

## 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 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
has redeemed us by his blood."
  
- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! he is near us;  
faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received him  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise:  
"I am with you evermore"?
  
- 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,  
here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! here the sinful  
flee to you from day to day.  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
earth's redeemer, hear our plea  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.
  
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal,  
Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! born of Mary,  
earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.

As within the veil you entered,  
robed in flesh, our great high priest,  
here on earth both priest and victim  
in the eucharistic feast.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, 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: Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the  
powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit  
transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your  
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*(You may be seated.)*

## **First Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26**

In those days Peter stood up among the brothers and sisters (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, “Brothers and sisters, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus, for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.”

“So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was added to the eleven apostles.

## **Psalm: Psalm 1**

R: Happy are those  
    who do not follow the advice of the wicked  
    or take the path that sinners tread  
    or sit in the seat of scoffers,

**C: but their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
    and on his law they meditate day and night.**

R: They are like trees  
    planted by streams of water,  
    which yield their fruit in its season,  
    and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.

**C: The wicked are not so  
    but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

R: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment

nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,  
**C: for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**Second Reading: 1 John 5:9-13**

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**ELW p. 151**

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

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

**Gospel Reading: John 17:6-19**

P: A reading from the gospel of John.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and

not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

P: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please be seated)*

**Sermon**

**Pastor Emily Dalen**

**Hymn of the Day**

**“Son of God, Eternal Savior”**

**ELW #655**

- 1     Son of God, eternal Savior,  
      source of life and truth and grace,  
      Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
      hallows all our human race,  
      you our head, who, throned in glory,  
      for your own will ever plead:  
      fill us with your love and pity,  
      heal our wrong, and help our need.
  
- 2     As you, Lord, have lived for others,  
      so may we for others live.  
      Freely have your gifts been granted;  
      freely may your servants give.  
      Yours the gold and yours the silver,  
      yours the wealth of land and sea;

we but stewards of your bounty  
held in solemn trust will be.

3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,  
King of love and Prince of peace;  
hush the storm of strife and passion,  
bid its cruel discords cease.  
By your patient years of toiling,  
by your silent hours of pain,  
quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,  
stem our selfish greed of gain.

4 Son of God, eternal Savior,  
source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
hallows all our human race:  
by your praying, by your willing  
that your people should be one,  
grant, oh, grant our hope's fruition:  
here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932

*(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**

#### **Offertory Song**

#### **"We Praise You, O God" v. 3**

**ELW #870**

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**

**ELW p.130**

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**

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.**

*(Please rise as you are able)*

### **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: "Friends, how good and pleasant it is to be together, in person or in spirit, encouraging and consoling, provoking and inspiring. The service has ended; now the wider service begins. Why do you stand looking up toward heaven? Go in peace — into the world, for the love of the world!"

- 1     Crown him with many crowns,  
      the Lamb upon his throne;  
      hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns  
      all music but its own.  
      Awake, my soul, and sing  
      of him who died for thee,  
      and hail him as thy matchless king  
      through all eternity.
  
- 2     Crown him the virgin's Son,  
      the God incarnate born,  
      whose arm those crimson trophies won  
      which now his brow adorn;  
      fruit of the mystic rose,  
      yet of that rose the stem,  
      the root whence mercy ever flows,  
      the babe of Bethlehem.
  
- 3     Crown him the Lord of love--  
      behold his hands and side,  
      rich wounds, yet visible above,  
      in beauty glorified.  
      No angels in the sky  
      can fully bear that sight,  
      but downward bend their burning eyes  
      at mysteries so bright.
  
- 4     Crown him the Lord of life,  
      who triumphed o'er the grave  
      and rose victorious in the strife  
      for those he came to save.

His glories now we sing,  
who died and rose on high,  
who died, eternal life to bring,  
and lives that death may die.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894, sts. 1-3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 4

## **The Sending**

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

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

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### **Week of May 12, 2024**

Seventh Sunday of Easter

**Altar Flowers:** Jess Pote

**Welcome Team:** 8:00 a.m. Patty Walter; 10:30 a.m. B.J., Mira & Dylan Dreyer

**Tellers:** Bob & Deb Schmidt

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

**Acolyte:** 8:00 a.m. Sutton Vorthmann; 10:30 a.m. Liz Young

**Reader:** Annie Vorthmann

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

**Values Worksheet:** Please make sure to turn in the values worksheet you received on Sunday, May 5th in worship. This will help us to continue creating a vision for St. Paul as we move into the future. If you didn't receive a worksheet, talk with Pastor Emily or Tracy Flathers.

**Baccalaureate:** All friends and family of graduating seniors are invited to Baccalaureate tomorrow following Senior Awards Night. Zion is the host.

**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.

**Optimist Help:** We have been asked by the Optimists to help put up flags around town on Saturday morning, May 18th at 9:30 a.m. We will meet in the community center parking lot, and it will take about an hour and a half. Adults and youth are welcome to come and help! Please let Denise know if you can help with this.

**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.

**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.

**Bible School:** We are in need of someone to lead the bible story area for big kids at VBS. It is easy to do and we give you all you need to help you get prepared! Please talk to Denise if you can help with this, even 2 or 3 people can trade days doing this.

**This Week's Calendar:**

**Sun. 5/12:** 8:00 a.m. Worship  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**Mon. 5/13:** 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
**Baccalaureate at Zion**

**Tues. 5/14:** **6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting**

**Thurs. 5/16:** **Denise's Day Off**  
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

**Fri. 5/17:** **Pastor Emily's Day Off**

**Sun. 5/19:** 8:00 a.m. Worship  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Silver Creek 4-H F-hall

**Worship Attendance on 5/5/24:** 8:00 a.m.: **43**; Online: **28**; 10:30 a.m.: **66**; Online: **22**

**Sunday School Attendance on 5/5/24:** **24**

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

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

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