

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026

## WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Out of respect and in the spirit of truth, we acknowledge that we gather in community on land which is Treaty 7 territory and the traditional territory of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains. We honour the Blackfoot people past, present and future, and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III. May our actions and choices demonstrate open hearts, kindness, and compassion towards all who call this place home.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

Lunch & Hymn Sing – May 13 at 12:30 pm

ELCIC Day of Action events:

- This month, we're gathering a Spring Food Hamper for the Interfaith Food Bank
- May 31 at 1:45 pm – meet at the church and then head out to for Spring carolling with some of our homebound members and friends.

## INTRODUCTION

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

GATHERING SONG "God is Here" ELW 526 – v 1 & 2



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people,  
no matter the bends and curves in our path,  
Jesus does not leave us alone on this journey of faith.  
**God gives us the Spirit,  
our Advocate and Helper.**

The Spirit lives in and among us,  
pointing us all toward the way,  
the truth, and the life of Jesus.  
**God gives us the Spirit,  
our Guide and Guardian.**

The Spirit draws us into God's story,  
showing us how to participate  
in writing God's dream into reality.  
**God gives us the Spirit,  
our Dream-Giver and Story-Keeper.**

Easter people,  
God's story abides in you,  
calling you to live as co-creators of love  
and abundant life.  
**We come to worship God  
and listen for the Spirit  
who inspires, guides, and helps us join in God's story,  
until God's kingdom comes on earth  
as it is in heaven. Amen.**

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2025.*

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/stories-that-matter/week-5-sixth-sunday-of-easter-year-a/week-5-sixth-sunday-of-easter-year-a-liturgical-resources>

"Now the Feast and Celebration" NTF liturgy/ELW 789



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

## GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

It is our delight to pray. God of all time and space, you initiated the relationship of love and generosity with creation before and beyond all knowing. Through the Word and the Spirit, you continue in love for all beings. Fill us with a deep and abiding awareness of your presence, your call, and your grace in our lives and in our world. Shape us into the people you have made us to be – poured out for the sake of Jesus Christ in love for the world. Amen.

*Adapted from Lutheran Julia and posted on RevGalBlogPals. Re-posted on the re:Worship website at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2017/05/prayer-eternal-love.html><https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2017/05/prayer-eternal-love.html>.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### FIRST READING: 1 PETER 3:13-22

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

A reading from 1 Peter

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia, Alleluia" NTF**

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

Today's gospel reading and sermon has been prepared and shared by our Synod of Alberta and Territories Bishop, Trish Schmermund.

**GOSPEL: John 14:15-21**

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

**SERMON**

HYMN OF THE DAY "Neither Death nor Life" ELW 622 – refrain all; verses 1, 2, 5 solo

*Refrain – All*

Nei-ther death, nor life, nor an-gels, nor rul-ers, nor  
trials in the pres-ent, nor an - y trial to come, nei - ther height, nor  
depth, nor all of cre - a - tion can ev - er sep - a - rate us  
from the love of God poured out in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.

Leader or All



1 Dwell in the one who raised Christ from the dead; though your



2 All who are led by the Spir-it shall live as



5 Who can sep - a - rate us from the love of Christ? Will



bod-y shall die, in Christ you shall rise through the



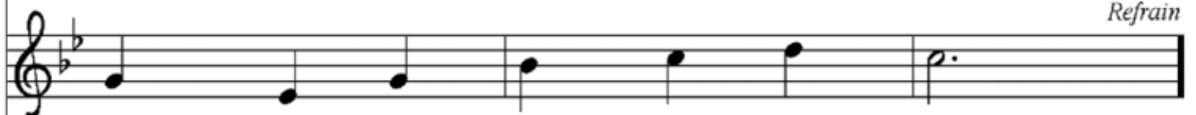
chil - dren of God, and heirs with Christ Je - sus, God's a -



hard-ship or dis - tress, per-se - cu - tion or fam-ine, or



Spir - it who brings you to life.



dopt - ed and cho - sen and loved.



na - ked - ness or per - il or sword?



## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world.

God of life, **pour out your love.**

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. God of life, **pour out your love.**

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. God of life, **pour out your love.**

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill especially Alice, Don and Carol, Arne, Kate, Karen, Janet C, Janet D, Dave, Tiffany, Corrie, Alice, Patrick, Joel and Ellen, Linda H, Carol, Murray, Shirley J., Derek, Isobel, Shirley K., Hugh and Ally, Jim N., Donna, Clayton and Margaret, Nancy, Sheila, Cindy, Ray, Doreen, Alan T, and those we name silently now . . . . God of life, **pour out your love.**

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. We ask your blessing on our Sunday School teachers and students. Hold in your care Phillip and Esther Pack and Darcy & Marlene Peterson, as well as Pastor Joel, Vanessa and Hans. God of life, **pour out your love.**

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. God of life, **pour out your love.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

MEAL

We sing as we set our table.

"The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing" ELW 531 – v 1 & 2



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is  
2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,  
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.  
he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.



Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 joy and our delight  
that we should at all times and in all places  
offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and ever-living God;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us life eternal.  
And so with Mary Magdalene and Peter,  
with angel choruses and all witnesses to the empty tomb,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy, Holy" NTF



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



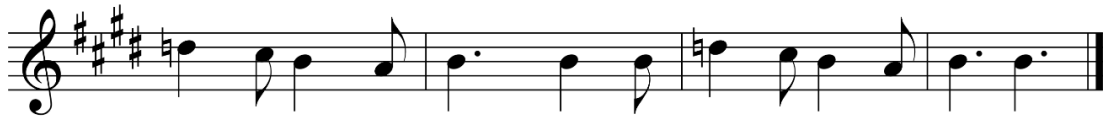
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!



Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.  
The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;  
within each cell; with every breath.

Generations bless your faithfulness:  
through the water; by night and day;  
across the wilderness; out of exile;  
into the future.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner; among the poor;  
with us now.

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.

Remembering his love for us  
on the way, at the table, and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

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.**

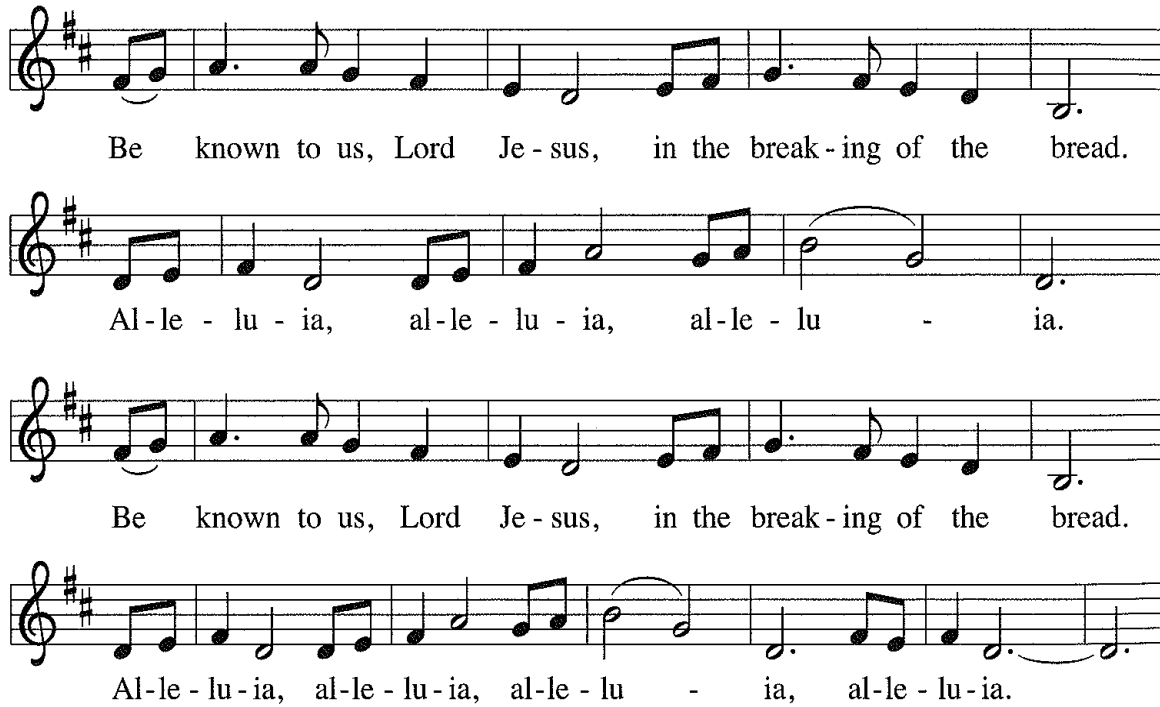
Come to the table of life.  
Receive the risen Lord.

Together let us take and eat, the body of Christ given for you  
Together let us take and drink, the blood of Christ shed for you

**COMMUNION VIDEO – You Are Holy St Mark’s Lutheran Church**

**COMMUNION SONGS**

“Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus” - ACS Setting 12 Communion Song – sing twice



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

“Loving Spirit” ELW 397 (use tune of ELW 659)

- 1 Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.
- 2 Like a mother you enfold me,  
hold my life within your own,  
feed me with your very body,  
form me of your flesh and bone.
- 3 Like a father you protect me,  
teach me the discerning eye,  
hoist me up upon your shoulder,  
let me see the world from high.
- 4 Friend and lover, in your closeness  
I am known and held and blessed:  
in your promise is my comfort,  
in your presence I may rest.
- 5 Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be—  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

## **SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: Pour out your Spirit on all who share your word and sacrament with those who are sick or homebound. 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**

May God who has brought us from death into life fill you with great joy.

May you be rooted and grounded in + Christ's love,  
strengthened by the Spirit,  
and filled with all the fullness of God. **Amen.**



SENDING SONG "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" ELW 543



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

SENDING

Go in peace. Share the Good News:  
Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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