



*“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.”*

*~ John 14: 17*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 10, 2026**

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!  
Know that you are welcome here just as you are.*

*If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time worshipping at St. John, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.*

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an \* and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**. All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.*

*During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

*At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Online gifts may be made using the QR code below:*



*You may also offer updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates. **Guest information cards** and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.*

*As Lutherans, we believe Christ is truly present in the elements of the Lord's Supper. At the time of **Holy Communion**, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then pre-filled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*If you need a **restroom**, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.*

*A **playroom** is available downstairs for children who need a break from the worship service. This room is by the elevator on the lower level. An adult must remain with the child. Children are also welcome to utilize the books and puzzles available in the Greeting Area on the top level by the elevator.*

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### \*GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.** (Ps 118:24)

Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving, give thanks and bless God's holy name!  
(Psalm 100:4)

### \*GATHERING HYMN *The Day of Resurrection!* (ELW 361)



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,  
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.  
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.  
all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;  
Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.  
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!  
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

## **\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Creating God, blessed are you. You are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

**You lead us beside still waters.**

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Redeeming God, Jesus Christ, blessed are you. You are the faithful witness

**who accompanies us on our journeys.**

We praise you for joining us in sorrow and joy.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Sustaining God, Holy Spirit, blessed are you. You are the breath of life.

**Who calls us, gathers us, and declares us holy.**

We ask you to fill us with the breath of peace and break down barriers that divide us.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

People of God, in our baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are joined to Christ and born anew, called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.**

**Take from me the way of lying; let me find grace through your teaching. I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set your judgments before me. I hold fast to your decrees; O Lord, do not put me to shame. (Psalm 119:29-31)**

**Give us new life, shaped by your grace and emboldened to witness to your resurrection.**

Living God, we give you thanks, for in these waters, you promise welcome, forgiveness, and life everlasting. In these waters, you claim us as your beloved children.

**I will run the way of your commandments for you increase my heart's capacity. (Psalm 119:32)**

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen .**


Let us sing for joy at God's victory over death!

# \*THIS IS THE FEAST


*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



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




peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

*Refrain*




hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of




vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. 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, hon - or,



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

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **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.**

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **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.*

A reading from Acts.

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual 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 peoples 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 fumble about 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.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*What sacred symbols would you remove or re-imagine to better communicate in today’s culture?*

*Silence for reflection*

## **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.*

A reading from 1 Peter.

<sup>13</sup> Now 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 respect. Maintain a good conscience 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 lives, 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*In what ways does your faith influence or direct the way you live and what you do and say?  
How would you describe how and why your faith directs your actions to those who do not share your faith?*

*Silence for reflection*

**\*GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL (ELW 164)**

*The cantor will sing the leader part,  
the congregation is invited to join in the "all" parts and all group parts.*

Leader



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

All




Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Leader All




To God be glo-ry for-ev - er! To God be glo-ry for-ev - er!

Leader Leader



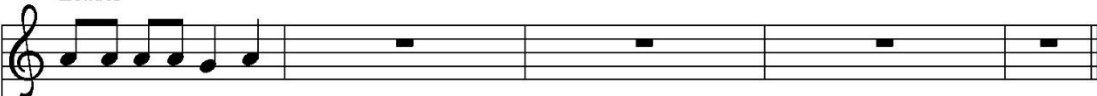
Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1 Group 1, 2




Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Leader



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2, 3



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men! Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!

