



Holy Communion

Resurrection Lutheran Church
Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021

*Resurrection is a congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

**Welcome to Worship
At Resurrection Lutheran Church**



Our HOLY PURPOSE

It is our holy purpose as Resurrection People to respond to God's grace by being instruments of transformation and love in our surrounding community. We are called to welcome ALL people, nurture them in faith, equip them for the shared work of ministry, and serve others that ALL may know God's love.

We welcome you to our community of faith. Many things are different from our usual during this time of pandemic precautions. We ask that you follow all precautions that we have put in place as we strive to follow Jesus' command to love our neighbor and be mindful of the needs of the most vulnerable among us.

Children are welcome in church! God's people come in all shapes and sizes – it is a gift to our whole community when the youngest of us are present. Sitting alongside of parents and other adults and learning to treasure times of worship together builds strong faith. We will re-open our nursery at some point in the future, but it is not safe for us to do so yet.

We ask that after worship concludes that you not congregate in the sanctuary or in the narthex. If you wish to visit with other worship participants, please do so outside of the building.

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Sixth Sunday of Easter
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This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

GATHERING

Prelude

Upon entering the sanctuary, we help to create a worshipful environment by keeping movement and noise to a minimum. The time may be used for prayer, pre-reading the scriptures or hymns for the day, or simply preparing the soul for an encounter with God.

Welcome and Greetings

Easter Proclamation

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
C **Amen.**

P We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.

C Amen.

Greeting

The presiding minister and congregation greet each other.

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Assured of the Lord's pardon and peace, we stand joyfully in God's presence as today's vocalists sing these words of scripture from the book of Revelation that point to the great heavenly feast.

Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister "collects" the thoughts for the main theme of today's worship in this historic ecumenical prayer also called "the collect," appointed for this day.

P Let us pray. O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

WORD

First Lesson

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson

1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel

John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

P The holy gospel according to John.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Mitch Phillips

Hymn of the Day “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

ELW 708

While we cannot sing as a congregation, we share these words on the screen for your reflection.

Nicene Creed

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

*We gather our individual and communal intercessions and thanksgivings,
remembering our connection to the universal church on earth and in heaven.
During indicated times of silence, we may remember names in silence or speak
them aloud in the assembly of God's people. After each "Hear us O, God." all
may respond with "Your mercy is great."*

The Peace

After the exchange of peace with the pastor and the online congregation, worshipers are invited to make a pandemic appropriate gesture of peace – a wave, “air hug,” etc. – with each other.

MEAL

Holy Communion

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P Wondrous and merciful God, we thank and praise you
because we did not choose you but you chose us. ...

And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels,
and all who with your risen and ascended Son
sit at your right hand on high, singing the hymn of your unending
praise.

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

P God of joys and surprises, your Son's apostles
were astounded that you sent your Holy Spirit upon the Gentiles ...

“Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

P Great is the mystery of faith.

C Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

P Overwhelming God,
you give your children faith that celebrates your sovereignty. ...
Hasten the day when all shall be drawn into the banquet of your
kingdom,
and you fill heaven and earth with the triumphs of your grace,
ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C **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.**

Distribution

P The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

The Lord's Table is open to all Christians. Adults and children who do not commune are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing their arms across their chest. The flow for distribution is intended to ensure that nobody speaks or stands over the communion elements without a face covering. Allow the pastor to drop the bread into your outstretched hands. Help yourself to an individual cup of wine and then step into the open space to remove your mask and consume the bread and wine. Place your empty cup in the basket as you return to your seat. (WHITE grape juice is in the center of each tray.)

Post-Communion Blessing

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

C Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

P Wellspring of joy,
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Blessing

P May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.
The God of life,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

Dismissal

*We are dismissed in joy and peace, exiting the door of the church as a
“servant’s entrance” into our work in the world.*

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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Pastor Mitch Phillips ● Pastor Ryan Bailey

Acknowledgements

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