

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA
11 AM Worship Bulletin
Sun, May 2, 2021
Fifth Sunday of Easter
With Holy Communion

*Please text Prayers to “Text in Church”
314.329.0487 to be lifted today*

GATHERING The Holy Spirit calls us
together as the people of God

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign
of the cross.*



In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Pastor: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful God,

All: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The assembly stands.

GATHERING SONG *God of Wonder* CCLI Song # 3118757 CCLI License # 1787498

<p>Verse 1 Lord of all creation Of water earth and sky The heavens are Your tabernacle Glory to the Lord on high</p> <p>Chorus 1 God of wonders beyond our galaxy You are holy holy The universe declares Your majesty You are holy holy Lord of heaven and earth Lord of heaven and earth</p> <p>Verse 2 Early in the morning I will celebrate the light When I stumble in the darkness I will call Your name by night</p> <p>Bridge Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth) Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth) Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth) You are holy</p>	<p>Chorus 2 God of wonders beyond our galaxy You are holy holy Precious Lord reveal Your heart to me Father hold me hold me The universe declares Your majesty You are holy holy holy holy</p> <p>Chorus 3 God of wonders beyond our galaxy You are holy holy Precious Lord reveal Your heart to me Father hold me hold me</p> <p>Ending Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth) Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth) Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth) Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth)</p>
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GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live....

...Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, now and forever. **Amen.** *The assembly is seated.*

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

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40 Read by Worship Asst.

A reading from Acts.

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in

his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31 Read Responsively by Worship Asst. and **All (in Bold)**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,**

who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,**

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)

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

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.

[Jesus said:] ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.” The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON When do you Belong?

Ending with... KIDS' MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY (A NEW SONG)

Glory Honor Power CCLI Song # 7147455 CCLI License # 1787498

<p>Verse 1 Most worthy worthy of praise Exalted above all things my God You are my God</p> <p>Verse 2 Your splendor and majesty Your wonder fills everything my God You are my God</p> <p>Chorus Holy is the Lord Holy is the Lord Almighty Seated on the throne Seated on the throne of Glory High and lifted up Your presence fills the temple when we worship You Oh we worship You</p>	<p>Verse 3 Creation points to the King The heavens can't help but sing to You To You our God</p> <p>Bridge Hallelujah to the one who came and made a way Hallelujah to the one who died and rose again Hallelujah to the only name above all names Glory and honor and power forever</p>
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CREED *The Apostles' Creed* Lead by Worship Asst.

**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.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have created the heavens and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth assurance of your abiding presence, that they lead not by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are poor, lowly, outcast, weak, or fearful. Provide for the needs of all

Sionie Elavsky,

Keith DeCamp,

Myron Holm

Adam Jackson,

Betty Kent,

Wayne Mosher (cardiac issues and hospitalized),

Leah,

Lloyd Campbell (lung cancer),

Pastor Greg Eidell (migraine issues),

Shari Clay (in rehab following stroke, friend of Darlene & Steve Kuhlman),

Carl Quicksall (friend of David Haas, is battling Stage 4 Lung Cancer),

Pat Schwan, and prayers for Isabella,

Bud Niebling (leg pain),

Geoff Semon (suffering personal problems, son of Keith and Helen Krull),

Steve Kuhlman (surgery),

Diana (suffering with cancer),

Marylyn (broken wrist, friend of the Pastor and Dennis),

Jeanine Emch (hip replacement surgery)

Joanne Way & Husband (Allen is recovering from a fall)

Prayers of Thanksgiving to the Zisser Family on the Baptism of Rylee!

Prayers of Thanksgiving to the Tappmeyer Family on the Baptism of Eleanor!

MEMORIALS

The Family of Patsy Holm (Wife of Myron Holm and beloved member of Holy Cross)

The Family of Steve Weisert (cousin of Bud Niebling, killed during Indianapolis FedEx shooting)

The Family of Katherine (Kay Louise) Synder (Aunt to Betty & Bob Kent)

Winston C. Naylor (passed away 4/21 in Rose Mount, Minnesota. He was a former member of Holy Cross)

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit. With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING *Please continue to offer to Holy Cross what you desire to give to God*

<http://www.holycrosselca.com/site/cs/links.asp>

The presiding minister instructs those communing at home to gather their bread / cracker / wine/ grape juice elements to hold up during the Words of Institution.

OFFERING Refiner's Fire CCLI Song # 426298 CCLI License # 1787498

<p>Verse 1 Purify my heart Let me be as gold And precious silver Purify my heart Let me be as gold Pure gold</p> <p>Chorus Refiner's fire My heart's one desire Is to be holy Set apart for You Lord I choose to be holy Set apart for You my Master Ready to do Your will</p>	<p>Verse 2 Purify my heart Cleanse me from within And make me holy Purify my heart Cleanse me from my sin Deep within</p>
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OFFERING PRAYER *After the table is set, the assisting minister.*

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 190)

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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.**

COMMUNION (ELW p. 191)

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen. *The ministers commune after others commune.*

COMMUNION SONG *Instrumental*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *The assisting minister leads*

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses

to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

SENDING SONG *10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)* CCLI Song # 6016351 CCLI License # 1787498

<p>Chorus Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul Worship His holy name Sing like never before O my soul I'll worship Your holy name</p> <p>Verse 1 The sun comes up it's a new day dawning It's time to sing Your song again Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me Let me be singing when the evening comes</p> <p>Verse 2 You're rich in love and You're slow to anger Your name is great and Your heart is kind For all Your goodness I will keep on singing Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find</p>	<p>Verse 3 And on that day when my strength is failing The end draws near and my time has come Still my soul will sing Your praise unending Ten thousand years and then forevermore</p> <p>Tag Worship Your holy name Lord I'll worship Your holy name</p> <p>Ending Sing like never before O my soul I'll worship Your holy name Worship Your holy name Worship Your holy name</p>
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WE ARE GRATEFUL!

Worship Assistants: Early – Renate Hawn / Late: Tim Tyahla

Singers: Chris Syrup, Linda Tyahla & Moira McCracken

Organist: Jack Hamill

Praise Band: Marty Little, Paul Niehaus, Jason Cooper & Brandon Clay

AV/Camera: Patrick Goertzen, Donovan Lucas, David Ristau, Philip Paul & Marcus Benson

Media Shout Screens: Jane Ristau & Carrie Curnutte

Deacons: Early – John Hanson / Late – Donna Jackson

Ushers: Early – Kevin Krull / Late – Patrick Goertzen

Flowers given by: Renate Hawn - In honor of Cooper Hawn's birthday