

# Abiding Presence Lutheran Church and Preschool



**The Ascension of Our Lord**  
**Sunday 9:30am, May 17, 2026**  
**Monday, 7:30pm, May 18, 2026**  
**Abiding Presence Church and Preschool**  
**Rt. 25A and Sunken Meadow Road**  
**Fort Salonga, New York 11768**  
**(631) 269-6454**

The People of God, Ministers  
The Reverend Robert Schoepflin, Pastor  
The Reverend Toby Tobias, Pastoral Associate  
Ms. Kathy Pucci, Deacon  
Mr. Gavin Schwen, Deacon  
Mr. Brian Forberg, Deacon  
Dr. Thomas Zatorski, Director of Music  
Ms. Lisa Pecchio, Soloist  
Dcn. Gavin Schwen, Preaching and Presiding  
Dcn. Brian Forberg, Ms. Doris Meyer, Ms. Lisa McCaffrey, Ms. Karen Garone, Ms. Kathy Smith, Assisting  
Ms. Joanne Krush, Ms. Doris Meyer, Ms. Meredith Mayer, Readers  
Mr. Brian Ansink, Ms. Sally Herzog, Ushers  
Ms. Jean Oblak, Altar Guild  
Ms. Jill Neary, Video Production  
Ms. Marialaina Sheehan, Preschool Director



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

**Welcome to Worship!**  
**The Ascension of Our Lord**  
**May 17, 2026**  
**9:30am**  
**Abiding Presence Church and Preschool**

**INTRODUCTION**

*In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.*

**PRELUDE**

**“St. Columba”**

Henry Coleman

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**GATHERING** – The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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*Please stand as you are able*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

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*Water is poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God,  
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.  
You lead us beside still waters.  
We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.  
We thank you for the waters that nourish us.  
Blessed are you.  
**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.  
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.  
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.  
Blessed are you.  
**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.  
Break down barriers that divide us.  
Fill us with the breath of peace.  
Blessed are you.  
**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
and for making us a new creation.  
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN 634 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,  
3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—  
4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe  
on this terrestrial ball  
to him all majesty ascribe  
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song  
and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6  
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

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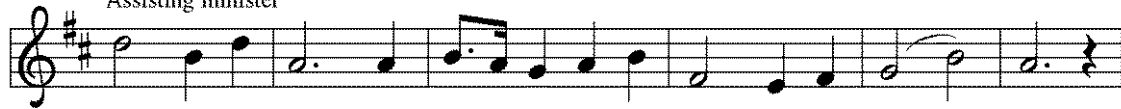
## GREETING

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.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

*Refrain*



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray together:

**Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

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**WORD** – God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

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*Please sit*

### **First Reading: Acts 1:1-11**

*Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.*

### **A Reading from Acts**

[Luke writes:] <sup>1</sup> In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach <sup>2</sup> until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He replied, “It is not for you to

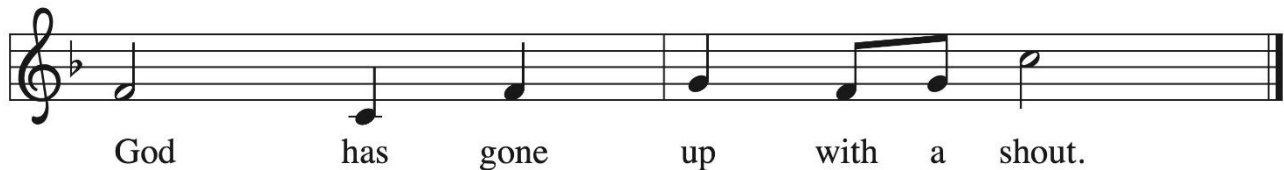
know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They 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.”

**Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 47**

**(Cantor sings verses. All sing response.)**

**Response**



Psalm 47:5

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress

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- <sup>1</sup> Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with a joyful sound.
- <sup>2</sup> For the Lord Most High is to be feared:  
a great king over all the earth,
- <sup>3</sup> who subdues the peoples under us,  
and the nations under our feet;
- <sup>4</sup> who chooses our inheritance for us,  
the pride of Jacob, whom God loves. **R**
- <sup>5</sup> God has gone up with a shout,  
the Lord with the sound of the ram's horn.
- <sup>6</sup> Sing praises to God, sing praises;

sing praises to our king, sing praises. **R**

<sup>7</sup> For God is king of all the earth;

sing praises with a song.

