



Proclaiming the Love of God for All People ELW HOLY COMMUNION SETTING TEN Sunday, May 5, 2024 Sixth Sunday of Easter

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The hymn numbers for today's service:

#482 #708 #838 #479 #389

PRELUDE

(*Please stand as you are able)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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!

*GATHERING HYMN / Come with Joy (ELW 482)

*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.**

* KYRIE (ELW p.203)



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A: 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.**

Children are invited to go to Children's Church

FIRST READING: ACTS 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

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

²O 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.

- ⁴Shout 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.

⁶With 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.

⁸Let 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.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. The world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?⁴This 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 St. John. Glory to you, O Lord.

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

[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 | REV. LESLEY M. RADIUS |
| MISSION MOMENT | MS. JENNIFER HACHMEISTER, MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND |

*HYMN OF THE DAY Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (ELW 708)

***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.

***THE PRAYERS**

A: 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

For each petition: God of grace, we ask you to hear us.

P. Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR MUTUAL MINISTRY

*PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS- Beautiful Savior (ELW 838) vs.1 & 2

*PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS We Come to the Hungry Feast (ELW 479) \vee .2

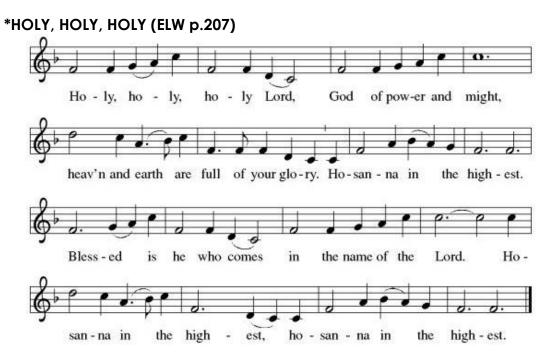
***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A. 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 our 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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

THE 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.

LAMB OF GOD (ELW p.208)



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION MEDITATION-SOUNDS OF EXALTATION BELL CHOIR-Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread by Michael Ryan

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: 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

*SENDING HYMN Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing (ELW 389)

*DISMISSAL Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE-SOUNDS OF EXALTATION BELL CHOIR-Alleluia, Sing to Jesus by Michael Ryan

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Serving in Worship

<u>Next Sunday, May 12th</u>

| Today, May 5 th | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Presiding Minister: | Pastor Lesley M. Radius |
| Preacher: | Pastor Lesley M. Radius |
| Assisting Minister | Charlie Schmidt |
| Music Director: | Adam Frame |
| Organist/Pianist: | John Wolf |
| Lector: | Bruce Anderson |
| Chancel Care: | Ruth Vinciguerra |
| Ushers: | Stella Hlad & Peyton Frame |
| Videographer: | Jeff Manthei |
| Counters: | Charlie Schmidt & Lisa Reed |

Pastor Lesley M. Radius Pastor Lesley M. Radius Mark Vinciguerra Adam Frame John Wolf Sandy Heinrich Marcia Boggs Bruce Anderson & K.C. Iversen Jacob Martella Bruce Anderson & K.C. Iversen

We welcome all today and are thankful you have chosen to participate in this service as you are able. We pray you are blessed by what you experience. If you have any spiritual needs or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Lesley at <u>pastor@stmatthews-elca.org</u> or call 817-292-1338. This service includes communion; if you are worshiping online, please have bread or crackers and wine or juice available to participate in the Eucharist.

THIS WEEK WITH ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday, May 5th 9:15 am St. Matthew's Adult Sunday School 9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher 11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's

<u>Tuesday May 7th</u> 8:30 am Breakfast Fellowship Dixie House Cafe Hulen 7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

<u>Wednesday May 8th</u> 6:00 pm Lead Initiative Workshop Debrief 7:00 pm Chancel Choir practice

Thursday May 9th 1:00 pm Called to Craft Crafters Group

Sunday, May 12th 9:15 am St. Matthew's Adult Sunday School 9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher 11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's **Lead Initiative Workshop Debrief** on April 27th, Stella Hlad, Mark Vinciguerra, Pastor Lesley, and Vicar Trent represented St. Matthew's at the Congregations Lead Initiative workshop along with representatives from the other congregations in our Synod-cohort. We had time to synthesize the great interviews many of you helped to collect and to workshop an experiment idea. Join us <u>either in-person or via Zoom on May 8th at 6:00 pm</u> to hear more about what we learned, to learn about the experiment we came up with, and to help us refine and brainstorm the experiment further. If you are joining in-person, we will have a light soup and salad supper. If you plan to join via Zoom, use the link below. We will also record the session for those who cannot attend: Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83617237106?pwd=Mml2THVabTV5NGQxdDNqRDZmZWpTdz09 Meeting ID: 836 1723 7106 Passcode: 158309

