

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church**  
**May 9, 2021**  
**Dennis Frick**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Welcome to worship today.** Our prayer is that we may meet our holy God in song, word, activity and prayer.

**Introduction**

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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*[Congregation's responses are printed in **BOLD** type.]*

## PRELUDE

### GATHERED

*Please stand, as you are able*

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.

Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.

Cleanse our hearts.

Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

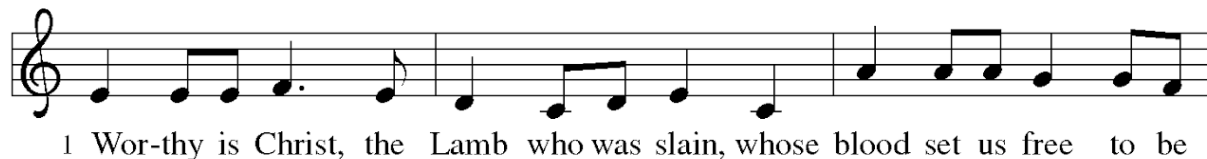
**GREETING**

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

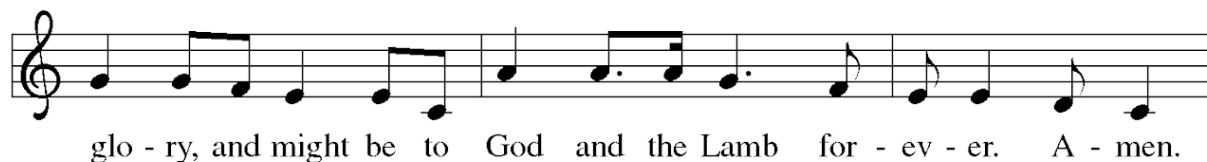
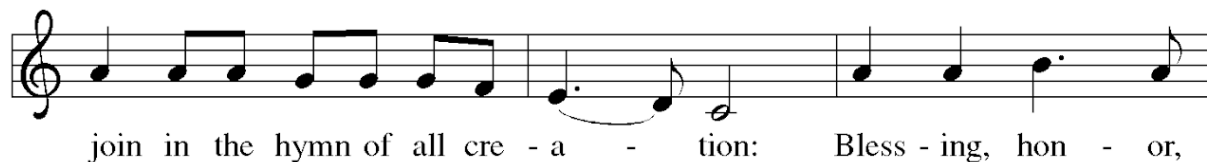
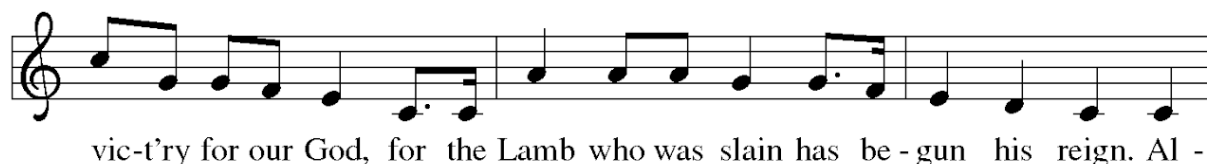
**And also with you.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



*Refrain*





## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Holy 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.**

## FED

### FIRST READING Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 98 (read responsively)

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

**The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his**  
**vindication in the sight of the nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.  
**Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy**

at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.  
**He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

## **SECOND READING 1 John 5:1-6**

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



## GOSPEL John 15:9-17

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The gospel our Lord.

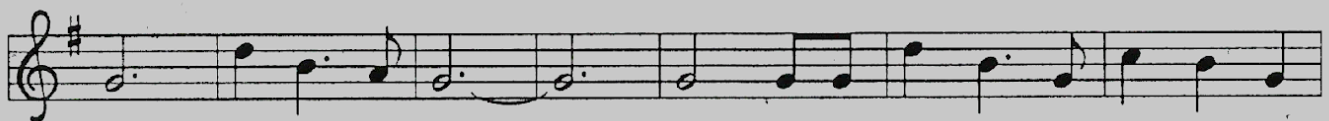
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

