RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sixth Sunday of Easter May 5, 2024 10:00 AM

WELCOME!

Welcome to Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church, we are glad you are here!

If you are a visitor, we invite you to introduce yourself to our pastor and feel at home among us. In this bulletin, words in bold print are spoken by the assembly, non-bolded words are spoken by a leader. Two abbreviations used for hymns and service elements: ELW stands for Evangelical Lutheran Worship, which is the red hymnal in the book holder attached to the pew in front of you, and ACS is All Creation Sings, which is the blue songbook.

Following the worship service, please consider joining us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall, downstairs. An usher can direct you to the elevator.

INTRODUCTION

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.



ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Ellacombe

June Nixon

At the ringing of a bell, the assembly stands and faces the font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

WELCOME Christ is risen, Alleluia! **Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (ELW p. 97)In the name of the Father,and of the + Son,and of the Holy Spirit.Amen.

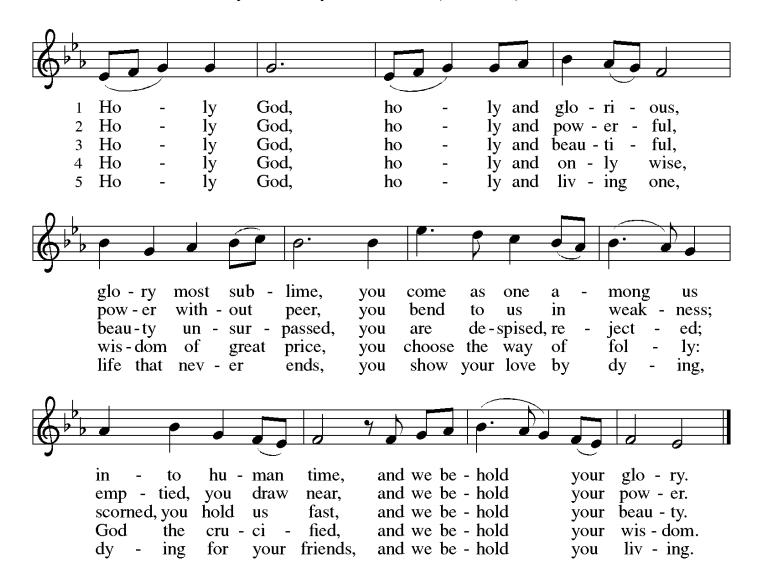
Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your children and heirs, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: Holy God, Holy and Glorious (ELW 637)



Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: NELSON, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

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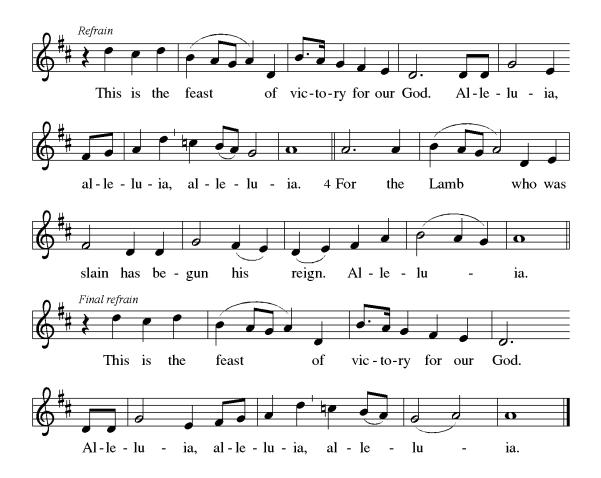
All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music © 2001 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING (ELW p. 138)

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: This is the Feast of Victory (ELW p. 139)





PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142) Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly may be seated.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

A reading from Acts.

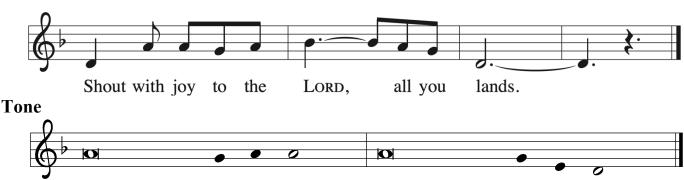
⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The believers from among the Jewish people who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So Peter ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 98

The Psalm is sung responsively by whole verse.

Refrain



¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done ¹ marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have ¹ won the victory.

²O LORD, you have made | known your victory,

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

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;

all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, ¹ all you lands;

lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing. R

⁵Sing to the LORD | with the harp,

with the harp and the voice of song.

