



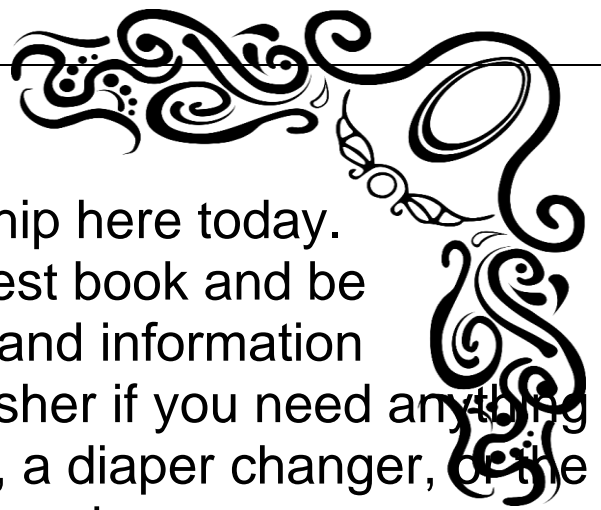
**Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 2025
New Member Sunday**

**Christus Victor Lutheran Church
9833 Harford Road
Parkville, MD 21234
(410) 668-8089**

**Web Site: Christusvictoronline.org
Email: office@christusvictoronline.org**

**Mission Statement: God calls us to unite in Christ, grow
in faith, serve in love, and share the good news.**

WELCOME TO ALL,
ESPECIALLY OUR VISITORS.



We praise God for all who worship here today. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book and be sure to take a visitor's bag of goodies and information about our church. Be sure to see an usher if you need anything (a quiet room for children, a bathroom, a diaper changer, or the parlor for quiet meditation) during the service.

Absolutely everyone is welcome to take communion. Lutherans believe that the very presence of Jesus Christ means the bread is his body and the wine is his blood. Communion is a meaningful vehicle for the Holy Spirit to enter us fully and have us participate in Christ's death and resurrection. God invites you to God's own table for love, forgiveness, and fellowship. Parents may decide if they want their young children to commune or receive a blessing, but please know that all ages are welcome to commune in the Evangelical Lutheran faith.

You are absolutely invited to everything Christus Victor Church does, including all fellowships, events, and after-worship activities. La casa de Dios, tu casa.

Note to Everyone: Please read the announcements at the end of this bulletin!

WORSHIP NOTE: THE * MEANS "PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE" FOR THAT PART OF THE WORSHIP. YOU MAY SIT WHENEVER YOU FEEL THE NEED.

God's blessings on all who serve:

PASTOR: Ellen B. Krich

DEACON: Shelly Shrader

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Taylor Armstrong

ORGANIST: Frank Ritterman

TECHNOLOGY: Ugonnaya Obineme

LAY ASSISTANT: Todd Hieber

READER: Rachel McPherson

USHERS: Phil Biedronski, Karen Biedronski

ACOLYTE: Marcus Collins

ALTAR GUILD: Andrea Zahirsky, Irene Ruby, Virginia McCurdy, Cathleen Burkins, Ellen Marsheck



PRELUDE:

*GATHERING

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P. In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive 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. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***GATHERING SONG: *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones* (ELW 424)**

*GREETING

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 204)



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A. Let us pray.

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WELCOME AND PROMISES NEW MEMBER, MELISSA O'DONNELL

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18

A reading from Acts.

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

¹ Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God.

² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me.

⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men,

sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.

² **Praise the LORD, | all you angels;**
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.

³ Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

⁴ **Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,**
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.

⁵ Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,

⁶ **who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,**
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.

⁷ Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸ **fire and hail, | snow and fog,**
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;

⁹ mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰ **wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;**
¹¹ **sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;**
¹² **young | men and maidens,
old and | young together.**
¹³ **Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over |
earth and heaven.**
¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and
praise for all | faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the
LORD. | Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

A reading from Revelation.

John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

¹ I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

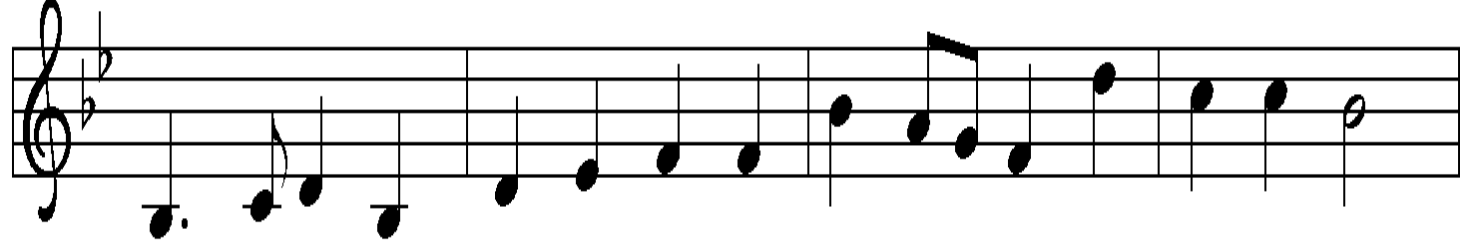
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