<sup>8</sup> God reigns over the nations;

God is enthroned on high.

<sup>9</sup> The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham.

The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted. **R**

### **Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23**

*The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we are given the wisdom to know the power of the risen Christ and the empowering hope that the knowledge of this inheritance provides.*

### **A Reading from Ephesians**

<sup>15</sup> I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup> so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup> God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup> And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able*

## GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

*(Cantor sings proper verse. All sing Alleluia before and after verse.)*

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

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

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

### **Gospel: Luke 24:44-53**

*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.*

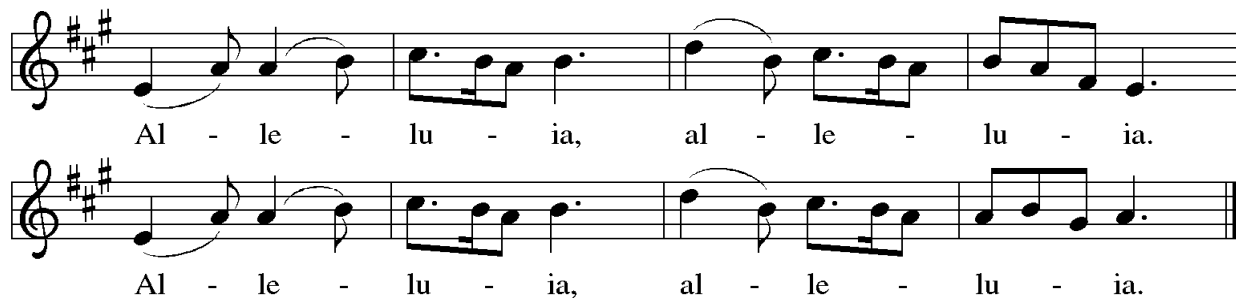
The Holy Gospel according to Luke  
**Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>44</sup> [Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day <sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup> Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup> and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

# GOSPEL RECESSIONAL



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

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

*Please sit*

## SERMON

**Dcn. Gavin Schwen**

*Please stand as you are able*

## HYMN 416

### *“At the Name of Jesus”*



- 1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
- 2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,
- 3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name
- 4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
- 5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.  
all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,  
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,  
all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.  
on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,  
thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,  
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;  
Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;  
for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.  
all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.  
brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.  
let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.  
and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–1877

Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Music from *Songs of Praise*, © Oxford University Press 1925.

## NICENE CREED

**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,  
and 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 (Response: “receive our prayer.”)

Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation, responding “receive our prayer.”

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, your Son Jesus ascended to fill all time and space and is present with all people. By your Holy Spirit, lead your church and its leaders in faith, hope, and love, and in sharing the presence of Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Majestic God, your Son Jesus entrusts his ministry to his followers to care for all you have created. Instill in us a commitment to sustainable ecological practices. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, your Son Jesus sits at your right hand and rules the cosmos. Inspire national and local politicians to lead with equity and fairness, raise up advocates and activists for those seeking justice, and cultivate peace throughout the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, your Son Jesus carries with him the scars of suffering as our wounded healer. Guide with your wisdom the work of all medical professionals and bring your healing touch to all who are sick, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names.* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, by his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus destroyed death forever. With thanksgiving we remember those who rest from the labors, assured of your promise of everlasting life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

## SHARING OF PEACE

*Please sit*

**ANTHEM**

***“A Gospel Song of Peace”  
Choir of the Abiding Presence***

Sally K. Albrecht

**OFFERING**

**NO OFFERING ENVELOPE?  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE**



*Please stand as you are able*

## OFFERING HYMN 182 *“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”*

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: Merciful God,  
**accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.**  
**You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.**  
**Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.**  
**In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up 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, 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.

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, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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.**

When our congregation last gathered in worship, we heard again of God's mighty acts and the love shown us in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. We shared in the holy meal of the Lord's supper.

Now this bread and cup of blessing, is set before us, so that we may share in these same gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.

Gathered at the Lord's table, our congregation remembered with thanksgiving that "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."

This is the supper of our Lord Jesus Christ. This same bread and cup, shared in our community of faith, are here given for us. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: 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

Come to the table of new life.  
Receive the risen Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## AGNUS DEI



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, grant us peace.

