

# GATHERING

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

Worship Service for May 5, 2024  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

## Welcome

## Announcements/Camp of the Cross Quilt

## Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✝ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Hymn: "Hymn of Promise"

1 In the bulb there is a flower;  
in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise;  
butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a  
spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

2 There's a song in every silence,  
seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness,  
bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future;  
what is holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season, something  
God alone can see.

3 In our end is our beginning;  
in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing;  
in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection;  
at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

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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.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

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.

### **Family Time**

#### **First Reading: Acts 10:44-48**

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

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm: 98**

- <sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,  
**whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.**
- <sup>2</sup>O LORD, you have made known your victory,  
**you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**
- <sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;  
**all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**
- <sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
**lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**
- <sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
**with the harp and the voice of song.**
- <sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
**shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**
- <sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,  
**the world and those who dwell therein.**
- <sup>8</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands,  
**and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**
- <sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the world with righteousness  
**and the peoples with equity.**

## **Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel: John 15:9-17**

The holy gospel according to John the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I 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. <sup>16</sup>You 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. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

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

### **Sermon**

#### **Hymn –“Borning Cry” #732**

- 1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell."
  
- 2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you on;  
you were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk till rising sun."
  
- 3 "In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been,  
with just one more surprise."
  
- 4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937  
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#### **Affirmation of Baptism**

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *these people*, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of *their* baptism.

*Those making affirmation are presented by a sponsor or another representative of the congregation.*

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for *these brothers and sister*, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called *them* to yourself, enlightened *them* with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished *them* in the community of faith. Uphold your *servants* in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

### **Profession of Faith**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

### **Affirmation**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Each confirmand responds:*

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

People of God, do you promise to support *these brothers* and pray for *them* in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

*Individual Blessing for each confirmand.*

Stir up in (*Paige, Chris, Bennett*) the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen**

Let us rejoice with these brothers and sister in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

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.

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 Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### **Offering**

#### **Offering Prayer**

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.**

### **Communion**

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, .....join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest.

**Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in his grace. Live in peace, your sins are forgiven.  
**Amen.**

**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.**

**Benediction**

### **Hymn –“Day by Day” #790**

- 1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,  
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.  
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me  
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.  
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,  
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;  
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,  
where at last I'll find eternal rest.
  
- 2 Day by day, I know you will provide me  
strength to serve and wisdom to obey;  
I will seek your loving will to guide me  
o'er the paths I struggle day by day.  
I will fear no evil of the morrow,  
I will trust in your enduring grace.  
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow  
till in glory I behold your face.
  
- 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me  
when my burdens grow too great to bear;  
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me  
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.  
Day by day, no matter what betide me,  
you will hold me ever in your hand.  
Savior, with your presence here to guide me,  
I will reach at last the promised land.

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### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**