Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 5, 2024 ~ 8:15 and 10:30 am

8:15 am Sunday Attendees:

If you do not wish to take today's bulletin with you, please return it to an usher as you leave



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.

St. John Lutheran Church

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (elca.org) 425 N. Main Street, Russell, KS 67665 ~ 785-483-5358 email: stjohn@ruraltel.net ~ website: stjohnrussell.com Pastor Teri Sutherlin (620-521-6454) ~ John Dumler, PMA (785-483-1382)

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024 ~ 8:15 AND 10:30 AM LITURGY FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND COMING TOGETHER AS COMMUNITY

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.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

- P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God,
- C: holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.
- P: Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.
- C: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all. Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. Amen.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt. Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

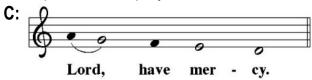
THE GREETING

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

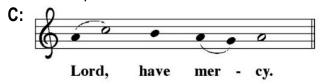
C: And also with you.

KYRIE

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



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



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.



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



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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Please join me in prayer. O God,
- C: 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.

Congregation may be seated

- O, I'm leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms.
- O, I'm leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

What a fellowship, what a joy divine; leaning on the everlasting arms; What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

O, I'm leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms,

Yes, I'm leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

- O, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
- O, how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.
- O, I'm leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms.

Yes, I'm leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

O, what have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord, so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.

O, leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms. O, I'm leaning, leaning, I'm leaning on the everlasting arms. Everlasting arms!

Sunday, May 5, 2024 ~ Page 5 ~

THE READING OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: ACTS 10:44-48 (Easy-to-Read Version)

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came down on all those who were listening to his speech. ⁴⁵ The Jewish believers who came with Peter were amazed that the Holy Spirit had been poured out as a gift also to people who were not Jews. ⁴⁶ They heard them speaking different languages and praising God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ "How can anyone object to these people being baptized in water? They have received the Holy Spirit the same as we did!" ⁴⁸ So Peter told them to baptize Cornelius and his relatives and friends in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

L: Word of God, Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God

A READING FROM PSALM: PSALM 98

- L: ¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- C: ²O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- L: 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.
- C: ⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- L: ⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- C: 6With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.
- L: 7Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
- C: ⁸Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.
- L: 9The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

~ Page 6 ~ Sunday, May 5, 2024

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 5:1-6

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 his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments 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.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

lu

jah.

C: Thanks be to God

Please stand as you are able

Hal-le, hal - le, hal le lu Hal - le, hal - le, hal jah. O le. lu jah. hal - le, hal Hal - le. le Hal - le -Hal - le - lu - jah. jah.

lu

Sunday, May 5, 2024 ~ Page 7 ~

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

P: The Holy Gospel according to John 15:9-17

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹"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 his 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 him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation may be seated

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

~ Page 8 ~ Sunday, May 5, 2024



Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

THE SERMON	Pr.	Teri Sutherlin
------------	-----	----------------

Please stand as you are able.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

- P: With our faith in Jesus Christ, let all the people of God confess their faith of the church:
- C: 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 to the dead. 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

P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence

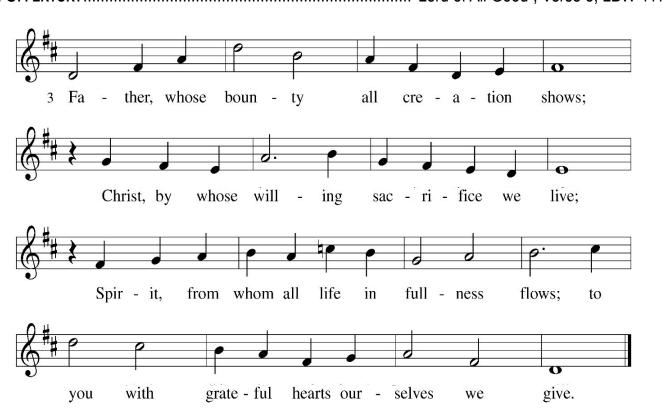
- P: God of grace,
- **C**: hear our prayer. (repeat response after each petition)
- P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Congregation members may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace as you are comfortable doing so, saying, "Peace be with you", or similar words.



