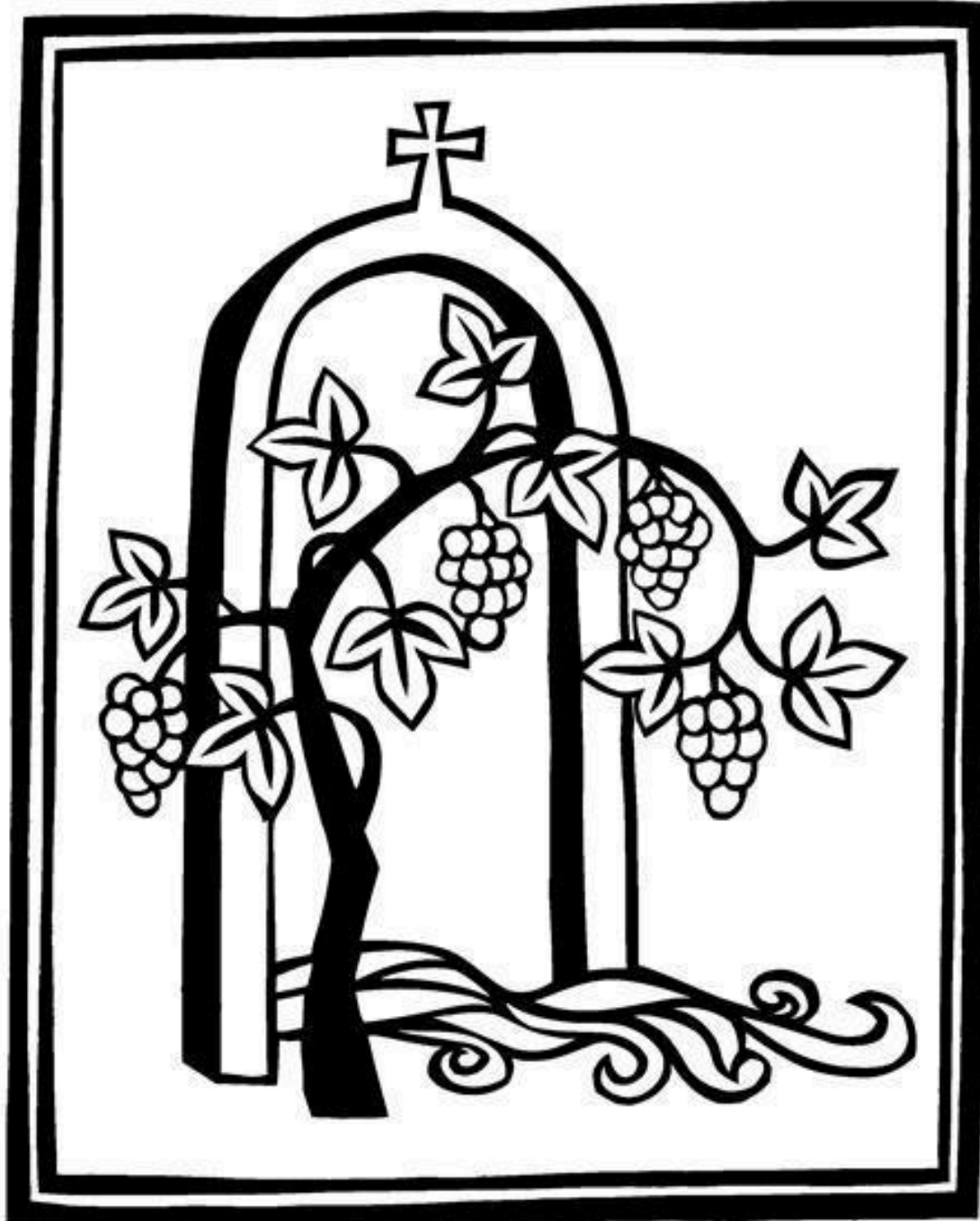


# Sixth Sunday of Easter



**Sunday, May 5, 2024**

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ  
2725 Concord Drive  
Florissant, MO 63033

## PRELUDE

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** (*Details on announcements are at the end of this bulletin.*)

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM** (*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins*)

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

**C: Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: 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!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## GATHERING HYMN

"In Christ There is No East or West"

ELW #650

## GREETING

P: Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

**C: 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.**

*Please be seated.*

## 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.

L: Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 98

- L: <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.
- C: <sup>2</sup>O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- L: <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.
- C: <sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- L: <sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- C: <sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.
- L: <sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
- C: <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.
- L: <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.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL READING - *Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the gospel.*

P: The holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter (verses 9-17)

**C: 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.”

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

*Following the reading the assembly is seated.*

**SERMON** Pastor Matt

## PROFESSION OF FAITH – *The 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.

*Please be seated.*

## 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.

*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 in health, those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness, *especially*.... Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another, God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your work is done in this place through us. Bless the caregiving ministries of this congregation, 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.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

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.**

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.**

*Please stand as you are able*

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*Share God's peace in whatever way you and/or neighbors are comfortable.*

