The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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Sixth Sunday of Easter May 25, 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

He Reigns Spirit of Praise Furler & Taylor

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Easter Greeting and Gathering Dialog (Acts 16:9-15)

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

Paul had a vision in the night: "Come to Macedonia and help us." Open us to your call to go to new places, O God.

Paul talked theology with the women at the river. Open us to share faith with those we meet, whoever and wherever they are.

Lydia listened to the good news Paul brought. Open us to hear the new message of Christ's love and justice.

Lydia convinced Paul to stay at her home. Open us to change our plans for the sake of the gospel.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Come, let us worship God!

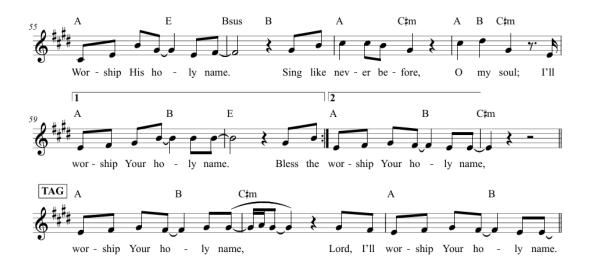
Gathering Song

Ten Thousand Reasons

ACS 1097







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. Guiding Spirit, you come to us in visions and dreams, showing us possibilities beyond our waking reality. Open our hearts this day, that we might understand Christ's reaching and share his presence with others. Guide our footsteps on our journeys, that we might go where you send us and share your message of love and peace with the world. Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Reading Acts 16:9-15

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from Acts.

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel John 5:1-9

Open our hearts, O Lord, and we will listen to your word.

The Good News from John, the 5th chapter.

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a Sabbath.

Come into this house and teach us to follow you in faith.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Shari Duminy

Word in Song

The Peace of the Lord

ELW 646



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

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition: Lord, hear our prayer, and dwell within our hearts.

Pastor's closing prayer: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **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.

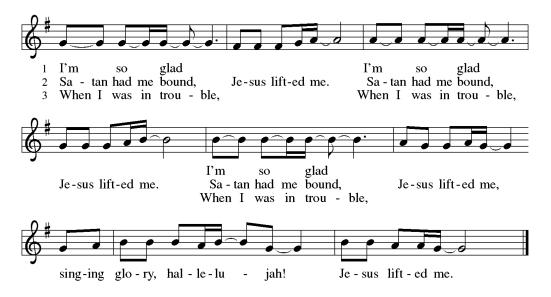
MEAL

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

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



Offering Prayer

We pray.

Receive our praise, O God, for the bounty of your love. You cause the earth to yield food to satisfy the hungry. You send rain upon the earth to give drink to the thirsty. You shine light into our darkness to show us the way. Bless the gifts we bring before you this day, that they may touch the world with your love. **Amen**

We rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

May God be gracious to you. And also to you. Children of God, offer your hearts to the One who saves you. We open our hearts to the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ed of hope, life, grace. As God's people, sing for joy to the One who is with you. We join all creation in lifting our praise to our God.

So, with those who have been called home to you, and with those who continue to journey your way, we join the peoples in praising you.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God whose face shines upon us. All the ends of the earth bless your name. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes to give us peace. Hosanna in the highest!

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

Here at this table of grace and wonder, where the simple gifts you have prepared are set aside for sacred use, your Spirit is poured out upon them and your children gathered in this place of prayer. As we eat of the bread broken for us, we feast on the promises that one day pain will be no more, that our tears will mingle with the waters of life. As we drink deeply from the cup of peace, we are filled with the joy of your grace, and hearing the cries of those around us, we go forth to serve them with your hope and justice.

And when the first things have passed away, when we wander down the streets of the new Jerusalem, we will find you waiting for us, our siblings gathered together around the table of glory and wonder, where we will sing our praises to you forever. Amen

Lord's Prayer

God in community, Holy in One, we sing for joy to you, even as we pray with all people as Jesus taught us, saying:

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

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

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of communion

Communion Song

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus Verses 1 – 3 ELW 392



See the tomb where He laid. See the stone rolled away. He is risen. He is risen. He's alive. See His hands, see His feet. Touch His scars and believe. He is risen. He is risen. He's alive. Oh He's alive.

He lives. All honor and power are His. All glory forever amen. Jesus lives.

Hear the shackles breaking free. Hear the song of the redeemed. He is moving. He is moving. He's alive. So take this freedom, take this love. Can you feel it rising up? He is here. He is here. He's alive.

CHORUS: He lives. All honor and power are His. All glory forever amen. Jesus. He lives. All honor and power are His. All glory forever amen. Jesus lives. Jesus lives.

You took all our shame, left it in the grave We're forgiven, we're forgiven The work forever done, only by the blood It is finished, it is finished. CHORUS

He is risen. He is risen. 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

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

| Sending Song | This is Amazing Grace | Wickham, Riddle, & Farro |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| Who breaks the power of sin and darkness, Whose love is mighty and so much stronger? The King of Glory, the King above all kings. | | |
| Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder, And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder? The King of Glory, the King above all kings. | | |
| This is amazing grace, this i That You would take my plo That You would bear my cro You laid down Your life tha Oh Jesus, I sing for all that | ace, oss. t I would be set free. | |
| Who brings our chaos back Who makes the orphan a so The King of Glory, the King | n and daughter? | |
| This is amazing grace, this i That You would take my plo That You would bear my cro You laid down Your life tha Oh Jesus, I sing for all that | ace, oss. t I would be set free. | |
| | | |

Who rules the nations with truth and justice, Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance? The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love, That You would take my place, That You would bear my cross. You laid down Your life that I would be set free. Oh Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain. Worthy is the King who conquered the grave. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain. Worthy is the King who conquered the grave. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain. Worthy is the King who conquered the grave. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain. Worthy, worthy, worthy.

This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love, That You would take my place, That You would bear my cross. You laid down Your life that I would be set free. Oh Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me, All that You've done for me.

Dismissal

Embrace Christ's promised peace. Abide in God's promised home. Go in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.** 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;
- 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 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

Ricki Stringfellow

Reader

Melanie Werley

Communion Assistants

Carol Walrod Don Walrod

Greeter

Fran Derhammer

<u>Usher</u>

Bill Derhammer

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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

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