

PRELUDE "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" - Arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new world has broken into ours—
**a world in which justice does come for the poor, freedom comes for the prisoners,
and healing for the sick.**

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new community has been formed—
**a community that loves and cares for all members,
a family that welcomes all who are abandoned and rejected,
a place where all find a place of belonging.**

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new creation has begun—
**all that was distorted is being restored, all that is corrupted is being renewed,
all that was broken is being made whole.**

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, God's new world has begun!
~ written by Christine Sine

RECONCILING IN CHRIST (RIC) STATEMENT

Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here in the name of Jesus Christ. We celebrate that each person is loved by God. We affirm the gifts of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, and are committed to working for racial equity. Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Trusting in the grace and mercy of God, let us confess the sin and brokenness in our lives and in the world.

Reconciling God, we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we turn from your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved people of God, by the radical abundance of God's grace we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

(Stand) GATHERING HYMN

"God is Here!"

ELW#526

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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 *ELW page 147; setting 4*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *ELW page 148; setting 4*

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God

and join in the hymn of all creation:

**Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his
reign.**

Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand.**

**Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your
bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(sit) READING: Acts 1:6-14

Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

⁶When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." ¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that God may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on God, because God cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in

your faith, for you know that your siblings in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To God be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(stand) GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *ELW* page 151; *setting 4*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

The holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words to his disciples, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶ "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

The Gospel of our Lord. . . **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(sit) SERMON

Steve Peters

(Stand) HYMN OF THE DAY

"I Come with Joy"

ELW #482

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.

(sit) PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **Receive our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

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OFFERING MUSIC

"Soaring Through the Clouds" - Valerie Roth Roubos

Evvy Kroeger

GREAT THANKSGIVING *ELW Page 152; setting 4*



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.**

It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORDS 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

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

LAMB OF GOD *ELW Page 154; setting 4*



Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

ELW #310

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. **Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Go now as God's chosen witnesses to testify that Christ has been raised and that we are raised with him. Do not look for him among the dead, but be glad and rejoice in his salvation. And may God raise you from all that would entomb you; May Christ Jesus call you by name and go ahead of you; And may the Holy Spirit empower you for all that is good. **Amen.**

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(Stand) SENDING HYMN

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

ELW #365

BLESSING

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

"Come, Oh, Come, O Quickening Spirit/Ode to Joy" - Arr. Laura Wasson

Preaching: Steve Peters

Cantor: Sandy Gardner

Communion Servers: Carolyn, Sue O'B, John O'B

Greeter:

Welcome Center Host:

Presiding: Pastor Brian Julin-McCleary

Musician: Nicole Green

Reader: Carolyn Jensen

Ushers: Roger Burjes, Dave Fischer

Sound/Video: Jim Glaspie

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