- ^oWith trumpets and the sound | of the horn shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.
- ⁷Let the sea roar, and ¹ all that fills it,

the world and those who I dwell therein.

⁸Let the rivers ¹ clap their hands,

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and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to ' judge the earth.
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⁹The LORD will judge the ¹ world with righteousness

and the peo- | ples with equity. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

A reading from First John.

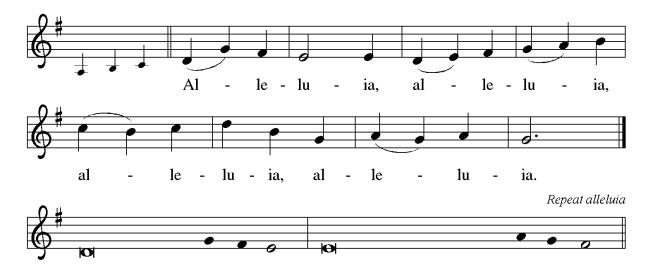
¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey God's commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey the commandments of God, which are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 102)

The assembly sings the Alleluias, the cantor sings the verse, the Alleluias are repeated.



Those who love me will keep my word, and my Fa-[|] ther will love them,* and we will come to them and make our [|] home with them. (John 14:23)

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of his commands, that they love one another.

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in my Father's love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I 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. ¹⁶You 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 in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

YOUTH MESSAGE

Angie Brooke

SERMON

Rev. Harry Therwanger



HYMN OF THE DAY: Come Down, O Love Divine (ELW 804)



Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890 Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. 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

Stand

The response for today's intercessions is "abide with us."

The presiding minister concludes the prayers:

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

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

The assembly may greet one another with a sign of Christ's Peace by bowing, waving, or offering another appropriate gesture and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. The assembly is seated.

OFFERTORY

Awake, My Soul

Nikolaus Herman

OFFERING AND SETTING THE TABLE

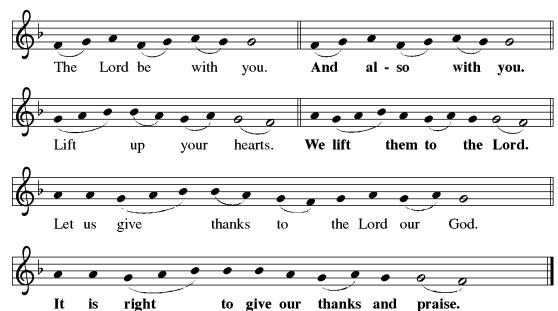
Members of the assembly may bring their offering forward when ushers invite them. Baskets are available to receive your gift at the front of the sanctuary. Communion ministers will sanitize and cleanse their hands prior to handling the gifts of bread and wine.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

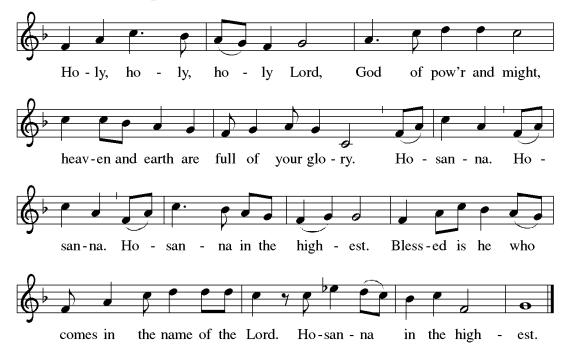
Amen.



GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Thanksgiving continues with the Preface for the day; the assembly responds:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The assembly may be seated. At the direction of ushers, baptized and communing members wishing to commune will proceed to the front of the nave, maintaining appropriate physical distance. To receive the bread, place your hands palms up and level so that the presiding minister may place the bread in your open palm. Using a receptacle, such as a small juice glass, hold it firmly that the assisting minister can pour wine from the common cup into your individual glass. For health reasons, please do not dip the bread into the wine. You may elect to commune by receiving the bread only. Gluten free hosts are also available. Once you have received the bread and wine, return to your places by the side aisles. You may elect to come forward for a blessing, simply cross your arms, placing your palms on your chest.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. and each person may respond Amen.

of the world; Lamb of God, you take a - way sin the have Lamb of God, you take a-way mer-cy on us. the sin of the 0 world; have mer - cy Lamb of God, you take a - way on us. the 0 of the world; sin grant peace. us

LAMB OF GOD (ELW p.146)



HYMN DURING COMMUNION: Beautiful Savior (ELW 838)



Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing (ELW 389)



Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936 Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789 Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved, Used by permission. **DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY:

Voluntary No. 3

Arlen Clark

GARDEN BLESSING

The Assembly is invited to follow the cross outside to our AFAC Plot Against Hunger Garden for a Rogation Sunday Blessing.



Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall, downstairs. An usher can direct you to the elevator.

Readings for May 12, the Seventh Sunday of Easter, Ascension Observed

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, and that the disciples will be accompanied and empowered by the Holy Spirit. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.

Psalm 47

God has gone up with a shout. (Ps. 47:5)

Ephesians 1:15-23

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

Luke 24:44-53

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

Notes on the music for today

HYMN OF THE DAY: Come Down, O Love Divine (ELW 804)

Text: Bianco da Siena (1350-1434),

Tune: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Bianco da Siena was an Italian poet and wool worker who was born at Anciolina, in the Val d'Arno. In 1367 he entered the Order of Jesuates, consisting of unordained men who followed the rule of St. Augustine. This order was instituted in that year by one John Colombinus of Siena, and suppressed by Pope Clement IX, possibly because of fear of not being able to control their mystical fervor. Little is known of Bianco beyond the fact that he is said to have lived in Venice for some years, and died there in 1434. His hymns were published at Lucca, in 1851, and edited by T. Bini, under the title, *Laudi spirituali* del Bianco da Siena. One of these, "Discendi, amor santo," is the basis for this English translation by Richard F. Littledale in *The People's Hymnal* in 1867. Littledale translated four of the original eight stanzas, but most hymnals omit his third (beginning "Let holy charity") for a consistent three-stanza text.

The first stanza of this text addresses the Holy Spirit as "O Love divine" and "O Comforter," asking for His presence in our lives. The middle stanzas ask the Holy Spirit to purge us of all pride and evil passion, and to purify our love and light our path. The final stanza anticipates the greater love for God that will ensue from such purification, and recognizes that, as Paul wrote, "your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you"

This hymn is addressed to the Holy Spirit. Though the third Person of the Trinity is not specifically named until the very last line of the hymn, it is clear through the terms "O Love divine" and "O Comforter" that He is the one to whom this prayer is addressed.

Ralph Vaughan Williams wrote the tune DOWN AMPNEY for this text in the *English Hymnal* in 1906. It was named after his birthplace, and has been praised as one of the most beautiful hymn tunes ever written.

OFFERTORY Awake, My Soul Nikolaus Herman (1500-1561), S. Drummond Wolff, arr.

This is a paraphrase of Psalm 36.

From 1518 to 1560 Nikolaus Herman was schoolmaster, organist and Kantor in Joachimsthal, Bohemia, just over the mountains from Saxony. Johann Matthesius, Luther's first biographer and headmaster of the Latin school there from 1532, was also, until 1565, minister of the church; Herman was associated with him both as a close friend and as a colleague, and thus came into contact with the Reformation from an early date. As early as 6 November 1524 Luther wrote to him as 'viro pio et erudito'. Toward the end of his life he suffered greatly from gout, and had to resign even his post as Cantor a number of years before his death.

Nikolaus Herman's importance lies in his hymns, which were published in several volumes. He wrote both text and music, but most melodies are used for several texts. His poems are rhymed syllabic verses with no fixed metre.

Awake, my soul, to joyful lays And sing thy great Redeemer's praise. He justly claims a song from me. His loving kindness, oh, how free!

When I was Satan's easy prey And deep in debt and bondage lay, He paid His life for my discharge, His loving kindness, on, how large!

Then shall I mount and soar away To the bright world of endless day And sing with rapture and surprise His loving kindness in the skies.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship:

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May 5, 2024 10:00 AM

Harry Therwanger Chris Schoen Jack Schoen Karen Laws Valerie Pratt and Jack Schoen Dave Oaks Presiding Minister Assisting Minister Reader Cantor Communion Assistants Lock-Up, starting May 5

Attendance April 28, 10:00 AM, 77 Live Stream Views, 9 | Views after Streaming, 13

The flowers in the chancel are given by John Wood in honor of his parents, Betty and Bruce Wood.

Our worship service is regularly video recorded and posted online.

Printed copies of the weekly announcements are available from the ushers.

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 6201 N. Washington Blvd. Arlington, VA 22205 <u>www.relcarlington.org</u> 703.532.5991

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