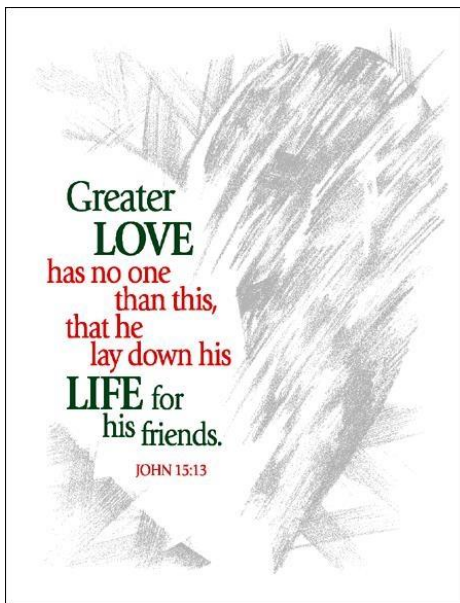


The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA Reconciling in Christ, Rejoicing Spirits, and Handicap Friendly Congregation

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Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 5, 2024
10:30 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship. Stop by to borrow a book, pick up some coloring sheets and crayons or take along a copy of this week’s children’s bulletin.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children may receive the sacrament if they have completed instruction with a pastor.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

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

Gathering Music

Joy in Judea

Blake

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

Affirmation of Baptism and Easter Greeting

This is the Good News –
The grave is empty, Christ is risen.

Hallelujah!

This is the Good News –
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

Hallelujah!

This is the Good News –
Once we were no people, now we are God's people.

Hallelujah!

Christ is alive, **moving among the living.**

Christ is risen, **inviting us to rise in fullness of life.**

Christ is calling, **proclaiming life and hope for all.**

In remembrance of our baptism, the Pastor blesses the congregation with water.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. As we remember our own baptisms, pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your children with all the baptized in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

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.



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



al - le - lu - ia, 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.



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



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



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 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.

Refrain

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

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

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Loving God, you sent your only Son to lay down his life for the world.

Teach us to love one another as Christ has first loved us.

Draw us closer to Christ in love, not as servants but as friends.

Help us to keep his commandments, that our joy may be complete, abiding in your love forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.

1st Reading Acts 10:44-48

Translation: NIV

A reading from Acts.

While Peter was still speaking these words,
the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.
The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished
that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles.
For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Then Peter said,
“Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water.
They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.”
So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.
Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

2nd Reading 1 John 5:1-6

Translation: NIV

A reading from First John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God,
and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.
This is how we know that we love the children of God:
by loving God and carrying out his commands.
In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands.
And his commands are not burdensome,
for everyone born of God overcomes the world.
This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.
Who is it that overcomes the world?
Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ.
He did not come by water only, but by water and blood.
And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

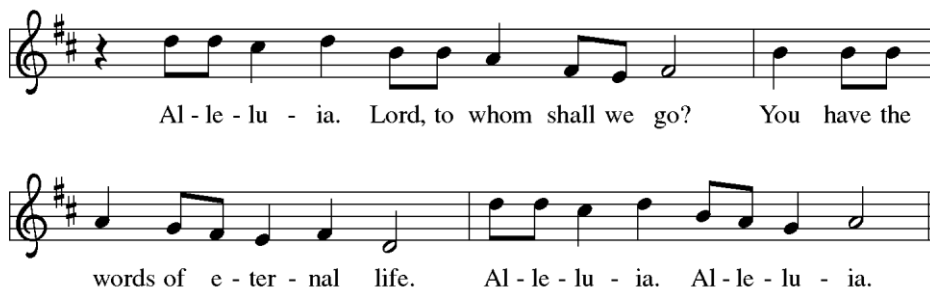
Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

ELW Setting 3



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel John 15:9-17

Translation: NIV

The Good News from John, the 15th chapter.
Open our hearts, Lord.

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

This is the Good News!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Tami Reichley

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

I Come with Joy

ELW 482



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear,
let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

After each petition:

God of love,
hear our prayer.

Pastor's closing prayer:

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
Amen

Peace

As God has loved us, so shall we love each other.
As Christ called us friends, so we have become friends to one another.
Let us live in God's love together now, sharing both friendship and peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."*

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Response to God's gifts

The assembly responds to the Word of God by gathering an offering for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Please place your offering in the offering plates on the tables in the rear of the worship center.

The table is set.

Musical Offering

Was I Faithful?
Adult Choir

Hamlin / McDonald

Please stand as you are able.

Great Thanksgiving

May the risen Lord be with you!

And also with you.

Resurrection people, lift your hearts to God.

We lift our hearts to the One who gives us new life.

Sing with joy on this day of resurrection.

Our songs of joy overflow this day.

With those who have sung the song of grace and hope in every time and place,
and with all who are just learning the words, we lift our voices in praise to you:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting 3

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

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

Pour out your joyful Spirit upon the gifts of the bread and the cup
and on your children gathered at your feast.

We would open our hearts to receive the bread of life,
not with silenced gratitude, but with glad songs of joy.

We would empty ourselves to be filled with the cup's compassion,
not with speechless thanks but with shouts of praise.

As we learn the new song of sacrifice on behalf of others,
we would go to serve the brokenhearted;

as we are given the instruments of praise,

we would turn them into the means to transform

the lives of the hungry, the homeless, the forgotten, the outcast.

Lord's Prayer

Every song, old and new, is offered to you, Holy One,
even as we lift the prayer Jesus teaches:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,**

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen

Invitation to the table

Jesus invites us to this table not as servants but as friends.
Come with joy.
Come with love.
All is ready.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of communion

The body of Christ given for you.
The blood of Christ shed for you.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

ELW Setting 3

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.



1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta-ble, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 I'm a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth-er, Je-sus Christ is liv-ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
 Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

The assembly may remain seated.

Prayer after communion

Let us pray.
 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.

Amen

SENDING

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

Commissioning of LDR Mission Trip Team

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
We lift our voices to join the songs of heaven and earth
in thanksgiving for the many blessings you have given us.

Let us pray.

Let us be your hands to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless,
clothe the naked, comfort the weary and outcast, welcome the stranger,
care for creation, and be loving neighbors to all people.

Renew in us the commitment to use our gifts in service to others,
and especially to those in need.

We pray especially for those in York whose homes have suffered from flood damage.
Keep those who serve and those who receive safe and free from harm.

God, use us always to your glory and for the welfare of people everywhere.

Amen

Please stand as you are able.

Blessing

People of God, abide in God's love.

May God's love and faithfulness flow through you,
even to the ends of the earth.

In the name of God, the Creator, Son, the Redeemer,
and Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier.

Amen



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



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



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



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

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Use your credit or debit card at the Giving Kiosk;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.

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Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Interim Associate Pastor
Nancy Pfeffer, Interim Musician
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Karin Kahler, Director, Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister

Liz Moessner

Reader

Anne Osenbach

Communion Assistants

Jackie Leipert, Theresa Schinkowitch

Greeter

Linda Letts

Usher

John Letts

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Diana Sorrentino, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

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Cynthia Clark, Julie Timmcke, Marlene Feulner,
Rich Feulner, Lynn Snyder, Carol Osenbach, Barb Roba