

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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June 1, 2025
8:30 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 or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

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 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

The Ascension
Eric Kahler soloist; Frank Mattes, percussion

Wickham

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Gathering Dialog

God of heights, lift us up:

We are crawling in the mud of everyday routine.

God of the heavens, lift us up:

We are overwhelmed with the attention required by the things of this earth.

God of the stars, lift us up:

We cannot see past the clouds of “truth” that some would have us believe.

God of the sun, lift us up:

We are dazzled by the false jewels of society.

God of the moon, lift us up:

We are taxed by others’ demands for us to shine for them.

God of the universe, lift us up:

We want to stretch and breathe and see and be awe-struck.

God of heights, lift us up.

**It's the song of the redeemed rising from the African plain.
It's the song of the forgiven drowning out the Amazon rain.
The song of Asian believers filled with God's holy fire.
It's every tribe, every tongue, every nation, a love song born of a grateful choir.**

**It's all God's children singing glory, glory, hallelujah,
He reigns, He reigns!
It's all God's children singing glory, glory, hallelujah,
He reigns, He reigns!**

**Let it rise above the four winds caught up in the heavenly sound.
Let praises echo from the towers of cathedrals to the faithful gathered underground.
Of all the songs sung from the dawn of creation, some were meant to persist.
Of all the bells rung from a thousand steeples, none rings truer than this.**

**It's all God's children singing glory, glory, hallelujah,
He reigns, He reigns!
It's all God's children singing glory, glory, hallelujah,
He reigns, He reigns!**

**And all the powers of darkness tremble at what they've just heard,
'Cause all the powers of darkness can't drown out a single word.**

**It's all God's children singing glory, glory, hallelujah,
He reigns, He reigns!
It's all God's children singing glory, glory, hallelujah,
He reigns, He reigns!**

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

**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.**

We pray.

O Lord our God, you have called us to bear witness to your saving work in the world through the dying and rising of Jesus Christ our Savior. Now make us ready to receive the gift of your Holy Spirit so that all may know and trust the promise of your holy word: in Jesus' name we pray. Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Reading Acts 1:1-11

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from Acts.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven,
suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.
They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven?
This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven,
will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

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

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Luke 24:44-53

Translation: NRSV-UE

The Good News from Luke, the 24th chapter.
Open our hearts, Lord.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you
while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses,
the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”
Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
and he said to them, “Thus it is written,
that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day
and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name
to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.
And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised,
so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.
While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.
And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were
continually in the temple blessing God.

This is the Good News!
Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Cindy Camp

We rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

ELW 393



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
4 "You see him now, as-cend-ing high up to the por-tals of the
5 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
stand, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! and with his faith-ful fol-l'wers
sky?" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav-ior!" thus they
sky." Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
cord: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You are, while end-less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
see their Lord as-cend in maj - es - ty.
say, "this is his glo-rious tri-umph day!" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
see re - turn-ing in great maj - es - ty."
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

Praise & Affirmation for Ascension Day

(based on 1 Timothy 3:16; 6:15-16, Revelation 5:12-14)

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
**to receive power, wealth, wisdom, and might,
honor, and glory, and blessing!**

He was revealed in the flesh, declared righteous by the Spirit, seen by angels,
**proclaimed among the nations, believed in throughout the world,
and taken up in glory. In his own time, He will come again.**

All praise to our Sovereign God, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
who alone is immortal,
dwelling in unapproachable light, unseen by human eyes.

To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and power, forever and ever.
Amen

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

Let us hold before God all those to whom Christ offers his kingdom.

After each petition:

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done.

Pastor's closing prayer:

Give to us, O God, a vision of your kingdom, a glimpse of your glory, an openness to your rule, and your spirit to guide us. Hear us, we pray, through Christ, the risen and ascended one.

Amen

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.

*During the Offering Song, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated.
If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the
tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.*

Offering Song

We Are an Offering

ELW 692

The musical score is written on six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is in G major, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes. There are also triplets indicated by a '3' over a group of notes. The lyrics are: We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Offering Prayer

We pray.

