree helps its branches grow green leaves, so too Jesus helps his followers—us!—grow in our faith. And just like a branch on the ground is dead because it's not connected to the tree, so too our faith will suffer and eventually die if we don't stay connected to Jesus.

That can be a scary thought! Do you ever worry whether you're still connected to Jesus, still a growing branch and not a dead branch? Sure, you go to church and listen to God's Word. But is that really enough? There are times when you fight with your friends, when you talk back to your parents, when you are angry at everybody. Do these times mean you are in danger of becoming disconnected from Jesus? Are you close to becoming a dry, dead branch?

There's a small word in today's reading that can help you not worry about being strong enough to stay connected to Jesus. Did you catch it? Jesus says to "remain" in him. He doesn't say "get connected to me" or "find a way to make your connection with me stronger." Instead, he says "remain in me." Jesus connected you to him like a branch is connected to a tree. Maybe you came to faith at your baptism, or maybe it was when you were a little older. Whenever it was, Jesus promised to remain in you so you can believe in him.

Yes, there are times when you will struggle with a certain sin, when you feel like you're not doing anything right, when your faith doesn't feel strong, but like a weak branch. In those moments, remember the strength of the vine—of your Savior, Jesus—and know that he's the one keeping you connected to him. What a reassuring thought!

Closing Prayer:

Dear Jesus, thank you for doing everything needed to connect us to you. When we doubt or feel weak, remind us that our strength comes from you: the vine, the one who provides everything we need to stay strong and grow spiritually. Amen.



St. Philip's Lutheran Church & School

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough

3012 N Holton Street

Milwaukee, WI 53212

Church: 414-263-1373

Cell Phone: 414-254-6093

TO FRIENDS AND VISITORS

This is the house of God. In His Name we welcome each and every person. May His Word bring you closer to your Savior, assuring you of the forgiveness of all your sins through Jesus' death and resurrection.

If you are without a church home or have recently moved to the area, our pastor will be happy to call on you or answer your questions about church membership. If you are burdened with sorrow or trouble, we invite you to call on the pastor at any time.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

St. Philip's congregation supports and maintains a Christian Day School for the thorough training of the whole child. We want each child to know, not only how to deal with this life, but to know their Savior and prepare for eternal life. The school is called St. Philip's Lutheran School and is located at 3012 N. Holton Street.

School Office Phone: 414-263-7614

Church Office Phone: 414-263-1373

Church Service – 10:30AM

Bible Class – 9:30AM