



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Marked with the cross of Christ we are called to love, serve,
and celebrate Christ, our community, and one another.*

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Sixth Sunday of Easter

Love One Another

May 5, 2024

9:30 a.m.



This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ.

Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

Welcome to Worship!

We're so glad you've joined us today.
We hope you are blessed by today's service.

GATHERING + WORD + MEAL + SENDING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

ELW# 631 (verses 1 & 4)

*Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.*

*Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, 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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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

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!

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!

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

ELW #184

***Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.***

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

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.

GATHERING + **WORD** + MEAL + SENDING

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.

Holy wisdom. Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 98

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before
the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Please stand.*

"Be Not Afraid"

ELW #388

***Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!***

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GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

*The holy 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, Lord Christ.****TIME WITH THE CHILDREN OF GOD**

HYMN OF THE DAY*Please stand.***"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"**

CCLI #26997

*And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.*

***We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity
may one day be restored.*** refrain

***We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news
that God is in our land.*** refrain

***We will work with each other,
e will work side by side.
We will work with each other,
we will work side by side.
And we'll guard each one's dignity
and save each one's pride.*** refrain

***All praise to the Father,
from whom all things come.
And all praise to
Christ Jesus His only Son.
And all praise to
the Spirit who makes us one.*** refrain

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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.**

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.

A brief silence.

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. (We pray especially for) God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation (ministries may be named), 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.

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

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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.

A TIME FOR SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

GATHERING + WORD + **MEAL** + SENDING

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

I Love To Tell the Story by Katherine Hankey and William G. Fischer

Debra Popineau

THE OFFERING OF OUR LIVES

“As the Grains of Wheat”

ELW #465

*As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.*

***As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. Refrain***

***Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. Refrain***

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

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. **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.

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Let the Whole Creation Cry”

ELW # 876 (verse 1 & 3)

***Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high!"
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing, "Praise to our almighty king!"
Praise God, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love;
sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice.
Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem loud and bold,
and let children's happy hearts in this worship take their parts;
from the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll:
"Holy, Holy, Holy One; glory be to God alone!"***

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God,
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us,
healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death,
gave his life for others.

In 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.

Remembering, therefore,
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:
carry us in your arms from death to life,
that we may live as your chosen ones,
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

THE COMMUNION MEAL

(Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Please note that Gluten-free wafers are also available — just ask the assistant at the time you commune.)

A note to those visiting with us:

All are welcome at the Lord's table. In this meal Jesus offers his grace, forgiveness, and presence to all. To learn more about the gifts of God's grace given in Baptism and Holy Communion, please speak with the pastor after worship.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Where True Charity and Love Abide"

ELW #642

A song from the Taize community in France. Sung first in Latin.

***Where true charity and love abide,
God is dwelling there; God is dwelling there.***

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

GATHERING + WORD + MEAL + **SENDING**

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the Name of the Father, † Son and Holy Spirit

A musical score for the word 'Amen'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics 'A - men, a - men, a - - - men.' are written below the treble staff. The first two measures of the treble staff contain chords. The third measure has a melodic line starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and C5, with a slur over the last three notes. The fourth measure has a whole note chord. The bass staff provides harmonic support with chords in the first two measures and a melodic line in the third measure that mirrors the treble staff's melody, also with a slur over the last three notes. The fourth measure has a whole note chord.

SENDING HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

ELW #836

*Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.*

*Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