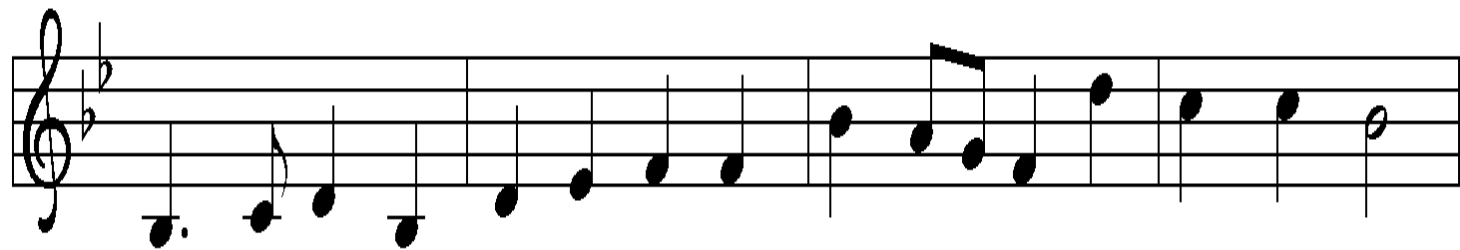
⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me,

“It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

***GOSPEL: John 13:31-35**

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After washing the disciples’ feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus’ community.

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in

himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Great God, Your Love Has Called Us* (ELW 358)

YOUTH: NOISY CHANGE OFFERING FOR THE HUNGER TASK FORCE

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come 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.**

Please be seated for the prayers.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P. God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A. Heavenly Father, you are the Divine Creator of our world. We give thanks for everything that magnifies your glory. As Spring illustrates the resurrection of life, help us to preserve your creation and use the land, sea and air for the good of all. Through your glorious son we ask this. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A. God of power, we pray for the nations that struggle to find peace, and we ask your help in guiding world leaders to be resolved to end conflict and bring freedom not bondage, understanding not hate, and to end wars. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A. Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness. We name aloud all those on our parish prayer list.... And others we name before you.... Wipe away every tear. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A. We give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love. Guide us by their example, until we join them in your eternal home. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A. Happy Birthday Wishes go to David Petersen and Hannah Krich. Lord, please give to them the richest of blessings, many friends and family to celebrate them on their birthdays and through the year ahead. Lord, fill their years with adventure, abundance, and great joy. Hear us O God.
Your mercy is great.

P. We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

OFFERING

MUSICAL MEDITATION

***OFFERING PRAYER**

A. Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***SANCTUS (ELW page 207)**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

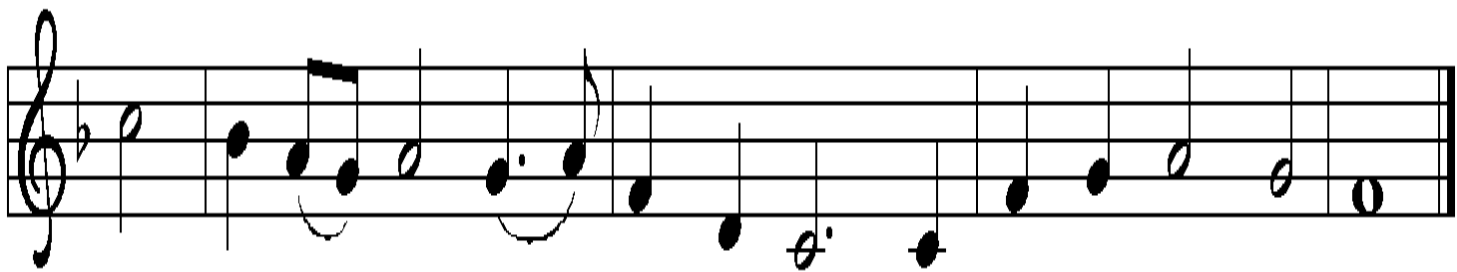
Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI (ELW page 208)



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN *Baptized and Set Free* (ELW 453)

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A. Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