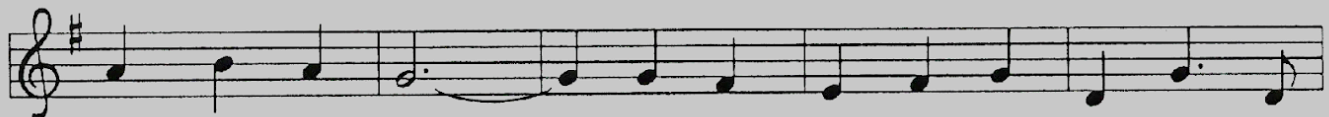
## HYMN

720

## We Are



|   |                           |   |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | Come! Live in the light!  | Shine with the joy and the love of the  |
| 2 | Come! O - pen your heart! | Show your . . mer - cy to all those in  |
| 3 | Sing! Sing a new song!    | Sing of that great day when all will be |



|                      |                                      |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Lord! We are called  | to be light for the king - dom, to   |
| fear! We are called  | to be hope for the hope - less so    |
| one! God will reign, | and we'll walk with each oth - er as |



|                            |                     |          |
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| live in the free - dom     | of the cit - y      | of God.  |
| ha - tred and blind - ness | . . . will be . . . | no more. |
| sis - ters and broth - ers | . . . u - nit - ed  | in love. |

# Called

## NICENE CREED

Together let us confess our faith using the words of the 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each prayer petition ends, *.Hear us, O God.*  
Our response, **Your mercy is great.**

## **THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

*You may share the peace of Christ with one another*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of love,  
**you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive  
our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to  
a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

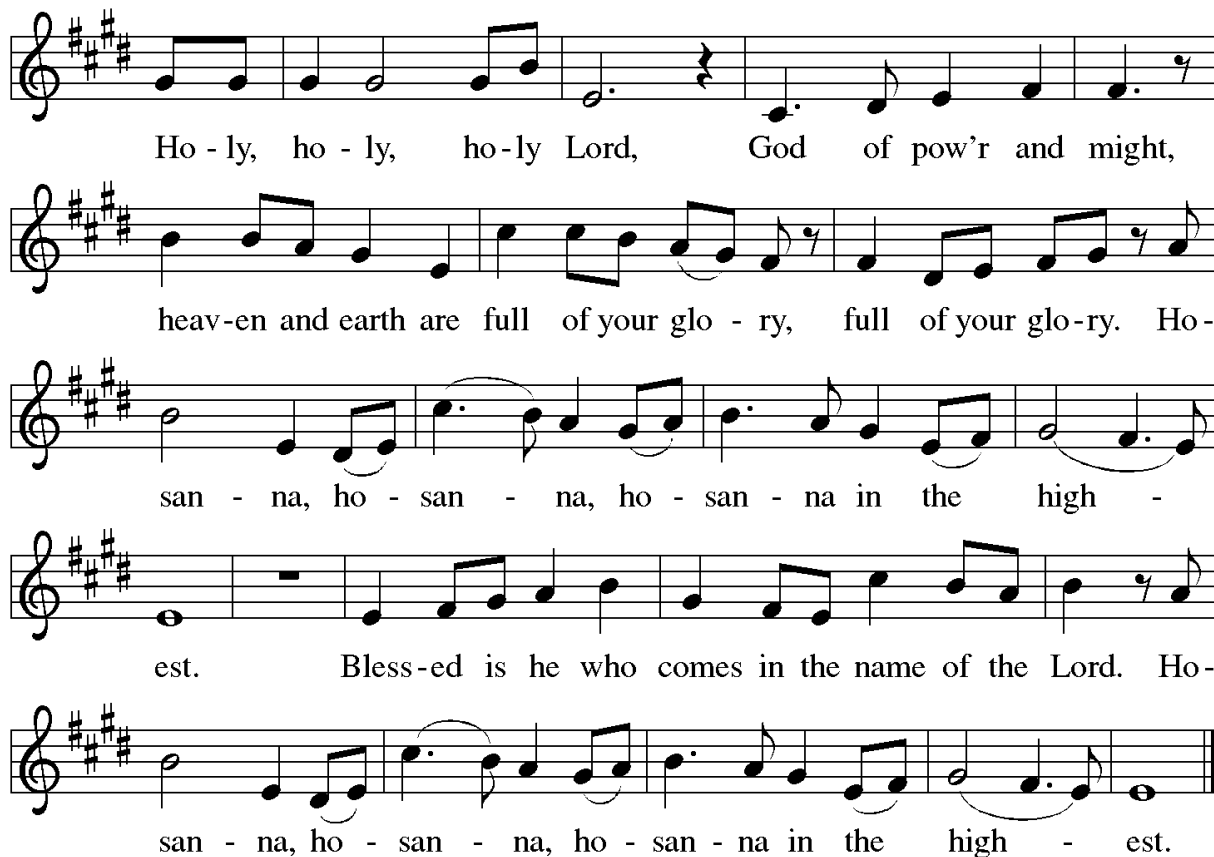
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all  
places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the

glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the  
Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and  
death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his  
coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought  
but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and  
thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in  
the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy  
people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Assisting Minister will be communed first so that those on Zoom can partake in the communion before the congregation:

The Body of Christ given for you.

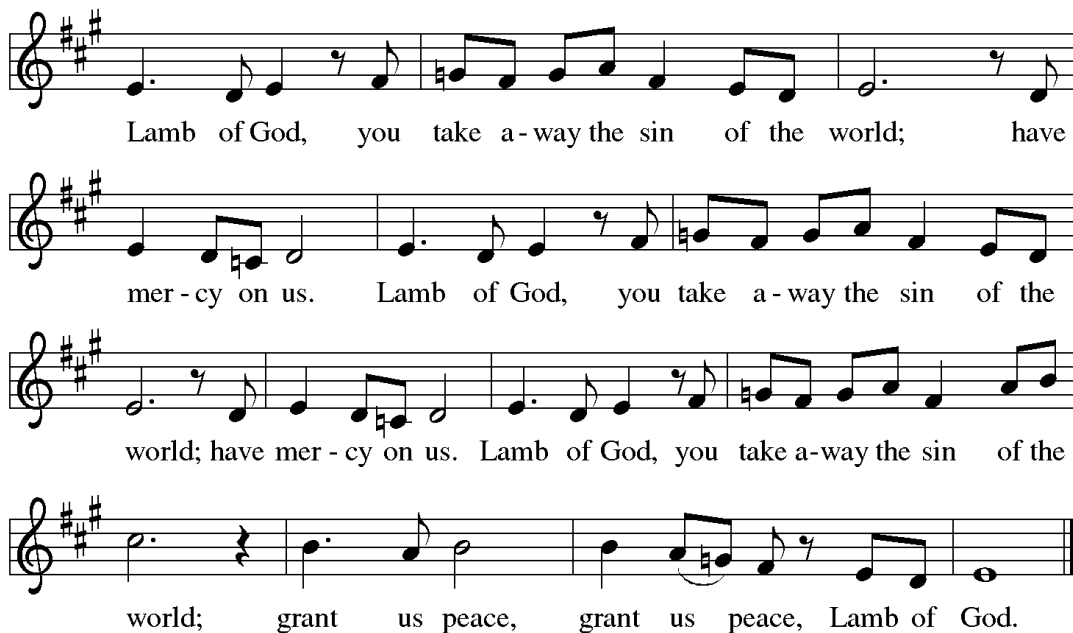
The Blood of Christ shed for you.

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

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The Blood of Christ shed for you.



## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

**Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Wellspring of joy,

**through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our**

**Lord. Amen.**

**SENT**

**BENEDICTION**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**HYMN**

**666**

**What Wondrous Love Is This**

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Gathered by the Spirit**

**Fed by Jesus**

**Sent to live God's Love**

## **POSTLUDE**

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Music portions of the Liturgy**, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting 8.

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Texts for May 16, 2021: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

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**The attendance** at last week services was 15 in Church and 5 on Zoom.

## **Calendar for the Week**

**Monday May 10** – Call Committee meeting at 7:30pm via Zoom

**Tuesday May 11** – Church Council meeting at 7:00pm via Zoom

**Wednesday May 12** – Bible Study at 7:00pm via Zoom

## **Upcoming Events**

**Monday May 17** – Worship & Music at 7:00pm via Zoom

**Wednesday May 19** – Bible Study at 7:00pm via Zoom

**Saturday May 22** – Book of the Month 10:00am via Zoom

**Wednesday May 26** – Bible Study at 7:00pm via Zoom

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