

# 7th Sunday in Easter

10:30 am - May 25, 2025 Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

# **PRELUDE**

# **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit

#### Welcome to Messiah

We are a community of grace where we live out Jesus' commandment to love God with our whole heart and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We also seek to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion. We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant life. We may not always be perfect, but this is our intention--all are welcome!

## **GATHERING HYMN**

#929 "Making Their Way"



## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Beloveds in Christ,

Through the waters of baptism,

We are brought into the family of God.

The body of Christ is rich in Divine creativity,

a community of people of many genders, races, body types and sizes, abilities and

2 hungers,

each a glimpse of God from a different angle.

God claims us with delight.

We claim one another as companions.

In our baptismal vows, we promise to love and support each other, working together to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in all its forms – within us and around us.

We need each other.

Today, we remember that the love we encounter through these waters cannot be undermined by bigotry or hate, by exclusion or injustice.

We are children of the Holy One, Siblings in the life of God.

These family ties cannot be broken.

No one and nothing has the power to turn us away from our Creator.

The full embrace of God always extends to us.

And so today, as we remember our baptism,

we also remember that through this new life in Christ we are set free:

To love wildly and to claim the power God has given us to turn from everything that destroys. Through God's grace, we leave shame behind and rejoice in the Good News that sets the captives free.

Let us pray, God of Life and God of Love, through this gift of water, you do miraculous things. The dust of past shame and guilt are washed away. The bonds of love are restored. The possibilities of new life emerge. May it be so for us today as we remember our baptisms. May your Spirit be upon this water and all who gather, as we celebrate this Sacred family to which you have called us. Strengthen us in love for one another as we renew our commitment to the pursuit of the Kingdom of God, where all your creatures and creations are beloved and free. **Amen.** 

#### **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.** 

#### **KYRIE**



The presiding minister will read the sections in plain

You are invited to read the bold portions.





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

FIRST READING Acts 16:16-34

Please be seated <sup>16</sup> One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." <sup>18</sup> She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

<sup>19</sup> But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup> When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews <sup>21</sup> and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." <sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup> After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup> Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." <sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup> They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup> They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup> At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup> He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

#### SECOND READING

- <sup>12</sup> "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."
- <sup>14</sup> Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.
- <sup>16</sup> "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."
  - <sup>17</sup> The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."
  - And let everyone who hears say, "Come."
  - And let everyone who is thirsty come.
  - Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.
  - $^{\rm 20}\,\rm The$  one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."
  - Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
  - <sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



GOSPEL John 17:20-26

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] <sup>20</sup> "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. <sup>24</sup> Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

<sup>25</sup> "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or in spirit. The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!** 

Please be seated

#### **SERMON**

# HYMN OF THE DAY

#934 "Christ Is Living"



- 1; Cris to vi ve, fue rael llan to, los la men-tos yel pe sar!
- 1 Christ is liv ing! Gone with sor-row! Tears and ter ror, be no more.
- 2 For if Christ is not a ris en there is noth-ing to be-lieve.
- 3 Death is swal lowed up in vic-t'ry; sin has lost its poi-son sting.



Ni la muer - te ni el se - pul - cro lo han po - di - do su - je - tar.

Death and grave, you now are noth - ing; Christ is free of ev - 'ry pow'r.

Je - sus' prom - ise is ac - comp-lished: "Since I live, you too shall live."

Life will blos - som from the grain sown, Christ the first fruits of the spring.



No bus - quéis en - tre los muer-tos al que siem - pre ha de vi - vir.

Why then seek the liv-ing Sav-ior in the haunts of death and fear?

Dust we are, to dust re-turn-ing, but in Christ we are re-stored.

For the sure-ness of sal-va-tion let us sing, "Thanks be to God!"



*¡Cris - to vi - ve! es - tas nue - vas por do-quier de - jad o - ir.*Christ is ris - en! Shout the good news so that all the world may hear.

Doubt dis - pel-ling, claim the tri - umph: Je - sus is the liv - ing Lord!

Christ is ris - en! We are liv - ing! Spread the worl of grace a - broad.

#### **BAPTISM**

## Henrik Louis Love

God, who is rich in mercy and love....

Sponsors, do you present Henrik Louis Love for baptism. If so, please respond, I do. I do.

Parents, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to

have Henrik Louis baptized into Christ? If so, please respond, I do. I do.

As you bring Henrik Louis to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities...

Do you promise to help Henrik Louis grow in the Christian faith and life? I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Henrik Louis in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

I do.

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit. People of God, do you promise to support Henrik Louis and pray for his new life in Christ?

We do.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God...now and forever. **Amen.** Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Welcoming God, you invite all people to come and encounter your love. Give your church open hearts and minds to embrace all who seek your presence. Increase the capacity for cooperation between denominations and congregations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Creating God, your might is seen in storms and in silence. Where drought threatens, bring rain. Where waters flood, ease them back. Where fire, earthquake, hurricane, or tornado destroy, shelter your people and restore your land. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Discerning God, fill the hearts of leaders with your passion for justice and mercy. Call the nations of this world to tables of peace and collaboration. Encourage governments to seek avenues of collective benefit and joy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Abiding God, all people are held in your care. Accompany survivors of abuse, trauma, and exploitation. Strengthen our resolve to listen and advocate on behalf of all who are unnoticed. Hear our prayers for those close to our heart, especially... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Rejoicing God, be with this congregation as summer begins in the northern hemisphere. Keep travelers safe. Keep the vulnerable cool. Invigorate summer ministry efforts in our community, and support the well-being of children and young people. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Loving God, the beginning and the end, you are with us throughout our lives. In gratitude for the saints who have died, we look toward your coming again among us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.** 

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

Please be seated

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

God, we have been made in your image. So, in your generosity, make us generous. In your faithfulness, make us faithful. With resurrection humming in our hearts, our minds are tuned to your song of peace! We joyfully present these gifts to you, a tangible chorus of thanksgiving, a harmony of hope for your kingdom come. **Amen.** 

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you.

# And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

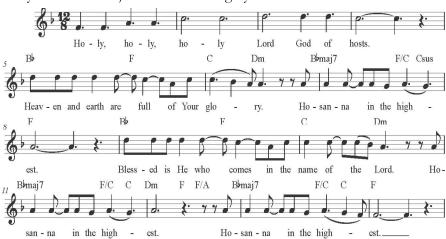
# We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

# It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



So today, we are full of Alleluias.

... Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

# **COMMUNION HYMNS**

"Lamb of God"

Please be seated.



#496 "One Bread, One Body"

#709 "When Our Song Says Peace"

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

Benediction:

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

#### **BENEDICTION**

God of all Creation,
May we meet you today and every day.
Guide us to be resurrection people.
Renew our hope and kindle our joy;
and send us to share the good news with others
Amen.



#### **SENDING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### **POSTLUDE**

Preacher: Pr. Andrew Plocher Liturgist: Pr. Molly Hunter Assisting Minister: Mike Hill

Reader: Jeanne Groos
Ushers: Fred & Jeanne Groos

Communion Assistants: Mike Hill, Asa Michels, Marina Shinkarenko

Greeters: Milt & Boli Soderberg

Songleaders: Sara Parks
Pianist: Jacob Schmeltzer

Band Members: Jason Parks, Tom Bronken, Ross Larson

Audio Technician: Traci Zini
Livestream Technician: Traci Zini
Projection Technician: Inga Banitt
Nursery: Mylee Muscoe

Flower Delivery:

#### Acknowledgements:

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