Glorious God, as we dedicate these gifts to you, may we shine with your glory and grace. Shine through these gifts and through our lives, that others may experience the beauty of your love and the power of your presence.

Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

Look, here is bread! Look, here is wine!

Let us celebrate the feast of God!

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.

To you Creator God, who spoke the universe into being through your Word, who formed us in your own image, who called us by name, to you we lift our hearts
and give our thanks and praise.

To you Redeeming God, who was born as one of us in Jesus, who told stories, restored the lost and broken, and broke barriers, who died and rose for us, and lives and reigns for ever, to you we lift our hearts
and give our thanks and praise.

To you Sustaining God, who is ever-present with us through the Holy Spirit, who calls us, leads us, inspires and upholds us, who brings us into a fellowship beyond earthly ties, to you we lift our hearts
and give our thanks and praise.

And now we join our voices with those of your people of every time and place
as we praise you with the song of heaven:

**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.**

Before he parted from his friends,
Jesus prepared a last supper to share with them.
He took some bread, and gave thanks for it.
Then he broke it and gave it to them.
'Take and eat; this is my body,' he said.

When supper was all but over, he took a cup of wine,
gave thanks for it, and gave it to them to drink.
'This cup is the new relationship with God,
sealed with my blood. Take and drink from it. It is for all.

Ascended Christ, in the breaking of bread and the pouring of wine,
come to us.

As we do now what you once did on earth,
be present with us.

Breathe your Spirit upon this bread and wine.
May they become our spiritual food and drink.

Breathe your Spirit upon us.
**May we be your body, revealing your presence in the world.
Amen**

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

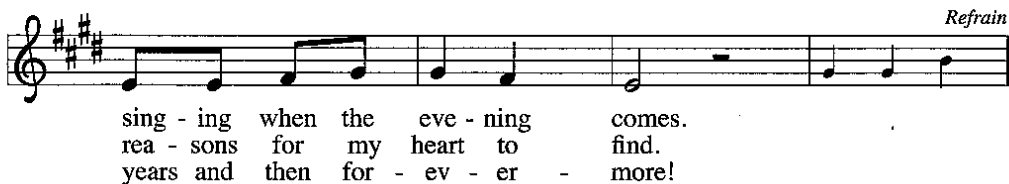
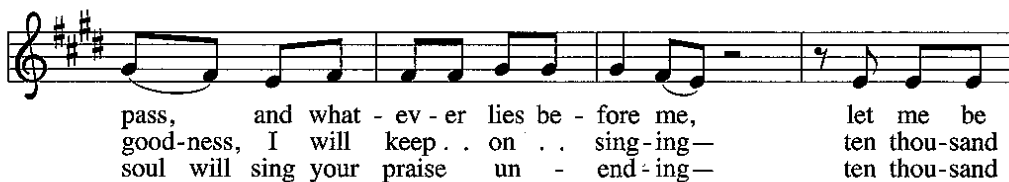
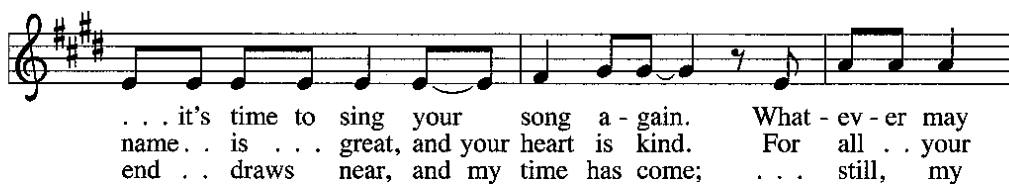
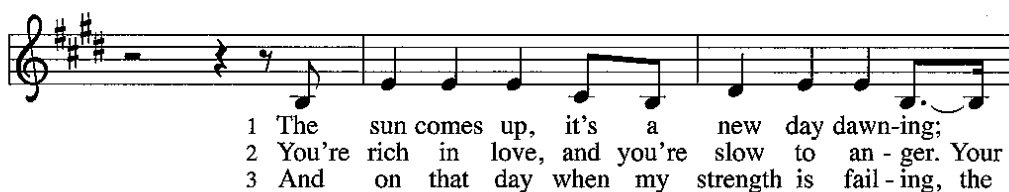
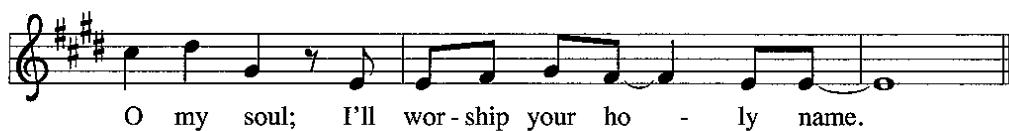
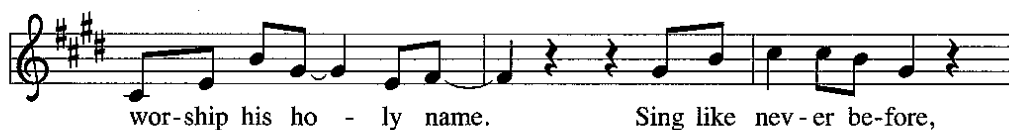
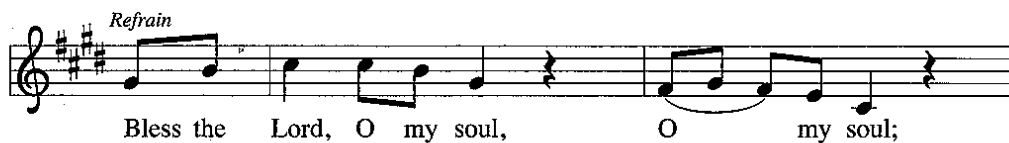
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

