

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

**C: Amen.**

P: A reading from Romans: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**C: We give you thanks, holy and gracious God, for you created the waters of the earth: wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers.**

P: You led your people through the sea and called them to life in covenant with you.

**C: Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us.**

P: You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

**C: Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism.**

P: Renew us in your promise so that we may serve this world in all its need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*(Please rise as you are able)*

- 1 In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one community of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere  
their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord  
close binding humankind.
- 3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be.  
All children of the living God  
are surely kin to me.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west,  
in him meet south and north;  
all Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

**Greeting**

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

**C: And also, with you.**

**Kyrie**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**C: O 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.**

*(You may be seated.)*

### **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.

### **Psalm: Psalm 98**

R: 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.

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

R: 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.

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

R: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

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

R: Let the sea roar and all that fills it,  
the world and those who live in it.

**C: Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy**

R: 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 who 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.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**ELW p. 151**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Gospel Reading: John 15:9-17**

P: A reading from the gospel of John.

**C: 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.

P: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please be seated)*

**Sermon**

**Pastor Emily Dalen**

**Hymn of the Day    "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"    **ELW #367****

1     Now all the vault of heav'n resounds  
      in praise of love that still abounds:  
      "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Eternal is the gift he brings,  
therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Now still he comes to give us life  
and by his presence stills all strife.  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
set heart and will on things above  
that we conquer through your triumph;  
grant grace sufficient for life's day  
that by our lives we truly say:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Adoring praises now we bring  
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:  
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"  
Be to the Father, and our Lord,  
to Spirit blest, most holy God,  
all the glory, never ending!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.

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*(Please rise as you are able)*

## **We Profess Our Faith - Apostles' Creed**

**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.**

## **Intercessory Prayers**

**P: Risen Lord,**

**C: Receive our prayer.**

## **We Share God's Peace**

**P: The peace of Christ be with you always.**

**C: And also, with you.**

**P: Let us share God's peace with those around us.**

*(You may be seated)*

## **We Bring Our Tithes and Offerings**

3 With voices united our praises we offer  
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
With you, Lord, beside us,  
your strong arm will guide us.  
To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963

**Offertory Prayer**

P: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**C: Amen.**

**We Are Fed at God’s Table**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you

**C: And also, with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**The Preface**

P: 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

**Words of Institution**

P: On 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.

**The Lord's Prayer**

P: Remembering our Lord, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

**C: 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.**

*(Please be seated)*

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table. All are welcome.

**Communion Distribution**

*(Please rise as you are able)*

P: Now may the body and blood of our crucified and risen Lord strengthen you and keep you in His grace now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

P: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**C: Amen.**

## **The Benediction**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Song**      **“All Creatures, Worship God Most High!”**      **ELW #835**

- 1      All creatures, worship God most high!  
        Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
        Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;  
        sing, sister moon and stars of night:  
        Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
  
- 2      Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain  
        you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
        Dear sister water, useful, clear,  
        make music for your Lord to hear:  
        Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
  
- 3      Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong,  
        drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
        Dear mother earth, so rich in care,  
        praise God in colors bright and rare:  
        Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 All who for love of God forgive,  
all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;  
still make your song amid the tears:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
and worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. composite  
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## **The Sending**

**P:** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

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## Week of May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Altar Flowers:** Randy Rath

**Welcome Team:** 8:00 a.m. Shirley Chambers & Annie Vorthmann; 10:30 a.m. Gene & Jan Young/Alissa, Maggie & Creed Hough

**Tellers:** Doug & LaJean Wehring

**Musicians:** 8:00 a.m. Megan Dreyer; 10:30 a.m. Megan Dreyer

**Acolyte:** 8:00 a.m. Cora White; 10:30 a.m. Shelby Vorthmann

**Reader:** Patty Walter

**Prayers:** Jerry Lustgraaf; Robert Meier II; Lyn Suglia; Jeri Schnepel; Ava Steeve; Ed Whitehill; Brenda Riley; Roger Grant; Peggy Engle; Beth Lucy; Logan Young (Military).

**June/July Tower Talk:** The Tower Talk for June and July will be combined into one publication. Please make sure to give your information to Jonelle for **BOTH** months by May 15th.

**Vacation Bible School Prep:** Come and help the VBS Team get decorations ready for VBS week! We will meet next Sunday right after the late worship service in the upstairs library. We will have pizza for lunch.

**Baccalaureate:** All friends and family of graduating seniors are invited to Baccalaureate on Monday, May 13th following Senior Awards Night. Zion will host.

**Get Signed up for VBS!:** Registration forms for 4-year-olds through 6th grade are out for our week of VBS on June 3rd - 7th, and can be found at church and on our website. Also, please consider how you can help with VBS by volunteering. See the volunteer sign-up outside the church office.

**100 Days of Summer:** You are invited to read a Bible story each day of summer to get to know God's Word better. Read one story each day from Memorial Day to Labor Day. We'll explore the 100 most popular stories and stories that are often left out of the lectionary. Many of the stories are in the Spark Story Bible, too. Check the May Tower Talk for a reading plan. The page numbers written in are for the Spark Story Bible. If your family would like one of these Bibles, talk with Pastor Emily or Denise. Additionally, you are invited to join Pastor Emily on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. beginning May 29th for a Walk and Talk. We'll walk and discuss the stories we're reading.

**Summer Worship Schedule:** We'll have one service at 9:30 a.m. beginning May 26th.

**This Week's Calendar:**

- Sun. 5/5:** 8:00 a.m. Worship  
9:15 a.m. Final Adult Bible Study/Final Day of Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
11:30 a.m. VBS Decorating Prep. (Library)  
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Silver Creek 4-H in F-hall
- Mon. 5/6:** 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- Thurs. 5/9:** **Denise's Day Off**  
**8:30 a.m. OFFICE CLOSED/Staff Retreat**  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting
- Fri. 5/10:** **Pastor Emily's Day Off**
- Sun. 5/12:** 8:00 a.m. Worship  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**Worship Attendance on 4/28/24:** 8:00 a.m.: **42**; Online: **20**; 10:30 a.m.: **74**; Online: **30**

**Sunday School Attendance on 4/28/24:** **24**

**Stewardship Emphasis:** The Mission for May: World Hunger

**Current Financial Information:** Posted on the bulletin board outside the Church office.

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