

WELCOME!

We are glad to welcome you today as we gather together to worship God! Please be sure you complete the salmon insert inside your bulletin and turn it in to the usher at the time of communion.

This bulletin will assist you in participating in worship. All parts spoken by the congregation are listed in **bold print and preceded by "C:"**

There are also instructions printed in *italics* that will indicate other helpful descriptions of the service. Large Print Hymns are available. Please see an usher.

Thank you for turning off your cell phones or putting them on "silent" during the service.



*We are committed to **invite** and **welcome** all to Jesus Christ, to **equip** all with an active faith that works in real life, and together go into the world to **serve** in Jesus' name.*

Please stand

HYMN 840 "Now Thank We All Our God"

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

P: Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death, let us come before God Who calls us to repentance.

God of life,

C: **by the resurrection of Your Son You make everything new.**

Newness often scares us, and we confess to shutting our minds in fear. We have not listened to voices that challenge us. We have resisted the Holy Spirit moving us in new

directions. Our hearts are slow to believe Your promises.

Forgive us, O God, and renew us to embrace without fear the new life You have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: People of God: Christ is alive, and death has lost its power.

Through the waters of baptism You have been born anew by the living word of God. Know that your sins are forgiven in Jesus' name and that the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive in you both now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**

KYRIE

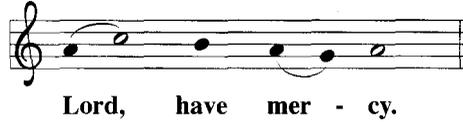
Cantor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



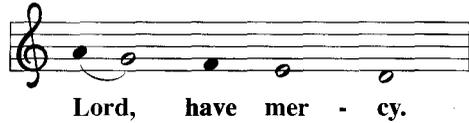
Cantor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



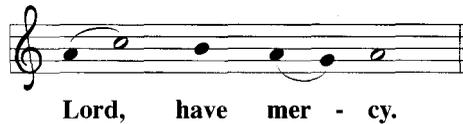
Cantor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



Cantor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise. Let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



Cantor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Congregation:



CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister

S 149



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

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

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

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

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

P: The Holy Gospel according to the tenth chapter of John.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Gospel: John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I 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. You 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. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

ANTHEM

Peter Aston

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you, so you are to love one another. If there is this love among you, then all will know that you are my disciples.

John 13:34-35

Heather Stewart, Susan Locey
Tammy LeVally, Kim Evans

SERMON

Pastor Patti Morlock

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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. 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 THE CHURCH

Response:

P: ...Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

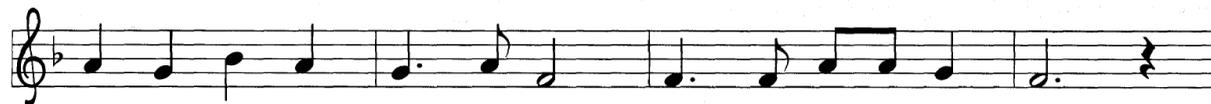
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



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



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



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

THE 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

Please follow the instructions from the pastor for distribution.

Believing in the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the bread and wine of the Holy Communion for the forgiveness of sin, we practice Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to the Lord's Table.

ORGAN Settings of the Chorale 'Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend'
Johann Gottfried Walther and Max Reger

BLESSING, PRAYER and BENEDICTION

HYMN 650 "In Christ There Is No East or West"

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Risen Lord.

FINISHING COMMUNION AT HOME AFTER CHURCH

St. John's Lutheran Church, Grove City OH

For your safety and comfort in the next several weeks, we will be distributing pre-packaged communion kits to members during worship for everyone to take home, rather than eating and drinking in the church building.

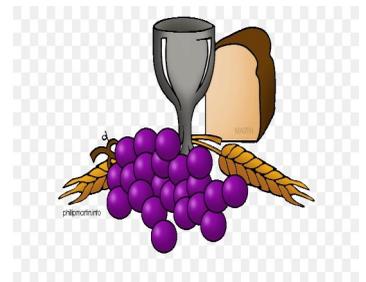
The bread and wine will be consecrated with the Words of Jesus during corporate worship, and will be ready to consume afterwards. However, since it is important to have the words of Jesus fresh in our ears before taking the sacrament, we strongly encourage you to use the following order of service once you get home.

First, unpeel the wafer(s) from the top of the package. Then unseal the juice and place the wafer and juice before you on a table, so that the elements are ready to be consumed.

Then, say the following aloud (or have someone in your group say it for everyone): *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."*

Now, partake of the wine and bread, trusting that the resurrected Lord Jesus is truly present in the sacrament **for you**, giving you the fullness of his forgiveness, life, and salvation.

After eating and drinking, we suggest saying the following prayer aloud (or have someone in your group say it for everyone): *We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy, you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith towards you and in fervent love for one another. In Jesus' name. Amen.*



Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021

“The Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word.”
- Acts 10:44-

We desire order and control in our lives. We prefer to have a place for everything and everything in its place. But the gospel is out of our control and is under the wild control of the Holy Spirit. There are times where we, like Peter, are simply amazed (vs. 45) at the workings and power of the Holy Spirit. Peter stepped out of his comfort zone and began to preach, and was amazed at what happened when things literally got out of his control.

The resurrection of Jesus is not just the miracle of a dead body being raised from the dead. It is not just the sheer joy we receive from the promise that our eventually dead bodies will be raised from grave. Easter is a claim about who God is and what God is currently up to in the world now that Jesus has been raised from the dead. Our time, our human history, and our course in life has been turned upside down.

Now that you know this, have you wondered what to say to people about your faith?

This could have been Peter’s best thought-out and prepared sermon. But Peter only manages to spit out a few words before the Holy Spirit broke in and took over. We too may be timid, uncertain, and unprepared for what to say. We may be settled in our comfort zone and have surrounded ourselves with those whom we know. However, the Holy Spirit is bold and powerful, and will not let us remain in our self-imposed space.

The Holy Spirit will leap over boundaries and empower you to speak of the mighty works of God and then surprise you. This passage shows the Holy Spirit is unruly and wild, jumping into the hearts of people. This is an amazing claim. The same Holy Spirit is now busy with you today as it was with Peter back then! Don’t worry about what you may say to someone who is in desperate need. The Holy Spirit will finish the words for you and they will fall onto the hearer with power.

Let us pray: *O Holy Spirit, let us become a witness to the outbreak of the Holy Spirit among us. Help us to spread the good news of Jesus being raised from the dead. Have the Holy Spirit leap over all boundaries and be out of our control. Amen.*