

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

May 5th, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 am Services

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Introduction for the Day: This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

We welcome Dr. Sharon Hansen today as guest director of our Senior Choir. Sharon is Emerita Professor of Conducting and Choral Music at the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. A dynamic and compelling conductor and master teacher, Hansen is active as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States and in Europe. We are pleased to welcome her to our worship service today.

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Kevin Kretzmann Farrar

Temple Talk Compassion International – Marilyn Day

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

When we were baptized, we died and were buried with Christ.

We were baptized so that we might have a new life, as Christ was raised to life by the glory of God our Creator.

Therefore, let us confess our sins to God so that we may keep the commandments with a willing heart.

(Silence for meditation and self-examination)

Almighty and all-merciful God,

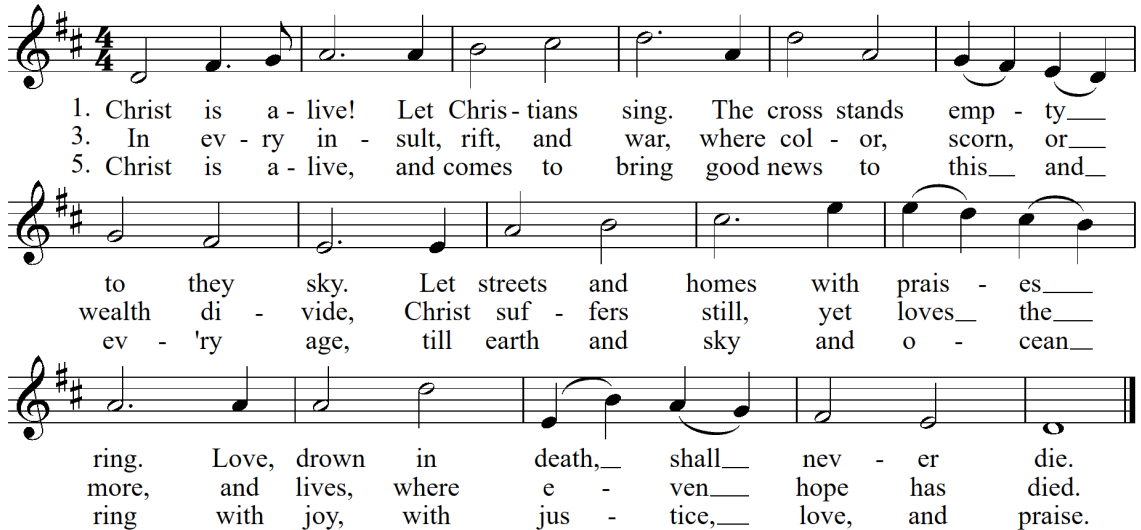
We confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.

Amen.

Gathering Song

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1. Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands emp - ty__
 3. In ev - ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or, scorn, or__
 5. Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to this__ and__

to they sky. Let streets and homes with prais - es__
 wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet loves__ the__
 ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and o - cean__

ring. Love, drown in death,__ shall__ nev - er die.
 more, and lives, where e - ven__ hope has died.
 ring with joy, with jus - tice,__ love, and praise.

Text: John W. Arthur [1922-1980] alt. Tune: Truro, LM. Music: T. Williams, 1789. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603

Opening Litany for the Sixth Sunday of Easter & Apostolic Greeting

The Lord is Risen!

He is risen indeed!

Jesus, you sacrificed yourself on the cross for our sake.

Jesus, you spoke to the people around you about the kingdom to come.

Jesus, you took children into your arms and held them close.

Jesus, you have set a place aside for us at the heavenly banquet.

The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be
 with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 98, Read Responsively

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands. (Ps. 98:4)

Let us read responsively from Psalm 98.

Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.

The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading

1 John 5:1-6

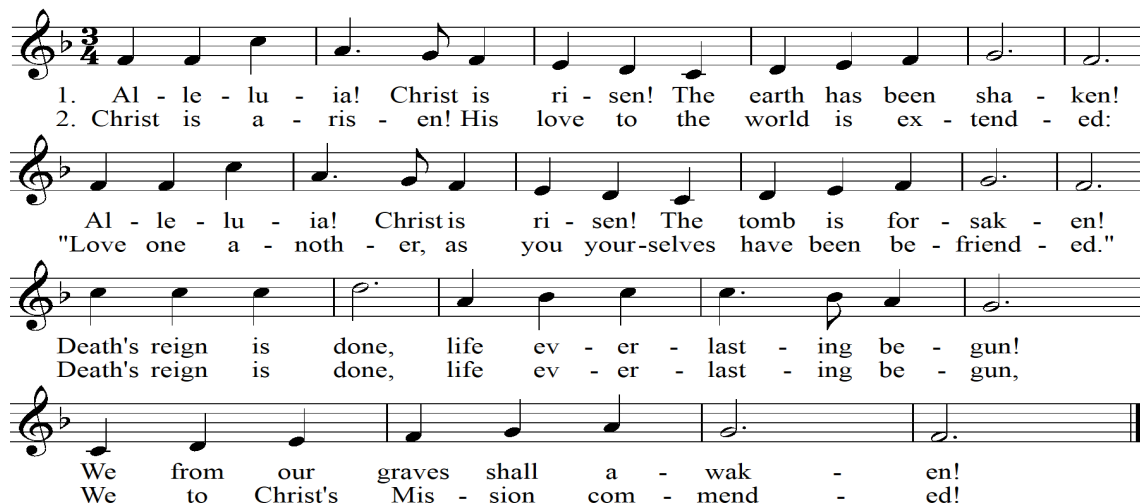
God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ Is Risen!


1. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ri - sen! The earth has been sha - ken!
 2. Christ is a - ris - en! His love to the world is ex - tend - ed:

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ri - sen! The tomb is for - sak - en!
 "Love one a - noth - er, as you your-selves have been be - friend - ed."

Death's reign is done, life ev - er - last - ing be - gun!
 Death's reign is done, life ev - er - last - ing be - gun,

We from our graves shall a - wak - en!
 We to Christ's Mis - sion com - mend - ed!

Text: Arden W. Mead. Text Copyright © 1999 by Creative Communication for the Parish. Based on John 20:19-31. Used by Permission. Music: Tune: Lobe den Herren, 14 14 478.

Gospel

John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed!

The holy gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O risen Lord!

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O risen Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Carolyn Fredriksen

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

#595 Jesus Loves Me!

Prayer Cards, which can be found in the pew racks, will be collected during the Hymn of the Day

(8:30 Service)

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

p. 104 or inside back cover of the hymnal

Please be seated.

(8:30 Service, please turn to page 7.)

(11:00 Service Continues Here.)

Service of Holy Baptism for Cedar Benson

Please follow along in your Hymnals on Page 227.

Please be seated.

Presentation

Please stand as you are able.

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? If so answer, I renounce them.

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Please be seated.

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Baptism

Baptismal Response

#212 You Belong to Christ

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu ia.

Text: Holy Baptism and Related Rites, Renewing Worship 3. Text © 2002, music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress. Music: Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

Welcome

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

(Both Services Continue Here)

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer of Intercession

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

...God of grace,
Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled." The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Meal

Musical Offering 8:30 *Cantique de Jean Racine* G. Faure, arr. Arnold Sherman - Bells Angels

Word, equal to the Almighty, our sole hope, Eternal Day of the earth and the heavens, We break the silence of the peaceful night. Divine savior, cast your eyes upon us.

Pour on us the fire of your powerful grace So that all hell flees at the sound of your voice. Dispel the sleep of a languishing soul Who lives forgetful of your laws.

O Christ, look kindly on your faithful people Assembled now to glorify you. Receive the songs that we offer to your immortal glory and let us depart, crowned with your gifts.

11:00 *If Ye Love Me* by Peter Niedmann – Senior Choir with Guest Director, Dr. Sharon Hansen

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he will give you, he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the spirit of truth.

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Response

#183 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offertory Prayer

You have sent your Son into our world, O God. You have sent your Spirit into our hearts.
Accept these gifts they are the prayers of your people. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue and Preface

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . .

. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

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

Text: Traditional Liturgical. Music: Tillis Butler, d. 2002. James Harris. From the Detroit Folk Mass. Copyright © 1993, 1999, 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

(11:00 Service)

First Communion

We celebrate with **Finn Nickel** his First Communion today.

Today this community of faith rejoices because Sunday is the day Christ arose from the dead. Once again Jesus calls us to join him for a meal. We celebrate with those who today, join in sharing of the Lord's Meal—Holy Communion.

We welcome you to the Table for the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We pray that you will find joy and strength in this meal. Come among us, O God, as we gather to worship you.

Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

The risen Christ invites us to this table.

Come, eat, and be satisfied.

Call to Communion

#486 God Extends an Invitation/Nuestro Padre nos Invita

Communion Anthem 11:00 *Come With Us, O Blessed Jesus* – J.S. Bach
(Using the Communion text, ELW #501) – Senior Choir

Communion Hymn

#469 By Your Hand You Feed Your People

Please stand as you are able.

Communion Response

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Your joy is in us, O Christ. Our joy is complete. Strengthen us through this meal's healing power. Then we will abide in God's unbounding love. We bless you now and evermore.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines

1. Glo - ry to God, _____ whose good - ness shines on me,
2. World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, _____ whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, _____ whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, _____ 7 with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is
now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

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Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude