



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 5, 2024
9:30 AM WORSHIP
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Today's gospel emphasizes "abiding in God's love," that is the self-giving, life-changing love God shows toward us. The reading from Acts, on which today's sermon is based, reminds us of God's astounding grace, that is the greatest gift we will ever receive.

New to Grace? Please stop by our Welcome Center in the entryway.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion as we celebrate the presence of Jesus among us. As you prepare for worship, please fill out worship information sheets in the red folders in each pew.

Congregation responses in **Bold**. *Those who are able, please stand.
A children's Wiggle Room is available in the back of the sanctuary.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE THE RISEN SAVIOR

PRELUDE

Thy Holy Wings

Kristina Langlois

WELCOME/GREET ONE ANOTHER

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 98)

Let us make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

Let us break into joyous song and sing praises.

Let us sing praises to our God with lyre and trumpets and melody.

Let us worship the Holy One; let all things sing with joy!

*GATHERING SONG

HYMN ELW 835

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al - le -
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The grace of our Risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with us all.

Alleluia, we give thanks.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister



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

Let us pray:

Gracious God, whose will it is that families dwell in harmony, bless family life everywhere and fill all homes with respect, joy, laughter, and prayer. In our families, help us reflect your steadfast love, experience your unconditional love, and live your forgiving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE HEAR THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE

READING

1 John 5:1-6

A reading from First John.

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.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

*SONG

A New Commandment

A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth-er as
 I have loved you, that you love one an - oth-er as I have loved you.
 By this shall peo - ple know you are my dis - ci - ples, if
 you have love one for an - oth - er; by this shall peo-ple know
 you are my dis - ci-ples: if you have love one for an - oth - er.

Text: John 13:34-35
 Music: NEW COMMANDMENT, anonymous

*GOOD NEWS

John 15:9-17

Good news from John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹Jesus said, "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. ¹²This 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." (NRSV)

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

MESSAGE

Pastor Dan Kahl

*SONG OF THE DAY

HYMN ELW 818

O Master, Let Me Walk with You



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.
Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898

WE SHARE GOD'S BLESSINGS

*APOSTLES' CREED

**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 Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
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

Enlivened in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the life of the church, for those in need, and for all of God's creation.

(A brief silence.)

Eternal, loving God, your people have been born anew by water and the Holy Spirit.

Renew us always through your forgiveness, and use us to lead others to living waters.

All creation springs to life in response to your Word.

Remember your preserving and redeeming covenant with creation, and guide us to care for all you have made.

You are victorious over sin, death, and all that separates us from you. Draw near to all who feel alone in illness or crisis (*especially*). Fill them with your healing presence.

Help us reach out to them as a parent reaches out to a child.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

The saints rejoice in being your children through Jesus Christ.

Give us all a child-like faith that conquers fear and mistrust, and bind your family together in eternal covenant.

Trusting in your abundant mercy, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray into your care, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

OFFERING

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Choir

Camp Kirkland

*OFFERING PRAYER

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. Amen.

Welcome to this celebration of Holy Communion. All are welcome to join us at the Lord's table for
This holy meal (or a blessing). Today distribution will be by pouring chalice.

Gluten free elements available.

Please come forward by the side aisles, commune and return to your seats by the center aisle.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The peace and joy of the living Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Lift your hearts.

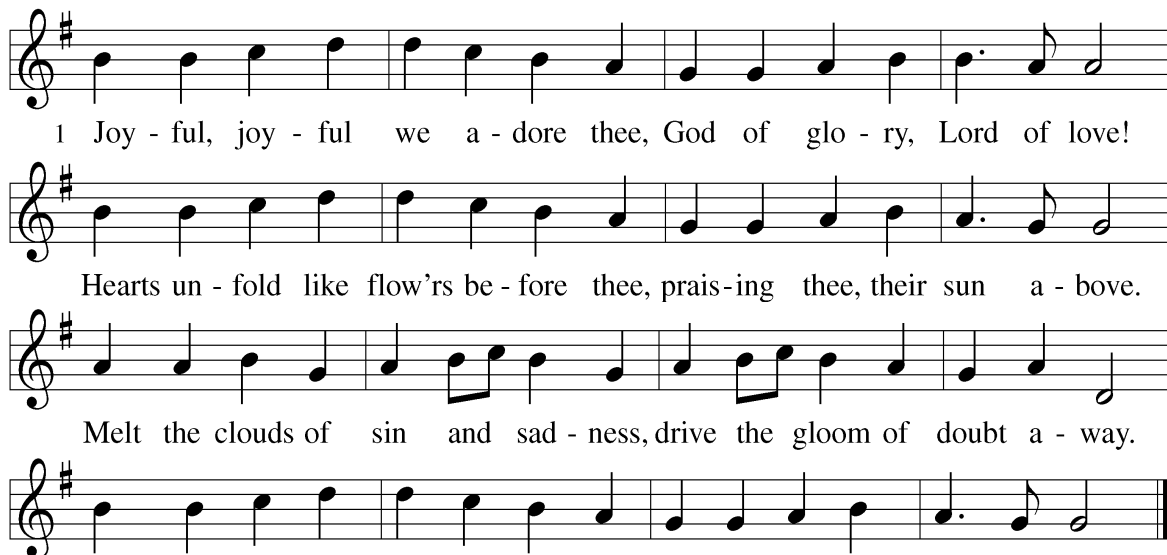
We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our loving God.

**We dedicate our heads, our hearts, and our hands to the worship of God as we sing songs
of thanksgiving and praise.**

HYMN ELW 836

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*LORD'S PRAYER

**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 king-
dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*INVITATION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

HYMN ELW 631

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

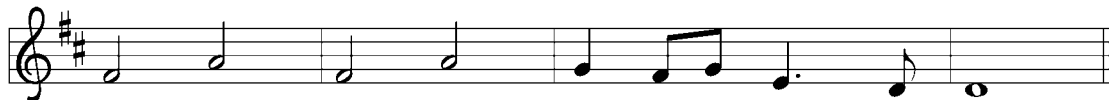


thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Lord, Be Glorified



1 In my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
 2 In our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
 3 In your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
 4 In your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;



in my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
 in our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
 in your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
 in your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick

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*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Life-giving God, we give you thanks for nourishing us with the bread of heaven and the wine of love, Jesus our risen Savior. As you send us into the world, guard us from the power of evil, keep us in unity with all your people, and by your Spirit move us to testify to your grace in our words and actions; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*BLESSING

Children by the grace of God, one in Christ, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, rejoice in the resurrection and live in hope, peace, and joy.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN ELW 880

O God beyond All Praising



1 O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day
2 The flow'r of earth - ly splen - dor in time must sure - ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;
its frag - ile bloom sur - ren - der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
but hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is sown-
and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless - ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end:
though small in mor - tal stat - ure, to heav - en's gar - den grown:
we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav - en, from death has set us free,
to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,



we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
and we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
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POSTLUDE

Toccatà

Paul Laubengayer