**\*GOSPEL READING: 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 holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Have you ever been lost or abandoned? If so, how did you feel and what did you do?*

*Silence for reflection*

**\*GOSPEL RESPONSE (ELW 172)**

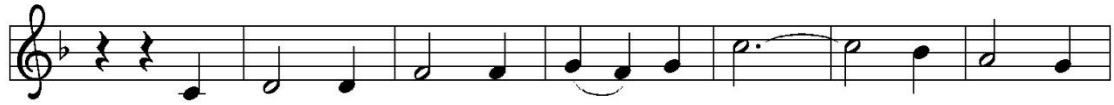
Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY *The Word of God Is Source and Seed* (ELW 506)**

*(Blue prayer cards are collected)*



1 The Word of God is source and seed; it comes to  
2 The Word of God is breath and life; it comes to  
3 The Word of God is flesh and grace, who comes to



die and sprout and grow. So make your dark earth  
heal and wake and save. So let the Spir - it  
sing, to laugh and cry. So dare to be as



wel - come warm; root deep the grain God bent to sow.  
touch and mend and rouse your dry bones from their grave.  
Je - sus was, who came to live and love and die.

*Refrain*



*Gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no, gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no,*  
In the Lord let us re - joice, in the Lord let us re - joice,



*gau - de - a - mus Do mi - no!*  
in the Lord let us re - joice!

## **\*NICENE CREED**

Let us confess our faith in 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.**

*\*Or, "who proceeds from the father." The phrase "and the son" is a later addition to the creed.*

## **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. *A brief silence for reflection*

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who suffer especially Geneva, Cherry, Henry, Harry, Sally, Debi, Karen, Nan, Beverly, those on our prayer list and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of place and presence, we offer the prayer we bring into this space on this day (*blue prayer cards are read*). Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love. Use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

## **\*PEACE**

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

*You are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcome to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## **COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING**

*You are invited to share a gift to support the ministries of this congregation during the following song. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Prayer requests, connection cards, and communion records are also collected at this time.*

OFFERTORY HYMN *Thy Holy Wings* (ELW 613) \*Rise on verse 3



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent-ly o - ver me,  
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down-y breast  
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No-ah's cleans-ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
where I will find sweet com-fort and peace with - in thy nest.  
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,  
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with-in thy grace.  
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.  
and while we sweet-ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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 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 all the witnesses of the resurrection, with the church of all times and places and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join the unending hymn:



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer  
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.  
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,  
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.  
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,  
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!  
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,  
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.  
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

God, you are indeed holy and wholeness. You give us the gift of faith, surrounding us with such a great cloud of witnesses who accompany us on our baptismal journey, strengthening and nourishing us in word and sacrament.

You come into the space of the locked room and fearful hearts, offering a word of peace and grace. We learn from Thomas and all the disciples to hear your Word. **Amen.**

You meet the disciples along the road, making yourself known in the breaking of the bread. We learn from them to share together in the Lord's Supper. **Amen.**

You are the Good Shepherd who calls us by name and gathers us together. We learn to live among your faithful people in your care. **Amen.**

You emboldened Stephen to care for those in need, even at the expense of his own safety. We learn from Stephen to serve all people following in the example of Christ, striving for justice and peace in all the earth. **Amen.**

You dwelt in Paul as the Spirit of truth as he brought your Gospel to new ears. We learn from Paul to proclaim your Good News in Christ through word and deed. **Amen.**

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 mystery of faith.

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

We give thanks to you, 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,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people.

Blessed are you, Lord God, for coming near in this bread and wine.  
**Alleluia! Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

**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**

### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Every one of us are invited to the table God has prepared before us just as we are. For here we are gathered with the cloud of witnesses of all times and places, here we are fed with the body and blood of Christ, here we know God's overflowing grace for us. Now come. Not because you must, but because you can. Come. Taste and see that the Lord is good. This meal is for you. **Thanks be to God!**

*Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.*

### **COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God* (ELW 198)**



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

## COMMUNION HYMN *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* (ELW 470)



1 Draw us in the Spir-it's teth - er, for when hum - bly  
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of  
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,  
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er  
ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!  
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!  
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.  
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.  
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

## COMMUNION HYMN *Waterlife* (ELW 457)



1 Be - fore I can re - mem - ber the cov - e - nant was sealed  
 2 A sim - ple sweet be - gin - ning, a lov - ing place to start:  
 3 My hope and ex - pec - ta - tion for true com - mun - i - ty



with Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, in wa - ter was re - vealed.  
 Christ be - gan the sing - ing that swells with - in my heart.  
 be - gins with res - ur - rec - tion, his death and life in me.



