

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Exaudi Sunday

MAY 12, 2024

WELCOME, GUESTS

Welcome to all who worship with us today. We are thankful for your presence and invite you to share in “the food which endures to eternal life.”

Please sign the visitor’s book at our Welcome Center in the narthex. If you’d like to know more about us or are considering becoming a member, please complete the form found in each pew, return it to an usher or simply put it in the collection plate. There is a cry room down the stairs off the narthex where the service can still be heard. Busy-bags, children’s bulletins and magazines and are also provided in the Narthex.

We’d like for you to learn more about us!

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation: We welcome people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and we are committed to work for racial equity.



A Green Congregation: for being stewards of the earth.

In Covenant with Lutheran Campus Ministry (LuMin St. Louis), lcmstl.org

Seventh Sunday of Easter: *Exaudi Sunday*

Exaudi, Domine, vocem meam, qua clamavi ad te.

*Tibi dixit cor meam, quaesivi vultum tuum,
vultum tuum, Domine, requiram:
ne avertas faciem tuam a me.*

Hear my voice, O Lord, when I cry to you!

To you my heart speaks; your glance I seek; your presence, O Lord, I seek.

Hide not your face from me. [Psalm 27:10-12]

Today, the Sunday after the Ascension, is a pivotal day in the Church Year. We find a hint of its significance in the Ascension account in the Acts of the Apostles, in which an angel appears to inquire, “O Galileans, why do you stand there looking up into the skies? This Jesus who has been taken from you will return, just as you saw him go up into the heavens.” What a striking image! We can easily imagine the Apostles milling around, gazing heavenward, their mouths agape. Likewise for us, this is a time whose liturgical meaning and message lack closure.

Our music takes up the theme for this day, when we stand balanced, as it were, between Christ’s ascension into heaven, and his sending of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. The hymns and choral anthems *look back* to Christ’s rising to new life, and ascending to glory with God the Father. But, our music also *looks ahead* to the establishing of Christ’s realm through the life-giving power of the Spirit. In the meantime, we remain earthbound, like the Apostles, earnestly, prayerfully, expectantly seeking the face of our Savior.

In support of our goal of being a caring, inclusive, Christ-centered community, we

- ❖ care for God’s creation
- ❖ promote the non-violence of Christ and care for those who suffer
- ❖ participate in the Spirit toward a global religious community



Bethel Chancel Window: The Ascension of Christ

Note today our chancel stained-glass window, which was installed in 1934. In the center panel is the Ascending Christ with the apostles grouped about him. At the top of the center panel, a Hand (cf. 1 Peter 5:6: “the mighty hand of God”) protrudes through the clouds, symbolizing the power of the Sovereign God. In the blue background below the Hand are red letters Alpha (Α) and Omega (Ω), the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, indicating that Christ is the beginning and the end of all things.

The left- and right-hand panels represent the Old and New Testaments pointing to the Ascension and Exaltation of Christ.

The left-hand panel features David, to whom authorship of many Psalms has been attributed. Psalm 47 is the Psalm used for the Ascension: “God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of the ram’s horn.” [Psalm 47:5] At the top of that panel is the Ark of the Covenant, a symbol of the Old Testament.

The right-hand panel features St. John the Divine, because of his description of the Exalted Christ in the first chapter of the Book of Revelation: “Look, he is coming with the clouds. / I saw one like the Son-of-Man, clothed with a long robe.” [Revelation 1:7, 13] At the top of that panel is a Chalice, a symbol of the New Testament.

+ The Seventh Sunday of Easter +

Exaudi Sunday: The Sunday after the Ascension

May 12, 2024

10 AM

*The responses of the assembly appear in **bold** type.*

“ELW” refers to Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the cranberry-colored book in the pew racks.

Standing and sitting are corporate acts of the assembly.

When the assembly stands, those who are able stand on behalf of those who cannot.

The gospel for Easter’s seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John’s gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus’ desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

from *French Suite in E flat*, BWV 815

Music of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

I. Allemande

II. Courante

IV. Gavotte

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

ELW page 97

The assembly stands.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

We continue on page 97 near the front of the cranberry book.

... now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW # 389

TRURO

GREETING

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Worthy is Christ (This is the Feast)

ELW page 140

1. High voices

2. Low voices

3. High voices

4. Low voices

ALL sing the refrain.

High voices = soprano/alto

Low voices = tenor/bass

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Matthias added to the apostles

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

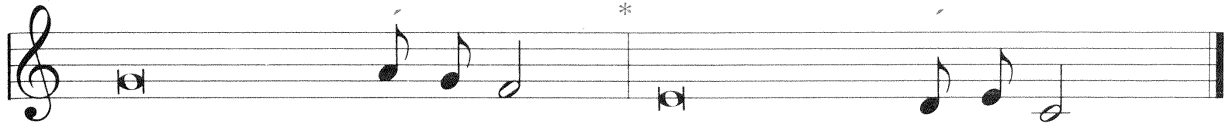
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus, for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.

"So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when Jesus was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Cantor Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel / of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats / of the scornful!

Assembly **Their delight is in the law / of the Lord,
and on this law they meditate / day and night.**

Cantor They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that / do not wither;
everything they / do shall prosper.

Assembly **It is not so / with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind / blows away.**

Cantor Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when / judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council / of the righteous.

All **For the Lord knows the way / of the righteous,
but the way of the wick - / ed is doomed.**

SECOND READING

1 John 5:9-13

Life in the Son of God

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

A reading from the First Letter of John.

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that God has testified to the Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made God a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning the Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in the Son of God. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Silence for preparation precedes the sequence hymn.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

SEQUENCE HYMN *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*

LLANFAIR

1. All 2. High voices 3. Low voices 4. All

High voices = soprano/alto

Low voices = tenor/bass



All: Hail the day that sees Him__ rise,
High voices: There the glo- rious tri- umph_ waits; Al _____ le ___ lu- ia!
Low voices: See! He lifts his hands a__ bove;
All: Lord, be- yond our mor- tal__ sight,



Glo- rious to his na- tive__ skies;
Lift your heads, e- ter- nal__ gates! Al _____ le ___ lu- ia!
See! He shows the prints of__ love;
Raise our hearts to reach your_ height,



Christ a- while to mor__ tals__ giv'n,
Wide un- fold the ra__ diant__ scene: Al _____ le- lu- ia!
Hark! his gra- cious lips__ be__ stow,
There your face un- cloud_ ed__ see,



En- ters now the high- est__ heav'n!
Take the King of Glo- ry__ in! Al _____ le ___ lu- ia!
Bless-ings on His Church be__ low.
There to live e- ter- nal__ ly,

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.

Tune: LLANFAIR, 77.77, with Alleluias. Robert Williams, 1817.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 17:6-19

Christ's prayer for his disciples

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

As the gospel is announced, a small cross may be traced with the thumb on the forehead, then on the lips, then on the breast, as a prayer that the gospel may dwell in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.

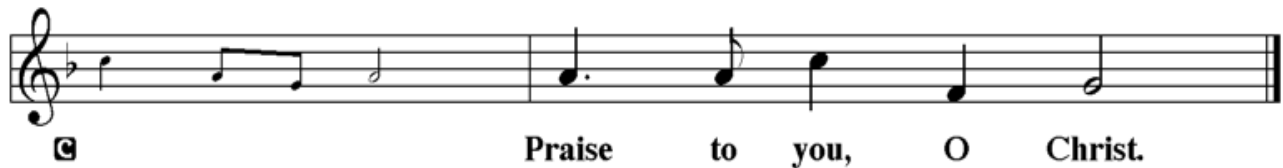
The ☩ holy gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.



[Jesus prayed:] “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.

“Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me, I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

Pastor Scott Benolkin

HYMN OF THE DAY *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* *HYFRYDOL*

ELW # 392

1. All 2. High voices 3. All 4. Low voices 5. All

High voices = soprano/alto

Low voices = tenor/bass

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 INTERCESSION

The assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer.

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.

After each petition:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Barbara, Jeanette, Mel, Yvonne, Angie, Theo, Cindi, Wayne, Will, Mary, Tom, Lori, Sue, Dyan, David, Richard, Charlene, Richard, Steve, Jack, Rudolph, Brittany, Mary, David, Julie, Nick, Ronald, Meredith, Joe, Michael, Marcie, and Anne-Marie.

We give thanks for the life of Russ and of Maxine.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers:

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.

THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

After greeting one another, the assembly is seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see the schedule and written announcements on the last inside pages.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

An offering is gathered, and the table is set.

To make an offering online: bethelstl.org/offering

VOLUNTARY

from *French Suite in E flat*, BWV 815

Music of Johann Sebastian Bach

V. Menuet

VI. Air

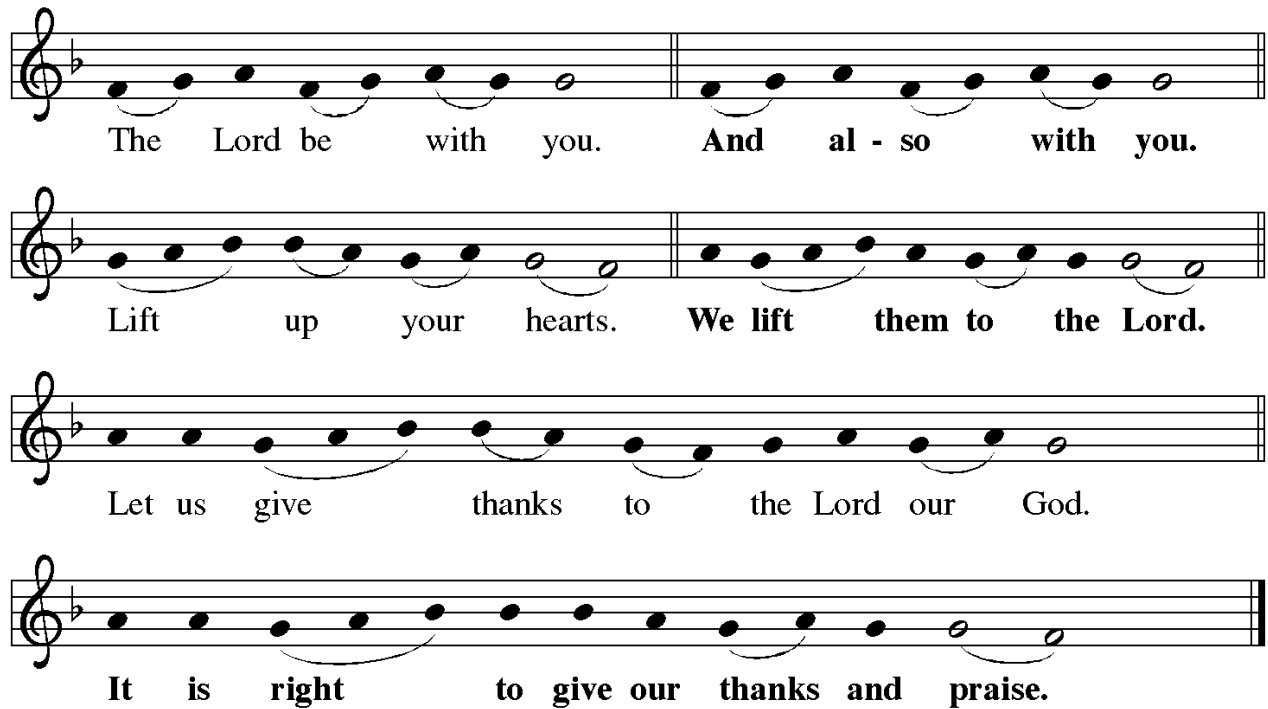
OFFERING PRAYER

The assembly stands. The assisting minister leads the offering prayer.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Believing in the real presence of Christ in the holy meal, this church practices Eucharistic hospitality.
All are welcome at God's table.*