Invitation to the table

Come to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of communion



**There's a reason why the curse of sin is broken.
There's a reason why the darkness runs from light.
There's a reason why we stand here now forgiven. Jesus is alive.**

**There's a reason why we are not overtaken.
There's a reason why we sing on through the night.
There's a reason why our hope remains eternal. Jesus is alive.**

**Praise the King He is risen. Praise the King He's alive.
Praise the King death's defeated. Hallelujah He's alive. Hallelujah He's alive.**

**There's a reason why our hearts can be courageous.
There's a reason why the dead are made alive.
There's a reason why we share His resurrection. Jesus is alive.**

**Praise the King He is risen. Praise the King He's alive.
Praise the King death's defeated. Hallelujah He's alive. Hallelujah He's alive.**

**The grave could not ignore it when all of heaven's roaring.
Hell where is your victory? Death where is your sting?
The world could not ignore it when all the saints are roaring
Hell where is your victory? Death where is your sting?**

**Praise the King He is risen. Praise the King He's alive.
Praise the King death's defeated. Hallelujah He's alive. Hallelujah He's alive.**

Hallelujah He's alive! Hallelujah He's alive! Hallelujah He's alive!

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after communion

**We pray.
Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
Amen**

SENDING

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

Blessing of Graduates (based on a Franciscan Prayer)

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers,
half truths and superficial relationship,
so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression,
and exploitation of people,
so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain,
rejection, starvation and war,
**so that you may reach out your hand to comfort one another
and to turn pain into joy.**

May God bless you with enough foolishness
to believe that you can make a difference in this world,
so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

And may the blessings of God keep you
and strengthen you all of your tomorrows.
Amen


Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.
Amen

Sending Song

Go to the World

ACS 991



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
 Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,
 bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Dismissal

We are witnesses to these things:
 Jesus is risen from the dead!
 Jesus has ascended into heaven!
 Jesus will come again to reign!
Thanks be to God!

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



venmo

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- 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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WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister

Eric Kahler

Reader

Carole Wetherhold

Communion Assistants

Carol Walrod, Don Walrod

Greeter

Adam Fermier

Ushers

Binkley Family

Production/Technology Team

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Max H., Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross, Eric Kahler,
Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill,
Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie,
Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

Altar Care

Deb Stevens, Roberta Flynn, Cindy Clark, Julie Timmcke, Brenda Brookover,
Mike Berkheimer, Kitti Berkheimer, Barb Roba

