



Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9, 2021

THE SERVICE AT 8:30 a.m.

We are honored that you are joining our worship today. We encourage you to prepare for worship: gather the family, light candles, lay out bread and wine or grape juice. It doesn't need to be fancy, but do take the time to do what is necessary to make attending virtual worship a true spiritual practice for you. You are welcome at this meal.

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+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

Your Word, O Lord Is Gentle Dew

Bouman

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool waters shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

U - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;
 1 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;
 2 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;
 3 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

u - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;
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 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

u - ya - i - mo - se Zvi - no.
 come now and wor - ship the Lord.
 come now and wor - ship the Lord.
 come now and wor - ship the Lord.

***GREETING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

C: And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. 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.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST LESSON

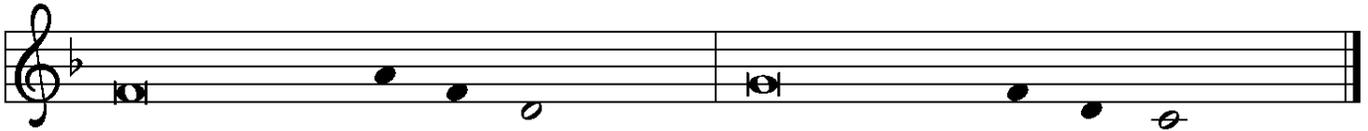
Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The believers from among the Jewish people 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 Peter 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



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

SECOND LESSON

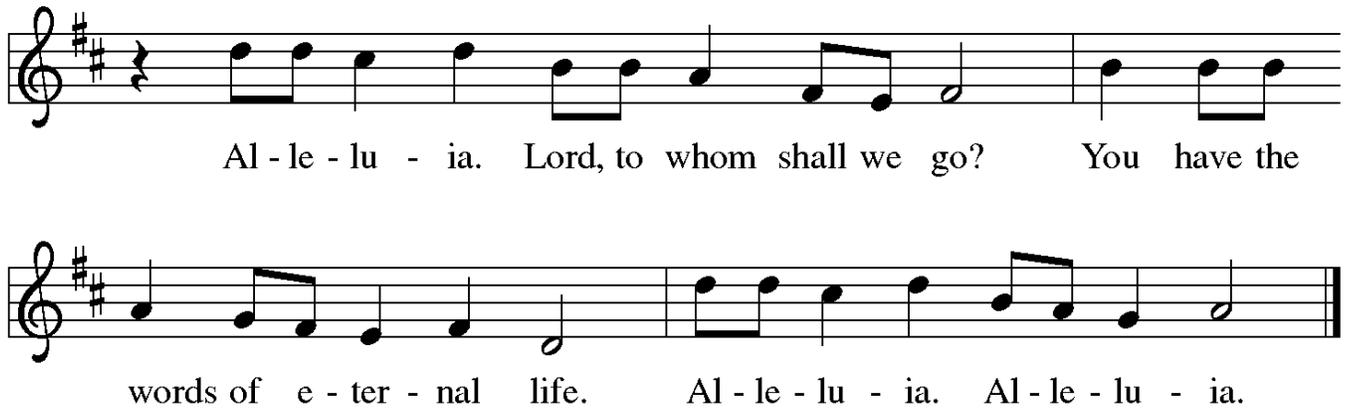
1 John 5:1-6

Everyone 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 God's commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey the commandments, which 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? ⁶This 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 ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:9-17, NRSV, emended

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[In this passage Jesus is continuing a discourse begun in last Sunday's reading.]

"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; live in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will be living in my love— just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in my Father's love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you—and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment: that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this—to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I direct you to do. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is about; but I have called you friends because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me; but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last, so that my Father will give you whatever you ask in my Name. I am giving you these orders so that you may love one another."

P: The Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. Adrienne Meier



1 Christ is ris-en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris-en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris-en! Earth and heav-en nev - er-more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad-ness in the morn-ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic chor - us: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na, ev - 'ry - one!