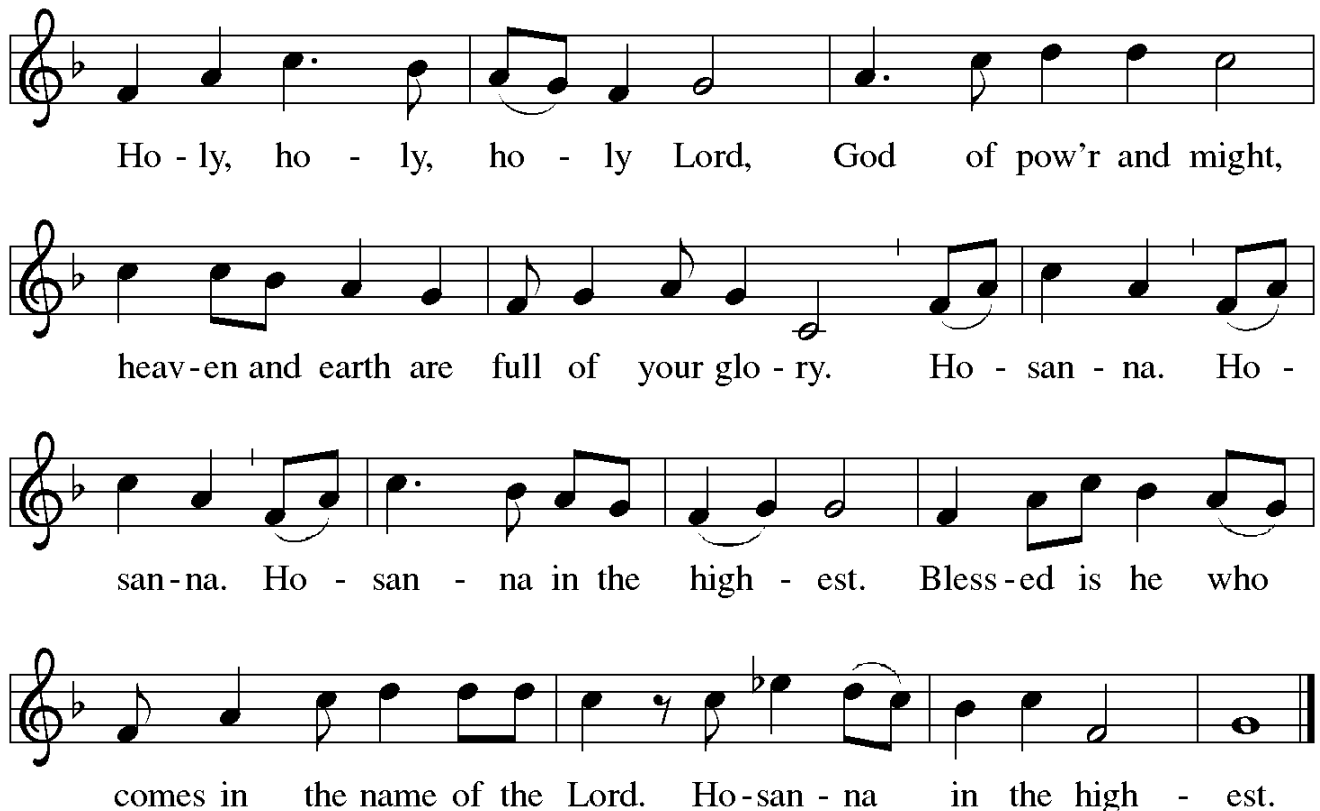
The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.



The Lord be with you. **And al - so 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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SANCTUS)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

The Great Thanksgiving concludes with the Lord's Prayer.

THE 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The presiding minister invites the assembly to Christ's table, where all are welcome.

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

The assembly is seated.

We invite all persons to share in Holy Communion. Those who do not commune are invited to come forward for a blessing. The silver chalices contain wine. In the individual cups, wine is clear; grape juice is a rose color. For sanitary reasons, we do not practice self-intinction: please do not dip the bread into the chalice. Gluten-free wafers are available. If any need to commune under one element (only the bread or only the wine/juice), know that the fullness of the sacrament is present in the one element.

The assembly stands for the prayer after communion.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Come Down, O Love Divine
DOWN AMPNEY

ELW # 804

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Praeludium in A major, BWV 536
Music of Johann Sebastian Bach

* * *

Today's instrumental music includes selections from Sebastian Bach's fourth *French Suite*, BWV 815. Each of Bach's suites is a series of stylized French dances, all in a single key. These dances are not mere entertainments; indeed, French dance forms influenced all serious music in the eighteenth century. To take but one celebrated example, the finale to Bach's *Saint Matthew Passion* is a great threnody to the buried Christ, cast in the form of a solemn *sarabande*.

IN OUR PRAYER CONTINUALLY

We give thanks for the life of **Maxine Rendleman**, who died this past week. Maxine was the mother of Bethel member Ron Rendleman. May the peace and comfort of God be with Ron and his family.

We give thanks for the life of **Russ Ficker**, who died this past week following hospitalization. We pray for God's comfort and peace for his family. Russ was a cousin of Dr. Mager.

We pray for **Barbara Brueggemann** (step daughter of William Buege) who is in the hospital.

We pray for **Mel Disney**, who is receiving hospice care.

We pray for **Jeanette Glaenzer**, who has been in the hospital.