***SENDING**

***THE FINAL BLESSING**

***SENDING SONG: *Beautiful Savior* (ELW 838)**

***DISMISSAL**

**A. Go in peace to love and serve God and people.
We will with help of Holy Spirit.**

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Care and Concern

Graham Allen – Young child with ill health (Jane Bowie)
Pam Anderson & Granddaughter – Medical Issues (Jan Williams)
Tate Armstrong & Family – Safety during deployment
JoAnn Bakie – Health Issues (Bea Walshinsky)
Ron Baronti – (Virginia McCurdy)
Daniel Beauford – Health Issues (Obinemes)
Kenneth Bennett - Kidney Removal (Bob Chilcote)
Tony Bonome – Serious medical issues (Jan Williams)
Renee Brozstek – Lung cancer (Friend of Diane Hopple)
Kim Bruns - Recovering after surgery for serious spinal injury (Niece of Mike and Betty Schumann)
Henry Hale Brzozowski – baby born prematurely (cousin of Emily Krich)
Greg Bryant –(Stansburys)
Kelly Stansbury Bryant – (Stansburys)
Patty Buddemeyer – Health Issues (Daughter of the Leights)
Daryl Burman – (Howard Stansbury)
Jada Castillo – Medical Issues (Jan Williams)
Sheila Clark – Severe stroke (Cousin of Diane Hopple)
Keith Cohen – Stroke & blood clot (Nephew of Kathleen Clement)

Melissa Collins*

Rob Coppage – Battling cancer (Nephew of Birdie Patrick)

Regina Delozier – (Stansburys)

Ola Denues – Recovering from brain surgery (Cousin of Karen Biedronski)

Helena Discher – Needs bypass surgery (Jan Williams)

Darlene Evans – Fighting cancer (Sandy Petrovich)

Anna Fowler – Pray for peace of mind and healing that she might no longer need oxygen (Jan Williams)

Beth Franks – Pray for healing (friend of Joyce McMahon)

George – Bone marrow cancer. (Joyce McMahon).

Loretta Gleason – Pray for healing. (Birdie Patrick)

Bobby Heuisler – (Stansburys)

Chrissy Hunter – Pray for successful surgery. (Friend of Karen Biedronski)

Jessie – Pray for strength. (Len & Sandy Petrovich)

Nancy Kiefner – Health Issues (Stansburys)

Robert Kruelle – Kidney health issues (Irene Ruby)

Rick Lewis – Medical Issues (Jan Williams)

Jacqi & Lacey Lockard – (Stansburys)

Brian Martel – Stage 4 melanoma (friend of Phil Biedronski)

Pam – Brain Tumor (Friend of Virginia McCurdy)

Ken McPherson (Rachel and Emma McPherson).

Roger McPherson (Kelly Ruby and Joan Ruby).

Grayson Myers – (Grandson of Nancy Myers)

Susan Parker – Pray for well-being after a paralyzing stroke (Bea Walshinsky's daughter)

Ronnie – (Shraders)

Rosemary – Stage 4 pancreatic cancer

Erika Scarcella –Seizures (McCreas).

Emily Scranton – (Shraders)

Rebekah Scranton – (Shraders)

Shelly Shrader* - Pray for strengthening of her beautiful heart.

Jake Sittler* - Pray for strength and continued wellness.

Rosemary Sommers – Stroke (Pat Eichner).

Terrie Sommers – Health Issues (Pat Eichner).

Tjark Steg – (Stansburys)

Ginny Thompson – Numerous health issues (Merle Vogel)

Michele Thompson – Health Issues (Bea Walshinsky)
Carol Tracey – Serious Health Issues (Jane Bowie)
Tyler Walsh – Long recovery from a motorcycle accident
(Linda Meyer)

*member CVLC

Members at Home or in Long Term Care

Diane Frederick Jeanne George Bea Walshinsky
Jack Zimmerman

Attendance: 5/11/2025

Sanctuary/In-Person Worship 10:00AM – 87
Sunday School – 9
Facebook - 85

Count Our Blessings: 5/11/2025

Weekly Offering - \$2,794.38
Online Giving 5/9/2025 – \$1,415.00
Victor's Vittles - \$75.00
Shrimp Feast - \$960.00
Hall Usage - \$80.00
Memorials - \$175.00

Thank you for your support!

Happy Birthday Wishes: May 22 – David Petersen,
Hannah Krich

Upcoming Events

+**Synod Assembly** will be held this year on Friday, May 30, through Saturday, May 31, 2025, at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Westminster. Sandy Petrovich and Linda McMahon will be our voting lay members. The noisy change offering will go to the local Hunger Task Force which has provided our Victor's Vittles with two \$1,000 grants in the past two years. Please help and bring change (and dollars) to support such a worthwhile cause. Thank you!

