



May 3, 2026, 10:00 am
5th Sunday of Easter
Paul E. Hoffman, Interim Pastor
206-972-9995



GATHERING

The Spirit Calls Us Together

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Choir

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters through which you make people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen and give new life to the servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and breakdown barriers.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open hearts and set people on a new path.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that all of our days are shaped by these life-giving waters. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

ELW 645

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ, our head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever and our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your lovingkindness, hear your people as they pray;
and your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.

(Continued on page 2)

Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain;
what they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.

Praise and honor to the Father, praise and honor to the Son,
praise and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt; Public Domain

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

ELW pp. 140-141

(Refrain:) This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *(Refrain)*

Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his. *(Refrain)*

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. *(Refrain)*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. *(Refrain)*

Prayer of the Day

Special Music

"Death, Where is Your Sting?" by Lloyd Larson

Choir

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,

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and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,
“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and “A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW p. 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me

(Continued on page 4)

does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Children's Word

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life"

ELW 816

Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.

Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.

Text: George Herbert, 1593-1632; Reprinted by permission under One License #A726685

Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

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.

The Prayers of the People

As petitions conclude: "Merciful God," respond "receive our prayer."

Sharing of God's Peace

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

Offering & Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving

ELW p. 144

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...and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p. 144

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer *(please feel free to pray your preferred version of 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

Communion Hymn

"I Received the Living God"

ELW 477

(Refrain:) I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.

I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.

Jesus said: I am the bread, kneaded long to give you life;
you who will partake of me need not ever fear to die. *(Refrain)*

Jesus said: I am the way, and my Father longs for you;
so I come to bring you home to be one with us anew. *(Refrain)*

Jesus said: I am the truth; come and follow close to me.
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free. *(Refrain)*

Jesus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,
but receive this living bread, and my Spirit you shall know. *(Refrain)*

Text: Anonymous; Public Domain

Communion Blessing & Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING _____ *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Blessing

Sending Hymn “Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing” ELW 389 vs 1, 3, 5

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

In ev’ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

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Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

(Setup for Sunday Supper, takes place following worship in the Fellowship Hall.)

We Hold in Prayer this Week

Those Grieving: Family and friends of Steve Olsen; Family and friends of Curtis Birkliid; family and friends of Mayumi’s brother, friends of Surridges.

God’s Healing Presence: Kathy Trosvig; Pat Krassin; Sheryn Todd; Elizabeth Ritchie; Gayle & Dave’s niece Amanda; Beth’s friend Kamm & sister-in-law, Megan; Debbie’s friends Larry and Alana; Surridges’ friends Barby & Larry, Hedy, Alex and Collins; Ed & Evie Bishop; Peggy & Dave’s friend Martin Olson; Joan’s father; Dave’s friend, Julie Bolser, and niece, Leile Defolo; John, Guillermo, Monica, Cecilia, Sofia and Rosamaria; Val, Jill Johnson’s mom.

Prayers for our world, nation, and communities: For immigrants living in fear. For nations and peoples in the midst of warfare. For refugees seeking safety.

Announcements

The congregation extends its sympathy and prayers to the Olsen family at the death of husband, father, and relative Steve on Wednesday, 8 April 2026. Steve's memorial service will be held here at Central on Saturday, 16 May at 2 p.m. with a reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Pentecost celebration on Sunday, 24 May on the Courthouse Steps at 10 a.m. The downtown congregations of Central, First Baptist, the UCC and First Presbyterian will join together to celebrate +THE FEAST of PENTECOST. The combined service is a new experiment of our four congregations. No other services will be held at Central in its own building that day. A joint choir for this service is being formed with rehearsals on 3 May (today!) and 17 May at 12 noon at the Presbyterian Church. Anyone who is interested in singing is welcome to attend. There are concrete steps on which one can be seated for this service, some folding chairs will be provided, and you are welcome to bring your own lawn chairs if you wish. In the event of inclement weather, the service will be held at First Presbyterian.

The Church Council has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, May 10, 2026 following worship to elect the Call Committee. This is the slate of nominees that Church Council is submitting to the congregation, and all have consented to serve: Rosamaria Casablanca, Peter Lee, Jorge Hernandez, Barb Lichneckert, Carol Krause, Nancy Olsen.

Additional nominations are permitted from the floor the day of the meeting. If you intend to nominate someone, please secure that person's willingness to serve prior to the meeting. Only six persons will be elected, in keeping with the stipulations of our constitution.

As the work of the Transition Team comes to an end, we want to reach out with sincere gratitude to those who have served. Special mention goes to their completion of their work in such a timely manner. Thanks to: Janet Loesche (Chair), Dave Kurtz, Kathy Trosvig, Nora Ramirez, Suzy Lavis, and Pastor Paul Hoffman.

Mission of the Month Academia Latina is the largest Latino nonprofit in Snohomish County. We are an all-volunteer organization that serves over 500 local families. Academia Latina helps them to better their lives through education. We teach immigrants English, GED, math, and accounting for small businesses. "If they had explained math to me like Professor Rosamaria does, I would have never dropped out of school." We solve the problem of homelessness before it starts by providing timely rent assistance, emergency loans, and neighborly support. Our strategy includes genuine caring, sharing, repairing, discount hunting, and hand-me-downs, to multiply every dollar donated. Thanks for your solidarity.

This Week at Central

Sunday, May 3

8:45 am Choir Rehearsal
 9:15 am Sunday School
 9:30 am Friends Worship
 10:00 am Central Lutheran Worship
 11:30 am Academia Latina
 1:00 pm Looking for Jesus Prayer Group
 2:30 pm Marshallese Worship
 5:00 pm Sunday Supper
 7:00 pm Marshallese Fellowship

Tuesday, May 5

6:00 pm Academia Latina

Wednesday, May 6

8:00 am Lutheran Counseling Network
 7:00 pm Marshallese Fellowship

Thursday, May 7

8:00 am Lutheran Counseling Network
 6:00 pm Academia Latina
 7:00 pm Marshallese Fellowship

Sunday, May 10

8:45 am Choir Rehearsal
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:00 am Central Lutheran Worship
 11:00 am Congregational Meeting
 11:30 am Academia Latina
 1:00 pm Looking for Jesus Prayer Group
 2:30 pm Marshallese Worship
 5:00 pm Sunday Supper
 7:00 pm Marshallese Fellowship

| Worship Leaders | This Sunday, May 3 | Next Sunday, May 10 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Keyboard | Joan Dirska | Joan Dirska |
| Usher | Dave Finstad | Dave Finstad |
| Lectors | Dave Kurtz | TBD |
| Assisting Minister | Jonathan Todd | TBD |
| Communion Bread | Pam Gleave | Pam Gleave |
| Fellowship Host | Chris & Terrie Rae Anderson | TBD |
| YouTube Operator | Jonathan Todd | Jonathan Todd |
| Altar Guild | Debbie Ritchie | Debbie Ritchie |
| Interpreter | Rosamaria Casablanca | Rosamaria Casablanca |

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