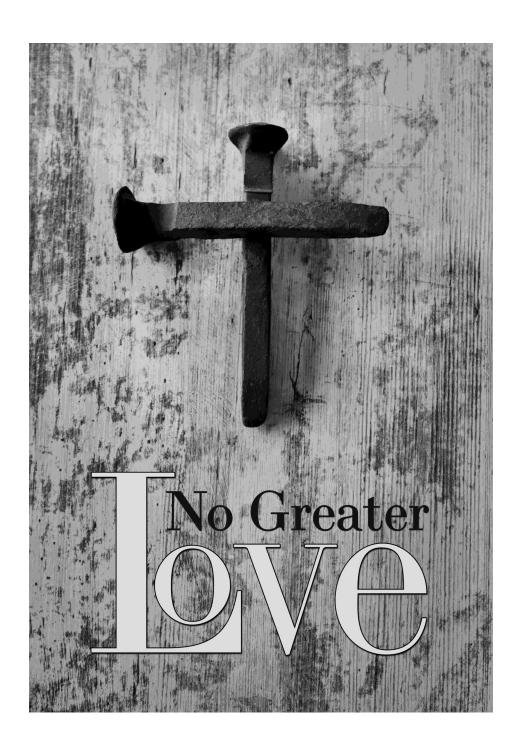
Sunday, May 5, 2024
The Sixth Sunday of Easter



Holy Communion Lutheran Church 2000 West Sixth Street Racine, Wisconsin

## O the Joy A Liturgy Written by Gregory Berg

Special thanks to greeter Joni Reske, assisting minister Kathy Berg, lector Marianne Jensen, communion assistants Roger Degerman and Don Lautz, AV technician Kylee Albright, ushers Jim Buhler Todd Jansen, Tim Krikau, and Gary Wee, altar guild Sandy Ivanoski, Kay Krause, Lori Neu, and Joni Reske, councilperson in charge Rebecca Mason, Gregory Berg and our musicians Elaine Lewis and Betty Petersen for sharing their time and talent with us today.

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **GATHERING SONG**



#### 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!

#### 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**



Lord have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy, Christ have mer-cy, Lord have mer cy.

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**



#### 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.

ANTHEM "In the Singing" Senior Choir

**CHIDREN'S MESSAGE** 

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAY GO TO CHOIR

### **WORD**

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 Jewish 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## PSALM: Psalm 98

<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.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, you have made known your victory,

you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

<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.

<sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp,

with the harp and the voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,

the world and those who dwell therein.

<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.

<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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **GOSPEL ACLAMATION**



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

The holy gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter.

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."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON Pastor Laura Fladten** 

CHILDREN RETURN TO WORSHIP



Text: John 13:34–35 Music: NEW COMMANDMENT, anonymous

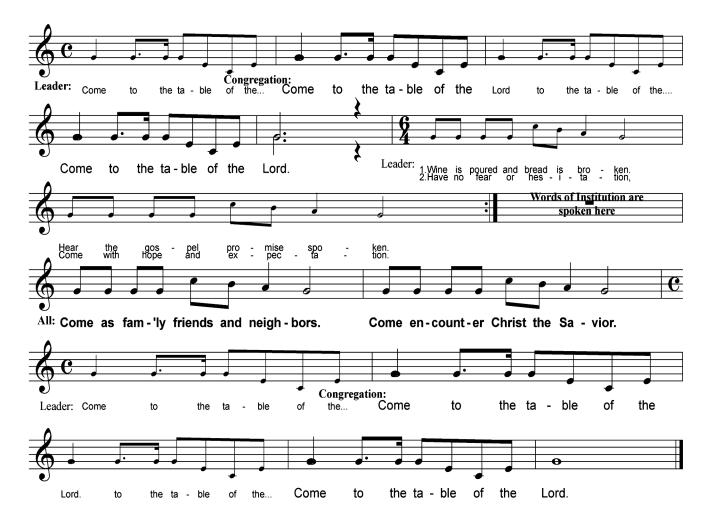
#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

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.