The cleans - ing was for cer - tain, with wa - ter and the Word;  
 His love be - came my call - ing, his life my min - is - try.  
 His Spir - it fills the Bod - y: his church through wa - ter sees



gen - tle words were spo - ken, in heav - en they were heard.  
 His name is my a - dop - tion in - to his fam - i - ly.  
 prom - ise for to - mor - row, his wa - ter - life in me.

*Refrain*  
 All



They were sing - ing wa - ter - life, be - gin - ning life, wa - ter - life



all my life, wa - ter - life, Spir - it life, wa - ter - life.

### **\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in grace.

**Amen**

**\*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise* (ELW 207)**



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations.

**Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me. (Psalm 31:3)**

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*BLESSING**

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May the Creator of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* (ELW 392)**



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our  
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -  
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -  
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to  
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your  
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful  
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of  
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you  
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus  
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our  
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the  
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on  
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."  
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

**\*DISMISSAL**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!** (Psalm 118: 23-24)

**Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Go forth in joy to love and serve the risen Christ! Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**The flowers on the altar were supplied by Todd and Katie Niklewicz in celebration of Amy's 70th Birthday on May 8th and Ella's 9th Birthday on May 24th.**

**Assisting in worship today:**

**Assisting Minister: Emma N.**

**Young Reader: Carissa M.**

**Acolyte: Anna K.**

**Offering: Lydia M and Abby C**

**Attendance last week: 63 + 2 zoom**

### **Notes for the day's texts:**

“I will not leave you orphaned,” Jesus promises us in today’s gospel. God is not some ruthless heavenly spectator judging us as on reality television, relishing our failures, wishing to exchange us for a better or more attractive child, no curmudgeonly “Daddy Warbucks” in the sky. Rather, God comes to love us in Jesus, singularly loving and accepting, seeking our trust, promising to be ever-present with us in the Holy Spirit. This Holy Advocate moves us even when we don’t recognize its power, even when it seems “an unknown God” (Acts 17:23). Though we might battle an elemental loneliness, we have not been abandoned.

Many life experiences can leave us feeling orphaned or abandoned. Family can ease that feeling but also magnify it if our family relationships are strained or if our families live far away. The internet, webcams, and social networking can link people across the miles but can further aggravate loneliness and isolation when these substitute for real intimacy in our highly connected world. How do we experience this loneliness and this longing for home and belonging? How does Jesus’ promise to not leave us orphaned speak to these concerns?

When Jesus makes this string of promises in John 14, it’s hard to envision how this support comes to us sometimes. When we do not get to see or hear those we love, the simple gifts Jesus offers in body and blood, bread and wine shared with real warm neighbors have great power. Even when life keeps delivering bad news about how far apart we are from another, how broken our relationships are, “I will not leave you orphaned” is the godly reassurance that we are not alone.

### **Today's Music**

*The Day of Resurrection!*. Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt., Music: German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833. Public Domain.

*The Word of God Is Source and Seed*. Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939, Music: David Hurd, b. 1950. GIA Publications, Inc. / Augsburg Fortress.

*Thy Holy Wings*. Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite, Music: Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version. Selah Publishing Co., Inc. / Public Domain /Augsburg Fortress.

*Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*. Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt., Music: Harold Friedell, 1905–1958. Oxford University Press (New York) / CPP/Belwin Music.

*Waterlife*. Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Music: Handt Hanson. Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church Forum, Inc..

*Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*. Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927. Augsburg Fortress.

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*. Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt., Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887. Public Domain.

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### **Next Week's Readings**

Daniel 7:9-10 [11-12] 13-14 *The coming one reigns over all*

Psalms 24:7-10 *Lift up your heads, O gates, that the King of glory may come in. (Ps. 24:7)*

Acts 1:1-11 *Jesus sends the apostles*

Luke 24:44-53 *Christ present in all times and places*