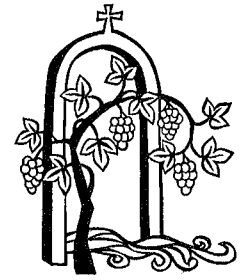


**11am Worship at Good Shepherd
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Holy Communion
May 5, 2024**



GATHERING

* = please stand, if able

PRELUDE: Aria, Op. 51

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

Flor Peeters was a 20th-century Belgian organist, composer, and teacher. His "Aria" for organ is one of his most well-known pieces, and it is his own arrangement of the slow movement of his Op. 51 Trumpet Sonata. The piece is centered around an expressive melody, which unfolds above an accompaniment of soft repeated chords. As in so much of his finest work, there is a simplicity and sincerity in this music that speaks directly to the heart.

WELCOME

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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:** *In Christ there is no East or West* (ELW #650)

***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.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE:** *This is the Feast* (ELW pg. 140-141)

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,




al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb




who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



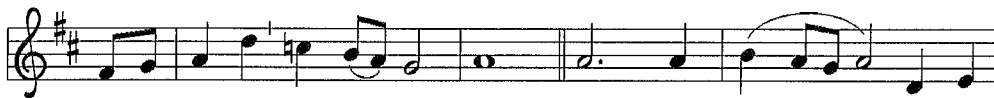
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*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.

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

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: Psalm 98

The refrain is introduced by the leader, and repeated by the assembly.



- Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands.
- ¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.
 - ²**O 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.
 - ⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing. REFRAIN**
 - ⁵Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.
 - ⁶**With 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.
 - ⁸**Let 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 peo- | ples with equity. **REFRAIN**



SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

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?

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.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***ALLELUIA: Celtic Alleluia**





***GOSPEL: John 15:9-17**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[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.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY: *Come Down, O Love Divine* (ELW #804)**

***NICENE CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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,
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**

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.

Each petition ends:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Concluding petition:

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 Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

GATHERING OF GIFTS

MUSICAL OFFERING: The Waiting

Sandra Eithun

Sandra Eithun is an American composer and church musician. This composition is inspired by Isaiah 40:31, "For those that wait for the Lord shall renew their strength". Eithun uses a number of extended handbell techniques in this composition, perhaps none more remarkable than "singing bell" technique, where the ringer rubs a drum stick on the edge of the bell, creating an eerie, voice-like effect.

***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.

***DIALOGUE**

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.

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
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. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



***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.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: *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.

COMMUNION MEDITATION: Christ be With Me Doug McConnell

All music was once new music, from the most ancient piece of choral music from the Renaissance all the way to Taylor Swift's new album. Today we are blessed to hear the first performance of a piece by Doug McConnell, composer and member of Good Shepherd Lutheran. Doug has written this piece expressly for our Chancel Choir. He has taken a portion of a text that is attributed to St. Patrick, the "Breastplate", and set it magnificently for our ensemble. The result is an anthem that is at times harmonically adventurous, with rhythms and lines directed by the text, but universally beautiful.

***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

**GOOD SHEPHERD'S
PURPOSE:**

*To be a Caring
Christian Community
where we...*

- **SHARE** God's grace
- **GROW** our faith
- **SERVE** others.

***BLESSING**
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
+ bless you now and always.
Amen.

***SENDING HYMN:** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* (ELW #836)

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

*Our celebration has
ended! You are
welcome to sit and
listen to the postlude,
or you may go forth in
the Peace of Christ.*

POSTLUDE: Fugue in D Major, BWV 532 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Last week, we heard Bach's prelude in D Major for our postlude, and this week, our organist presents the fugue which Bach paired with this prelude. Like the prelude, the fugue was written when Bach was in his early 20s. The fugue subject, and Bach's exploration of it, brims with the exuberance and virtuosity of youth, featuring 8 measures of fast 16th notes. The piece builds to an energetic climax and finishes with a long pedal solo. Bach was an extraordinarily talented and sometimes brash young man, and one can easily imagine this piece being his way of communicating "Look what I can do!" to his fellow musicians and composers!

*Flowers this weekend are provided by Allan, Robyn, Darcy, and Lucas Setter
in celebration of Dick Setter's 90th birthday!*

*Flowers this weekend are provided by Koben Hinman in thanksgiving for
the Moms of Faith small group.*

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Alex Hoops	Ushers:	Jeff Bartl
Preacher:	Pastor Lorne Hlad		Mary Naylor
Worship Director:	Dr. Kevin Seal	Altar Guild:	Lora Jollis
Chancel Choir:	directed by		Lisa Pregent
	Dr. Kevin Seal	Reader:	Heidi Johnson
Chancel Ringers:	directed by	Livestream:	Scott Puthoff
	Dr. Kevin Seal	Soundtech:	John Arora

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INVITED INTO FRIENDSHIP

Ask any child who has moved to a new place and they will probably confirm that their biggest worry was if they'd make new friends. Parents worry for their teenager and young adult in each stage of growth, wondering if new friends will be kind and generous, if their daughter or son will find mutually beneficial relationships. Adults are not immune from their own relationship trials. Busy lives, competing priorities, transitions and death can mean the end of sustaining relationships. Bullying, fear-tactics and misuse of others are common problems, so friendship is precious. We treasure new friendships and work to keep tending those that last for many years—because we need them.

Today's readings inspire and compel us to love one another and see one another as God does. As the Holy Spirit falls on those outside the inner circle of the circumcised, Peter asks how the water of baptism can be withheld. In 1 John we hear that those who love the parent love the child. Jesus says followers are no longer servants but friends. So whether they are a stranger with different customs and practices, our family member, or closest friend, we are called today with the challenge and opportunity to love them. The promise is that this unconditional love that comes first from our Creator and Parent, expressed through the person of Jesus and through the Spirit, is splashed all over us, and will make our joy complete.

For those who have experienced great relationships in their lives and for those who have never yet quite tasted that sustaining fruit, Jesus shows how much he loves us and the ways to cultivate deeper relationships. Jesus laid down his life to show his great love. We're invited to love expansively and experience the joy of friendship with Jesus and through the body of Christ.

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