

# St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 am Services

## *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

**Introduction for the Day:** Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

### *Gathering*

Prelude

*Bergamasca* – Girolamo Frescobaldi [1583-1643]

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Ann Williams

Mother's Day Celebration

Temple Talk

Equipping the Saints Synod Mission Appeal  
Andy Cherney

*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 the Father.**

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

*Silence for meditation and self-examination*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do, so that we may receive and share the precious peace our Lord has promised.**

It is written that the Messiah had to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins must be proclaimed in his name. I therefore declare unto you that your sins are forgiven.

**We have seen the Lord! Alleluia!**

Gathering Song

**#361 The Day of Resurrection!**

Opening Litany for the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter & Apostolic Greeting

The Lord is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

We celebrate the life Christ came to bring when he rose from the dead.

**Alleluia! Live within us, risen Lord.**

Today we celebrate the life Christ will continue to send us through his Spirit.

**Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit.**

We celebrate the life that we live together with our God because of what Christ did for us.

**Alleluia! Come, God our creator.**

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.**

Hymn of Praise

**page 140; Festival Cantic: This is the Feast**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

*Word*

First Reading

Acts 17:22-31

*In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Gospel Acclamation

**#512 Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil**

Gospel

John 14:15-21

*In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.*

The Lord is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

The holy gospel according to John, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O risen Lord!**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O risen Christ.**

Sermon

Bishop Paul Erickson

*Please stand as you are able.*

Hymn of the Day

**#548 Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen**

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

Inside back cover of hymnal or page 104

Prayers of Intercession

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

...Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you,  
almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## Meal

*Pledges to the "Equipping the Saints" appeal will be collected separately.*

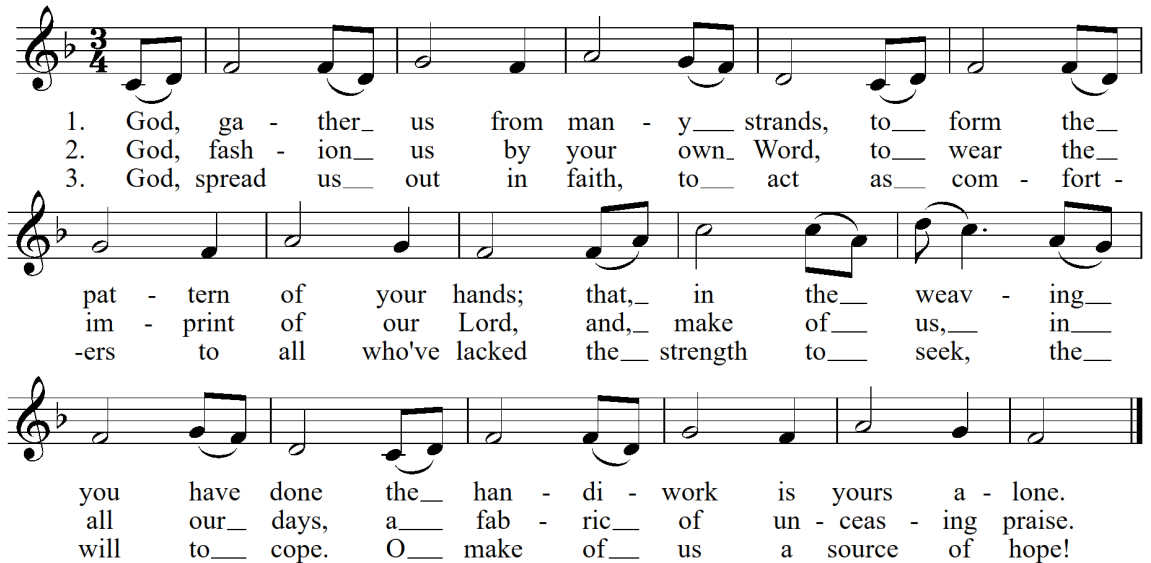
Musical Offering      8:30  
                                 11:00

*If Ye Love Me* - Thomas Tallis – Senior Choir  
*Aria* – Ch. Callahan

*Please stand as you are able.*

Offertory Response

**God, Gather Us from Many Strands**



1. God, ga - ther\_ us from man - y\_\_ strands, to\_\_ form the\_\_  
2. God, fash - ion\_\_ us by your own\_ Word, to\_\_ wear the\_\_  
3. God, spread us\_\_ out in faith, to\_\_ act as\_\_ com - fort -  
pat - tern of your hands; that, in the weav - ing\_\_  
im - print of our Lord, and, make of\_\_ us, in\_\_  
-ers to all who've lacked the strength to\_\_ seek, the\_\_  
you have done the\_\_ han - di - work is yours a - lone.  
all our\_ days, a\_\_ fab - ric\_\_ of un - ceas - ing praise.  
will to\_\_ cope. O\_\_ make of\_\_ us a source of hope!