*Please sit*

## THE DISTRIBUTION

All who believe that along with the bread and wine we receive the true Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ are invited to the Lord's table to receive the Sacrament. The Sacrament will be distributed in one or two continuous lines at the main aisle. The bread is received in the hand and the communicant then proceeds to a gold chalice for intinction or to a crystal chalice to drink from the common cup, or if so desired, the communicant may receive only the bread. Please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten free wafer. Please follow the guidance of the ushers.

## COMMUNION HYMN 579 "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"



1 Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the sick and  
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -  
 3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,  
 4 Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther, what they  
 5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,  
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,  
 this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,  
 do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure  
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness  
 life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new  
 dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the  
 all that you so free - ly give. May your care and  
 may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the

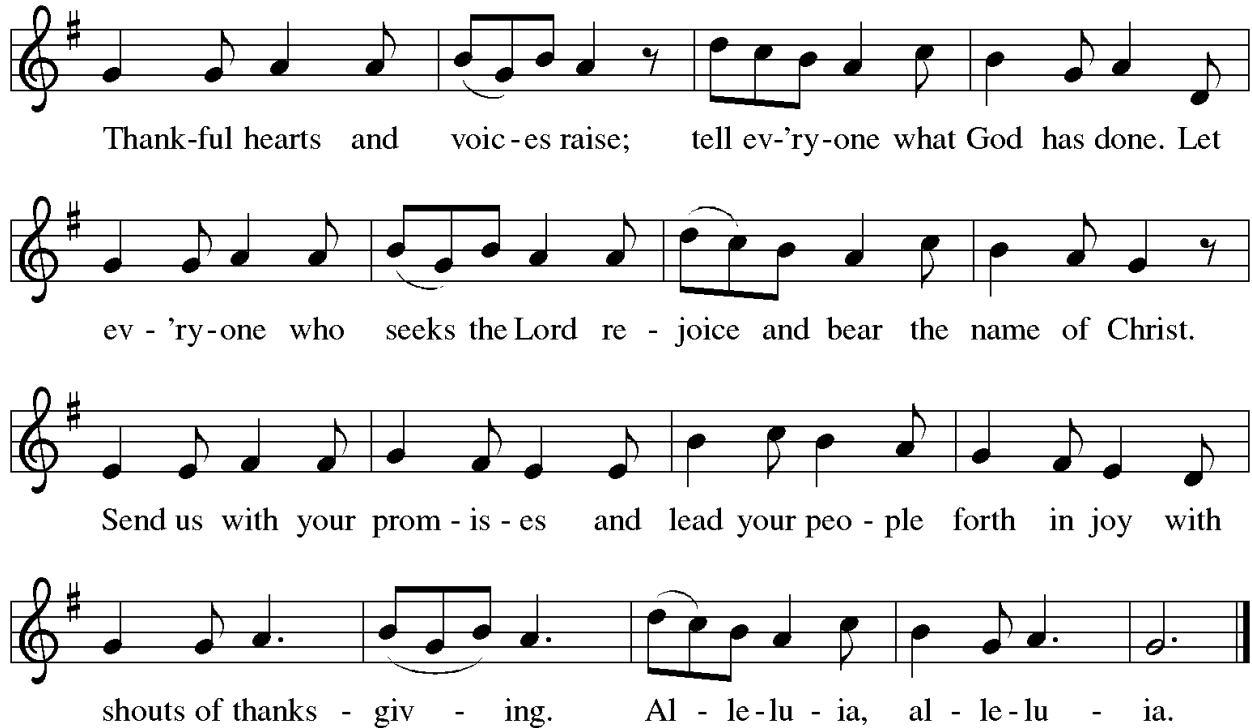


to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:  
 fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:  
 world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:  
 mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:  
 cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:

*Please stand as you are able*

## BLESSING

### POST COMMUNION HYMN 207 “*Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*”



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let  
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice 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.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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## 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.**

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# SENDING – God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

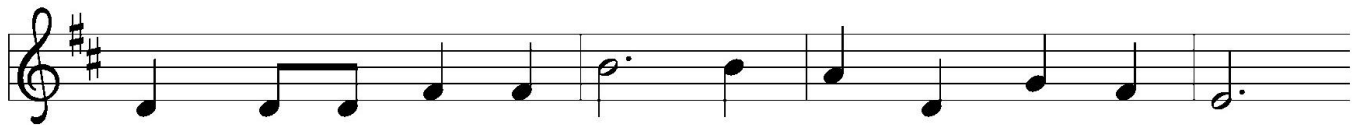
### BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor, and give us his peace, In the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN 855     *“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*



- 1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
- 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
- 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4  
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

## DISMISSAL

Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve.