We pray for **Yvonne Fisher** (sister of Jane Orling), who started chemotherapy.

We pray for **Angie Brlas** (cousin of Sylvia Titgemeyer), who has started chemo.

We pray for **Theo Heuer** (cousin of Sylvia Titgemeyer) as he recovers from surgery and radiation.

We pray for **Wayne Grupe** (brother of Mike Grupe), who is diagnosed with both Alzheimer's and Lewy Body Dementia.

We pray for God's guidance and peace for the **Grenda family** during a difficult time for their son **Will**. Heidi and Dave Grenda are dear friends and former members of Bethel.

We pray for peace and comfort for **Mary Ditton** (aunt of Cindy Gross), who is dealing with serious health conditions.

We pray for continued healing for **Tom Dewey** at the completion of his medical treatments.

We pray for **Lori Cornell**, who has been diagnosed with cancer.

We pray for **Sue Boettcher** as she recovers from a recent hospitalization.

We pray for **Dyan Glaenzer** (daughter-in-law of Richard and Jeanette Glaenzer). She is currently undergoing treatment for cancer.

We pray for **David Harms** (brother of Dan Harms), who is recovering after a stroke.

We pray for **Richard Glaenzer**, who is at home in long-term hospice care. We ask God's comfort and peace for Rich and Jeanette, and their family.

We pray for **Charlene Reimann** in her time of need.

We pray for **Richard Jones**, help in seeking renewed living arrangements and employment.

We pray for **Steve Bristol** (father of Christian, Heather and Zachary), who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. We pray for comfort, strength and support for him and his family.

We pray for **Jack Williamson** (father of Jennifer Williamson), who has dementia. May he and his family find support in learning to find joy in the new.

We pray for God's comfort and peace for **Rudolph Mueller**, who is now under hospice care.

We pray for **Brittany** (niece of Ann and Bob Mottl) for her continued healing as she begins radiation treatments that will be followed by five months of chemotherapy.

We pray for God's comfort and strength to be with **Mary Baker Findley** (sister of Vicki Baker Lottes) with stage 4 cancer and her husband **David Findley**, whose Alzheimer's is progressing rapidly.

We pray for **Julie Murthy** (cousin of Emily Pelcak) as she starts her battle with cancer.

We pray for strength and wisdom for **Nick Peppes** (colleague of Gail Heyne Hafer), who is facing personal challenges.

We give thanks for the recovery of **Ronald Thompson** (stepbrother of Kristin Soifer) from the injury he sustained in a fall, and pray for him as he continues to face chronic illness.

We pray for **Meredith Sallee** (sister of Katy Koontz) during her treatment for cancer.

We pray for **Joe Whelan** (stepson to Tim Gutknecht), who is dealing with a genetic condition.

We pray for **Michael Moentmann**, who lives with chronic illness.

We continue our prayers for **Marcie Dowell** as she lives with a heart condition. May God's peace comfort her during this time.

We pray for **Anne-Marie Bogdan** (sister of Nathan Schroeder) as she lives with long-standing health conditions. May God's comfort and strength be with her and her family.

Announcements

Pentecost – Sunday, May 19

Next Sunday is Pentecost, the festive conclusion to the Season of Easter. All are invited to wear red, and to gather for a photo after worship. We will have a gathering procession, and we will read Acts 2:2-4 in multiple languages. We are looking for up to 10 people to carry items in the gathering procession, and up to 10 people to read Acts 2:2-4 in another language. Please sign up at bethelstl.org/worship-help-signup

Caring for Our Neighbors

We continue to collect food for Good Ground Pantry during the summer, along with cleaning supplies (easy-to-carry sizes) for God's Helping Hand. See the poster on the bulletin board for items needed, or grab a bag with a list attached.

LuMin – Give STL Day

May 9, 2024, is Ascension Day in our church year. This year, it is also Give STL Day, powered by the St. Louis Community Foundation. LuMin St. Louis is one of the non-profit ministries that will benefit from your online donation to further our work in welcoming, empowering, supporting, and sending our young adults into the world with a deeper understanding of their faith journey.

Early giving begins April 24. And we'll update you when your dollar can go a little further with power hours. We are also challenging our alumni groups (by decade) to see which group donates the most to campus ministry. Please take some time to rise up to our challenge of \$5,000.