#### INVITATION SONG



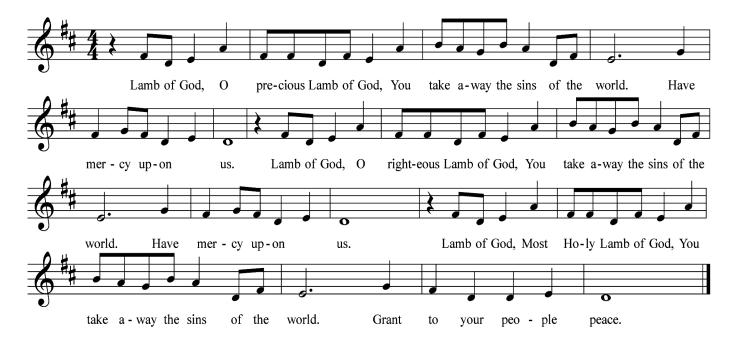
### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## **CELEBRATION OF FIRST COMMUNION**

#### DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

## **COMMUNION SONG**



## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.** 

## **PEACE**

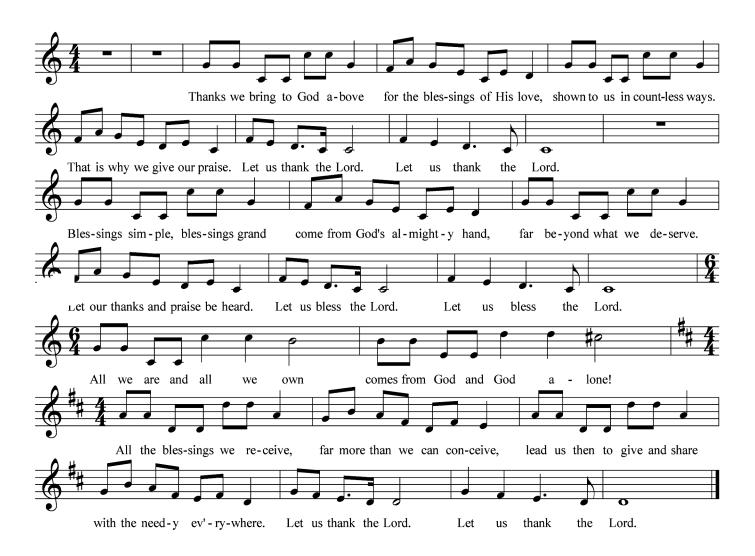
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

## CHILDREN MAY GO TO SUDAY SCHOOL

## **OFFERING**

## **OFFERTORY**



#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

God of Love, You have fashioned a world with sufficient bounty to leave no one hungry. Help us to share with others, including those in our own community who are in need of food to eat and a safe place to live. Remind us of the importance of loving our neighbors as you have first loved us. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, you call us not only to love our family and friends, but even to love our enemies. Open our eyes and hearts to recognize all that we share in common with those who at a glance seem so different from us. Help us to see everyone as a treasured part of your human family. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, you intend for us to derive joy from family, but human frailty can make some relationships, challenging and even painful. Guide us in our most difficult relationships and grant us the gifts of wisdom and sensitivity. And when it is healthy to do so, help us to embrace the gift of forgiveness. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving God, you intend for all people to experience the full measure of love. Forgive us for the times when we have erected walls and barriers that were contrary to your holy will. Help us to build a world where all people are free to live as themselves. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, it is often in life's most difficult moments that we experience love in its richest form. Bless all who are experiencing difficulty or pain of any kind this day help them to feel loved and uplifted, even in the midst of their deepest hurts. We pray for...... Sustain them and those who care for them. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Hear these spoken prayers, and the unspoken prayers of our hearts, and continue to extend to us the love and grace and mercy made perfect in Christ Jesus, our Lord, Amen.

### **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.



## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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#### Announcements

### **Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar this morning were given by David and Laurie Knudson in memory of memory of Dave's mother, Nancyann Knudson, and by Jo Nissen.



## **Welcome Visitors!**

A special welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. Please fill out one of the yellow cards in the pew rack in front of you so we can acknowledge your visit with us. You can put your completed card into the offering plate or give it to an usher or a pastor before you leave. Please join us in the lounge after the worship service for a cup of coffee and a treat and a time of conversation and fellowship.

### **Communion By Intinction**

All are welcome to come to the table for Communion. We offer Holy Communion through Intinction (dipping of the wafer into chalice of wine). There are also gluten free wafers and grape juice available in the center. We understand that not everyone will be comfortable with this practice yet, so the individual wafer/juice cups are still available on the tables at the back of the sanctuary if you feel more comfortable taking communion in your pew.

### **First Communion This Morning**

Asia Doidge, Luke Ricchio and Vincent Ricchio and their families have been going to classes to learn about the sacrament of Holy Communion and will be receiving communion this morning. They were asked to answer the question,

## "What Does Receiving Holy Communion Mean To Our Family?"

"When I hear the words; this is my body and this is my blood - **given for you**, I realize that Jesus has given me his whole life. He lived **for me**. He sacrificed **for me**. He died and was raised **for me**. But that is not the end of the story. He gives me his whole life, he gives me his love and his kindness and he wants me to do the same for others. When I take communion, I realize that I should be kind and loving too.

## -Asia Nakeyia Doidge

"It is a weekly connection to and reminder of the sacrifices that Jesus made for our salvation. It is an important way that we can accept Jesus into our lives and teaches us to share his love."

-Luke Joseph Ricchio and Vincent James Ricchio

#### Youth Ministry Zone

**Confirmation** will be on Sunday, May 19th. After the worship this morning, parents/grandparents and confirmands should stay for a short rehearsal.

## All Age Youth Party to Kick Off Summer!

Come and join Pastor Mark and Pastor Laura for pizza, popcorn, games and more! We'll gather on **Sunday**, **May 26**<sup>th</sup>, **from 11:00-12:30**...can't wait to see you there!!!

### All Women Are Invited to Sing With The Sunday School & Youth Choir on May 12th

All women of the congregation who would like to help sing the verses on the song the kids' choirs will sing on Mother's Day can rehearse after the service in the choir room this morning. Grab a snack and a cup of coffee and join Kate in the choir room for a brief rehearsal.

## Men's Group Meets This Friday, May 10th

The Men's Group meets on the second Friday of every month at 9:00 a.m. All men are invited to come join the discussions.

## Third Tuesday Bible Study - Note the change of date!

Third Tuesday Bible Study will meet at the home of Julie Burton, 136 Steeplechase Drive, on **Tuesday, May 14th at 10:00 a.m.** (Please note the change of date this month!) The study is on the Gospel of Mark, 10:28 to 10:52, pages 289-301 in William Barclay. This is a tough lesson as Jesus and his disciples are headed for Jerusalem where Jesus will be crucified. Meanwhile, his disciples are focused on the distinction of their popularity. The main message this month is when Jesus explains to them, "the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life for the ransom of many."

## **Book Club**

Your book club will meet by Zoom on May 8 at 10:00 to 11:30. We will be discussing <u>The Guncle</u> by Steven Rowley. Patrick O'Hara is a bit out of his league. When tragedy strikes, he becomes the primary guardian of his niece, Maisie, and his nephew, Grant. He is completely overwhelmed! He has a lifestyle that is not suited for a 6 and 9 year old. Patrick's eyes are opened to a new sense of responsibility and the realization that sometimes even being larger than life means you are unfailingly human. If you would like to join the discussion, please contact Julie at jaburton5914@gmail.com to get the Zoom link.

For June 2024, we plan on discussing The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi.

## "And a child shall lead them..."

HCLC is excited to let its kids and parents/ guardians know that a new service which will be led by our young people is in the works. Our talented, thoughtful young people will be helping to compose the service as well as lead it, conducting everything but the sermon. Youth from age 3 - college age are welcome to participate. We are hoping to debut it on Rally Day, September 8th, 2024 which means we will need to rehearse during the summer. Several rehearsal dates will be sent out and the more your children can attend, the better. We have begun learning some of the music on Sundays during our regular rehearsal time, so attending those rehearsals would be helpful too.

Some of the dates to look out for:

- 1. Early June a liturgy, prayer writing session with the older kids at Kate's house with Pastor Mark, Pastor Laura, Ms. Kate, and Greg Berg.
- 2. Music rehearsals at various times in June, July, August.
- **3.** A late August afternoon/early evening "lock in" rehearsal at church to practice the entire service with musicians, sound techs etc.

Any young people who would like to participate as well as adults who would like to lend a hand at rehearsals, the lock-in, etc are asked to contact Kate via text at 262.498.7593 and make sure I have your phone numbers and emails so contact regarding rehearsals, writing sessions, etc can be made. Watch for announcements in the bulletins, Chalice, and emails from HCLC as well.

### **Birthday Club**

If you have a May birthday we encourage you to join us in the lounge this Thursday at 10:00 am for a cup of coffee and a birthday donut so we can celebrate with you!

## Relay For Life Luminarias - White Bags Available for

The Annual Relay for Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society will be held Friday, June 7th at Campus Park, 8500 Campus Drive, in Mt. Pleasant. Luminarias honor every life touched by cancer. You can dedicate them to a loved one lost, someone currently battling, or anyone who's overcome it.

