



# Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

*Hope Lutheran Church in Rossmoor*

www.hoperossmoor.org 925-709-4673 (Voicemail ONLY)

*The Rev. Andreas Pielhoop, Pastor*

**Prelude**

*Instrumental Music*

**Lois Nelson**

**Welcome & Introduction**

**Pastor Andreas Pielhoop**

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

## **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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

P: In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

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

**All: Amen.**

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. 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.

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

P: 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.

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

P: 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.

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

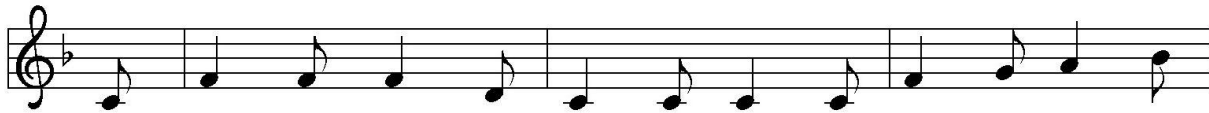
P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

*I Come with Joy - ELW 482 (vs 1, 4, & 5)*

Judy Ryken



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Greeting

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: 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.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds - ELW 656 (all verses)*

Judy Ryken



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;  
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
 and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
 and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Prayer of the Day

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

P: Let us all pray together.

All: **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.**

## First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

Bill Kuhnsman

*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.*

<sup>6</sup> When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "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." <sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup> When 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. <sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

## Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Bill Kuhnsman & Congregation

<sup>1</sup> Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

<sup>2</sup> **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

<sup>3</sup> But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup> **Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

<sup>5</sup> In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

<sup>6</sup> **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

<sup>7</sup> O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup> **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup> You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

<sup>10</sup> **Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

<sup>32</sup> Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

<sup>33</sup> **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

<sup>34</sup> Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

<sup>35</sup> **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11****Bill Kuhnsman**

*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.*

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, 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. <sup>13</sup> But 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. <sup>14</sup> If 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. <sup>5:6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 17<sup>th</sup> Chapter****Pastor Andreas Pielhoop**

*All: Glory to you, O Lord.*

*On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.*

<sup>1</sup> 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, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. <sup>6</sup> "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. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> 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."

P: The Gospel of Our Lord

**All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Special Music***Gift of Music***Chase Wilcox & Sadie Shepodd****Message****Pastor Andreas Pielhoop**

Hymn of the Day

*Blessed Assurance - ELW 638 (vs 1 & 3)*

Judy Ryken



1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!  
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Apostles' Creed

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

Each petition ends with: Merciful God, **Response: Receive our prayer.**

Offering

*We invite you to place your **Offering** in the offering plate as it is passed.*

Special Music

*Gift of Music*

Chase Wilcox & Sadie Shepodd

Offering Prayer

**P:** As we lift up our offerings to the Lord, let us pray.

**All:** **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.**

# Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

## Offering Song



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### Holy Communion: Words of Institution

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

**P:** For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

### The Lord's Prayer

**All:** 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.

*At Hope we practice Open Communion. We believe the invitation to the table comes from Jesus Christ himself. Therefore, you do not need to be a member of this or any other congregation to join in the meal. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please let the pastor know you prefer one when your turn comes. To preserve the solemnity as guests at Christ's table, please return silently to your seat and refrain from talking while others receive Holy Communion. There will be plenty of opportunities afterwards at our coffee hour.*

### Instrumental Music

Lois Nelson

### Prayer after Communion

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

**P:** Let us pray.

**All:** 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.

**Blessing** (*Please stand as you are able*)

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✚ bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

*Peace I Leave With You*

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you; Not as the world giveth, give I unto you.  
Let not your heart be troubled; Neither let it be afraid.  
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Amen.*

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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**Announcements**

**Pastoral Needs** – For any pastoral need, you can call or text Pastor Andreas Pielhoop at 415-577-5461 or via email at [pielhoop77@earthlink.net](mailto:pielhoop77@earthlink.net).