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt.

Music: MORESTEAD, Sydney Watson, 1903–1991

Text and music @ Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Sunday, May 5, 2024 ~ Page 11 ~

THE OFFERING PRAYER

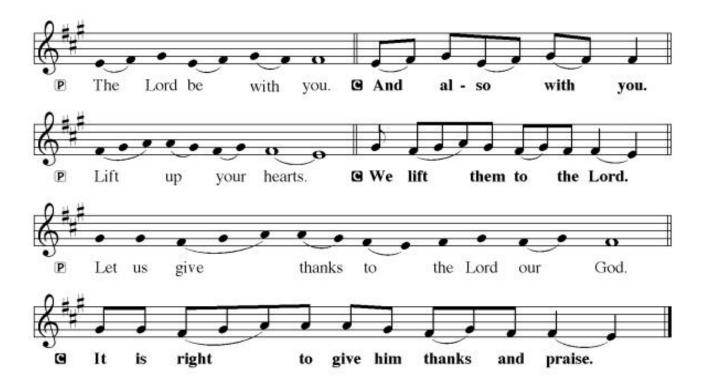
P: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

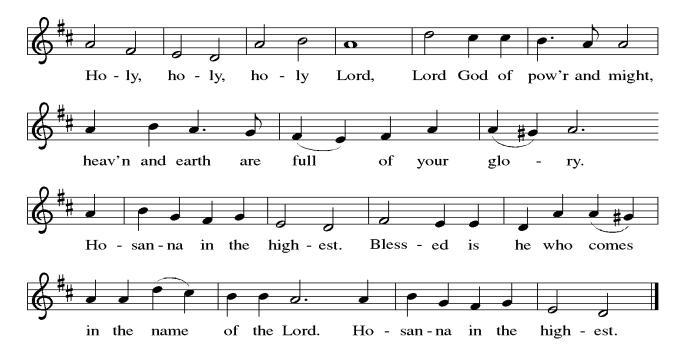


~ Page 12 ~ Sunday, May 5, 2024

PREFACE

P: 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY



Sunday, May 5, 2024 ~ Page 13 ~

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: 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.

C: Amen, amen, amen.

~ Page 14 ~ Sunday, May 5, 2024

THE LORD'S PRAYER

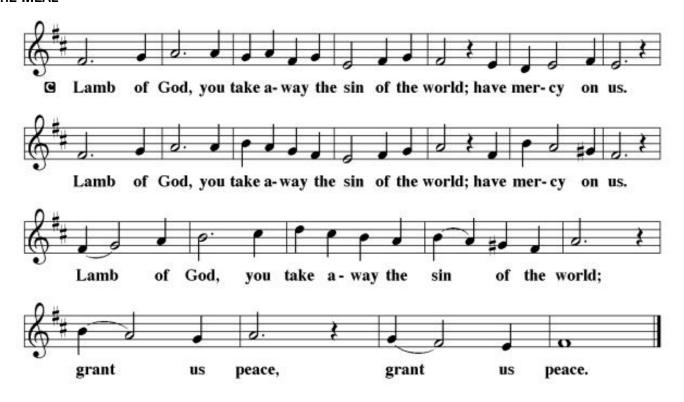
- P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,
- C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead 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

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

C: Amen.

THE MEAL



Congregation may be seated

Sunday, May 5, 2024 ~ Page 15 ~

Those taking communion are welcome to approach the ground level altar after receiving the sacramental elements.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Please stand as you are able

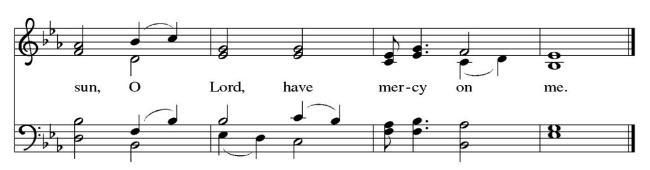
POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace, favor, and peace, now and forever.

