

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

May 7th, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 am Services

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Introduction for the Day: As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds, we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

Gathering

Prelude

Communion – Louis James Lefébure-Wély

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Karen Natterstad

Temple Talk

Equipping the Saints Synod Mission Appeal
Conor Williams

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,

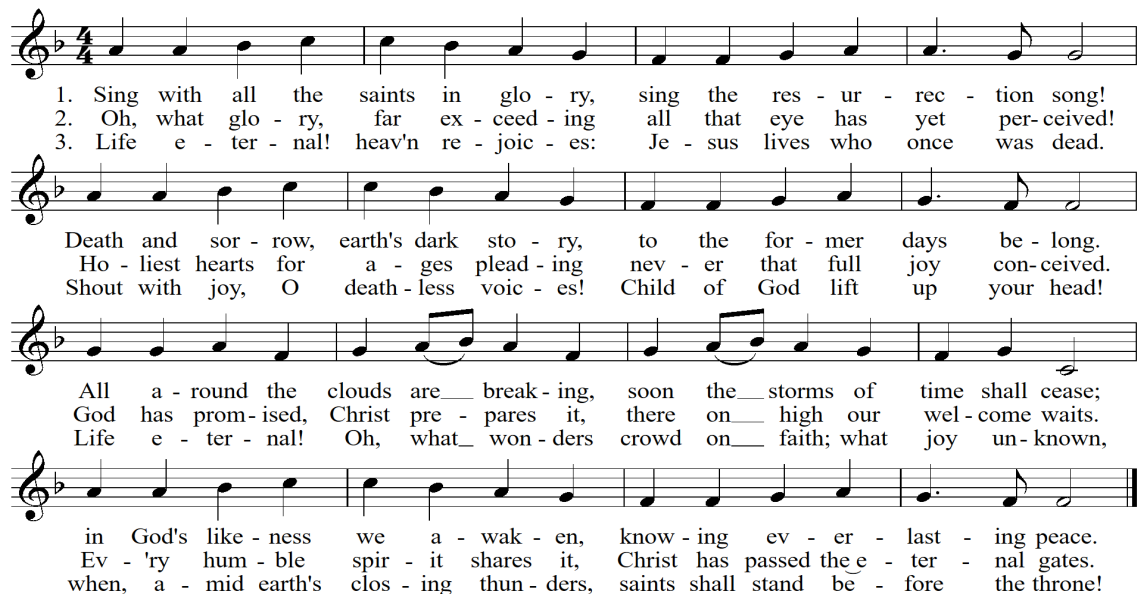
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do, so that we may receive and share the precious peace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

Sing with All the Saints in Glory



1. Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, sing the res - ur - rec - tion song!
 2. Oh, what glo - ry, far ex - ceed - ing all that eye has yet per - ceived!
 3. Life e - ter - nal! heav'n re - joic - es: Je - sus lives who once was dead.

Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry, to the for - mer days be - long.
 Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing nev - er that full joy con - ceived.
 Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es! Child of God lift up your head!

All a - round the clouds are break - ing, soon the storms of time shall cease;
 God has prom - ised, Christ pre - pares it, there on high our wel - come waits.
 Life e - ter - nal! Oh, what won - ders crowd on faith; what joy un - known,

in God's like - ness we a - wak - en, know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace.
 Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it, Christ has passed the e - ter - nal gates.
 when, a - mid earth's clos - ing thun - ders, saints shall stand be - fore the throne!

Text: William J. Irons, 1812-1883, alt. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, Sym. #9. Tune: Hymn to Joy, 87 87 D.

Opening Litany for the 5th Sunday of Easter & Greeting

The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Jesus, you are the Way, and you say, "I go to prepare a place for you."

We are going to the rooms prepared for us in heaven.

Jesus, you say, "I am the Life."

We are going to the life everlasting.

Jesus, you say, "If you know me, you know the Father."

We are going to the place where all will be made known.

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

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading

Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

Christ from the Dead is Raised

1. Christ from the dead is raised; The reign of death is o'er! Christ's
 2. That we in faith abide, Christ leads us on the way, is

ho - ly name be praised now and for - ev - er - more! Al - le - lu -
 pre - sent at our side, the Truth, the Life, the Way. Al - le - lu -

ia! The Lord who lives rich bless - ings gives! Al - le - lu - ia!
 ia! For - ev - er - more the Lord a - dore! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel

John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed!

The holy gospel according to John, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O risen Lord!

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O risen Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Karen Natterstad

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

You Are the Way

1. You are the way; through you a - lone can we our God can find;
 2. You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
 3. You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
 4. You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

in you, O Christ, has God re - vealed his heart, his will, his mind!
 you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
 and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
 that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Done, 1799-1859, alt. Music: Carl G. Glaser, 1784-1829. Tune: Azmon, CM.

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.

Welcoming of New Members (8:30 Service)

Calling Forward our New Members

Welcoming our New Members

We are here this morning to welcome these new members into the community which is St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. We are not a building, but the gathered family of God. We are siblings in Christ, given this new identity through our baptism into Jesus' death and resurrection. Today we welcome you as members of this family in the larger body of Christ.

And so we ask, do you desire to join the membership of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church?
If so please answer: "We do."

Gracious God, as you called James and John, Simon and Andrew to fish for people, so you have called us to serve you with our own talents and resources. We thank you for bringing to us these new members. You have told us that wherever two or more are gathered in your name, there you are with them. Help us, we pray, to see and feel that presence and that others may come to know you through their interactions with us.

Amen.

As active followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to spread the Good News. We encourage you to accept that call through your involvement in the church.

We welcome you in Christ, and thank God for this unique opportunity to serve God and one another. May the God to whom we belong equip us for every good work that we do together in God's name.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Meal

Musical Offering 8:30 *In My Father's House* by Philip Stopford, Senior Choir
*In my Father's house are many dwellings, and if I go to prepare a place for you, I will
 come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be .
 Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my
 Father's house are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told
 you I am going to prepare a place for you? [Refrain]*
*Where I am going, you know the way. For I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one
 comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you also know my
 Father. [Refrain]*
*My spirit will be with you always. The Advocate, the Spirit of Truth will remind you of all
 I have said. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your
 hearts be troubled; Do not be afraid. I have told you I will come back to you;
 have faith in me. [Refrain]*

11:00 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* arr. Laura E. Wasson

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Hymn **#183 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

Offertory Prayer

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the
 earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of
 this wine pour us out in service to the world; through 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 Aubrey Reuter (8:30 Service); Clara Skaife (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

All Are Welcome (Stanza 3)

Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and_

wheat: a_ ban - quet hall on ho - ly_ ground where peace and_ jus - tice

meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and

space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees_ us: All are wel - come,

all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.____

Tune: Two Oaks, Irregular. Music & Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Copyright © 1994 GIA Publications Inc. Chicago. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

Communion Anthem 8:30

I Come with Joy [ELW 482] – Senior Choir

Communion Hymn

#477 I Received the Living God

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

You have called us out of death into your marvelous life! Sustain us, by this heavenly food, that we may walk in your **WAY**, that we may seek your **TRUTH**, and that we may find eternal **LIFE**. 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!

Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Fuga in C Major – Johann Pachelbel [1653-1706]

A healing service will be held in the Sanctuary after the 8:30 worship service.

FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"

⁸and

"A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21.

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Tracks 1 and 2
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