

# A Congregation of the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

We are a <u>Reconciling in Christ</u> congregation, affirming the diversity of God's children



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# THE HOLY TRINITY



Nicodemus and Jesus talk together

(Artists from the Jesus Mafa collective, part of "Art in the Christian Tradition,"
a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library)

May 30, 2021 10:00 am

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all... an adventure for life!

## **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

#### In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Assistive hearing devices are available from the ushers.

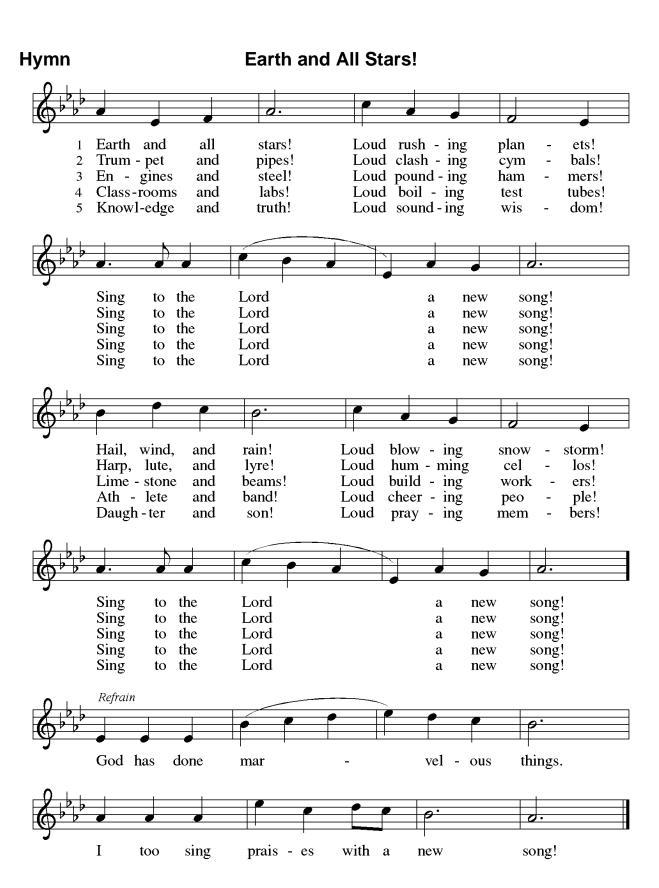
#### **Pandemic Safety Protocols**

- Please spread yourselves out in the sanctuary. Leave the first two rows of pews for worship leaders.
- Please remain seated throughout the service.
- You can sing the hymns softly with your mask on.
- Individual communion elements are available to pick up at the front door.
- If you wish to use one of the first-floor bathrooms, please follow instructions in the bathroom about disinfecting it after your use.
- We will want everyone out of the building by 10 minutes after the service ends.

## **WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

Prelude Welcome Eternal Father, Strong to Save, arr. John Carter





Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text and music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the friendship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

## **Hymn of Praise**





## **WE PROCLAIM THE WORD**

Reading

Romans 8:12-17 (The Message, altered)

A reading from Romans

Don't you see that we don't owe this old do-it-yourself life one red cent? There's nothing in it for us, nothing at all. The best thing to do is give it a decent burial and get on with your new life. God's Spirit beckons. There are things to do and places to go!

This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-tending life. It's adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike "What's next, Papa?" God's Spirit touches our spirits and confirms who we really are. We know who God is, and we know who we are: Parent and children. And we know we are going to get what's coming to us—an unbelievable inheritance! We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with him!

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.



#### Psalm 29



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,

ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name; worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders; the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice; the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.

The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees; the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.

The voice | of the LORD bursts forth in | lightning flashes.

The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"

The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.

O LORD, give strength | to your people; give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.