Text: John A. Dalles. Copyright © 2000 Copyright GIA Publ. Inc. Chicago. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved. Tune: Prospect LM. Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

### Stitches of Love Quilt Ministry Blessing

Lord, bind us together in one community of love, founded on the faith that your love and grace is everlasting. We ask for your presence today as we present these blankets for your blessing. We wrap these pews with offerings of cloth and thread.

**Bless these quilts, O Lord, we pray.**

We wrap these pews with offerings of time, energy, love, and care.

**Bless these quilts, O Lord, we pray.**

We send these quilts to wrap the people of this world.

**Bless those wrapped, O Lord, we pray.**

We send these quilts as fabric signs of warmth and care.

**Bless those warmed, O Lord, we pray.**

We are a blessed and warmed people. We give thanks for the many blessings out of which we share.

**Continue to warm and bless us, O Lord, we pray.**

Into your Hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### 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.**

## First Communion

We celebrate with Julian Collins (8:30 Service); Elijah Lanza (11:00 Service) their 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 thank God for your life. 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

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

**We who are hungry, we who are thirsty, we come.**

*Please be seated.*

### Call to Communion

#### **God Bless to Us Our Bread/**

#### ***Bendice, Señor, Nuestro pan***

Ben - di - ce, Se - ñor, nues - tro pan, y da pan a los que  
God bless to us our bread, and give food to all

tien - en ham - bre y ham - bre de jus - ti - cia a los que  
those who are hun - gry and hun - ger for jus - tice to

tien - en pan. Ben - di - ce, Se - ñor, nues - tro pan.  
those who are fed. God bless to us our bread.

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## Communion Hymn

## For Everyone Born



1. For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,\_\_\_\_  
 2. For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,\_\_\_\_  
 3. For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,\_\_\_\_  
 4. For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,\_\_\_\_  
 5. For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,\_\_\_\_



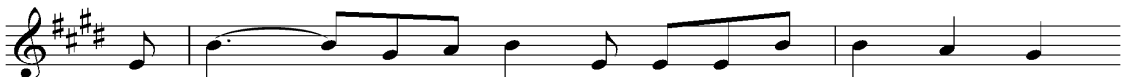
for ev - ery - one born,\_\_\_\_ clean wa - ter and bread,\_\_\_\_  
 re - vis - ing the roles,\_\_\_\_ de - cid - ing the share,\_\_\_\_  
 a voice to be heard,\_\_\_\_ a part in the song,\_\_\_\_  
 op - press - or, op - pressed,\_\_\_\_ with need to for - give,\_\_\_\_  
 to live with - out fear,\_\_\_\_ and sim - ply to be,\_\_\_\_



a shel - ter, a space,\_\_\_\_ a safe place for grow - ing\_\_\_\_  
 with wis - dom and grace,\_\_\_\_ di - vid - ing the pow - er,\_\_\_\_  
 the hand of a child\_\_\_\_ in hands that are wrin - kled,\_\_\_\_  
 in an - ger, in hurt,\_\_\_\_ a mind - set of mer - cy,\_\_\_\_  
 to work, to speak out,\_\_\_\_ to wit - ness and wor - ship,\_\_\_\_



for ev - ery - one born,\_\_\_\_ a star\_\_\_\_ o - ver - head.  
 for wom - an and man,\_\_\_\_ a sys - tem that's fair.  
 for young and for old,\_\_\_\_ the right\_\_\_\_ to be - long.  
 for just and un - just,\_\_\_\_ a new\_\_\_\_ way to live.  
 for ev - ery - one born,\_\_\_\_ the right\_\_\_\_ to be free.



And God\_\_\_\_ will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of



jus - tice\_\_\_\_ and joy,\_\_\_\_ com - pas - sion and



peace:\_\_\_\_ yes, God\_\_\_\_ will de - light when we are cre -



a - tors of jus - tice,\_\_\_\_ jus - tice and joy.

*Please stand as you are able.*

Communion Response

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

**Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

You offer at this table your presence, O Christ. You offer your Spirit. You offer true grace. Encourage us by this meal that we may be for one another as you are for us. We bless you now and evermore.

**Amen.**

## *Sending*

Blessing

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

**Amen!**

Sending Song

**#538 The Lord Now Sends Us Forth**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude

*Moto Perpetuo* – Robert Jones



**FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31**

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we too are his offspring.'

<sup>29</sup>Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

**Psalms 66:8-20****SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make

your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

**GOSPEL: John 14:15-21**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11.

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Tracks 1 and 2  
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