**All are welcome!**

Go in peace. Serve in love.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*“Postlude in A Major”*

Caleb Simper

**IN OUR PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND HEALING ARE:** Alie, Rakel Anderson, Annette, Jean B., J. Bauer, Cael Begley, Margaret Belt, Rich Bender, Karin Bergesen, Betsey Berry, Anthony Bonello, Betty Bose, Brenda, Bobby Burns, Annabelle Carini, John Carini, Fran Casola, Claire, Anthony Ceriello, Christel Clausen, Nancy Couture, Mitch Crowley, Jackie DeVille, Avery Doino, Mary Donnelly, Elaine, Wayne Ericksen, Felix, Melinda Geis, Ella Giana, Sal Giannotta, Frank Gonzalez, Kristen Bruce-Gonzalez, Gregory, Thomas H., Ed and June Heidelberger, Charlie Hoffman, Jennifer Hoffman, Josephine Hoffman, Herbert Holzmann, Jennifer Howard, Dylan Israelian, Joanne, Joe, Cliff Johnson, Brian Kennedy, Lia Krautmanis, Erik Krisch, Kristen, Melissa L., Terry Lago, Lauren, Douglas Lozel, Marissa Luethi, Gene Maccarone, Laurie Mandel, Mark, Mason, Mel, Melissa, Stancy Mentnech, Herb Menzel, Doris Meyer, Debra Michels, Katy Monte, Terry Moore, Jennifer Morrell, Debra Morsello, The Murphy Family, Steven N., Matthew Naeher, Kim Nallan, Jane O'Brien, Lucille Ochal, Pamela, Rose P., Patrick, Paul, Richard Pecchio, Dorothy Philcox, Keith Philcox, Jessica Pucci, Ron Pucci, Joseph, Lanie Raskin, Joan and Matt Reilly, Grace Revere, Lynn R., Margaret Rizzo, Doris Roche, Charlotte Roessle, Jim Rogin, Nancy Rosen, Paul Rosen, Ruth, Jordan S., Sal, Susan Salerno, The Seale Family, Joan Sepp, Jeff Smith, Jeffrey Starke, Stephen, Austin Stone, The Strumza Family, Suzanne Stoklosa, Annette Swanson, Gavin Tarsio, Todd, Peter T., Anna T., Julie Tiberie, Michael Wagner, Peter Weichner, Bill Witte, Kathy Zieran, Erwin Zimmermann.

**FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:** Courtney Burke, Paul Cassuti, John Delano, Jonathan Dixon, Walton Delano Gouldin, Eric Hank, Jr., Michael Hewson, Alycia A. Howard, Claire James, Justin MacDonald, Katie Mayer, Daniel Murray, Richard Mutari, Jay Rosenwald, Jake Sass, Kaitlin Stark, Bryce Michael Wheeler, Rachel Williams.



**THE CANDLES OF GRACE** are lighted in loving memory of Miriam Mayer on her birthday.  
Love, Meredith

**Daily Bible Readings for Year A (May 17 – May 24)**  
**From *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP***

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Sun 5/17	<i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 John 17:1-11
Mon 5/18	Psalm 99 Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24 1 Peter 4:1-6
Tues 5/19	Psalm 99 Numbers 16:41-50 1 Peter 4:7-11
Wed 5/20	Psalm 99 1 Kings 8:54-65 John 3:31-36
Thurs 5/21	Psalm 33:12-22 Exodus 19:1-9a Acts 2:1-11
Fri 5/22	Psalm 33:12-22 Exodus 19:16-25 Romans 8:14-17
Sat 5/23	Psalm 33:12-22 Exodus 20:1-21 Matthew 5:1-12
Sun 5/24	<i>Day of Pentecost</i> Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23

**Monday, May 18, 2026**  
**7:30 pm**

## **PRELUDE**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water is poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **GATHERING HYMN 634    *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”***



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,  
3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—  
4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe  
on this terrestrial ball  
to him all majesty ascribe  
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song  
and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6  
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

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## **GREETING**

**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**

Let us pray together:

**Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **First Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23**

*The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we are given the wisdom to know the power of the risen Christ and the empowering hope that the knowledge of this inheritance provides.*

## **A Reading from Ephesians**

<sup>15</sup> I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup> so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who

believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup> God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup> And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel: Luke 24:44-53**

*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke  
**Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>44</sup> [Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day <sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup> Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup> and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

*Please sit*

## REFLECTION

Dcn. Gavin Schwen

*Please stand as you are able*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Response: “receive our prayer.”)

Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation, responding “receive our prayer.”

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, your Son Jesus ascended to fill all time and space and is present with all people. By your Holy Spirit, lead your church and its leaders in faith, hope, and love, and in sharing the presence of Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Majestic God, your Son Jesus entrusts his ministry to his followers to care for all you have created. Instill in us a commitment to sustainable ecological practices. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, your Son Jesus sits at your right hand and rules the cosmos. Inspire national and local politicians to lead with equity and fairness, raise up advocates and activists for those seeking justice, and cultivate peace throughout the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, your Son Jesus carries with him the scars of suffering as our wounded healer. Guide with your wisdom the work of all medical professionals and bring your healing touch to all who are sick, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names*. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, by his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus destroyed death forever. With thanksgiving we remember those who rest from the labors, assured of your promise of everlasting life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

## **SHARING OF PEACE**

**OFFERING**

**NO OFFERING ENVELOPE?  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE**



## **OFFERING HYMN 182 “*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*”**

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray: Merciful God,  
**accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.  
In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up 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, 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.

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, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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.**

When our congregation last gathered in worship, we heard again of God's mighty acts and the love shown us in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. We shared in the holy meal of the Lord's supper.

Now this bread and cup of blessing, is set before us, so that we may share in these same gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.

Gathered at the Lord's table, our congregation remembered with thanksgiving that "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."

This is the supper of our Lord Jesus Christ. This same bread and cup, shared in our community of faith, are here given for us. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

## 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

Come to the table of new life.  
Receive the risen Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## AGNUS DEI



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



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## THE DISTRIBUTION

***Gluten-free wafers are available. When you come forward, please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.***

## 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

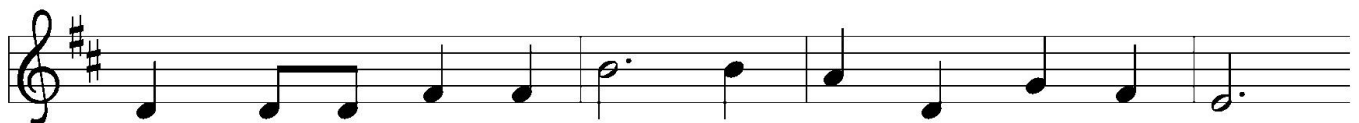
## BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor, and give us his peace, In the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN 855      *“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*



- 1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
- 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
- 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4  
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

## SENDING

A: Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve

**C: All are welcome!**

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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Love, Meredith

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**From *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP***

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**THE PARISH COUNCIL**

*If you would like contact information for the council members listed below,  
please call the church office at 631-269-6454.*

- Joanne Pittfick, President
- Pr. Robert Schoepflin, Vice-President
- Brian Ansink, Fellowship
- Karen Garone, Finance
- Joie Burkhardt, Treasurer
- Karen Garone, Assistant Treasurer
- Mark Waldron, Assistant Treasurer
- Arthur Wakefield, Assistant Treasurer
- Barbara Kaifler, Secretary
- Marina Bedrossian, Youth
- Paul Fick, Property
- Karen Wallin, Social Ministries
- Betty Bose, Music and Worship
- Aubrey Minton, Christian Education
- Paul Farber, Stewardship
- Lauri Christiansen-Wegener, Outreach and Marketing (Evangelism)

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<b>Sunday Schedule</b>	<b>9:30am In person and Live stream via YouTube</b>	<b>The Holy Eucharist</b>
<b>Sunday school N3 – Grade 5</b>	<b>9:30am In person</b>	
<b>Monday Schedule</b>	<b>7:30pm In person</b>	<b>The Holy Eucharist</b>

**OUR MISSION**

The mission of Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, a spiritual home centered in Christ and community, is to share Jesus’ love in our words and in our works as we welcome all to the family of God.



**CHURCH WEBSITE**



**PRESCHOOL WEBSITE**

**Church: [www.abidingpresencechurch.org](http://www.abidingpresencechurch.org) email: [abidingpresenceoffice@gmail.com](mailto:abidingpresenceoffice@gmail.com)  
Preschool: [www.abidingpresencepreschool.com](http://www.abidingpresencepreschool.com) email: [aplcpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:aplcpreschool@gmail.com)**