



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 7, 2023 - 10:00 AM - in the Sanctuary



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of their Anniversary by John and Caroline Otten.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister	Susan Crowell
Preaching	Franklin Lowe
Assisting Minister	Patrick Preacher
Organist and Choir Director	Grace Berardo
Lector	Penny Bostain
Cantor	Richard Moose
Prayers	John Beckford
Acolyte	EmmieMae Peden
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Amy Brown Steve Boguski Teresa Harrington
Greeters	Mark Allen Bonnie Farmer Deirdre Hixson Lani Ludian Chris Nix Dean Nix Chris Sorenson
Ushers	Carol Elliott David Potts Franklin Sease
Refreshment Hosts	Jeff and Lisa Rehm
Video	Henry Wilcox
Audio	Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

Please stand as able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace and glory,

**you have brought us through the night of sin
into the light of Jesus' resurrection.**

Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin.

Make us alive in Christ, O God.

Make us new as you make all things new.

**Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin,
renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness,
through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

Rejoice with all creation around God's throne!

The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin,
restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace,
and humbles earthly pride.

Jesus Christ loves you and ✠ frees you from your sins.

To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

Amen.

**Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the
vict'ry thou o'er death hast won! Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

Refrain

***Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!***

**Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb! Lovingly he
greet thee, scatters fear and gloom; let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting! *Refrain***

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught without
thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than conqu'rors, through
thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. *Refrain***

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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

A reading from Acts.

⁵⁵Filled 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 Chosen One 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, “O 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.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

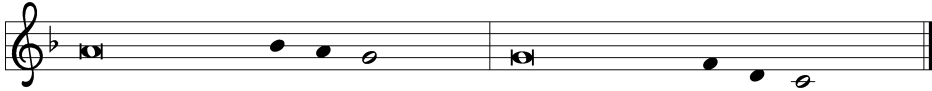
Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.

Psalm
Refrain



In - to your hands, O LORD, I com - mend my spir - it.

Psalm
Tone



- ¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame;
deliver me | in your righteousness.
- ²**Incline your | ear to me;**
make haste to de- | liver me.
- ³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag | and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.
- ⁴**Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,**
for you are my tow- | er of strength. R
- ⁵Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, | God of truth.
- ¹⁵**My times are | in your hand;**
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.
- ¹⁶Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love." **R**

A reading from first Peter.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that God is good.

⁴Come to Jesus, 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 Jesus will not be put to shame.”

⁷To you then who believe, this one 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 the one who called you out of darkness into God's 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.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Saying Goodbye

Please stand as able

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.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke the fourteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ “Don’t let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God; have faith in me as well. ² In God’s house there are many dwelling places; otherwise, how could I have told you that I was going to prepare a place for you?

³ I am indeed going to prepare a place for you, and then I will come back to take you with me, that where I am there you may be as well. ⁴ You know the way that leads to where I

am going.” ⁵ Thomas replied, “But we don’t know where you’re going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus told him, “I myself am the Way—I am Truth, and I am Life. ⁷ If you

really knew me, you would know God also. From this point on, you know God and you have seen God.” ⁸ “Rabbi,” Philip said, “show us Abba God, and that will be enough for

us.” ⁹ Jesus replied, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and still you don’t know me? Whoever has seen me has seen God. How can you say, ‘Show us your God?’ ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in God and God is in me?

The words I speak are not spoken of myself; it is God, living in me, who is accomplishing the works of God. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in God and God is in me, or else believe because

of the works I do. ¹² The truth of the matter is, anyone who has faith in me will do the works I do—and greater works besides. Why? Because I go to God, ¹³ and whatever you

ask in my name I will do, so that God may be glorified in me. ¹⁴ Anything you ask in my name I will do.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Franklin Lowe

Please stand as able

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands
empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant
years in Palestine, but saving, healing,
here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.**

**In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color,
scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet
loves the more, and lives where even hope has died.**

**Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the
Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life,
the truth, reveled in Jesus, freed for all.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to
this and ev'ry age, till earth and sky and
ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise**

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

Life-giving God, strengthen your church to proclaim your gospel even in times of trouble. As we remember Stephen the martyr, we give thanks for diaconal ministry. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between church and world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, you show your steadfast love through mighty waters, towering mountains, green fields, and dry deserts. Protect the earth's diverse habitats from the forces of pollution, erosion, extinction, human greed, and global warming. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Mighty God, your Spirit guides us into all truth. Give wisdom to world and local leaders and organizations as they begin, build, or renew relationships. Strengthen leaders and aid organizations in areas needing to be rebuilt following conflict, unrest, or natural disaster. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving God, we call to mind before you all whom it is easy to forget: those who are homeless, destitute, sick, isolated, and all who have no one to care for them. May we bring help and healing to those who are broken in body or spirit, that they may have comfort in sorrow, company in loneliness, and a place of safety and warmth. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Embracing God, the world sometimes feels dark around us. Walk alongside, behind, and in front of us through the trials of life until your kin-dom comes in your good time. Bring healing and relief to the queer community as they continue to face exclusion and persecution. Bring hope to the aging that they may continue to feel seen and heard. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Assuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through change of any kind. Lead us in your ways, reminding us that when change comes, your love remains constant. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us. Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. 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.

PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated

MEAL

OFFERING

Come to Him
by Mark Kilstofte

Adult Choir

Please stand as able

OFFERING HYMN

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

#674

**Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

Refrain

***Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound! Repeat***

**Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. *Refrain***

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'ry where! *Refrain***

Let us pray, 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.

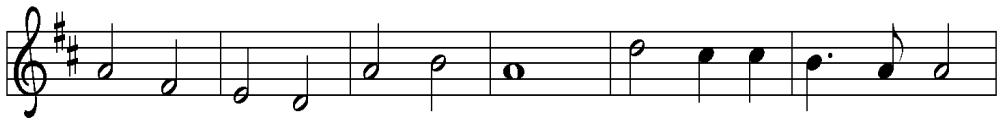
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is 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,
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, Lord God of pow'r 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.

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 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 death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.
Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,
we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

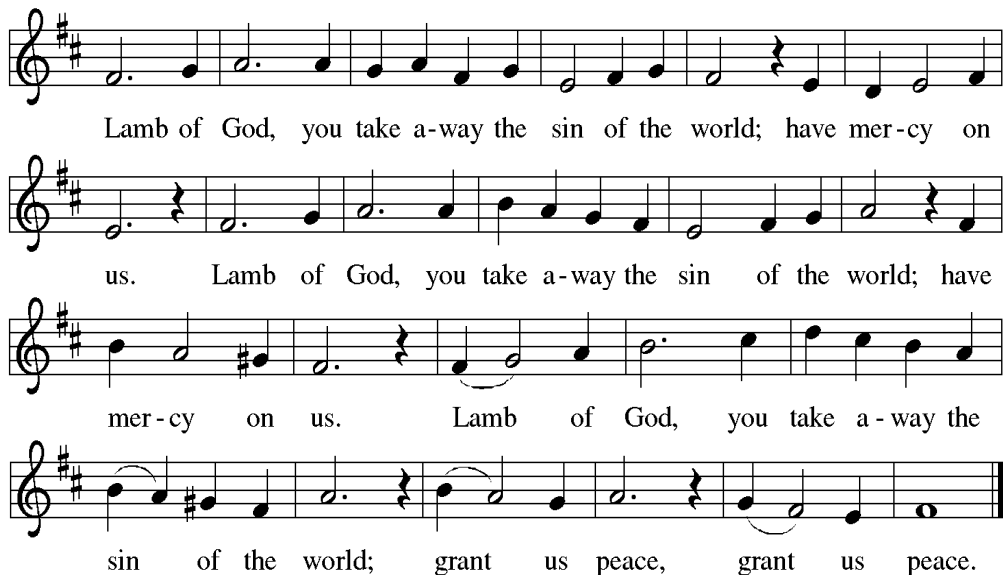
Please be seated

COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.

Worshipers are invited to come to the Altar— kneeling as able— to receive a wafer and a small cup of wine.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

You Are the Way

#758

**You are the way; to you alone from sin and death we flee;
all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.**

**You are the truth; your word alone true wisdom can impart;
you only can inform the mind and purify the heart.**

**You are the life; the rending tomb proclaims your conqu'ring arm;
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.**

**You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys eternal flow.**

Refrain

***I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.
I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.***

**Jesus said: I am the bread, kneaded long to give you life;
you who will partake of me need not ever fear to die. *Refrain***

**Jesus said: I am the way, and my father longs for you;
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a new. *Refrain***

**Jesus said: I am the truth; come and follow close to me.
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free. *Refrain***

**Jesus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,
but receive this living bread, and my Spirit you shall know. *Refrain***

This Joyful Eastertide

**This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and
sorrow! My love, the Crucified, has
sprung to life this morrow.**

Refrain

***Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three day prison,
our faith had been in vain. But now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen, arisen.***

**My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season
slumber till trump from east to west shall
wake the dead in number. *Refrain***

**Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the
river. Lover of souls, from ill my
passing soul deliver. *Refrain***

**Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly
in your name two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Touch we now your garment's hem.**

**As disciples used to gather in the name of
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giver
break the bread and bless the cup, Alleluia!
Alleluia! so now bind our friendship up.**

**All our meals and all our living make as sacraments
of you, that by caring, helping, giving,
we may be disciples true. Alleluia!
Alleluia! We will serve with faith a new.**

Please stand as able

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.
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.

**Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
 Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
 In the dessert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
 Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.**

**Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
 Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
 Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
 Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.**

**Christ is risen! Earth and heaven never more shall be the same.
 Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
 Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna, ev'ryone!**

DISMISSAL

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
 Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*Everyone is invited to gather on the front lawn
 following worship for refreshments and fellowship.*

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
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