Council Elections Will you step up to an elected leadership role within the Congregation? **May 19th**, **at our congregational meeting**, we will be electing President, Secretary, and Treasurer. We will be appointing Outreach and Worship Ministry Team Chairs. Will you share your God-given talents to help lead this congregation during an exciting time of renewal and recommitment to doing God's work with our hands? If you feel the Spirit inviting you to have a conversation and seek more information about the duties of each of these positions, please contact Charlie Schmidt, Vice –President at 817-988-5990 or <u>charles.ginny@gmail.com</u> <u>AS OF PUBLICATION OF</u> <u>THIS BULLETIN, ALL POSITIONS ARE OPEN.</u>

Nursery Care and Activity Bags at St. Matthew's, children of all ages are welcome in worship. If parents prefer, nursery care is provided for infants through age 4 during the 11:00 am service. Activity bags and children's bulletins are available in the narthex for children ages 5 and older to take into worship until they go to Children's Church. Please return the bags after worship.

We Pray For:

Craig Bridges T. J. Bridges Annasophia Reese Kathy Challgren George Wiederaenders Jeanne Rose Patti Brunnert <u>We Pray For:</u> Christy Hill Daughter of Win & Sandy Heinrich Thara Bonebreak Aunt of Anne Moroneso Annie Breakspear Daughter-in-law of Pauline Christensen Hayden June Friend of Ferrol Miller & The Gustafsons

UPCOMING EVENTS

(More details to follow, but please reserve these dates in your calendars now!) Every Tuesday 7 pm—Sounds of Exaltation Handbell Choir rehearsal. Every Wednesday 7 pm—Chancel Choir rehearsal Every Thursday 1 pm—Called to Craft Crafters Group

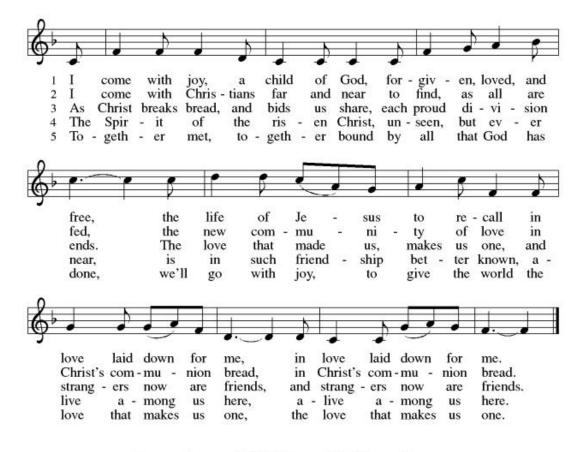
May 7th- Breakfast Fellowship Dixie House Hulen 8:30 am May 14th- Women's Bible Study 10:00 am May 19th- SMLC Congregational Meeting and Potluck-Noon May 19th- Wedgwood Arts Presents FWSO Oboist Tamer Edlebi, 4:00 pm May 19th- Wedgwood Arts Presents Local Artist Ellen Wagner Art Show 4:00 pm June 2nd- Wedgwood Arts Presents "Dancing on the Keys" Piano Duets 7:00 pm June 9th- Wedgwood Arts Presents Ballet Folklorico Dance Performance 4:00 pm July 9th-11th-Bill Anderson Memorial Summer Cooking Camp July 16th-18th-Bill Anderson Memorial Summer Music Camp July 23rd-25th- Bill Anderson Memorial Summer Theater Camp



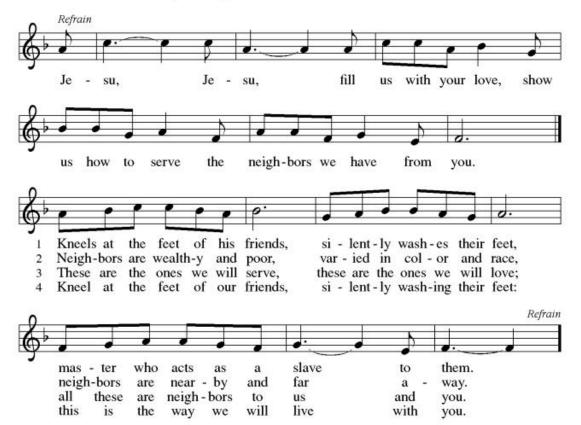
Proclaiming the Love of God for All People

ST. MATTHEW'S MISSION STATEMENT Living in Christ through faith. Living for neighbor through love. We are Reconciling in Christ, welcoming to all! Rev. Lesley M. Radius | pastor@stmatthews-elca.org 5709 Wedgwood Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76133 817-292-1338 | office@stmatthews-elca.org | www.stmatthews-elca.org

I Come with Joy



Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love



Beautiful Savior



We Come to the Hungry Feast



Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