The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

- There was a man of the Pharisee sect, Nicodemus, a prominent leader among the Jews. Late one night he visited Jesus and said, "Rabbi, we all know you're a teacher straight from God. No one could do all the Godpointing, God-revealing acts you do if God weren't in on it."
- Jesus said, "You're absolutely right. Take it from me: Unless a person is born from above, it's not possible to see what I'm pointing to—to God's kingdom."
- "How can anyone," said Nicodemus, "be born who has already been born and grown up? You can't re-enter your mother's womb and be born again. What are you saying with this 'born-from-above' talk?"
- Jesus said, "You're not listening. Let me say it again. Unless a person submits to this original creation—the 'wind-hovering-over-the-water' creation, the invisible moving the visible, a baptism into a new life—it's not possible to enter God's kingdom. When you look at a baby, it's just that: a body you can look at and touch. But the person who takes shape within is formed by something you can't see and touch—the Spirit—and becomes a living spirit.
- "So don't be so surprised when I tell you that you have to be 'born from above'—out of this world, so to speak. You know well enough how the wind blows this way and that. You hear it rustling through the trees, but you have no idea where it comes from or where it's headed next. That's the way it is with everyone 'born from above' by the wind of God, the Spirit of God."
- Nicodemus asked, "What do you mean by this? How does this happen?" Jesus said, "You're a respected teacher of Israel and you don't know these basics? Listen carefully. I'm speaking sober truth to you. I speak only of what I know by experience; I give witness only to what I have seen with my own eyes. There is nothing secondhand here, no hearsay. Yet instead of facing the evidence and accepting it, you procrastinate with questions. If I tell you things that are plain as the hand before your face and you don't believe me, what use is there in telling you of things you can't see, the things of God?
- "No one has ever gone up into the presence of God except the One who came down from that Presence, the Chosen One. In the same way that Moses lifted the serpent in the desert so people could have something to see and then believe, it is necessary for the Chosen One to be lifted up—and everyone who looks up to him, trusting and expectant, will gain a real life, eternal life.
- "This is how much God loved the world: God gave the Son, the one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go

to all the trouble of sending the Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. The Chosen One came to help, to put the world right again."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message To FLY!

(David Gray, "Birds Without Wings," 1992)

# Ministry of Music Let There Be Peace on Earth

Sy Miller and Jill Jackson arr. Arnold B. Sherman Chime Choir

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as our Father, brothers all are we.

Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment and live each moment in peace, eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

### **Apostles Creed**

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words: 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.

## **Community Prayers**

Let us pray.... Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Lea Spang, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Cora Marquez, Mary Kennedy, Kelly Scott, Diane Louangrath, Sue Baker and Cathy Oldham, Julie Denniss' uncle Ed Stewart, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their niece and sister-in-law, Stan Heacock, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Lynn Belhorn's friend MaryAnn, Shirley and Jack Miller, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Carolyn and Ed Klopfer, Nancy Stinson's brother Tom Starkey, Barbara and David Hairston, Grace and Ken Jones, Dora Pinder and family, Heidi Sherer's Aunt Mary and family on the death of her Uncle Joel Sherer, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Kris Kauffman, Terry Warren, Karen Kent and Kathy Rapp's cousin Beatrice Watts Young, Emily Kent

#### Children's Time

## **Sharing the peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We take time to greet one another with words like Peace be with you.

#### WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

## **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. Lift up your hearts.

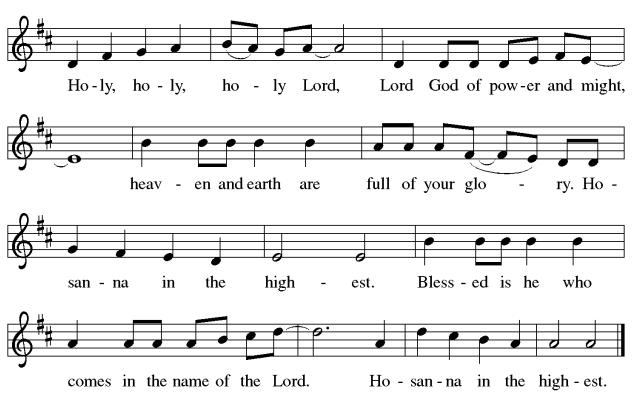
And also with you. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In the beginning, the Spirit brooded time into being, so that God could give form to the world. At the Incarnation, the Spirit breathed God's time into being, so that the world could receive the Word. Through Pentecost, the Spirit brought transformed time into being, so that the Word could meet us everywhere.