C: Amen.

~ Page 16 ~ Sunday, May 5, 2024





Text: African American spiritual Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P: Please join me in prayer. Shepherding God,
- C: you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and

→ give you peace.

C: Amen.

~ Page 18 ~ Sunday, May 5, 2024





BLESSING AND SENDING

- P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless us now and always.
- C: Amen.
- P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

- From sundaysandseasons.com.
- Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS024243.
- New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
- Holy Bible: Easy-to-Read Version™; Taken from the HOLY BIBLE: EASY-TO-READ VERSION™; © 2006 by World Bible Translation Center, Inc. and used by permission.
- Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

CALENDAR

Mon, May 6	Prayer Shawl Ministry (10:00 am)
	Quilting Ministry (1:30 pm) Executive Committee (5:30 pm)
	425 Youth Group (6:30 pm) St. John Ringers (6:30 pm)
	Women's Bible Study (10:00 am) Bible Study with Pastor (1:30 pm) RCAOC (5:30 pm)

~ Page 20 ~ Sunday, May 5, 2024

Fri, May 10Otto & Tinzlee Rohleder Private Baptism (6:00 pm)
Sat, May 11Seventh Sunday of Easter with Communion (6:00 pm)
Sun, May 12Seventh Sunday of Easter (8:15 am)Sunday School and Confirmation (9:15 am)Seventh Sunday of Easter; Graduation Celebration (10:30 am)
May 13 through May 24Pastor Teri will be in New Mexico (no Bible Study with Pastor May 16 or 23. Bible Study with Pastor will resume Thursday, May 30 at 1:30 pm)
Mon, May 13Prayer Shawl Ministry (10:00 am)
Tues, May 14 Quilting Ministry (1:30 pm)
Wed, May 15 425 Youth Group (6:30 pm)St. John Ringers (6:30 pm)
Thurs, May 16 Church Council (6:30 pm)
Sat, May 18NO 6:00 pm Service (Gather As One to celebrate Pentecost at 10:30 service on Sunday, May 19)
Sun, May 19NO 8:15 am Service (Gather As One to celebrate Pentecost at 10:30 service)Last day of Sunday School - breakfast served to all students (9:15 am)Gather As One for Pentecost Worship, Communion; St. John Ringers (10:30 am)
Wed, May 22St. John Ringers Annual Polish and File (6:30 pm)

LOOKING AHEAD

Sat, May 25Holy Trinity Worship with Communion (6:00 pm)
Sun, May 26 Holy Trinity Worship with Communion (8:15 am)
Mon, May 27St. John Offices Closed (Memorial Day)

Sunday, May 5, 2024 ~ Page 21 ~

ADDITIONS TO THE PRAYER LIST

Joetta Mai Larry Mrvinec Byrne Wood

OUR SYMPATHIES AND GOD'S COMFORT TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The 2024 Graduation Celebration will be held during the 10:30 Service on Sunday, May 12.
- We will Gather As One at the 10:30 am Service on Sunday, May 19 to celebrate Pentecost. John Dumler, PMA will lead worship with communion. There will be NO services at 6:00 pm, Saturday, May 18 OR 8:15 am, Sunday, May 19.
- The last day of Sunday School is May 19. We will have a breakfast for the kids and celebrate the close of the school year. We will be sending home "Families Celebrate Summer" family activity cards with each child family unit.
- Application links for the Mai Family Scholarship and the Earlin Nuss Memorial Scholarship will be posted in the near future on the St. John website (stjohrussell.com). Applications must be submitted no later than Monday, July 1, 2024. Award notifications will be made in writing to each recipient (awards will be presented directly to the education institutions). Recipients (or a representative) must be present at the 10:30 Service on Scholarship Recognition Sunday, July 28, 2024.

~ Page 22 ~ Sunday, May 5, 2024