St. Mary's Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
www.stmaryslutheran.org

The Ascension of our Lord Saturday, May 20 and Confirmation Sunday, May 21, 2023

All are welcome at St. Mary's!

•Please respect the beauty of reverence and quiet reflection as we prepare for worship. Turn off phones or silence them.

•Please know that St. Mary's Lutheran Church celebrates Holy Communion for ALL! This is Christ's table and His invitation. You do not need to be a Lutheran, or a member of our church to participate. Also, if you wish to come up for only a blessing, please tell us when you approach, and we will bless you! If you are unable to come up for communion, tell the usher that you would like to receive communion at your seat, and someone will bring it to you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
TEMPLE TALK *Finance Committee*
PRELUDE
STAND
OPENING LITANY
Y: We thank you God for our baptism.
C: In our baptism you cleansed us of our sins.
Y: We praise for opportunities to learn his story.
C: for little children's hearts and minds.
Y: We thank you, God, for the good people who taught us about you
C: for community and love shared with one another.
Y: Today we praise you for the choice to follow you.
C: for your guidance, faithfulness and love!

GATHERING SONG
Hymn #853 *"When Morning Guilds the Skies" vs. 1-4*
GREETING
Welcome in the name of God who ☩ creates, saves, and calls us with love that lasts forever.
SIT
BAPTISM / CONFIRMATION (SUN)
People of God, do you promise to support Graham and pray for him in his new life in Christ?
We do.
STAND
PROFESSION OF FAITH
Do you reject the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that pull us away from God? If so, say, "We do!"
We do!

Do you promise to continue supporting these children of God, affirming them through all circumstances with their first and forever name: Beloved? Do you promise to hold healthy and safe space for them to keep growing in faith, so they learn to trust there is nothing they can do to make God love them any more or any less than they are already loved in Jesus? If so, say, "We do!"
We do!

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 resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT
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 thanks, O God…now and forever.
Amen.
SIT
BAPTISM (SUN) *Graham Lyle Ibrahim Gifford*
Graham, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.
You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.
Let us pray.
We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Graham with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.
Amen.

Graham, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
Amen.

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

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.

PRESENTATION OF THE BIBLE AND BLANKET

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM (SUN)
Those affirming their baptism: *"I will and I ask God to help me."*
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon [Name]; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of you in your presence.
Amen.
STAND
We celebrate your faith, your voice, and your unfolding story as beloved children of God! On behalf of the whole church on earth, we will continue to pray for your faith and give thanks for you. God bless you!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *(ELW p. 140 "This is the Feast")*
PRAYER OF THE DAY
Let us pray.
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.
SIT
WORD *Pew Bible Page*
First Reading: Acts 1:1-11 (pg. 884)
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.
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.
Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23 (pg. 949)
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.
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.
STAND
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(ELW p. 142 "Alleluia")*
GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53 (pg. 861)
The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.
On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.
SIT
SERMON
STAND
HYMN OF THE DAY Hymn #815 *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*
APOSTLES' CREED (Sat)
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

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.

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
Receive our prayers, O God.
Your mercy is great.
Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.
PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.
SIT
ADULT CHOIR *"He Watching Over Israel"*
***ELIJAH* BY F. MENDELSSOHN**

He watching over Israel slumbers not, nor sleeps.
Shouldst thou walking in grieve languish, He will quicken thee.
He watching over Israel slumbers not, he slumbers not nor sleep.

STAND
OFFERING Hymn #464 *"Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal" vs. 1*
OFFERING PRAYER
Let us pray.
Generous God,
in this meal you offer your very self.
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
In the breaking of this bread
reveal to us the Risen One.
In the pouring of this wine
pour us out in service to the world;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING
DIALOGUE
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.

PREFACE
ACCLAMATION AND AMEN *"Holy, Holy, Holy" (ELW p. 144)*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE
Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed…

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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 and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.
SIT
COMMUNION
COMMUNION SONG *"Lamb of God" (ELW p. 146)*
DISTRIBUTION HYMN Hymn #826 *"Thine the Amen"*
STAND
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Let us pray.
Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.
Amen.

SENDING OF COMMUNION
Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG Hymn #657 *"Rise, O Sun of Righteousness"*
DISMISSAL
We are God's People.
Followers of Jesus Christ.
Gifted by the Spirit.
Go Pray. Go Love. Go Serve.
Thanks be to God.
POSTLUDE

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THIS WEEKEND'S WORSHIP LEADERS
INTERIM PASTOR: *Pastor Kathy Brown*
ASSISTING MINISTER: *Di Michalski*
SOUND/VIDEO: *Kristofer Twadell*
TEMPLE TALK: *Finance Committee Team*
ORGAN/PIANO: *Deb Black*
SATURDAY
READER: *Lisa Zanin*
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: *Edie Iverson, Todd Woller*
USHERS: *Bob VanBendegom, Dale Brandes, Sandy Benson*
SUNDAY
READER: *Ken Winkle*
ADULT CHOIR: *Dr. Richard Sjoerdsma, Director*
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: *Cheryl Hayes, Carol Shadduck, Andy Schroeder*
GREETER: *Kris and Hayley Jensen*
USHERS: *Gary Rice, Ralph Tollas, Carole Scotese, Dave Raszkiewicz, Dan Neururer and/or Doug Derginer*
HOSPITALITY: *Cheryl Pascucci, Ann Johnson, Christy Burmeister*

We welcome to our Christian family through baptism:
Graham Lyle Ibrahim Gifford, son of Brianna Dawn Gifford born on March 13, 2023. May God Bless our newest sibling in Christ!

We celebrate with these youth as they affirm their baptisms on this day of Confirmation:
Emily Fonk Lilah Longrie
Gabriella Manjarrez Abigail Rader