More information, as well as a donation page, is found online at givestlday.org/organization/lumin

Voting Members Wanted

Our Central States Synod Assembly will happen Thursday, June 6, through Saturday, June 8, near Kansas City. **We still need one person** who is not male who is a voting member of Bethel to be a voting member at the assembly. Bethel may send up to two additional voting members provided that one is a person of color or a person whose primary language is other than English and one is a person under the age of eighteen. (The congregation provides for all expenses involved in participating in the assembly.)

Pastor Scott invites you to learn more at css-elca.org/assembly and to consider this call to be nominated as an assembly voting member. Pastor Scott also invites collaboration in making the synod constitution more inclusive.

Mother's Day Drive

In honor of mothers and caregivers everywhere, Faith Formation is hosting a collection of diapers and period supplies for the St. Louis Diaper Bank and St. Louis Alliance for Period Supplies, beginning today, Mothers Day. We'll collect through the end of May and deliver all of these items when Bethel Youth and adult friends go to the Diaper Bank on June 1. Look for the designated collection area in the narthex.

SCHEDULE

bethelstl.org/events

- SUN 5/12 **The Seventh Sunday of Easter** *Exaudi Sunday*
 8:45 AM Faith Formation hour
 10 AM Holy Communion
- SUN 5/19 **The Day of Pentecost** *All are invited to wear red*
 8:45 AM Faith Formation hour
 10 AM Holy Communion
 We will gather in the chancel after the postlude for a photo
- SUN 5/26 **The Holy Trinity**
 10 AM Holy Communion
- SUN 6/2 **The Second Sunday after Pentecost**
 10 AM Holy Communion
 11:30 AM Congregation Meeting

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Artwork: The Ascension. Byzantine icon



To make an offering electronically, go to bethelstl.org/give

*Have Something for the Bethel Connection, Bulletin, Website, Narthex Information Board, or Facebook?
Email it to submissions@bethelstl.org by 9 AM Monday morning.*

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher	Pastor Scott Benolkin
Assisting Minister	KJ Monahan
Steward	Gwennie Slagle
Acolyte	Chelsea Al-Shathir
Lectors and Communion Assistants	John Holahan Malinda Walter Sue Flesch
Musicians	Bethel Chancel Choir Stephen Mager, organist and choir director
Ushers	Carrie Costantin Steve Poplawski
Audio-Visual Engineers	AJ Holahan Brittany Upchurch
Teller	Susan Perney



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Office Hours Mon-Fri 10 AM - 2 PM

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Pastoral Emergencies: (614) 446-9693

LuMin Pastor: (314) 636-3202

The Rev. Scott K. Benolkin (he/him), Pastor, pastor.scott@bethelstl.org

Stephen Mager, DM, Organist and Music Director

The Rev. Tina Reyes (she/her/ella), Campus Pastor, LuMin St. Louis, pastor.luminstl@gmail.com

Deb Grupe, Director of Child, Youth, and Family Ministry

Eric Townsley, Custodian, custodian@bethelstl.org

Anna Burkemper, Church Administrator, office@bethelstl.org

Have a prayer request? Email it to prayers@bethelstl.org anytime.

Note that the information you send to this address will get shared with a number of people who will be praying for you as well as the Sunday Holy Communion bulletin.

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



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, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

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Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia



M - fu - ra - hi - ni, ha - le - lu - ya,
 1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.



m - ko - mbo - zi a - me - fu - fu - ka.
 Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.



A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,
 For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.



m - si - fu - ni sa - sa yu ha - i.
 e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 and in its con - quest his might did show.
 On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

Refrain



Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha.
 Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.



Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.
 Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;
 Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.
 Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

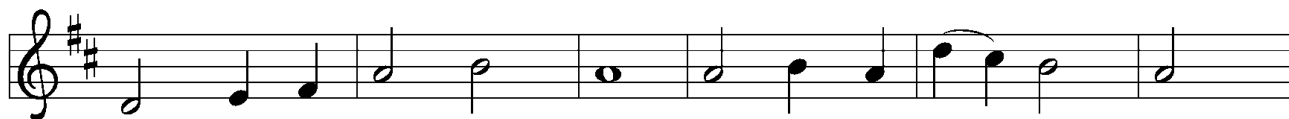
4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
 He has arisen this world to save.
 Jesus' redeeming labors are done.
 Even the battle with sin is won."

Refrain

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
 Alleluia, to him praises be.
 Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
 he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.

Refrain

Come Down, O Love Divine



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890

Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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