The event begins at 6PM. You are invited to stop in and walk to get your extra steps in for the day. There is food and raffles to raise additional money. The Luminarias will be lit about 9:00 p.m. Relay participants share an emotional moment when each is lit in remembrance of a life touched by cancer. Together, they take a moment of silence to remember the loved ones they're dedicated to.

Susan Anderson will once again have luminaria bags for you to purchase and decorate. She plans to have them available after worship on May 19th and June 2nd. The minimum donation for each white luminaria bag is \$5.00. You can stay to decorate yours here or take it to work on at home. Bags must be returned to Susan or the church office before June 6th. Please contact Susan with any questions, <a href="mailto:susanderson06@att.net">susanderson06@att.net</a> or 262-902-5334 .Thank you!

## **HCLC Quilters**

The HCLC quilters meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. to work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief. If you have any cotton fabric or any gently used full, queen or king size flat sheets you do not need the quilters would be happy to have it to use for quilt tops and backing. do not need to have any prior quilting experience to help construct the quilts. For more information, call Linda Holmquist, 633-0032, or Evelyn Lajiness, 634-0527.

## **Upcoming Worship. Education, and Fellowship Opportunities**

May 5 - 9:30 Worship and Sunday School - First Communion Celebration

10:30 Confirmation Rehearsal

May 6 - 1:00 Food Pantry

May 8 - 10:00 Book Club (meeting by Zoom)

May 9 - 10:00 Birthday Club

May 10 - 9:00 Men's Group

May 12 - 9:30 Worship/Sunday School

**May 13 - 10:00 Bible Study** 

1:00 Food Pantry

May 14 - 10:00 Third Tuesday Bible Study at Julie Burton's home (Note the change of date)

May 17 - 1:00 Food Pantry

May 19 - 9:30 Worship/Confirmation/Last day of Sunday School

10:30 Relay For Life Luminaria bags available

May 20 - 10:00 Bible Study Brunch

1:00 Food Pantry

May 21-9:30 Ketchup Club at Meadows Family Restaurant in Franksville

### Finance Update

March Finance Numbers

Year to Date Finance Numbers

Revenue \$38,495.02 Revenue: \$145,457.89 Expense: \$43,265.96 Expense: \$138,722.66 Net Income: \$(4,779.94) Net Income: \$6,735.23

## **Medical Equipment Lending Closet**

Did you know we have a lending closet with medical equipment such as canes, walkers, shower chairs, wheel chairs, etc. for people to borrow? Often these items are needed only for a short time after an illness or surgery, and they can be costly to purchase. You can borrow an item for as long as you need it. We only have one or two of some items, so availability does vary. If you need an item, call the church office, at 632-8802, and we will check to see if there is one available for you to borrow. If you have medical equipment you no longer need, you can donate it to our lending closet. You can bring them items in any time the office is open, or on Sunday mornings.

## **Food Pantry News**

In April the pantry served 373 households, a total of 1274 people. For the month of May the pantry is asking for donations of peanut butter, pancake mix, syrup, jelly, cereal, spaghetti sauce (no spaghetti noodles - we have a large amount in stock right now), and chicken noodle soup. If you bring donations down to the pantry please look for the white basket with the red bow and place your items in the basket. We keep track of the weight of all our donations so if you put them in the basket we know they need to be weighed. We are very grateful to all who donate to the pantry. We could not continue this ministry without our wonderful volunteers and donors!

## Ways You Can Serve

Are you looking for a way to help on Sunday mornings? We have a number of opportunities for you! We need A-V Tech volunteers to help run the sound board and video cameras during worship. A-V volunteers are scheduled about once every other month. We could also use a few more ushers and a couple more altar guild volunteers. Usher and altar guild teams work on rotating schedules with one month on and then a couple months off. Training is provided for all! You can call the office or talk to one of the pastors if you want to give one a try. We also have dates open for Coffee Fellowship treats. There is a sign up sheet in the lounge. You choose a week to bring a goodie to share during coffee fellowship.

# **Graduate Recognition**

We need your help! HCLC is proud of our 2024 graduates and would like to recognize them during the 9:30 worship service on June 2nd and in the June newsletter. If you, or someone in your family is graduating from high school, college, or a technical school program, please fill our the information below and return it to the office by Wednesday, May 22nd by US mail, email (office.hclc@gmail.com), in person, or call the office (262-632-8802). If possible, please provide a picture of the graduate. You can send a digital picture of bring in a photo we can scan. Thank You!



Graduate's Name
School
Degree Received
Plans for the future
Will the graduate be able to attend the June 2nd worship service?