Holy God, your Christ sends the Spirit to be a companion to all who follow your Way. As inheritors of both the challenge and the comfort of your Way, we join with all who have made this journey in other places and at other times, raising our voices in this timeless song of praise:



Entering these gifts of bread and wine, the Spirit blesses this time, and makes Christ alive in this meal to comfort, challenge and transform us. God has prepared a room for us: fire to warm our hearts, water to wash our weary feet, the table set and waiting. And now, from beyond time, the breath of the Spirit comes whispering through the fabric of time to call us in. So come ... whether your time is just beginning or many years in the making; whether your hours are filled and fruitful or wanting and

withered; whether you have invested wisely or buried your coins in the ground; for here at this table, through the power of the Spirit, God's time and our time come together in bread and wine – a place of timeless and timely grace.

We recall how Jesus, drawing near to the end of his time on earth, ate a last meal with his friends. We remember how his words and actions disturbed and dismayed them; but also how he offered them comfort and encouragement for the time to come. We remember that he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his friends saying, "Take this and eat. This is my body broken for you. Do this to remember me" And after supper he took a cup, and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

Hear us now as, at this time, we commit ourselves to your Way, and pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

## **Lord's Prayer**

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.

As we share these gifts of grace, may the Holy Spirit take and transform them that we may know both their comfort and their challenge, and so transform ourselves and our time. Here is bread and wine – touched and transformed by the Spirit. Come, eat and drink, and be healed and strengthened for this time and for the time to come.

## **Sharing the Meal**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Spirit, You who mothered creation and enabled Incarnation, continue to form and nurture us as we stumble towards maturity. Spirit, You who led Jesus into the wilderness, stir us out of ease and safety as we follow the way of Christ. Spirit, You who transformed the disciples, grace and gift us for the task of building the beloved community Christ lived, died, and rose for. Spirit, You whom Jesus sends as Friend, continue to comfort and discomfort us until justice prevails, peace reigns and love directs all.

Amen.

### **WE ARE SENT**

## Hymn O God, Each Day You Bless Us



Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

O God, each day you bless us with gifts of your shalom: You give us peace and justice, you welcome lost ones home. You care for your creation and set your people free; You offer us salvation and build community.

You make us sons and daughters—baptized and reconciled! You show us each peacemaker is blest as your own child. You fill us at your table with strength for each new day; Then Spirit-filled we're able to live your peaceful way

We'll worship, pray and study, to learn new skills for peace; We'll work as one strong body so justice will increase. We'll build new global friendships, seek peace in every land, Protect the earth you gave us and give with outstretched hand.

You give your church a vision, a way of life, a prayer: Your will is done in heaven; now bring in your reign here! And when we wonder, grieving, at what the nations do, God, may we work, believing there's hope in serving you.

Tune: Lancashire 7.6.7.6.D ("The Day of Resurrection"), Henry Thomas Smart, 1836 Text: © Copyright 2004 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Blessing Amen.

## **Sending Announcements**

#### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God!

#### **Postlude**

## Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, arr. John Carter

Our first act of love is to greet those standing near us and around us.

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Passcode: 619946 - Phone only: 646 876 9923

## **OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY**

**Presiding Minister** David Shull, Pastor **Assisting Minister** Karen Collins **ASL Interpreter** Bryan Neal Reader Karen Collins Cantor Scott Steiner **Organist & Senior Choir Director** Kathy Rapp **Pianist & Chimes Choir Director** Karen Kent Wendy Stoica Verger **Producer** Scott Steiner, Sue Yehling

Noisy Offering will go to ELCA Disaster Relief.

## THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER MAY 30 – JUNE 6

0:00 am 1:15 am	In-Person and Livestream Worship with Holy Communion ZOOM Adult Education
1:00 pm 5:00 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study ZOOM Outreach Team
1:00 pm	RLC at LSS Food Pantry
y	Southern Ohio Synod Assembly
0:00 am	In-Person and Livestream Worship with Holy Communion ZOOM Adult Education
	1:15 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm 1:00 pm