**Pastoral Needs While Pastor Is On Vacation** – Pastor Andreas will be on vacation from May 23 to June 12. While Pastor Andreas is away, please call Margaret Anderson or Robin Kanno if you need pastoral care. They will call St. Matthew to provide coverage.

**Meet with Pastor Andreas** – Pastor Andreas will have office hours on May 21 from 1pm-3pm in Card Room 1 upstairs at Stanley Dollar Clubhouse. You can make an appointment but walk-ins are welcome too.

**Birthday Blessings** go out to **Peter Dahlstrom** who celebrates his birthday on May 17.

Thank you to **Chase Wilcox & Sadie Shepodd** for providing special music for today's worship!

**Our Hope Church Council** meets both in-person and via Zoom on Wednesday, May 20, at 1pm at the Stanley Dollar Clubhouse in the Garden Room (downstairs). This will be a hybrid meeting.

**Bible Study with Pastor Andreas** – On Tuesday, May 19, we will meet at 2:00pm in the Bunker Room at Creekside. Please bring your own NRSV or NIV Bible.

Our **Tenor-Bass (TTBB) Choir** will NOT rehearse or sing on May 31.

**Fourth Wednesday Lunch Group** – On Wednesday, May 27, we will gather for food and fellowship in Jesus' name at Buttercup (660 Ygnacio Valley Rd) at 11:30 a.m. Carole Weyand is coordinating.

**Friends Feeding Friends** – Next Sunday is the 4th Sunday of the month and we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Concord. A collection box will be located by the welcome table. Not only can providing food to others help sustain life, but it can also bring a spark of hope.

**Helpers & Worship Assistants for:**

<b>Today – May 17</b>	<b>Next Sunday – May 24</b>
<b>Altar</b> Gerda, Kathy	<b>Altar</b> Jean, Gerda, Kathy
<b>Greeters</b> Karen Peterson, Ingrid Wood, Robin	<b>Greeters</b> Kathy Odne, Gwen Carlson, Robin
<b>Lay Reader</b> Bill Kuhnsman	<b>Lay Reader</b> Kathy Odne
<b>Communion Assistants</b> Kathy Odne, Nancy Conrad	<b>Communion Assistants</b> Jack & Mary Lyn Padley
<b>Ushers</b> John Moilan, Karen Peterson	<b>Ushers</b> John Odne, Gerda Peterson
<b>Livestream</b> Chase	<b>Livestream</b> Alyssa
<b>Special Music</b> Chase Wilcox & Sadie Shepodd	<b>Special Music</b> Moonglow

**Readings for next Sunday, May 24:** Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34,35b; 1 Cor 12:3b-13; John 7:37-39

**Anchor Newsletter** – if you are not currently receiving Hope’s Anchor newsletter and would like to, please give Robin your email address so you can be added to the distribution list.

**Fellowship** – Immediately following worship, please join us for a time of sharing coffee, goodies and great fellowship. Thank you to those helping with the set-up and clean-up. We ask one person from each table to bring their tray up to the counter at 12:15pm. This helps the clean-up tremendously. You are welcome to stay, socialize and drink coffee beyond that but we must have the clean-up completed by 1pm.

**Rides to Church** – Our volunteer drivers to worship are Sally Lionetti, Nancy Conrad (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays only). If you need a ride to church, please contact them for the possibility of a ride.

**Our Worship Service is available to live-stream and view online each week on our website.** The link to the live-stream worship service is <https://bit.ly/3v6JTXm> The bulletin is available on the Hope website under the tab “Worship”. Select “Worship Bulletin” and click on the desired week.

**Your Offering** – If you would like to mail us your offering (including QCDs), please send it to: Hope Lutheran Church, 399 Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek CA 94598 (This is Hope’s mailing address, not our worship location).

**Please remember in prayer:** Paula Tagliareni, Joan Birke (Carole Weyand’s friend), Haley Thaning (Todd’s daughter), Sandy Williams, Wayne Anderson, Lina Hale, Evelyn Olson, Brent Granado (Padley’s son-in-law), Nancy Lionetti (Sally’s daughter), Carole Weyand



*"We have this Hope of Christ's promises as an Anchor for our lives"*  
*Hebrews 6:19*