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
 Music: Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962
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TURNBULL
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*APOSTLES' CREED

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches. Today we pray for the Moravian Church, giving thanks for the life and witness of Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering, especially: Brad, Nina, Susan, Greg, Arnie, Margaret, Jan, Anne, Carole, Tim, Roger, Paula, Audrey, JoAnne, Deborah, Dawn, and Casey-Marie. Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. Be with the dying. Hear us O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their

mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Gentle redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives. Keep us united with them in lasting love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING

[Click here](#) to visit the St. Thomas website and click the green Donate to St. Thomas button to provide your offering digitally. Offerings may also be mailed to our address found on the last page of this bulletin.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

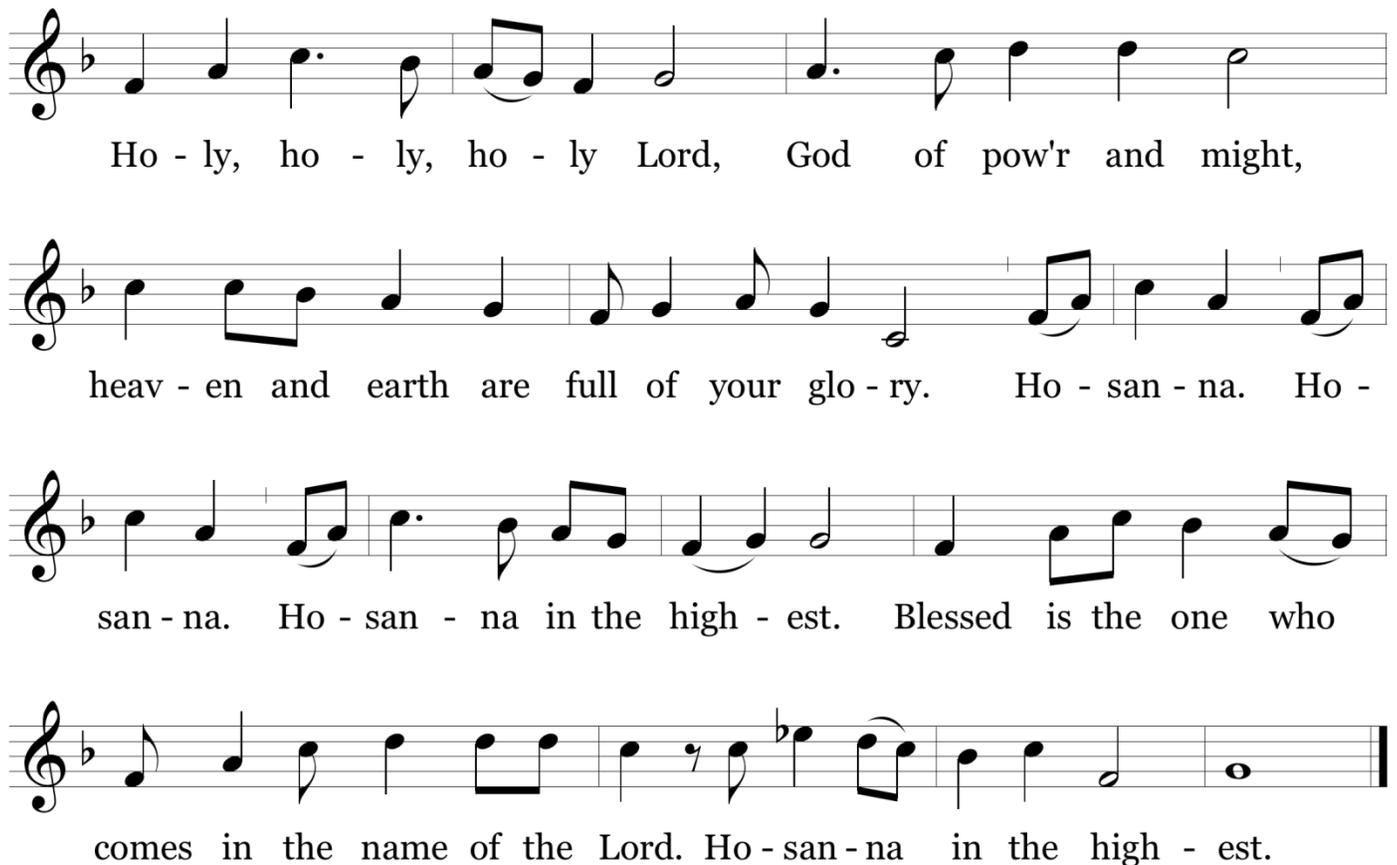
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with various rests and slurs.

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



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. Blessed is the one who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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

P: The risen Christ invites us to this table.
Come, eat and be satisfied.

*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING

C: Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

***BENEDICTION**

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***DISMISSAL**

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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*We depart in peace to continue our worship in lives of witness
to Christ's love in work, play, service, and care for creation.*

Worship volunteers today: Nancy Mathews, Kris Stewart

Guest Organist: Mary Thomason-Smith

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Barb and Kent Unger in celebration of the birthday of their son Aaron.

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