



Sunday, May 5, 2024 Sixth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion

May 5, 2024 • 9:00 Services

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE "Waltz in E Minor" by F. Chopin, and "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary" Emily Christman, piano

WELCOME

TRINITARIAN CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

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 SONG

In Christ There Is No East or West (Vs. 1,2,3,4)

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 5: 1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God By keeping God's commandments.

Thus, the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SUNG)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

The holy gospel according to Saint John, the fifteenth chapter.

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.

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

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Bliese

A moment of silent meditation follows the sermon.

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Blest Be the Tie That Binds (Vs. 1-4)

ELW 656

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.

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

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.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

The ushers will come forward and distribute the offering plates to the congregation.

OFFERTORY

"The Lord is My Shepherd"

Emily Christman

CONSECRATION OF THE OFFERINGS

The pastor will invite the blessing of the offerings. The ushers will bring the bread, wine, and offerings they have received to the altar.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

We Are An Offering (Vs. 1)

ELW 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we have, all that we are,
All that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you;
We are an offering, we are an 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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE (SUNG)

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,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY (SUNG)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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

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.

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

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion assistants in
the sanctuary and at home will say:*

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.

*Those who would like to commune around the altar are invited to come up as the Communion music
begins.*

COMMUNION HYMN

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant (Vs. 1-5)

ELW 659

The assembly stands.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. 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.



BEFORE YOU GO

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and
be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Joyful Joyful (Vs. 1-3)

ELW 836

THE COMMISSION

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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