



ST. MARY'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN EASTER—AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM
SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026 ~ 9:00AM

A chime will sound before the prelude as an indicator that service is about to begin. Please respect the beauty of reverence and quiet reflection as we prepare for worship. Turn off phones or silence them. And, please know that St. Mary's Lutheran Church celebrates Holy Communion for ALL! Christ is present and you are welcome! Young children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. We offer gluten-free & regular wafers, grape juice and wine options. If you are unable to come forward, please remain seated and tell the ushers you'd like communion in your seat and it will be brought to you. The ushers will direct all during communion.

PRELUDE

A Chord with the Lord People of God:
"Goodness of God" - BY JENN JOHNSON, ET AL.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand in body or spirit.

GATHERING SONG Hymn #853 "When Morning
Gilds the Skies"

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.

PLEASE BE SEATED

**AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM /
CONFIRMATION LITURGY**

Welcome in the name of God
who creates, saves, and calls us
with love that lasts forever.

Amen.

Congregation, please stand.

Together with your siblings in Christ,
you wish to profess your faith in God and reject sin.
We make these bold statements
not because we are absolutely certain about these
things,
but because we are always becoming faithful to them
and learning to wrestle with these claims
about our relationship with God.
We join voices with yours
to remind you that we are all in this together.

When you were baptized,
we stood with you to speak God's truth
about power, value, and love.
We promised to reject the voices
that would challenge your first and forever identity
as beloved children of God.

Now we invite you to stand with us
in defiance of the forces of sin and evil,
trusting that the same Spirit who had the power
to raise Jesus Christ from the dead is alive in you.

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, with the help of God"
"We do, with the help of God"

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, with the help of God"
"We do, with the help of God"

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, 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 into hell.
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.**

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.**

The assembly is seated.

[Affirmation of Baptism / Confirmation of each candidate]
With consent, they lay hands on those affirming their faith.

“Gracious God,
Thanks to the free gift of eternal life through Jesus,
death’s power is destroyed! Because of this,
we are freed for more courage and joy in our daily lives
And can witness to your great love.
Continue to bless [name] with dignity, belonging,
and purpose that come from you.
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 joy in your presence. Amen.”



**Congregation: 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!**

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (see yellow sheet)

PLEASE BE SEATED

**WORD** (see yellow insert)

**FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14**

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 68:1-10, 32-35** (read responsively)

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

St. Mary’s Men’s Ensemble  
“Near to the Heart of God” - MCAFEE/ARR. GROTENHUIS

Please stand in body or spirit.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**GOSPEL: John 17:1-11**

The holy gospel according to St. John the 17th Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

**SERMON**

Please stand in body or spirit.

**HYMN OF THE DAY** Hymn #805 "Lead On, O King Eternal!"

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

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.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

**OFFERING**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

Adult Choir

*"Blessed Are They" - CRANE & KLEIN*

*"Blessed are they who dwell with the Lord.  
How lovely is God's dwelling place, adorned with love and lavished with grace.*

*Blessed are they whose strength is in God.  
With steadfast love, God lifts them high and on the wings of eagles they fly.*

*God will grant them favor, honor sent from above.*

*Blessed are they who trust in God's name.*

*God will be their sun and shield, resplendent in the glory revealed."*

Please stand in body or spirit.

**OFFERING HYMN** Hymn #885 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love.

In the name of Jesus,

**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.**

**PROPER PREFACE** Glorious God, [...] join their unending hymn:

**SANCTUS** "Holy, Holy, Holy"



**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

## 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 to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

PLEASE BE SEATED

## COMMUNION

### COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN Hymn #759 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Please stand in body or spirit.

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

Like the women at the tomb on Easter morning, may the resurrected Christ awaken you with curiosity, bless you with hope, and send you out into the world full of new life.

**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG Hymn #826 "Thine the Amen"

## 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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