+ "The Chosen" season 3 is coming to Christus Victor on Tuesday evenings, May 27th and June 3rd, starting at 5:15 p.m. with a wonderful light dinner and dessert prepared by Andrea and her crew. The episode will follow on our wonderful big screen in the sanctuary. Please come.

If you'd like to catch up on the season, "The Chosen" will also be shown:

May 27th at St. Andrews in Parkville, starting at 5:15 with dinner and dessert.

You'll be in familiar company. We have a regular little group from Christus Victor who attend.

+ Chick Fil-A Fundraiser is coming this Thursday, May 22, from 5-8 p.m. Please take a flyer with you or mention "Spirit Night" to have our church receive 20% of all our sales. If you order a 12-piece nugget meal, we'll receive an extra \$1 of donation. This covers eat-in, drive-through, and mobile ordering as long as you mention "Spirit Night."

+ The church picnic and youth group service will be held on June 8th. The picnic will be held outside; the youth service will be in the sanctuary. The youth service will feature what we learned at our retreat, plus songs and testimonies. For the picnic, we will be grilling hot dogs, hamburgers and cheeseburgers. We will also have drinks, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share. This promises to be a very special Sunday. There'll be games for the kids also.

+ Tate's physical address. Many of you have asked to send letters and cards directly to Tate. His address is:

Taylor Armstrong (No Rank)

AFCENT PAB

OPC 1201 Box 22

APO, AE 09309

Remember, he is also able to receive emails at tsarmstrong@gmail.com. If you hear back from him, please be sure to share the news with the rest of our church.

VICTOR'S VITTLES:

May 24th – Andrea Zahirsky, Nancy Yeager
Driver Pick-up May 23rd – Zahirskys
More drivers are desperately needed.

Victors Vittles Food Drive!

Please help us stock up our regular family foods by bringing in the following: **May:** Mac and Cheese, **June:** Cereal, Oatmeal, **July:** Pasta Sauce/Pasta, **August:** Potatoes Instant Boxes, Packets or Rice, **September:** Chili

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, May 18 – 9:00AM Sunday School, 10AM Service
Monday, May 19 - NA Group 7:00PM
Tuesday, May 20 - Christus Comforters 9:30AM
Tuesday, May 20 – Victor's Vittles Volunteers 11:00AM
Tuesday, May 20 – Scouts 6:30PM
Wednesday, May 21 – LMS Pick-Up
Thursday, May 22 – Dining Out – Chick-Fil-A (Perry Hall)
5:00-8:00PM
Friday, May 23 – New Beginnings 7:00PM
Saturday, May 24 – Victor's Vittles 9:00-11:00AM
Monday, May 26 – Office Closed – Memorial Day

2025 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Linda Meyer, President	410.215.0356
Andrea Zahirsky, Vice President	410.668.8165
Karen Biedronski, Secretary	410.529.9405
Helen Tennant, Treasurer	410.661.0686
Melissa Collins, Social Ministry	410.371.6168
Joel McCrea, Fellowship	410.592.7759
Linda McMahon, Evangelism	410.528.3221
Ugonnaya Obineme, Stewardship	443.559.2655
Sandy Petrovich, Christian Education	410.241.8814
Kelly Ruby, Mutual Ministry	410.274.9156
Michael Schumann, Administration	410.665.0702
Deacon Shelly Shrader, Worship & Music	443.613.2447
Howard Stansbury, Property	410.529.3010

Church Contacts

Pastor:	Ellen Krich, 410-236-9115 ellenkrichlove@gmail.com
Deacon:	Shelly Shrader, 443-613-2447 shrdr67@yahoo.com
Dir.of Music:	Taylor Armstrong, 410-340-6595 tsarmstrong@gmail.com
P.A./Fin. Sec..	Sharon Ibex - Office 410-668-8089 office@christusvictoronline.org
Sunday School:	Sandy Petrovich, 410-444-7947
Oakleaf Editor:	Karen Biedronski, 410-529-9405 charmcitystamper@verizon.net
Victor's Vittles:	Carol Stansbury, 410-529-3010
Altar Guild:	Andrea Zahirsky, 410-668-8165
Lay Assistants:	Linda Meyer, 410-215-0356
Ushers:	Sherry Simpkins, 410-661-7568
Youth Group:	Gordon Krause, 410-812-6362
FFF:	Stephanie Vancura, 410-336-2364