

6th Sunday of Easter, Year B

May 5, 2024

Pastor Kim Swenson



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

GATHERING

Worship Volunteers
Assisting Minister: Doug Hanson
Reader: Linda Wery
Altar Guild: Terri Hilbert
Communion Assistant: Marilyn Meister
Ushers: Dave & Mary Hansen
Video Tech: Cindy Michalski

Welcome

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



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!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 who creates, redeems, sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
 2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,
 3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
 in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
 glo-ry to the Ho - ly Spir-it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,
 God has made a new be - gin-ning from the ash - es of our past;
 as it was in the be - gin-ning, glo-ry now re-sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
 in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
 in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
 Music: OUIMETTE, John C. Ylvisaker
 Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

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Immersed in the promises of baptism,
 let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
 your voice thundered over the deep
 and water became the essence of life.
 Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
 The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
 Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
 into freedom's land.
 In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
 entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

Cranberry 451 vs 2

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

Cranberry 451 vs 3

Prayer of the Day

The Lord is with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray, 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.**

Bethel Choir

Hymn of Promise

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

Psalm 98 (read responsively by verse)

¹O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

**²The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

³He 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.

**⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

**⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

**⁸Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy**

⁹at 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.

The Word for All Ages

Acclamation*Alleluia***ACS setting 11**

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris' n in - deed.

Gospel: John 15:9-17

The Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I 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. ¹⁶You 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. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon



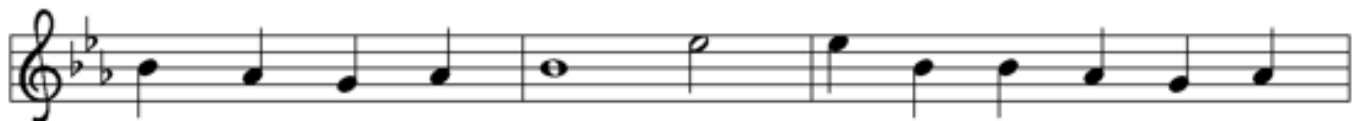
1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



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

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

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

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Apostle's 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.**

Prayers of the People

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.

Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation, that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For what else do the people of God Pray?

Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace, **hear our 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

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always,
And also with you.

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MEAL

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray, Merciful God,
our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration,
but you make of them an abundance,
just as you do with our lives.
Feed us again at this table
for service in your name,
in the strength of the risen Christ. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
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.

Abiding God, you planted the vineyard of creation,
and called your chosen people to be your vine,
rooted and grounded in you.

In Jesus, you gave us the true vine, turning earth into grapes
and the water of life into the wine of eternal life.

Through your Son you abide in us, and in the power of your Holy Spirit
you shape the branches of the vine to make fruit that will last.

Your Son was crucified on the vine of our sin,
that the blood of his sacrifice

might be the wine through which we may never be thirsty again.

In this meal of creation, of resurrection, and of everlasting life,
you pour out the cup of your abundance to give us eternal joy in you.



Täs - sä pöy - däs - sä, täs - sä
 1 In this feast of love, in this
 2 In this bread and wine, in this
 3 Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us



pöy - däs - sä syn - ti - sil - le
 feast of love, Lord, you share your
 bread and wine, you have prom - ised,
 peace, O Lord; fill us with the



it - se - si an - nat, Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa!
 blood and your bod - y, Je - sus, Lamb of God.
 Lord, to be with us, Lamb . . of God div - ine.
 joy of your Spir - it, ev - er - liv - ing Word.

Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio

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Transforming God,
 your Son took the ordinary substance of human flesh and bone;
 and on his last night with his friends,
 he took the ordinary materials of bread and wine.
 Come among us now, and make the ordinariness of our lives
 glow with the wonder of your eternal life.
 Take these gifts of bread and wine and make them be for us
 the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;
 who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
 broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,
 "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
 do this in remembrance of me."
 After supper he took the cup.
 Again, he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
 "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
 which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Companionable God, you turn Word into flesh,
and your perfect love casts out our fear.

You show us a way to love you

by giving us brothers and sisters to love as we love you.

Abide with all whose lives are far from fruitful;

remain with those who have experienced pruning;

dwell with any who feel like branches that have been discarded.

Unite your whole church, living and departed,

as branches of your one vine,

and through being rooted and grounded in you,

make us fruitful in body, mind, and spirit,

until we stand before you, with your whole creation,

and you are all in all, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

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

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



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.

Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

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

SENDING

Announcements



¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz!
 May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,



Al mun - do en cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad.
 to a world in need with news of joy and peace.



Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da - nos tu luz,
 May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,



luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.
 bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.



O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos
 Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our



de tu a - mor. Lu - che - mos por la paz,
 joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,



fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.
 faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

Text: Alvin Schutmaat, 1921–1988, alt.

Music: ARGENTINA, Argentine folk melody

Benediction

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead,
 bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
 to live in the new creation. **Amen.**



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.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Fellowship hour continues in the lounge.

Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 4/30/24 \$ 17,925.00

Monthly Budget Expenses:..... \$ 18,743.00

YTD Receipts through 3/31/24..... \$ 67,298.00

Yearly Budget..... \$ 224,917.00

The Bethel Weekly

Fellowship Hour: Please, if you are able to help on a future date in May, sign up in the hallway. Thank you to Marcia Scholes for hosting today.

ELCA Foundation: Following the service today, there will be a representative from the ELCA Foundation here to give a brief presentation and answer any questions you may have.

Spring Clean-Up: Is Saturday, May 11th at 8:00am. If you cannot make it Saturday, you are welcome to come in during the week.

Stamp Out Hunger: Food drive is Saturday, May 11th. Help is needed sorting at Resurrection Food Panty beginning at 1:00 pm. Pizza and soda will be provided for volunteers around noon that day.

Synod Assembly Service Project: Is for the Crossways Camping wish list. If you would like to donate to the project, please put your offering in an envelope marked "Crossways". Paster Kim will purchase items from the wish list and bring them to the Synod Assembly.

Vicar Melissa: Has been called to be Pastor at Resurrection Lutheran Church. Installation will be on July 27th. Time to follow.

Handbags for Hope: In conjunction with the Resurrection Food Pantry, we are asking all the ladies to bring in any unwanted purses. Donations are also needed of travel size hygiene items such as toothbrushes, shampoo, lip balm, etc. to fill the purses prior to distribution. Suggestions can be found on the front of the bin.

Bethel Photo Directory: If you haven't already done so, please submit a recent photo for the new church directory. It can be emailed to the church or brought to the office for scanning.