*Following the sharing of the peace the assembly is seated.*

### **GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

#### **COMMUNION LITURGY**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise. Hosanna in the highest!**

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

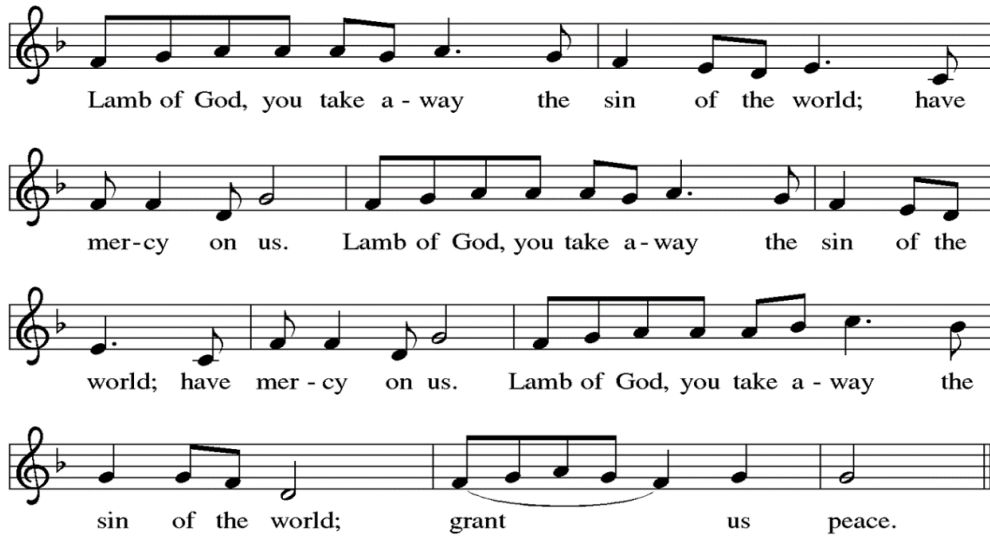
P: Remember us and teach us to pray,

**C: 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**

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

## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**DISTRIBUTION** *Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine. Additional verbal directions will be given.*

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Beautiful Savior”

ELW#838

### BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in God’s grace unto eternal life.

**C: Amen.**

### PRAYER

L: 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. **C: Amen.**

### MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - SPECIAL PRAYER FOR NURSES AND CAREGIVERS

L: Today we give thanks to God for those who serve as nurses and in caregiving vocations, to bring comfort and health to those in need. Holy and compassionate God,

**C: You send those to us who care for us and look out for our lives in our need. Bless them in their love for us, Bless the hands of those who work for our health.**

P: Bless the minds of those who search for our healing, Bless the feet of those who come to us in our need.

**C: Bless the eyes of those who look after us. Bless the hearts of all who serve, fill them with compassion and patience, and work through all of them for the betterment and well-being of all our children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

P: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD’s face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. (Num. 6:24)

**C: Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

ELW#836

### DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## POSTLUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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1. **Visitation Ministry Update - May 19<sup>th</sup>** the topic of Adult Forum will be a **primer for meeting neighbors and inviting people to come and see God's work at Lutheran Church of the Living Christ.** The following **Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM**, we plan to go out and visit with our neighbors, **join this opportunity to extend a warm greeting, friendly smile, and welcome invite!**
2. **Celebrate!** We will be celebrating our Nurses TODAY, May 5, following worship in the great room. Please join in the celebration!
3. **Church cleanup workday Monday, May 6, 10am - 12pm**
4. **May Lunch Bunch** will be dining at Red Lobster located at 12235 St. Charles Rock Road **on May 9 at 11:30 am.** Lunch bunch is a nice way to enjoy a meal and enjoy fellowship. For reservations contact Joyce Meyer at 314-374-4135 or email jameyer46@charter.net. Everyone is welcome!
5. **Mother's Day Bake Sale, May 12, before and after church.** Treat your mom to a treat. A **Sign-Up sheet for donations of baked goods is on the bulletin board.** Bring them before church on May 12. Funds raised will go toward paying church expenses. Please see Jeanne for more information.
6. **Create Day this Friday, May 10, 9:00-11:00**, to sew quilt tops, backs and put layers together for LWR quilts.
7. **COMING UP...Next Sunday, May 12 is Ascension Sunday. Sunday, May 19 is Pentecost AND Music Sunday.** Come, with your family & bring friends.

### MAY 5, 2024

**Preaching/Presiding:** Pr. Matt

**Assisting Minister:** Randy Henning

**Lector:** Dave Endorf

**Live Streaming:** Rod Wallace

**Musician:** Greg Ott

**Ushers:** Jann & Glenn Mueller

**Greeter:** Levaughn & Sheila Smart

**Altar Guild:** Maureen Buchek & Marjorie Becker

### MAY 12, 2024

**Preaching/Presiding:** Pr. Matt

**Assisting Minister:** Bill Kaeppel

**Lector:** Angela Bennett

**Live Streaming:** Erle Craig

**Musician:** David Eggers

**Ushers:** Glen Albers & Ann Schultz

**Greeter:** Jim Stoehner

**Altar Guild:** Cathie Lehr & Joyce Meyer